

Countries to which Trade is Credited.—Imports are classified as received from the countries whence they were consigned to Canada. The countries whence goods are consigned are not necessarily the countries of actual origin, since goods produced in one country may be purchased by a firm in another country and thence dispatched, after longer or shorter interval, to Canada. In such cases the second country would be the country of consignment, to which the goods would be credited.

Exports are credited to the country to which they are consigned.

Discrepancies in Trade Statistics between Canada and Other Countries.—Canadian statistics of exports are rarely in exact agreement with the import figures of her customers and similar differences occur with Canadian imports. Many factors contribute to these discrepancies, among which are the following:—

1. Differences in the system of valuation used by Canada and the systems used by other countries.

2. The element of time lag is of considerable importance where Canadian exports are concerned, particularly with bulk goods shipped to other continents. There are always quantities of goods in movement at the beginning or end of any trading period, and these affect the comparability between the two countries for the same period of time.

3. Canada's system of geographical classification, according to country of consignment, which may not be the ultimate destination of the goods.

Imports from the United Kingdom.—Published statistics of Canadian imports entered for consumption have always included several items that may be considered of a non-commercial character. These items were never very large in pre-war years, but since 1939 their inclusion in the total value of imports, from the United Kingdom in particular, has tended to distort published data. The distinction between commercial and non-commercial imports is not always easy to establish, but three items have been segregated, as follows:—

- (a) "Articles for the use of the Imperial Army, Navy and Air Force". These imports consisted almost entirely of war equipment of various kinds for experimental purposes, training and use in Canada by the United Kingdom Government. The values applied to the articles imported under this classification were nominal and no duty was paid.
- (b) "Canadian goods returned". Before the War, this item amounted in value to several hundred thousand dollars annually. Late in 1945, however, the Canadian Government began the repatriation of large stocks of war equipment, the bulk of which was shipped from the United Kingdom. On entering Canada, they were classified under "Canadian goods returned" in the trade returns. They are not shown in the United Kingdom trade returns.
- (c) Settlers' effects, the property of immigrants.

The statement below shows the relation of these non-commercial items to the total.

I.—COMMERCIAL AND NON-COMMERCIAL IMPORTS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM,
1939-47

| Year | Articles for Imperial Forces | Canadian Goods Returned | Settlers' Effects | Non- Commercial Imports | Commercial Imports | Total Recorded Imports |
|-----------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| | \$'000,000 | \$'000,000 | \$'000,000 | \$'000,000 | \$'000,000 | \$'000,000 |
| 1939..... | 0.8 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 1.8 | 112.2 | 114.0 |
| 1940..... | 23.5 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 24.4 | 136.8 | 161.2 |
| 1941..... | 81.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 81.4 | 138.0 | 219.4 |
| 1942..... | 42.5 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 43.0 | 118.1 | 161.1 |
| 1943..... | 34.3 | 0.1 | 1 | 34.4 | 100.6 | 135.0 |
| 1944..... | 16.2 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 16.6 | 94.0 | 110.6 |
| 1945..... | 21.2 | 18.8 | 0.2 | 40.2 | 100.3 | 140.5 |
| 1946..... | 2.3 | 60.1 | 1.4 | 63.8 | 137.6 | 201.4 |
| 1947..... | 1.5 | 0.8 | 3.4 | 5.7 | 183.7 | 189.4 |

¹ Less than \$50,000.