

## FAVOURABLE TRADE BALANCE \$327,600,000

**10-MONTH AGGREGATE:** Canada had a favourable overall trade balance of \$66,000,000 in October, slightly above the September figure of \$64,400,000 and the highest for any month this year. In October last year there was a small adverse balance of \$800,000. During the 10 months ending October the favourable balance aggregated \$327,600,000, nearly two and a half times the 10-month aggregate of \$134,200,000 in 1947.

There was a small adverse trade balance with the United States during October of \$9,700,000 as compared with an adverse balance of \$26,200,000 a year ago, according to figures released by the Bureau of Statistics. The cumulative debit balance for the 10 months declined sharply to \$275,400,000 as against \$804,500,000 in the similar period of 1947.

October's favourable trade balance with the United Kingdom amounted to \$36,500,000, an increase over the September figure of \$24,100,000 but below the balance of \$48,700,000 in October last year. During the 10 months the credit balance totalled \$336,600,000 this year compared with \$460,200,000 in 1947.

Canada's total foreign trade in October amounted to \$552,900,000 as compared with \$508,200,000 a year ago and \$507,700,000 in September this year. The gain over October last year was due to a substantial rise in exports from \$250,800,000 to \$307,000,000, which offset by a wide margin a moderate drop in imports from \$254,500,000 to \$243,400,000. Re-exports in October were slightly lower than a year ago at \$2,500,000 compared with \$2,900,000.

Aggregate value of external trade for the 10 months this year was \$4,661,200,000 as against \$4,435,600,000 last year. Merchandise imports totalled \$2,166,800,000 compared with \$2,150,700,000, domestic exports \$2,465,100,000 compared with \$2,255,600,000 and foreign exports \$29,286,000 as against \$29,256,000.

**IMPORTS AT PEAK:** Value of merchandise imported for consumption in Canada reached the year's high figure of \$243,400,000 in October. This was \$21,700,000 higher than in September, but \$11,100,000 below the monthly all-time peak of \$254,500,000 registered in October last year. Aggregate value for the first 10 months of this year was \$2,166,800,000 as compared with \$2,150,700,000 in the like period last year.

The upward trend in the value of imports

from countries of the British Empire was continued in October, while purchases from foreign countries moved downward. October imports from British countries were valued at \$51,900,000 compared with \$35,300,000 a year ago, and in the 10 months, \$415,400,000 compared with \$286,500,000. October total from foreign countries was \$191,600,000 compared with \$219,200,000 a year ago, and in the 10 months, \$1,751,400,000 compared with \$1,864,200,000.

Imports from the United States in October were again lower than a year ago, being valued at \$160,211,000 as compared with \$190,438,000. During the 10 months ending October the value was \$1,482,945,000 as compared with \$1,658,627,000 in the same period of last year. Imports from the United States accounted for about two-thirds of the total for all countries both in the month and cumulative period.

Continuing the upward trend, purchases from the United Kingdom moved up to \$29,257,000 in October from last year's corresponding total of \$18,269,000. This brought the cumulative total for the 10 months ending October to \$246,550,000 as compared with \$151,269,000 in the same period last year.

Imports from Latin American countries as a group were slightly lower in value in October, but were substantially higher in the cumulative period. Total for the month was \$20,528,000 as compared with \$21,275,000 a year ago, and in the 10 months, \$187,799,000 as against \$133,394,000.

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application with the Civil Service Commission not later than January 6, 1949. The written test for eligible candidates will be held during the week ending January 29, 1949. A candidate who passes the written tests will later be given an oral examination.

The examinations are for the first two grades of Foreign Service Officer. Candidates for the Grade 1 examination must be between 23 and 31 years of age on June 1, 1949; candidates for Grade 2 between 31 and 35

**FEDERAL BYELECTION:** Final returns in the federal byelection in Digby-Annapolis-Kings on Monday last gave the following results:

Nowlan (PC)	14,192
McKenzie (L)	12,490
Shaw (CCF)	1,968

The seat was made vacant by the resignation of the former Minister of Justice, Mr. Ilsley.