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COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS
CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

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AUSTRALIAN OVERSEA TRADE : JULY, 1958

(Note : Values are in Australian Currency f.o.b. port of shipment)

This preliminary statement of Oversea Trade for the month of July, 1958 will be followed by the usual Monthly Bulletin containing details of items.

Imports and Exports are recorded statistically in the month in which the entries are passed by the Department of Customs and Excise. Normally this is within a few days of discharge or shipment of cargoes.

Total Imports recorded in July, 1958, were valued at approximately £64.2 million, compared with £71.0 million in July, 1957, a decrease of £6.8 million.

Total Exports recorded in July, 1958, amounted to approximately £61.4 million, compared with £72.6 million in July, 1957, a decrease of £11.2 million.

In July, 1958, the recorded excess of imports over exports was approximately £2.8 million, compared with a recorded excess of exports of £1.6 million in July, 1957.

The table below shows the total value of recorded Oversea Trade (including Bullion and Specie) during each of the thirteen months ended July, 1958.

(£A million f.o.b. port of shipment)

Period	1957-58 (a)			1958-59 (a)		
	Imports	Exports	Excess of Exports (+) or Imports (-)	Imports	Exports	Excess of Exports (+) or Imports (-)
July	71.0	72.6	+ 1.6	64.2	61.4	- 2.8
August	68.3	60.7	- 7.6			
September	57.1	77.2	+ 20.1			
October	72.0	94.5	+ 22.5			
November	64.5	83.2	+ 18.7			
December	62.0	70.4	+ 8.4			
January	77.4	66.7	- 10.7			
February	62.8	60.4	- 2.4			
March	59.5	61.3	+ 1.8			
April	67.4	53.2	- 14.2			
May	66.8	65.2	- 1.6			
June	63.5	55.4	- 8.1			
Twelve Months Total:	792.3	820.8	+ 28.5			

(a) Subject to revision.

NOTE: Freight and insurance payable on imports are not included above. These were estimated at approximately £125 million in the year ended 30th June, 1958.

Statistics relating only to oversea trade do not measure Australia's total Balance of Payments during the periods shown. Particulars of other transactions entering into the balance of payments (in particular, freight and insurance charges payable overseas, current production of Australian gold, oversea payments of dividends, profits, interest and royalties, Government expenditure overseas, etc.) are shown in a printed bulletin published by the Commonwealth Statistician entitled "The Australian Balance of Payments 1928-29 to 1951-52". Current estimates for the years 1951-52 to 1957-58 have been published in mimeographed form. For items such as naval ships, merchant vessels trading overseas, aircraft for use on oversea routes and certain materials for intergovernmental defence projects, no customs entries are recorded but these transactions are taken into account in estimating Balance of Payments.

S.R. CARVER
COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN

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