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AUSTRALIAN OVERSEA TRADE : SEPTEMBER, 1961
MERCHANDISE ONLY - EXCLUDING BULLION AND SPECIE

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

This preliminary statement of Oversea Trade is approximate and will be followed by the usual Monthly Bulletin containing details of Merchandise, Bullion and Specie.

Imports and Exports of merchandise 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.

Merchandise Imports recorded in September, 1961 were valued at approximately £67.1 million, compared with £87.9 million in September, 1960 - a decrease of £20.8 million.

Merchandise Exports recorded in September, 1961, amounted to approximately £81.7 million, compared with £64.5 million in September, 1960, an increase of £17.2 million.

In September, 1961 the recorded excess of exports over imports was approximately £14.6 million compared with an excess of imports of £23.4 million in September, 1960.

For the first three months of 1961-62 recorded exports of merchandise exceeded recorded imports of merchandise by approximately £35.9 million compared with an excess of recorded imports of £87.8 million in the corresponding period of 1960-61.

AUSTRALIA : OVERSEA TRADE IN MERCHANDISE

(Excluding Bullion and Specie)

(£A. million f.o.b. port of shipment)

Period	1960-61 (a)			1961-62 (a)		
	Merchandise		Excess of Exports (+) or Imports(-)	Merchandise		Excess of Exports (+) or Imports(-)
	Imports	Exports		Imports	Exports	
July	88.9	66.5	- 22.4	69.7	86.1	+ 16.4
August	103.1	61.1	- 42.0	72.9	77.8	+ 4.9
September	87.9	64.5	- 23.4	67.1	81.7	+ 14.6
Three Months Total	279.9	192.1	- 87.8	209.7	245.6	+ 35.9
October	100.0	68.7	- 31.3			
November	89.6	76.8	- 12.8			
December	91.6	77.1	- 14.5			
January	99.8	76.6	- 23.2			
February	94.8	79.1	- 15.7			
March	89.4	86.4	- 3.0			
April	86.8	81.4	- 5.4			
May	78.9	93.2	+ 14.3			
June	74.6	97.6	+ 23.0			
Twelve Months Total	1,085.4	929.0	-156.4			

(a) Preliminary, subject to revision.

NOTE: Freight and insurance payable on imports are not included above. These are estimated at approximately £151 million in the year ended 30th June, 1961.

Statistics relating to Oversea Trade only, 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, overseas payments of dividends, profits, interest and royalties, Government expenditure overseas, etc.) are provided in a publication issued half-yearly by the Commonwealth Statistician entitled "The Australian Balance of Payments". In the most recent of these the estimates are shown for the first half of 1960-61. A preliminary summary has also been issued showing movements in the principal items during 1960-61. For items such as naval ships, merchant vessels trading overseas, aircraft for use on overseas routes, uranium, and certain materials for inter-governmental defence projects, no customs entries are recorded but these transactions are taken into account in estimating Balance of Payments.