

unearned premium, but his pidgin-English was so bad that he couldn't make himself understood; but, on the supposition that he was claiming for loss, he was rather forced to sign proof and accept 60 p.c. of the face of his policy, which the Chinaman evidently considered "alle rightee," for he hasn't been seen in San Francisco since.

CANADA'S FOREIGN TRADE.

ANALYSIS OF IMPORTS.

In the last issue of THE CHRONICLE the figures for the Dominion's foreign trade for some years back were given, along with a list of the principal items exported, and some remarks upon how the statistics illustrated the condition of different localities and of different industries. As the import figures also illustrate trade conditions it will be interesting to study the chief items of the imports. Before giving the list the foreign trade for the last three years will be classified by countries.

Imports.

	1904.	1905.	1906.
From Great Britain...	\$61,770,379	\$60,328,500	\$60,176,189
From United States...	150,826,515	162,738,571	175,862,071
From other countries...	38,860,243	38,844,274	45,304,148
Total...	\$251,457,137	\$261,911,435	\$290,342,408

Exports.

	1904.	1905.	1906.
To Great Britain...	\$117,591,376	\$101,958,771	\$133,004,867
To United States...	73,173,549	77,404,971	97,806,728
To other countries...	22,856,310	23,954,030	25,685,035
Total...	\$213,521,235	\$203,316,872	\$256,586,630

In the report of the Department of Trade and Commerce, from which these figures are taken, the imports are classified as dutiable and free. To economise space these have been added together, and the total imports, both dutiable and free, for each of the years 1905 and 1906, have been put in one column. The method of selection has been to take the items amounting to \$2,000,000 and over, including, however, a few smaller items of particular interest.

Imports.

	1905.	1906.
Animals, living...	\$1,800,639	\$2,103,704
Books, periodicals, etc...	2,432,238	2,719,643
Corn...	6,155,071	6,179,948
Automobiles...	453,904	645,871
Cement...	784,471	995,731
Coal, coke and coal dust...	21,204,427	20,499,798
Cordage, rope, twine, etc...	1,612,245	2,014,077
Cotton wool or raw cotton...	5,617,044	7,626,625
Fabrics, bleached and un-		
bleached...	1,212,230	1,322,314
Cotton Fabrics, printed, dyed...	3,288,356	3,600,661
Sundry cotton and mnfrs. of...	3,064,067	3,732,161
Drugs, dyes, chemicals...	6,148,308	7,362,179
Electric apparatus...	2,849,079	3,578,288
Laces, lace collars, etc...	1,304,067	1,702,807
Fruits and nuts, dried...	1,865,934	2,387,715
Fruits, green...	3,100,087	3,673,814
Furs and skins and mnfrs. of...	4,164,415	4,782,607
Glass and mnfrs. of...	530,057	1,014,101
Gutta Percha, rubber, and mnfrs. of...	3,545,330	3,549,874

Hats, caps, etc...	2,681,357	2,688,787
Hides and skins, other than fur...	5,420,717	6,811,207
Boots and shoes...	1,173,113	1,283,004
Copper and mnfrs. of...	2,042,429	3,102,157
Agricultural implements...	1,593,301	1,614,504
Iron or steel sheet, etc...	2,251,762	2,520,952
Machinery and machines...	7,590,917	9,550,314
Rolled iron, beams, etc...	1,706,838	1,972,012
Steel rails...	5,472,849	1,214,548
Tools and implements...	1,201,798	1,430,548
Tubing...	1,314,463	1,422,001
Wire...	2,400,044	3,083,002
Sundry, iron and steel, and mnfrs...	8,013,573	9,855,714
Tin, and mnfrs. of...	2,791,757	3,330,948
Sundry metals, minerals, and mnfrs...	3,974,377	4,029,216
Oils, all kinds...	3,652,220	3,448,557
Packages...	2,379,321	2,605,329
Paper, and mnfrs. of...	2,963,618	3,176,129
Provisions, all kinds...	1,553,045	3,026,805
Settlers' effects...	7,084,659	9,254,511
Silk fabrics...	3,437,754	3,401,475
Spirits and wines, all kinds...	2,548,108	2,762,280
Sugar...	8,501,176	10,237,164
Tea...	3,670,940	3,665,781
Tobacco, and mnfrs. of...	2,979,499	3,425,422
Lumber and timber, planks, boards, etc...	4,816,798	4,274,716
Sundry wood, and mnfrs. of...	2,516,005	2,729,287
Carpets...	1,590,586	1,574,215
Clothing, ready-made...	1,426,638	1,280,027
Cloths, coats, etc...	4,729,109	5,215,864
Other wool fabrics...	4,829,689	5,065,648
Wool, raw...	1,553,431	1,489,268

The most important single item on the list is "coal." In value it amounts to nearly one-fifteenth of the whole. The bulk of it is, as most people know, anthracite coal, which does not complete with the product of our own mines, and is, therefore, free of duty. Nearly nine millions was soft coal subject to duty.

Taking them altogether, the imports of iron and steel and metals are more important even than the imports of coal. In connection with them, particularly in connection with the imports of machinery and machines, it should be remembered that a respectable part of the whole represents the investment of foreign capital in our industries and mines. When we read of the establishment of a large branch or principal plant, by an American or British company, at some one or other of our towns or cities, the capital invested by the foreigners, or a large part of it, comes in the shape of machinery or other iron or steel goods; and we do not have to reckon this among the items for which we must pay with our exports or with our cash. Another item which can obviously be considered clear gain, or as an addition to our national assets, is "settlers' effects," which came close to ten millions in the fiscal year just ended. A consideration of these two items alone serves to show that the popular idea that exports should always overbalance imports if a country is to prosper is not always correct. The composition of both exports and imports must be studied before conclusions can be arrived at. Imports are not always "purchases from abroad," as we have just seen. And exports are not always "sales to foreigners"