

To classify exports and imports by Stage of Fabrication, that is, within the categories of Crude Materials, Fabricated Materials and End Products, requires a secondary classification of the commodities in certain Sections. Live Animals (Sect. I), being a natural product, is considered as crude materials; Food, Feed, Beverages and Tobacco (Sect. II) is allocated as follows: Crude Materials includes natural products not further processed than cleaned or prepared for shipment; Fabricated Materials includes commodities which are further processed and are used in processing industries rather than for direct human consumption, and also all commercial stock feeds; End Products includes commodities which are further processed and are mainly used directly for human consumption, and also prepared pet feeds. Sects. III, IV and V are clearly defined in the Standard Commodity Classification. Sect. VI contains relatively few classes; these have been pro-rated as necessary for both exports and imports according to studies undertaken over a number of years.

Exports.—An analysis of the figures for 1946-65 shows that the export totals followed an almost constantly upward trend, advancing 3.8 times, the most pronounced gains being made in 1959-65. Every Section recorded increases, ranging from 2.0 times for Food, Feed, Beverages and Tobacco, 3.4 times for Live Animals, 3.8 times for End Products, Inedible, 4.1 times for Fabricated Materials, Inedible to 9.6 times for Crude Materials, Inedible. Food, Feed, Beverages and Tobacco recorded a slight decrease in 1965 compared with 1964. During the period a variety of trends were discernible: Live Animals accounted for only about 1.0 p.c.; Food, Feed, Beverages and Tobacco accounted for a declining proportion ranging from 36.1 p.c. in 1946 to 18.0 p.c. in 1960 and 19.1 p.c. in 1965; and Crude Materials, Inedible rose from 8.1 p.c. in 1946 to 22.0 p.c. in 1962 and 20.7 p.c. in 1965. Fabricated Materials, Inedible accounted for the greatest proportion of the exports, averaging about 48 p.c. over the period. End Products, Inedible, in the five latest years, recovered the relative importance (13.7 p.c.) it had in 1946-49 when the over-all export totals were less than half those of today. Special Transactions—Trade remained unimportant at 0.2 p.c.

Analysis of exports by stage of fabrication shows that Crude Materials accounted for 35.1 p.c. of total exports in 1965, having increased 4.9 times since 1946 with larger advances in 1960-65. Fabricated Materials increased 3.7 times since 1946 and accounted for a decreased proportion of about 48 p.c. in the five latest years; End Products, although lower during a good portion of the 1946-64 period, increased substantially in the two latest years to almost threefold the 1946 total, and in 1965 accounted for some 19 p.c. of total exports.

Imports.—Total imports also showed an increasing trend; they advanced 4.7 times during the period 1946-65 but, except for 1965, aggregate gains since 1960 were less than those shown by exports. Food, Feed, Beverages and Tobacco, which accounted for about 10 p.c. of the total, increased 2.9 times; Crude Materials, Inedible, although increasing 2.4 times during the period, showed a consistently decreasing relative importance from a peak of 26.2 p.c. in 1948 to 11.7 p.c. in 1965. Fabricated Materials, Inedible, which also decreased in importance, increased 4.2 times; End Products, Inedible, the proportion for which fluctuated around 48 p.c. over the past ten years, increased 7.0 times; and Special Transactions—Trade, rose 11.4 times.

In the stage-of-fabrication analysis, Crude Materials increased 2.5 times in the 1946-65 period but accounted for a relatively decreasing proportion of total imports, dropping from a peak of 30.4 p.c. in 1950 to an average of about 20.0 p.c. in 1954-65; Fabricated Materials increased 4.1 times in 1946-65 with marked advances in the 1954-65 period; End Products advanced 7.0 times the 1946 value with greatest increases in the 1954-65 period and accounted for 56.2 p.c. of the total compared with 37.9 p.c. in 1946, averaging about 52.0 p.c. over the 1954-65 period.