

the past year. The most important items in this category were electronic equipment (telecommunications, televisions, radios), office machines and equipment, aircraft engines and parts, aircraft and miscellaneous equipment.

Economic conditions and currency fluctuations are not the only factors which have had an impact on Canadian sales. Botulism contamination in salmon canned in the U.S.A. led to a ban on retail sales from April to November in 1982 and this contributed to a \$20 million decrease in Canadian sales. Similarly asbestos sales have fallen off due to health concerns. Most recently, a controversy has erupted in Great Britain over the quality of houses built with timber frame construction techniques. There is a possibility that this could affect lumber exports in the near future.

Imports from the United Kingdom fell by 20% in 1982 from the previous year to a level of \$1.9 billion. End products (46.8%) dominated with the balance consisting of food, feed and beverages (7.8%), crude materials inedible (18.9%) and fabricated materials (24.3%). Major imports were led by precious metals, including alloys (\$70.6 million), distilled alcoholic beverages (\$57.4 million), organic chemicals (\$57.1 million), kitchen utensils, cutlery & tableware (\$44.4 million), medical pharmaceutical products (\$43.0 million) and aircraft engines (\$42.1 million).