

PART II.—FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS*

Section 1.—Explanatory Notes on Canadian Trade Statistics

Sources.—Canadian foreign trade statistics are compiled from information recorded on customs documents received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from the various customs ports in Canada with the following exceptions: *electricity* exports are based on reports received from the National Energy Board and imports are based on reports received from public utility companies; and *crude petroleum exported by pipeline*, statistics for which are reported directly to the Bureau by the pipeline companies. Record is kept of value and, whenever possible, of quantity. In considering trade figures, it should be noted that the statistics do not necessarily reflect the financial transactions relating to the movement of goods since the method and time of payment are affected by many factors.

Coverage.—*Domestic exports* or *exports of Canadian produce* include exports of goods wholly produced in Canada together with exports of previously imported goods that have been changed in form by further processing in Canada. *Re-exports* or *exports of foreign produce* include previously imported goods that are exported from Canada in the same form as when imported. From January 1964, re-exports have also included exports from customs warehouses.

Imports, as from Jan. 1, 1964, include all goods cleared by customs immediately on arrival in Canada, plus goods entered into customs warehouses rather than cleared on arrival. For 1963 and earlier years, imports included goods cleared immediately on arrival plus goods cleared for consumption out of customs warehouses. The two types of record eventually cover the same totals, except for a small amount of goods entered into customs warehouses and then re-exported, but there may be an important difference in the time at which warehoused goods are recorded as imports; some shipments entering customs warehouses remain there for several months before clearance.

The most important exclusions from export totals are: current coin, gold, goods shipped to Canadian Armed Forces or diplomats stationed abroad, goods financed under the Defence Appropriation Act and shipped to other NATO countries, temporary exports for exhibition or competition, fuel and stores sold to foreign vessels and aircraft in Canada, settlers' effects, private donations and gifts, and identifiable tourist purchases—generally, all temporary exports and goods merely moving in transit through Canadian territory.

The most important exclusions from import totals are: current coin, gold, goods for use of the United States Armed Forces stationed at treaty bases in Canada, Canadian-owned military equipment returned to Canada, ships imported for use in foreign trade and ships of British construction and registry imported for use in the coasting trade, temporary imports for exhibition or competition, fuel and stores purchased by Canadian vessels and aircraft abroad, settlers' effects, private donations and gifts, tourist purchases exempt from duty, and goods imported for foreign armed forces or diplomats stationed in Canada—generally, all temporary imports and goods merely moving in transit through Canadian territory.

Beginning Jan. 1, 1964, Canada's trade statistics are compiled on a "General Trade" basis instead of on the "Special Trade" basis used previously. The main difference for figures recorded on the General Trade basis is that imports are entered as such whether the goods are cleared through customs for immediate domestic use or stored in a customs warehouse. Domestic exports remain the same on both bases but re-exports, after Jan. 1, 1964, include exports from customs warehouses which were previously excluded. Over a period of years, the totals of Canadian exports or imports would be almost the same on either basis but considerable differences might appear in individual years because of time of clearance and extent of business activity.

* Based on statistical reports published by the External Trade Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.