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

Trade with the United Kingdom.—As already mentioned in the introduction to this Section and in Subsection 1, the trade of Canada for many years has been carried on predominantly with the United Kingdom and the United States, both great trading countries, whose people speak the English language, and with whose standards of living and tastes Canadians have much in common. The fluctuating positions of the two countries in this regard, from Confederation to the outbreak of the Second World War, are discussed at pp. 414-415 of the 1941 Year Book.

In 1940 the United Kingdom regained the position as the chief market for Canadian exports which she had held since 1932, with the single exception of the year 1939. War-time demand for foodstuffs, wood products, military vehicles and munitions was the chief cause for the increase of nearly 55 p.c.

The values of import and export trade with the United Kingdom for certain fiscal years ended 1886 to 1921 and for the calendar years from 1926 are shown in Table 8. Details of the commodities that made up that trade in the calendar years 1937-40 appear in Tables 16 and 17 of this chapter.

Trade with the British Empire.—Generally, such trade has been marked by a larger proportion of exports than of imports. The percentage of both import and export trade with the Empire, other than the United Kingdom, has increased considerably in the period covered since 1886. The industrial organization of Canada draws increasing imports of raw materials from other Empire countries, which in turn provide an expanding market for Canada's manufactured and specialized products. A record of the value and proportion of trade with the British Empire for representative years since 1886 is given in Table 8.

8.—Trade (Excluding Gold) with the British Empire and Foreign Countries

Item and Year	Canadian Trade with-					
	United Kingdom	United States	Other British Empire	Other Foreign Countries	Total British Empire	Total Foreign Countries
Imports	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Ended Mar. 31— 1886. 1891. 1896. 1901. 1906. 1911. 1916. 1921. Ended Dec. 31— 1926. 1929.	42,018,943 32,824,505 42,820,334 69,183,915 109,934,753 77,404,361 213,973,562 164,707,111 194,777,650	52,033,477 53,529,390 107,377,906 169,256,452 275,824,265 370,880,549 856,176,820 668,747,247 893,585,482	2,383,560 2,318,109 2,388,647 3,832,894 14,605,519 19,532,894 27,825,616 52,029,126 49,907,305 62,321,200	15, 163, 425 16, 618, 619 23, 899, 785 30, 694, 394 47, 432, 691 32, 090, 608 117, 979, 374	41,416,566 44,337,052 35,213,152 46,653,228 83,789,434 129,467,647 105,229,977 266,002,688	70,148,009 131,277,691 199,950,846 323,256,956 402,971,157 974,156,194 793,727,495 1,041,893,842
1930	162,632,466 109,468,081 93,508,143 97,878,232 113,415,984 116,670,227	653,676,496 393,775,289 263,549,346 217,291,498 293,779,813 312,416,604	65,219,110 42,531,841 84,549,472 34,806,405 43,650,726 57,218,583	126,951,407 82,323,175 61,007,296 51,238,176 62,622,974 64,009,137	227,851,576 151,999,922 128,057,615 132,684,637 157,066,710 173,888,810	780,627,903 476,098,464 324,556,642 268,529,674 356,402,787 376,425,741
1936. 1937. 1938. 1939.	147,291,551 119,292,430 114,007,409	490,504,978 424,730,567 496,898,466	66,347,757 89,304,287 66,806,174 74,892,867 106,166,783	81,795,509 66,622,183 65,256,792	186,098,604 188,900,276	491,352,750 562,155,258