

products. Crude materials include live animals and other natural products not processed beyond cleaning or preparation for shipment, such as fresh fruits and vegetables and raw sugar. Fabricated materials in Section 2 include food, feed, beverages and tobacco, commercial feed and commodities that are further processed. End products comprise prepared pet food and commodities used directly for consumption, such as cheese, canned foods, whisky, cigars and cigarettes. Sections 3 and 4 represent the body of crude and fabricated materials respectively. Included in Section 5 (inedible end products) are finished commodities that have attained their final degree of processing, e.g. machinery together with specific parts and accessories of machinery.

Exports. In 1974, exports and imports reached record high levels of \$32,100 million and \$31,500 million respectively. Canada's exports followed a steady upward trend over the period 1956-74. The acceleration in the growth of domestic exports in the period 1961-66 was followed by somewhat slower growth during the next five-year period. Exports of finished goods recorded much higher rates of increase than those of crude and fabricated materials. Exports increased more rapidly to the United States than to all other countries. Domestic exports by section and stage of fabrication, 1956-74 are presented in Table 18.33; average annual rates for major categories are given in Table 18.35.

Imports. At 10%, imports rose at a slightly slower rate than exports over the same period, 1956-74, with hesitations in growth in the second half of the 1950s and in 1970. The sharpest acceleration in the growth rate of imports occurred in the period 1971-74, which was preceded by years of more moderate growth. Values of imports are shown in Table 18.34 and percentage growth rates in Table 18.35.

Unlike export trade, the growth of imports from the United States has been at a slightly lower rate than from overseas countries.

18.3 Federal trade services

Canada's economy continues to be vitally dependent on international trade. Competition among industrial nations is intense and increased exports are not easy to achieve. A successful export trade can only be assured by combining good products, efficient production and aggressive, intelligent marketing with government support.

Federal government support is provided through the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce and the Export Development Corporation. The Department assists Canadian industry throughout the complete cycle — from research, design and development through production to marketing of the finished product. The Export Development Corporation, a Crown agency which reports to Parliament through the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, provides insurance, guarantees, loans and other financial facilities to help Canadian exporters.

18.3.1 Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce

Departmental units involved in international trade are: Office of General Relations, Office of Special Import Policy, Export and Import Permits Division, the International Bureaux, Trade Commissioner Service, Office of International Special Projects, International Financing Branch, Grain Marketing Office, Office of Transportation Policy Adviser, Office of Export Programs and Services, and the Program Office (Export Market Development), which handles the administration of the Program for Export Market Development.

The Office of General Relations includes a General Trade Policy Branch and a Commodity Trade Policy Branch, responsible, within the Department, for formulating and implementing Canadian external trade policy with particular reference to the activities of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). It is also responsible for the preparation and conduct of negotiations of intergovernmental commodity agreements, such as those for wheat, coffee and sugar.

The Office of Special Import Policy implements government policies relating to low-cost imports. It proposes action to be taken by government in the light of recommendations of the Textile and Clothing Board (with respect to imports of textiles and clothing) and of the Anti-dumping Tribunal (with respect to other low-cost products), as well as in other instances