

sons charged with the crime of arson, upon sufficient evidence, has resulted in materially reducing the number of fires from unknown and incendiary causes." He urges the extreme advisability of a State fire marshal being appointed with wide powers to carry on a system of fire inspections which shall determine what are the causes of fires, from which would be known what precautions need to be taken for preventing fire losses. He places especial emphasis upon the saving to the State which would result from tax-paying properties being saved from destruction. That point was made in this journal last week and will bear hammering at until it secures attention. When property is destroyed, it ceases to yield tax revenue to the city, and from this alone there is an annual loss greater than the sum needed to improve the fire protection.

THE RELATIVE PROPORTIONS OF CANADIAN IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, AND OF FOREIGN TO NATIVE EXPORTS.

In order to convey a clearer idea as to certain important and highly interesting features of the foreign trade of Canada than those which appear on the surface of the returns published in two previous issues of this journal, we have compiled the following comparative table from the official Trade and Navigation returns of 1900. The distinction between goods exported which are of Canadian production and those which are of foreign origin is always shown in the official statistics of the Imperial Government, and the relative proportion of the native and foreign goods sold in outside markets has an important bearing upon the development of the internal industrial resources of the country. Those exports which are of native production represent the transformation of the natural resources of the country, and of its industrial energies, skill and capital into marketable commodities. Such exported productions ordinarily add directly to the wealth of the country, they represent the surplus of the productions of the Dominion over and above those required for home consumption, just as the domestic produce a farmer puts on the market represents the excess he has to dispose of after his household has been supplied. The exports, however, of foreign goods represent partly goods that pass out from one foreign market to another through a Canadian channel, the business of transporting and handling of which leaves a far less residue of profit in this country than is derived from goods and produce wholly made or grown in Canada.

The following table shows the excess of imports over Canadian exports, and of those and foreign combined; also, percentage of excess of imports over exports, and of exports over imports, with the percentage of increase or decrease each year compared with the preceding year:

Year.	Excess of Imports over Canadian Exports.	Imports over Total Exports.	Percentage excess of Imports.	Percentage increase or decrease compared with previous year.	Imports.	Exports.
	\$	\$	p.c.	p.c.		
1868..	20,089,577	5,891,456	27.6			
1869..	13,796,185	9,994,384	16.4	d 04.1	i 05.05	
1870..	7,768,471	1,240,849	01.7	i 06.2	i 21.6	
1871..	31,772,386	21,919,353	29.5	i 28.4	i 09.8	
1872..	41,534,989	28,790,864	34.8	i 15.0	i 11.4	
1873..	47,625,269	38,221,359	32.5	i 14.9	i 08.6	
1874..	49,475,750	38,861,654	43.5	i 00.16	d 00.5	
1875..	52,320,623	45,183,304	58.0	d 0.4	d 12.8	
1876..	19,478,872	12,243,911	15.1	d 24.2	i 03.9	
1877..	30,563,677	24,452,569	30.9	i 06.5	d 06.3	
1878..	24,932,998	13,758,120	17.3	d 06.3	i 0.45	
1879..	18,828,816	10,473,172	14.6	d 11.9	d 0.96	
1880..	11,818,295	*1,421,711	*01.6	i 05.5	i 22.9	
1881..	20,415,134	7,040,017	07.1	i 21.8	i 11.8	
1882..	34,910,750	17,282,297	14.5	i 13.3	i 03.9	
1883..	43,919,991	34,168,218	25.8	i 10.7	d 0.39	
1884..	34,378,653	24,990,547	21.4	d 11.9	d 0.68	
1885..	27,782,771	19,703,125	18.0	d 06.4	d 0.23	
1886..	26,611,326	19,173,247	18.3	d 04.1	d 0.43	
1887..	31,925,758	23,376,426	20.7	i 08.1	i 05.0	
1888..	29,495,024	20,991,630	18.6	d 11.8	i 00.7	
1889..	33,974,219	26,035,764	22.6	i 03.9	d 01.1	
1890..	34,160,873	25,109,092	20.6	i 05.4	i 0.78	
1891..	31,166,572	21,550,342	17.9	d 01.5	i 0.17	
1892..	28,064,155	13,442,693	10.5	i 6.2	i 16.0	
1893..	23,276,011	10,509,919	8.1	i 1.3	i 4.0	
1894..	19,313,170	5,949,991	4.8	d 4.3	d 00.8	
1895..	8,096,670	*2,457,121	*02.21	d 9.95	d 03.3	
1896..	8,096,171	*3,062,342	*02.54	i 6.14	i 6.49	
1897..		*18,731,644	*15.71	i 1.02	i 14.00	
1898..		*23,829,630	*16.98	i 17.70	i 18.99	
1899..	24,302,271	3,867,403	2.4	i 16.00	d 3.2	
1900..	18,980,147	*2,272,207	*01.2	i 14.16	i 20.77	

Items marked * are cases in which the exports were in excess of imports, viz. in 1880, 1885, 1896, 1897, 1898 and 1900, in every other year the imports exceeded the exports.

The following table shows the total Imports, the Exports of Canadian productions, and of foreign, with the total Exports for each year since Confederation:

Year.	Total Imports.	Exports Canadian Products.	Exports Foreign Products.	Total Exports.
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1868....	73,459,644	53,371,067	4,196,821	57,567,888
1869....	70,415,165	56,618,980	3,855,901	60,474,781
1870....	74,814,339	67,045,868	6,527,622	73,573,490
1871....	95,992,971	64,320,585	9,853,031	74,173,618
1872....	111,430,577	69,895,538	12,744,125	82,639,663
1873....	128,011,281	80,384,012	9,405,910	89,789,922
1874....	128,218,582	78,737,832	10,614,096	87,351,928
1875....	123,070,283	79,749,660	7,137,319	77,886,979
1876....	93,210,346	73,731,474	7,234,961	80,966,435
1877....	99,327,962	68,764,285	7,111,108	75,875,393
1878....	93,031,787	68,158,789	11,164,878	79,323,667
1879....	81,964,427	63,135,611	8,355,644	71,491,255
1880....	86,489,747	74,671,452	13,240,006	87,911,458
1881....	105,330,840	84,915,701	13,375,117	78,290,823
1882....	119,419,500	94,508,750	7,628,453	102,137,203
1883....	132,254,022	88,334,031	9,751,773	98,085,804
1884....	116,397,043	82,017,390	9,389,106	91,406,496
1885....	108,941,486	81,158,715	8,079,646	89,238,361
1886....	104,421,561	77,813,235	7,438,079	85,251,314
1887....	112,892,236	80,966,478	8,549,333	89,515,811
1888....	110,889,630	81,399,606	8,803,394	90,203,000
1889....	115,224,931	82,250,712	6,938,455	89,189,167
1890....	121,858,241	87,657,368	9,051,781	94,949,149
1891....	119,967,638	88,801,066	9,616,230	98,417,296
1892....	127,406,068	99,338,913	14,624,462	113,963,375
1893....	129,074,268	105,798,257	12,766,095	118,564,352
1894....	123,474,940	104,161,770	13,363,179	117,524,949
1895....	111,181,682	103,085,012	10,553,791	113,638,803
1896....	118,011,508	109,915,337	11,098,515	121,013,852
1897....	119,218,609	123,959,838	13,990,415	137,950,253
1898....	140,328,053	145,594,385	18,558,298	164,152,683
1899....	162,764,308	138,462,037	20,434,868	158,896,905
1900....	189,622,516	170,642,369	21,252,351	191,894,723

The average proportion of foreign exports in the last ten years has been 11 per cent. of the total, that is, out of \$1,336,000,000 of exports sent out of