Subsection 4.—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; this position was retained in 1941, but in 1942 the United States became Canada's best customer. War-time demand for foodstuffs, wood products, military vehicles and munitions was the chief cause for the increase of nearly 13 p.c. in 1942 over 1941.

The values and proportions 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 1941-42 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

	Canadian Trade with—					
Item and Year	United Kingdom	United States	Other British Empire	Other Foreign Countries	Total British Empire	Total Foreign Countries
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Imports						
Inded Mar. 31—						
1886	39,033,006	42,818,651	2,383,560	11,756,920	41,416,566	54,575,5
1891	42,018,943	52,033,477	2,318,109	15,163,425		
1896	32,824,505		2,388,647	16,618,619		
1901	42,820,334	107,377,906	3,832,894	23,899,785		
1906	69, 183, 915	169,256,452	14,605,519	30,694,394		
1911	109,934,753	275,824,265	19,532,894	47,432,691	129,467,647	323,256,9
1916	77,404,361	370,880,549	27,825,616			402,971,1
1921	213,973,562	856,176,820	52,029,126	117,979,374	266,002,688	974,156,1
inded Dec. 31—						
1926	164,707,111	668,747,247	49,907,305		214,614,416	
1929	194,777,650	893,585,482	62,286,9341	148,342,6261	257,064,5841	1,041,928,1
1930	162,632,466	653,676,496	$65,183,140^{1}$	126,987,3771	227,815,6061	780,663,8
1931	109,468,081	393,775,289	42,531,841	82,323,175		476,098,4
1932	93,508,143	263,549,346	34,549,472	61,007,296		324,556,6
1933	97,878,232	217,291,498	34,806,405	51,238,176	132,684,637	268,529,6
1934	113,415,984	293,779,813	43,650,726	62,622,974		356,402,7
1935	116,670,227	312,416,604	57,218,583	64,009,137	173,888,810	376,425,7
1936	122,971,264	369,141,513	66,347,757	76,730,310		445,871,8
1937	147,291,551	490,504,578	89,304,287	81,795,509	236,595,838	572,300,4
1938	119,292,430	424,730,567	66,806,174	66,622,183	186,098,604	
1939	114,007,409	496,898,466	74,892,867	65,256,792	188,900,276	
1940	161,216,352	744,231,156	106, 166, 783	70,336,428	267,383,135	814,567,5
1941		1,004,498,152 1,304,679,665	140,523,113 112,663,840	84,351,428 65,785,722	359,942,070 273,776,546	1,000,049,0

¹ Revised since the publication of the 1942 Year Book.