

FOREIGN TRADE OF CANADA, 1894 TO 1903.

YEARS.	IMPORTS—ENTERED FOR CONSUMPTION.				EXPORTS.					Total Trade.
	Merchandise.			Total Imports.	Merchandise.			Coin and Bullion.	Total Exports	
	Dutiable.	Free.	Totals.		Home Produce.	Foreign Produce.	Totals.			
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
TWELVE MONTHS ENDED MAY 31, 1894 TO 1903.										
1894	64,662,245	45,823,793	110,486,038	115,505,338	100,271,270	11,501,155	111,772,425	2,862,983	114,635,408	230,140,746
1895	57,284,771	44,369,673	101,654,444	106,207,746	102,313,588	6,795,562	109,109,150	4,266,183	113,375,333	219,583,079
1896	67,407,663	37,626,257	105,033,920	110,275,002	104,847,183	7,242,583	112,089,766	4,686,734	116,776,500	227,051,502
1897	66,414,077	40,245,322	106,659,399	111,328,978	115,276,019	9,988,028	125,264,047	3,462,975	128,727,022	240,056,000
1898	73,539,218	49,017,880	122,557,098	126,940,634	142,478,411	13,895,844	156,374,255	4,615,945	160,990,200	287,330,834
1899	85,662,197	59,795,838	145,458,035	149,994,251	132,135,927	17,985,799	150,121,726	3,951,379	154,073,105	304,067,356
1900	103,515,254	68,172,692	171,687,946	178,553,438	150,389,662	14,977,834	165,367,496	8,493,168	173,860,664	352,414,102
1901	103,219,423	70,069,345	173,288,768	178,352,752	170,729,257	16,593,306	187,322,563	2,363,566	189,686,129	368,038,881
1902	116,523,800	78,198,353	194,722,153	199,786,687	195,048,808	14,528,710	209,577,518	1,795,187	211,372,705	411,159,392
1903	133,529,706	84,132,997	217,662,703	224,733,057	212,469,442	11,755,585	224,225,027	605,099	224,830,126	449,563,183

PHASES OF THE FOREIGN TRADE OF CANADA IN LAST TEN YEARS.

The Congress held in this city during the present week was more representative of the mercantile and financial interests of the several parts of the Empire than the Parliament of the United Kingdom. It might be termed an "Imperial Trade Parliament," for its members were delegates from Boards of Trade all over the Empire, and the main object of the gathering was to consider, by what means the business interests of the Empire could be best promoted. Before an intelligent judgment can be formed as to the proposals suggested for promoting Imperial trade by an Imperial fiscal policy, it is essential that the extent of the trade done by Great Britain respectively with the Colonies and with countries should be considered. To judge as to the bearing of such a policy on the commerce of Canada, it is desirable to know what are the conditions of our foreign trade. The two following tables have been compiled from official sources as they appear in the last report of the Department of Trade and Commerce.

In regard to the respective proportions of Britain's foreign and colonial trade, the table shows the following comparisons:

The imports into Great Britain from the colonies increased between 1897 and 1901 to extent of.....	\$ 57,680,000
The imports from foreign countries increased to extent of.....	297,082,000
The exports from Great Britain to colonies, 1897, to 1901 increased to extent of.....	130,770,000

The exports from Great Britain to colonies increased.	137,681,000
The imports into Great Britain from Canada increased by.....	3,183,000
The exports from Gt. Britain to Canada increased by Percentage of increase in exports to all colonies, 1897 to 1901.....	30 per cent.
Percentage of increase in exports to Canada, 1897 to 1901.....	51 per cent.
Percentage of increase in imports from colonies, 1897 to 1901.....	12 per cent.
Percentage of increase in imports from Canada, 1897 to 1901.....	34 per cent.

The development of the trade between Great Britain and Canada since 1897 has been very marked in one direction; the exports from Great Britain to this country having increased 51 per cent., while the imports of Canadian goods into Great Britain increased only 3 1-3 per cent. The theory that imports from any country are paid for by exports to that country does not harmonize with the facts that Canada has for many years been sending more than double the amount of goods to Great Britain than she has received from there, and that in the years 1897 to 1901, the exports of Canadian goods to Great Britain increased 51 per cent., while our imports from Great Britain in same period only increased 3.33 per cent. That favourite theory of some writers is badly damaged by such facts; it is like a puncture in a balloon, through which the inflating gas has escaped.

The totals of the foreign trade of Canada classified for years from 1894 to year ending May 31, 1903, are shown below:

This table yields the following comparisons:—