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AUSTRALIAN OVERSEA TRADE : SEPTEMBER, 1950

(Note : Values are in Australian currency f.o.b.)

The following statement issued by the Commonwealth Statistician (Dr. Roland Wilson) relates to the Oversea Trade of Australia for the month of September, 1950.

During and since the war abnormal factors have operated in the shipment of some major items of exports such as wool and wheat. These factors have affected sales and deliveries for export and have materially influenced the quantity and value of exports recorded for individual months and years and consequently the recorded balance of visible trade in these periods.

UNFAVOURABLE TRADE BALANCE OF £37½ MILLIONS FOR
FIRST QUARTER OF 1949-50 1950-51

With exports of merchandise £46,685,000 and imports of merchandise £56,907,000, Australia had an unfavourable balance of trade of £10,222,000 in September, 1950.

1950-51 The total adverse balance of trade for the first quarter of 1949-50 was £37,532,000 (exports £133,987,000 and imports £171,519,000) but this amount should be reduced appreciably in the statistics for October when wool shipments were re-commenced on a high level.

For the first quarter of 1949-50 exports of merchandise were £108,610,000 and imports of merchandise £113,125,000 giving an unfavourable balance of £4,515,000. Exports have increased so far by £25,377,000 (23 per cent) between 1949-50 and 1950-51 and imports by £58,394,000 (52 per cent). It is shown below that imports from the United Kingdom increased by about £30 millions between the first quarters of 1949-50 and 1950-51 and that the remainder of the increase was spread over a large number of countries.

SMALL FAVOURABLE TRADE BALANCE WITH
NORTH AMERICA IN SEPTEMBER, 1950

Australia had a small favourable trade balance of £25,000 with North America in September, 1950 compared with unfavourable balances of £1,525,000 and £2,348,000 in September, 1949 and August, 1950 respectively.

For the first quarter of 1950-51 Australia's unfavourable trade balance with North America was only £895,000 compared with the unfavourable balance of £8,830,000 for the first quarter of 1949-50. Expressed in terms of United States dollars, there was an improvement from an unfavourable balance of about \$29 millions for the first quarter of 1949-50 to an unfavourable balance of only \$2 millions for the first quarter of 1950-51.

The table below summarizes the value of trade with North America for various periods in 1949-50 and 1950-51.

(£A'000 f.o.b.)

Country	September 1949	August 1950	September 1950	July - September	
				1949-50	1950-51
EXPORTS					
United States of America	1,470	2,625	4,111	4,128	12,073
Canada	1,283	1,171	1,760	2,675	4,167
TOTAL:	2,753	3,796	5,871	6,803	16,240
IMPORTS					
United States of America	3,328	4,640	4,653	12,420	13,072
Canada	950	1,504	1,193	3,213	4,063
TOTAL:	4,278	6,144	5,846	15,633	17,135
TRADE BALANCE WITH NORTH AMERICA	-1,525	-2,348	25	-8,830	-895

Note:- Minus Sign (-) denotes excess of imports.

Exports of wool to United States of America were valued at £8,384,000 for the first three months of 1950-51 compared with £2,399,000 for the first three months of 1949-50. Exports of wool to Canada for those two periods were £875,000 and £802,000 respectively.

ADVERSE TRADE BALANCE WITH UNITED KINGDOM NEARLY
£40 MILLIONS IN FIRST QUARTER OF 1949-50

With imports from United Kingdom valued at £27,934,000 and exports to United Kingdom at £18,412,000, Australia had an unfavourable trade balance with the United Kingdom of £9,520,000 in September, 1950.

For the three months ended September, 1950 exports to United Kingdom totalled £47,142,000 and imports from United Kingdom £86,961,000. This unfavourable balance of £39,819,000 compares with an unfavourable balance of only £8,408,000 for the first three months of 1949-50 (exports £48,201,000 and imports £56,609,000).

TRADE WITH PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES

Trade with principal countries for the three months ended September, 1950 is compared below with corresponding figures for the three months ended September, 1949.

(£1,000 f.o.b.)

Principal Countries	July - September	
	1949	1950
<u>EXPORTS</u>		
United Kingdom ..	48,201	47,142
Canada ..	2,675	4,167
India ..	10,989	7,269
New Zealand ..	4,144	5,197
Singapore ..	1,896	2,212
Belgium ..	3,819	7,079
Egypt ..	1,291	4,386
France ..	7,689	9,696
Germany ..	2,006	2,608
Italy ..	1,594	3,163
Japan ..	1,458	4,241
United States of America ..	4,128	12,073
<u>IMPORTS</u>		
United Kingdom ..	56,609	89,961
Australian Territories ..	755	1,998
Canada ..	3,213	4,063
Ceylon ..	2,227	3,219
India ..	6,614	6,542
Malaya, Federation of ..	830	3,241
Singapore ..	1,784	2,117
Bahrain Island ..	1,228	3,172
France ..	1,677	3,833
Germany ..	919	3,087
Italy ..	1,764	4,271
Japan ..	1,159	2,680
Netherlands Dependencies -		
Indonesia, United States of	3,102	4,999
Persia (Iran) ..	1,662	2,683
Sweden ..	1,823	3,058
United States of America ..	12,420	13,072

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS

3.

