

fish, cattle, barley, coal and furs—indicating the large dependence of Canadian production at that time upon the eastern forests, mixed-farming areas and fisheries. Of the six leading exports in 1939, five were very unimportant in 1890. The year 1910 is the earliest year in which wheat appears as the leading export in the table although this first occurred in 1906. The rise of the great pulp and paper industry to a leading position has been still more recent, as have industries connected with the production of non-ferrous metals, automobiles and rubber tires. On the other hand, exports of the products of mixed-farming operations, such as cattle, hides, cheese and butter, while showing wide fluctuations, have not expanded proportionately, and in some cases were very little or no greater in 1939 than in 1890. Much of the new agricultural area developed since 1890 has been better adapted to grain-growing than to mixed-farming operations, so that, with the growth of population, the products of the older mixed-farming districts are consumed to a larger extent within the country. The rapid progress made by the mining and metallurgical industries producing non-ferrous metals in Canada is illustrated in Table 15 by the increased importance since 1910 of exports of copper, nickel, zinc, lead, aluminium and platinum. Expansion in the gold-mining industry has kept pace with that of the industries producing the aforementioned metals; most of Canada's gold is also sold abroad and net exports of non-monetary gold are shown at p. 399. The part played by these industries in supporting Canada's export trade has increased since 1930 with the curtailment of world trade in agricultural products. The direct effect of Canada's resources of water power may be traced in the table, not only in the growth of exports of pulp and paper and of electric energy, but also in that of non-ferrous metals, artificial abrasives, and certain chemicals such as fertilizers, sodium compounds, and acids, in all of which economic production is due largely to cheap hydro-electric power.

The wide variety of exports illustrates the extent to which the Canadian economy has been broadened and strengthened since the beginning of the century. While exports are still derived chiefly from the natural resources, the products are now exported in more finished manufactured forms, and in greater variety. The increased production of minerals and the wider range of forest products have made Canadian exports more readily adaptable to changing conditions throughout the world. Furthermore, fully manufactured commodities such as automobiles, whisky, rubber goods, farm and other machinery, electrical apparatus, etc., now form important items of the list.

15.—Leading Exports (Excluding Gold) Over Five Decades, 1890-1939

NOTE.—Commodities arranged in order of importance in 1939.

No.	Commodity	Years ended Mar. 31—				Years ended Dec. 31—	
		1890	1900	1910	1920	1930	1939
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1	Newsprint.....	1	1	2,612,243	53,640,122	133,370,932	115,685,970
2	Wheat.....	388,861	11,995,488	52,609,351	185,045,806	185,786,026	109,050,542
3	Nickel.....	1	1,040,498	3,320,054	9,039,221	20,505,324	57,933,511
4	Planks and boards.....	17,637,308	22,015,990	33,100,387	75,216,193	36,743,267	48,829,466
5	Copper in forms.....	1	1	1	541,338	827,944	40,232,279
6	Meats.....	895,767	13,615,621	8,013,680	96,161,234	7,569,023	37,445,336
7	Wood-pulp.....	168,180	1,816,016	5,204,597	41,333,482	39,059,979	31,000,602
8	Fish.....	8,099,674	10,564,688	15,179,015	40,687,172	30,097,635	27,967,290
9	Aluminium in bars, etc.	1	1	1,202,723	5,680,871	7,728,857	25,684,476
10	Automobiles.....	1	1	405,011	14,883,607	18,798,783	22,551,011
11	Wheat flour.....	521,383	2,791,885	14,859,854	94,262,922	37,540,495	16,378,301
12	Asbestos, raw.....	444,159	490,909	1,886,613	8,767,856	8,453,257	15,369,288

¹ None recorded.