

During the period of 42 years covered by the table, great changes have occurred in the character of the leading imports, due to developments both in the industrial organization of the country and the goods consumed by the people. Thus many present-day leading imports such as crude petroleum, automobiles and parts, artificial silk, electric apparatus, aluminium, were in 1890 either non-existent or formed very insignificant items of trade. Imports of farm implements in 1890 amounted to only \$161,000 but, due to the tremendous agricultural expansion in Canada since that time as well as to increasing mechanization of agricultural operations, imports of farm implements have grown to a large item in spite of the wide development of their manufacture within the country. On the other hand, a number of the leading imports of 1890, such as woollen goods and raw wool, sugar and products, cotton goods and raw cotton, tea, grain products and meats, have become relatively much less important as imports. Then again, there were certain leading imports in 1890, such as coal, rolling-mill products, machinery and fruits, which still remain among the chief items of imports owing to the absence of coal and high grade iron ore deposits in the central portion of Canada where population and industry are chiefly concentrated, and to the demand for fruits which cannot be grown in Canada.

It is estimated that about one-third of the imports during recent years have been for use in the various industries of the Dominion. The decrease in imports of such commodities in the past three years has been about proportional to the decrease in total imports. Of the leading 62 commodities imported in the fiscal year 1932 for further manufacture in Canada, 49.8 p.c. by value was raw materials, 24.4 p.c. partly manufactured and 25.8 p.c. was classed as fully or chiefly manufactured goods such as automobile parts and engines, rolling-mill products, etc.

CANADA'S LEADING IMPORTS, FISCAL YEARS, 1890, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 AND 1932.

(Commodities arranged in order of importance, 1932.)

Commodity.	1890.	1900.	1910.	1920.	1930.	1932.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Coal.....	8,013,156	11,012,222	27,516,878	60,072,629	56,812,418	35,501,362
Alcoholic beverages.....	1,696,161	1,938,112	4,459,566	9,135,536	45,026,487	25,929,890
Machinery.....	1,877,551	5,159,952	14,690,873	36,716,791	69,117,528	24,387,689
Crude petroleum.....	-	23,244	1,189,071	20,306,693	50,961,202	24,194,084
Fruits.....	2,400,851	3,133,407	8,316,462	33,403,270	34,277,882	22,476,232
Sugar and products.....	6,452,654	8,610,845	14,962,770	73,618,354	27,987,158	22,398,090
Rolling-mill products.....	5,645,704	11,905,937	15,692,051	39,985,746	61,894,002	20,512,246
Electrical apparatus.....	317,515	810,900	3,688,538	15,550,254	37,611,263	14,672,423
Petroleum, refined.....	690,283	830,025	2,326,681	10,566,892	25,180,476	13,471,585
Cotton goods.....	3,792,584	6,399,705	17,928,093	51,435,017	28,316,037	13,756,029
Automobile parts.....	-	-	269,586	12,674,823	35,746,929	13,451,825
Books and printed matter.....	1,404,583	1,588,432	4,127,179	11,228,618	18,130,779	12,609,325
Woollen goods, including carpets.....	10,900,600	9,427,575	20,767,010	45,545,127	32,632,927	11,948,325
Paper.....	1,209,683	1,378,749	4,567,810	9,949,574	14,764,904	8,325,141
Settlers' effects.....	1,810,217	3,065,410	10,273,428	10,181,034	11,181,203	8,262,445
Raw cotton.....	3,539,249	4,229,198	9,384,801	33,854,457	21,682,463	7,802,044
Flax, hemp and jute.....	1,416,217	3,551,037	5,340,312	15,923,836	14,995,198	7,671,578
Vegetable oil.....	612,671	826,882	1,862,265	15,973,417	12,244,151	7,644,017
Grain and grain products.....	3,034,049	8,298,884	7,806,665	9,086,073	25,082,671	7,555,738
Engines and boilers.....	189,759	778,364	2,019,558	12,997,757	15,146,437	7,210,249
Clay and products.....	948,876	1,593,255	3,418,844	6,371,667	12,256,769	7,195,457
Tea.....	3,075,643	3,604,027	5,347,854	8,338,163	10,694,379	7,125,314
Vegetables.....	337,859	625,749	1,751,265	5,722,900	11,040,765	6,746,722
Raw silk.....	193,529	277,708	393,011	3,090,845	3,360,968	6,499,154
Silk goods.....	2,654,505	3,880,535	5,590,329	31,341,944	19,606,589	6,404,808
Rubber and products.....	1,512,427	2,942,044	6,181,157	18,059,435	20,025,316	6,271,708
Leather.....	1,173,737	1,879,333	4,202,934	17,102,702	11,537,331	6,198,308
Wood, unmanufactured.....	1,444,727	3,775,240	8,324,585	14,112,391	15,348,150	5,755,866
Glass and glassware.....	1,268,314	1,658,694	2,932,104	6,926,459	10,453,706	5,744,616