The value of wool exported in September, 1950 was £16,637,000 compared with £13,042,000 in August, 1950 and £9,494,000 in September, 1949.

Exports of wheat and flour were £10,796,000 in September, 1950 compared with £7,732,000 in August, 1950 and £8,267,000 in September, 1949.

Values of principal exports from Australia during the period July - September, 1950 are compared below with corresponding figures for July - September, 1949.

(£A'000 f.o.b.)

Item	July - September	
	1949	1950
Wool, greasy ..	31,408	42,458
Wheat ..	15,609	17,097
Wool, scoured and washed, tops, noils and waste, etc. ..	7,785	14,535
Flour ..	6,850	7,529
Sugar ..	4,863	4,626
Lead - Pig, Bullion etc. ..	3,198	4,304
Sheepskins ..	2,323	3,916
Beef (preserved by cold process)	2,973	2,613
Preserved meat (tins) ..	2,019	2,411
Zinc - Bars, Blocks, Ingots etc. ..	729	1,617
Zinc concentrates ..	169	1,777
Dried Fruits ..	1,199	1,672
Fruits, preserved in liquid	1,108	1,568
Butter ..	2,384	1,544
Machines and Machinery ..	1,249	1,354
Barley ..	759	1,280

Values and quantities of principal Agricultural, Pastoral, and Dairy Produce of Australian Origin exported during the period July-September, 1950 compared with July-September, 1949 are shown below:-

Item	July-September, 1949		July - September, 1950		Principal Countries Value (£'000 f.o.b.)
	Value £'000 f.o.b.	Quantity	Value £'000 f.o.b.	Quantity	
Butter	2,384	18.9 mil lb.	1,544	10.0 mil lb.	United Kingdom 646 Singapore 122
Beef (preserved by cold process)	2,973	87.8 mil lb.	2,613	65.0 mil lb.	United Kingdom 2,021
Mutton and Lamb (preserved by cold process)	476	11.6 mil lb.	216	4.7 mil lb.	United Kingdom 100
Wheat	15,609	586,995 ton (2,240 lb.)	17,097	544,220 ton (2,240 lb.)	United Kingdom 5,082 India 4,665 Egypt 2,521 Peru 1,570 New Zealand 693
Flour	6,850	408.9 mil lb.	7,529	410.1 mil lb.	Egypt 1,362 Ceylon 1,108 India 1,073 United Kingdom 997 Indonesia 585 Malaya 533
Wool, greasy	31,408	178.5 mil lb.	42,458	122.2 mil lb.	United Kingdom 13,598 France 6,847 U.S.America 5,639 Belgium 4,922 Japan 2,694 Germany 2,129 Italy 2,054 Soviet Union 1,748
Wool, Scoured and Washed, Tops, Noils and Waste	7,785	33.3 mil lb.	14,535	36.0 mil lb.	United Kingdom 5,304 U.S.America 2,745 Canada 825 Japan 803 France 738 Belgium 710 Italy 705

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.

Values of principal imports for the period July - September, 1950 compared with those for July - September, 1949 were as follows:-

(£A'000 f.o.b.)

Item	July - September	
	1949	1950
Motor Vehicles ..	11,430	21,046
Machines and Machinery (Except Electrical) ..	14,094	20,063
Iron and Steel ..	5,716	12,344
Petroleum ..	5,821	9,213
Cotton and Linen Piece Goods ..	7,268	8,258
Electrical Appliances and Equipment ..	5,039	7,394
Silk and Rayon Piece Goods ..	4,062	5,687
Drugs and Chemicals ..	3,047	4,465
Pulp, Paper and Board ..	3,056	4,285
Tea ..	2,495	3,845
Carpets, Linoleums, etc. ..	2,037	3,484
Crude Rubber ..	644	3,240
Residual and Solar Oil ..	2,039	3,064
Yarns ..	1,721	2,600
Tobacco, Cigars and Cigarettes ..	1,829	2,513
Raw Cotton ..	661	2,410
Timber ..	1,782	2,325

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CANBERRA A.C.T.

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