

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 1947-66 shows that the export totals followed an almost constantly upward trend, advancing 3.7 times over the period, with the most pronounced gains being made in 1959-66. Totals for all Sections were several times higher in 1966 than in 1947: Live Animals moved up 3.9 times; Food, Feed, Beverages and Tobacco 2.1 times; Crude Materials, Inedible 8.8 times; Fabricated Materials, Inedible 3.2 times; End Products, Inedible 5.7 times; and Special Transactions—Trade 4.1 times. All Sections except Live Animals recorded considerable increases in 1966 over 1965; End Products, Inedible advanced 63.0 p.c.; Food, Feed, Beverages and Tobacco 15.8 p.c.; Crude Materials, Inedible 10.4 p.c.; and Fabricated Materials, Inedible 7.6 p.c. Live Animals exports, which fluctuate somewhat year by year, showed a slight drop in 1966 compared with the previous year. Fabricated Materials, Inedible account for the greatest proportion of the exports, averaging about 48 p.c. over the period and for 39.8 p.c. in 1966; End Products, Inedible, which accounted for 13.6 p.c. of the exports in 1947 and lost ground for a number of years, recovered its relative importance in 1964 and in 1966 accounted for 21.0 p.c. of the total exports. Special Transactions—Trade remained unimportant in 1966 at 0.2 p.c.

Analysis of exports by stage of fabrication shows that total exports of Crude Materials were 5.0 times higher in 1966 than in 1947, Fabricated Materials were 2.9 times higher and End Products were 5.8 times higher. Crude Materials in 1966 accounted for 33.7 p.c. of the total, Fabricated Materials for 41.9 p.c. and End Products for 24.4 p.c.; in 1947 the percentages were 24.5 p.c., 54.0 p.c. and 21.5 p.c., respectively.

Imports.—The total value of imports advanced 3.9 times during the period 1947-66 but, except for 1965, yearly increases since 1962 were lower than those shown by exports. In 1966, imports of Food, Feed, Beverages and Tobacco were 2.8 times higher than in 1947; Crude Materials, Inedible were 1.9 times higher; Fabricated Materials, Inedible 3.1 times higher; and End Products, Inedible 5.7 times higher. The relative importance of Food, Feed, Beverages and Tobacco dropped from 11.3 p.c. in 1947 to 8.0 p.c. in 1966; of Fabricated Materials, Inedible from 28.6 p.c. to 22.6 p.c.; and of Crude Materials, Inedible from 20.9 p.c. to 10.4 p.c. On the other hand, the proportion accounted for by End Products, Inedible increased from 37.5 p.c. to 55.6 p.c. Live Animals and Special Transactions—Trade form a comparatively small portion of the total.

In the stage-of-fabrication analysis, although imports of Crude Materials were 2.2 times higher in 1966 than in 1947, they accounted for a decreasing proportion of total imports, dropping from a peak of 30.4 p.c. in 1950 to an average of 18.7 in 1957-66; the proportion in 1966 was 15.2 p.c. Imports of Fabricated Materials were 3.0 times higher in 1966 than in 1947, the more marked increases appearing since 1961; in 1966 this group accounted for 24.8 p.c. of the total compared with 32.4 p.c. in 1947. On the other hand, imports of End Products were 5.8 times higher in 1966 than in 1947 and their relative importance increased during the period from 40.4 p.c. to 60.0 p.c.