

United States have risen from \$25,795,538 to \$77,543,780, and the free imports from \$24,383,466 to \$65,466,798. The total imports from United States in last 10 years have gone up from \$50,170,004 to \$143,010,578, the increase having been 185 per cent. as compared with an increase of 100 per cent. in British imports.

The exports of Canada to Great Britain in last 10 years have gone up from \$61,856,990 to \$117,591,376, the increase being close upon 90 per cent. as compared with an increase of 100 per cent. in British imports.

The exports of Canada to United States in the last 10 years have risen from \$34,164,567 to \$70,713,053, the increase of our exports to America being 106 per cent, as compared with the increase of only 90 per cent. in our exports to Great Britain. The following is a summary of the official statistics relating to the trade of Canada with Great Britain the United States, and the whole world in 1895 and 1904:

	\$	1895	Increase
	\$	\$	\$
Imports from Great Britain.	61,794,616	31,059,892	30,696,284
Exports to Great Britain.	117,591,376	61,856,990	55,784,386
Total British trade.	179,315,992	92,916,822	86,399,070
Imports from United States.	143,010,578	50,170,004	92,831,574
Exports to United States.	70,713,053	34,164,567	36,548,486
Total United States trade.	213,723,631	84,334,571	129,389,060
Imports from all countries.	243,599,619	100,675,891	142,914,128
Exports to all countries.	211,953,658	106,013,394	105,940,264
Total foreign trade.	455,553,277	206,689,285	247,966,412
Ratio of British Imports to total Imports.	per cent. 25.34	per cent. 30.85	decrease.
Ratio of British Exports to total Exports.	per cent. 55.71	per cent. 58.35	decrease
Ratio of United States Imports to total Imports.	per cent. 58.71	per cent. 49.84	Inc. 8.87
Ratio of United States Exports to total Exports.	per cent. 33.30	per cent. 32.22	Inc. 1.28

From the above statistics a clear idea may be obtained as to the tendencies of our foreign trade, so large a proportion of which, over 89 per cent., is transacted with the Great Britain and the United States.

Although the trade of Canada with Great Britain has not developed as largely as that with the United States in the last 10 years, the increase has been very large and is steadily growing.

ARE IMPORTS ENLARGING UNDULY?

A highly pessimistic note has been sounded by a contemporary in regard to "the increasing imports and decreasing exports," which conditions are alleged to be "somewhat alarming."

It is doubtless wise to sound a warning note when anything arises to indicate a movement being afoot which is fraught with mischief. That such a movement as an excessive amount of imports coincident with a large falling off in exports in one fraught with probable mischief is indisputable. But even

these conditions are not absolutely certain to bring financial trouble, for the excessively large imports may have followed a year or two of excessively small imports, and the falling off in exports may have followed a year or two of abnormally large exports, so that, taking a view of two or three years, the average may be quite moderate and have no feature to excite alarm.

The total imports for 12 months ending May 31 last were very large, having been \$263,085,184 as against \$261,828,611 in same 12 months 1903-4; \$224,733,057, 1902-3; \$199,786,687, 1901-2. The increase up to last May over previous term of 12 months was \$12,156,573, while the increases in the two previous years were respectively \$27,095,554, and \$24,946,370. So that, as compared with the two earlier years, the increases of imports up to May last was 14 millions of dollars less than the average increase in two of those previous years.

The gross increase in imports from 1900 to 1905, 6 years, was \$85,432,000, a yearly average of \$14,240,000, as against the year's increase to May last of \$12,156,573.

So that, instead of the increase of imports in last fiscal year having been so unusual as to excite alarm, the increase was absolutely less than in preceding years.

How then do the exports stand? No doubt there was a considerable falling off in the exports up to the end of last May, the figures being, 1905, \$175,923,102; 1904, \$186,414,065; 1903, \$199,368,603; 1902, \$186,178,763; 1901, \$172,824,462; 1900, \$158,795,280.

The decline of \$23,400,000 since 1903, when the maximum was reached, has been in "animal products" chiefly, the exports of manufactured goods having increased since 1903, by \$1,220,000, and 8 millions of dollars, or 60 per cent., since 1900, and 110 per cent. since 1898.

If the increased imports are examined it will be found that out of a total increase of \$12,156,000, no less than 7 millions were imports of coin and bullion, imports which are not usually regarded as signs, or causes of impoverishment. Besides these coin and bullion imports there was an increase of \$4,390,000 in those free of duty, which principally comprise articles required in manufacturing. So that, out of a total increase in imports last fiscal year, to end of May, amounting to \$12,156,000, there was no less than fully that amount accounted for by coin and bullion and goods of the nature of raw materials. We decline to recognize such conditions in regard to our imports as alarming to any extent.

The bountiful harvest this season will enlarge the exports and provide funds to enable the imports to be bought and paid for in due time without putting importers to any trouble, except to fill orders.