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### FOREWORD

The statistics in this abstract of Canadian-British East Indian trade were specially compiled for the use of the Imperial Economic Conference, 1932. The abstract consists of two parts: The first part presents in rather complete detail Canada's trade with British India, Ceylon, and the Straits Settlements; while the second part sets out the trade of British India, Ceylon and British Malaya, also in rather complete detail, with the chief countries with which these British countries have exchange of commodities. According to the trade statistics of these British countries, Canada's share in their total imports in 1913 was only 0.03 per cent; in 1922 it was 0.44 per cent; while in 1930, eight years later, it had increased to 0.6 per cent. The British East Indian trade has increased so rapidly under normal conditions in recent years, and its possibilities for expansion in the future are so great as to merit careful study and consideration. British East Indian trade in 1913 was: Imports, \$994,532,000 (British India \$620,688,000, Ceylon \$60,288,000, and British Malaya \$313,556,000); and exports, \$1,193,391,000 (British India \$819,750,000, Ceylon \$72,652,000, and British Malaya \$300,989,000); whereas in 1930 the identical trade was: Imports, \$1,143,225,000 (British India \$631,782,000, Ceylon \$110,279,000, and British Malaya \$401,164,000); and exports \$1,287,502,000 (British India \$807,595,000, Ceylon \$106,355,000, and British Malaya \$373,552,000).

#### PART I.—TRADE OF CANADA WITH BRITISH INDIA, CEYLON AND STRAITS SETTLEMENTS

Table I presents the figures of Canada's trade, both import and export, with British India, Ceylon and the Straits Settlements, year by year, from 1912 to 1932, while side by side are given the corresponding figures for the United States. During the fiscal year ended March 31, 1932, Canada's imports from the British East Indies amounted to \$7,224,429, and exports to \$3,442,746; while the United States imports from these same British countries amounted to \$152,500,432, and exports to \$42,741,637. The United States imports were a trifle over twenty times greater than Canada's imports from these British countries in 1930 compared with thirty times in 1928, while United States exports in 1930 were about thirteen times greater than those from Canada, compared with seven times in 1928. The Canadian import figures, however, do not represent the actual amount of products of British East Indian origin received. For instance, in 1932, large quantities of lac (valued at \$203,722), and raw rubber (valued at \$3,474,744) were imported from the United States, the lac being largely of British Indian, and the raw rubber of British Malaya origin, while on the other hand large quantities of tea (valued at \$3,267,817) were imported from the United Kingdom, which had its origin in British India (value \$2,277,617) and Ceylon (value \$990,200). The imports into the United States from the British East Indies consist largely of raw rubber, tin and burlap, for the use of United States industries.

Table II sets forth the total trade of Canada with British India, Ceylon and the Straits Settlements, as well as the principal commodities imported from and exported to these British countries for the years 1914 (year prior to the war), 1922 (year following post-bellum boom), 1931 and 1932. From 1914 to 1932, the total trade of Canada with British India increased from \$5,422,682 to \$8,141,258 (imports from \$5,006,309 to \$5,099,736, and domestic exports from \$416,373 to \$3,041,522 (in 1929 imports from, amounted to \$10,366,548, and exports to, \$11,858,436); with Ceylon the total trade decreased from \$1,686,331 to \$1,633,099 (in 1929 the total trade was \$3,086,659), the imports decreasing from \$1,646,835 to \$1,573,916 (in 1929 the imports totalled \$2,529,140), while the domestic exports increased from \$39,496 to \$59,183 (in 1929 the exports to, amounted to \$661,793); whereas during the same period the Dominion's total trade with the Straits Settlements increased from \$796,298 to \$890,849 (in 1929 the total trade was \$2,642,107); imports from decreased from \$565,843 to \$550,777, while domestic exports increased from \$230,455 to \$340,072 (in 1929, however, imports were \$2,015,207, and exports \$1,203,909).

It will be noted further by reference to Table II that the principal imports into Canada from British India in 1932 were: Jute cloth (\$2,376,615); tea (\$2,063,083); rice (\$240,488); spices (\$83,860); wax (\$65,643); mica (\$41,712); raw coffee (\$19,391); jute bags (\$18,166); raw hides (\$17,866); and brass (\$9,813); while the chief exports to British India were: Silver bullion (\$1,458,849); automobiles (\$475,166); rubber manufactures (\$257,335); aluminium (\$185,349); automobile parts (\$125,020); zinc (\$102,549); artificial silk (\$94,823); porcelain insulators (\$54,694); pipes and tubing (\$39,957); calcium carbide (\$33,262); medicinal preparations (\$29,739); fish (\$23,105); and clocks and watches (\$18,778). There has been a very serious decline in the exports of certain commodities to British India from 1929 to 1932, viz.: Automobiles, from \$5,388,628 to \$475,166; silver bullion from \$2,210,500 to \$1,458,849; rubber manufactures from \$2,170,250 to \$257,335; and wheat from \$921,000 to nil.

During the same year (1932) the principal imports from Ceylon were: Tea, (\$1,310,730); vegetable oil (\$120,225); edible nuts (\$54,969); raw cocoa (\$36,297); crude rubber (\$22,376); and spices (\$20,306); while the chief domestic commodities exported were: Rubber manufactures (\$42,002); clocks and watches (\$5,466); fish (\$1,918); and medicinal preparations (\$1,806). From 1929 to 1932 the exports of automobiles to the Straits Settlements decreased from \$454,150 to \$800; and rubber manufactures from \$156,778 to \$44,002.

Canada's principal imports from the Straits Settlements in 1932 were: Canned pineapples (\$409,780); spices (\$56,953); crude rubber (\$32,205); and tin in blocks (\$28,681). There were some notable decreases in the imports from the Straits Settlements from 1929 to 1932, viz.: Raw rubber from