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OTTAWA - CANADA ELULLULINGE TO VILLIAND SALE in relation to production the figure for 1935 39 averaged 33 per cent and for 1951-55.

Vol. 12 No. 32 room and an enclose and

28 per cent in absolute terms there has 1957, Taugua Cause production was higher to 1935, 1957 of the cause of agricultural index of physical volume of agricultural

(C. W.B. August 7 . 1957)

CANADA'S TRADE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS in considerable quantities But Canada s

situation holds true of other suppliers According to an article in the latest issue of "Foreign Trade", Canada's trade in agricural products currently reveals something of a paradox. It is declining in importance re-lative to total trade but, on a volume basis, it has been higher on the average in the past five years than in any similar peacetime period. And in terms of current dollars, it is higher than ever before. Interesting also is the fact that the value of agricultural im-Ports has increased more rapidly than the value of agricultural exports--but imports of agricultural products of a kind not grown in Canada (such as cotton and coffee) make up half this total. Imports which compete directly with products grown in Canada--such as Potatoes, soybeans and corn-represent only about one-third, in value of Canadian exports. of agricultural products.

Kingdom market partly reflects driftshington

SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF TRADE

Agricultural exports for the five years 1935 to 1939 averaged \$307 million, or 33 per cent of total exports, and the 1952-56 average was \$1,006 million which, however, was only 24 per cent of total exports. Despite this relative decline in the importance of agri-Cultural exports and the decrease in the value of money, agricultural exports have risen in absolute terms. By adjusting the value in the two periods to take account of the change in the purchasing power of the dollar, it is estimated that exports in the past five years

tion, compared with actual 1935-39 exports of have been 48 per cent higher, on the average,

equivalent to 42 per cent of 1935-39 produc

than they were before the war.

Wheat is the most important single commodity in Canada's agricultural export trade.

It is also one of the three most important in exports of all commodities, competing from year to year for top position with newsprint paper and planks and boards. Exports of wheat and wheat flour have averaged between 50 and 60 per cent of total agricultural exports, with only a small percentage rise from the prewar to the recent five-year period. A comparison of values in actual dollar

terms shows that agricultural imports increased between 1935-39 and 1952-56 by 28 per cent more than agricultural exports during the same period. The rate of increase was, however, only half that of total commodity imports.

A considerable part of Canada's imports of agricultural products is made up of noncompeting items. In 1956, for example, out of total agricultural imports of a value of \$690 million, tea, coffee and rubber accounted for \$129 million and raw cotton for \$59 million.

In addition, there are other items which compete to a greater or lesser extent with Canadian-grown products although they are not raised in this country. Outstanding examples are citrus fruits (\$33 million), grapes (mainly of the vitis vinifera variety not grown in Canada -- \$9 million), dried fruits (\$12 million), fruit juices (\$19 million), nuts (\$21 million), and raw cane sugar (\$56 mileven more strikingly, flaxseed exports rese (1ey0)3 to 46 per cent. The decline of the

indicated by the decrease from 66 to 15 per restrictions, move to the United States; In central for chaese and 50 to 16 per cent STNATHONE and beef trade provides an illustration

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Canadian Envoy	allie A. Calita. beals

The second secon	
Brece bave been striking decreases in im-	
Record Rise In Population	4
Exercise "Sea Spray"	4
Foreign Trade At New Peak	4
Statement On Immigration	115
Air Defence	5
DOD LED CO - DOD DIO E STRING ON PROPERTY OF THE	22 1