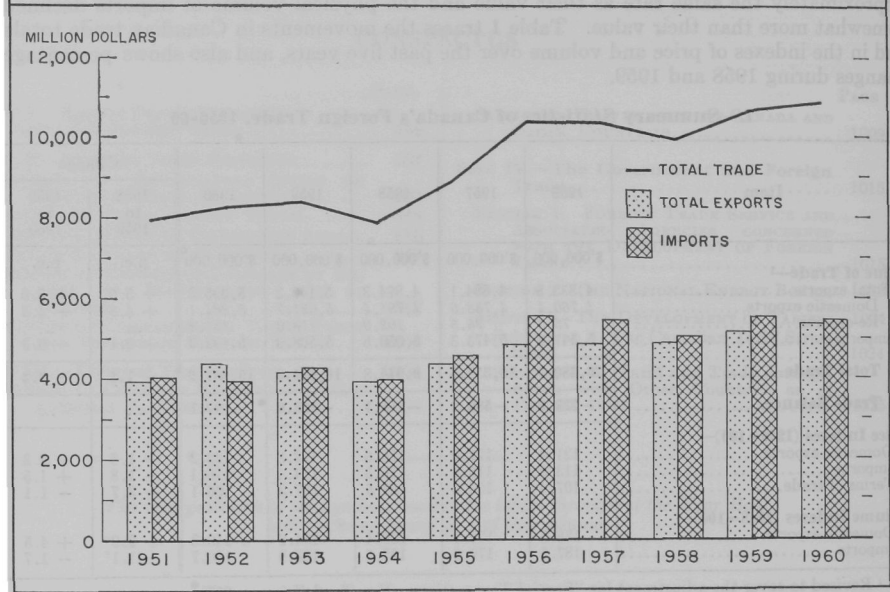


EXPORTS, IMPORTS AND TOTAL TRADE OF CANADA, 1951-60



Imports showed less variation and the shares provided by the principal suppliers, the United States at 67.2 p.c. and the United Kingdom at 10.7 p.c., were practically identical in 1959 and 1960. The proportion of imports from other Commonwealth countries rose slightly to 5.1 p.c. while the share supplied by the remaining other countries was 17.0 p.c., a fractional decline from the preceding year. The percentages of shipments received from Europe and Asia advanced slightly but were more than offset by declines in arrivals from Latin America and the Middle East.

Canadian trade with the United Kingdom and the United States during the past ten years and the movement of exports to and imports from these two principal trading partners are illustrated in the charts on p. 961.

The importance of foreign trade to the Canadian economy is reflected in the fact that exports of goods and services have been close to 20 p.c. of the gross national expenditure in recent years while imports of goods and services have been slightly more. Among the major trading nations of the world, Canada in 1960 ranked fifth in the total value of commodities traded, preceded only by the United States, the United Kingdom, the Federal Republic of Germany and France. In recent years, including 1959, Canada had ranked fourth but increased economic activity in France during 1960 put the value of that country's total trade above that of Canada. Total world trade, as shown in Table 2, increased by approximately 11.1 p.c. in 1960 over 1959. On a per capita basis, Canada's position has declined considerably, dropping from first place in the early 1950's to second place in 1957 and 1958, to third in 1959 and to eighth in 1960. The effects of the current improvement in European trading conditions are noticeable, for the leading countries on a per capita basis were Belgium and Luxembourg, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Sweden and Denmark, followed by Trinidad and Tobago, New Zealand and Canada.