

Statistical Tables of Current Trade.—Tables 10 to 18 (pp. 562–627) deal with the current trade statistics of the Dominion. Tables 10 and 11 are summary tables, showing by groups our trade with the United Kingdom, the United States and all countries, by values and percentages, for the latest four fiscal years. Table 12 shows the same in detail for exports and Table 13 for imports of all important articles. Table 14 shows by main classes imports as dutiable or free and exports as of Canadian or foreign produce for the five fiscal years 1930–34. Table 15 shows imports and exports for the fiscal year ended 1934 by degree of manufacture and by origin, and Table 16 gives similar information on a classification according to purpose. Table 17 gives our imports and exports for the two latest years by ports and provinces, and Table 18 shows the values imported from different countries dutiable or free under the general, preferential and treaty rate tariffs in 1934.

Subsection 3.—Trade with the United Kingdom and the British Empire.

Ever since Confederation the external trade of Canada has been carried on predominantly with one or other of the two great English-speaking countries, the United Kingdom and the United States. In the early years of the Dominion, the United Kingdom, which was then lending us capital on a considerable scale for those times, supplied us with more than half our imports, though as a customer she came second to the United States. Later on, however, partly as the result of the free trade policy of the United Kingdom and the protectionist policy of the United States, the United Kingdom became the chief market for our exports, holding that position steadily from 1890 to 1920, while in certain of the more recent years the United States has been our largest customer. This latter tendency has again been reversed, however, owing on the one hand to the increasingly restrictive tariff legislation of the United States after 1920 and to the preferences granted to Canada and other Empire countries by the United Kingdom in 1932.

As regards our imports, on the other hand, the United States, though in the beginning ranking second in supplying our wants, took first place as early as 1876 and has maintained that position steadily since about 1883, the proximity of the two countries and the increasing population on both sides of the line being largely responsible. During the Great War, when the resources of the United Kingdom were absorbed in the struggle, the percentage of Canada's imports coming from the United States rose as high as 82·3 p.c. in 1918. From 1921 to 1930 it remained fairly constant at about two-thirds, while in recent years it has declined to 54·9 p.c. in 1934. Our imports from the United Kingdom, which fell as low as 8·0 p.c. of the total in 1919, fluctuated between 15·2 p.c. and 19·0 p.c. between 1921 and 1930, but rose from 15·2 p.c. in the latter year to 24·2 p.c. in 1934. Thus in four years the United Kingdom's share of our import trade has risen from less than a sixth to nearly one-quarter. In the same period the percentage of our exports taken by the United Kingdom has risen from 25·2 to 39·3 or from one-quarter to two-fifths.

The following statement gives summary statistics of Canadian trade with the United Kingdom in the latest years. Commodity imports in 1934 showed an increase of \$18,634,709 or 21·5 p.c. as compared with 1933, while exports of Canadian products to the United Kingdom showed an increase of \$43,240,392 or 23·5 p.c.