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AUSTRALIAN OVERSEA TRADE - JANUARY, 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 January, 1950.

FAVOURABLE BALANCE OF TRADE IN JANUARY, 1950.

With total exports of merchandise of £52,488,000 and total imports of merchandise of £44,471,000 in January, 1950, Australia had a favourable balance of trade of £8,017,000. This increased the favourable balance for 1949-50 to £26,149,000 (exports £310,844,000 and imports £284,695,000), but this figure was considerably less than the corresponding favourable balance of £74,164,000 for the first seven months of 1948-49 (exports £304,662,000 and imports £230,498,000).

For the first seven months of 1949-50, exports were £6,182,000 higher than the total for the similar period of 1948-49 but imports were £54,197,000 higher.

Exports of merchandise in January, 1950, were valued at £52,488,000 compared with £51,911,000 in December, 1949 and £39,496,000 in January, 1949.

Imports of merchandise in January, 1950, were valued at £44,471,000 or just less than the record monthly total of £44,570,000 in December, 1949. The total in January, 1949, was £31,330,000.

RECORD EXPORTS TO UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
IN JANUARY, 1950.

Shipments of wool valued at £6,520,000 in January, 1950, were the main factor in producing a record total of £7,226,000 for exports to the United States of America. The previous highest total was £5,764,000 in November, 1949.

Imports from North America were valued at £6,056,000 in January, 1950, compared with £6,618,000 in December, 1949 and this decrease, combined with an increase in exports to North America from £5,937,000 to £7,729,000 produced a favourable trade balance with North America of £1,673,000 in January, 1950, compared with the unfavourable balance of £681,000 in December, 1949.

For the first seven months of 1949-50, Australia's exports to the United States of America were valued at £26,513,000 compared with £19,223,000 for the similar period in 1948-49. However, Australia's unfavourable balance with North America in those two seven-month periods increased from £1,367,000 in 1948-49 to £5,397,000 in 1949-50.

RECORD EXPORTS TO UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN JANUARY, 1950.
(Continued)

The table below summarizes the value of trade with North America for the two financial years 1948-49 and 1949-50.

(£A.'000 f.o.b.)

Country	January, 1949	December, 1949	January, 1950	July - January 1948-49	1949-50
<u>EXPORTS</u>					
United States of America	2,352	5,410	7,226	19,223	26,513
Canada	1,086	527	503	5,657	5,326
<u>TOTAL :</u>	3,438	5,937	7,729	24,880	31,839
<u>IMPORTS</u>					
United States of America	3,129	4,785	4,821	19,529	29,210
Canada	1,172	1,833	1,235	6,718	8,026
<u>TOTAL :</u>	4,301	6,618	6,056	26,247	37,236
Excess of Exports :	- 863	- 681	1,673	-1,367	-5,397

Note. Minus sign (-) denotes excess of imports.

Exports of wool to United States of America for the first seven months of 1949-50 were valued at £21,296,000 compared with £11,008,000 for the first seven months of 1948-49. Exports of wool to Canada showed a small increase between the two periods - £2,268,000 in 1948-49 and £2,330,000 in 1949-50.

INCREASING UNFAVOURABLE BALANCE WITH UNITED KINGDOM.

Imports from the United Kingdom again exceeded exports in January, 1950 and Australia's unfavourable balance with United Kingdom for the first seven months of 1949-50 was £22,294,000 (exports £126,704,000 and imports £148,998,000) compared with a favourable balance of £9,945,000 (exports £125,719,000 and imports £115,774,000) in the first seven months of 1948-49.

Exports to United Kingdom in January, 1950 totalled £20,061,000 compared with £19,413,000 in December, 1949 and £15,151,000 in January, 1949. Imports from United Kingdom in those three months were £23,457,000, £23,646,000 and £16,690,000 respectively.

TRADE WITH PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES.

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

(£A.'000 f.o.b.)

Principal Countries	Seven Months ended January	
	1949	1950
<u>EXPORTS</u>		
United Kingdom ..	125,719	126,704
Canada ..	5,657	5,326
Ceylon ..	4,364	4,419
Hong Kong ..	2,546	3,469
India ..	13,484	22,291
Malaya, Federation of ..	4,149	2,581

TRADE WITH PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES.

(Continued)

(£A. '000 f.o.b.)

Principal Countries	Seven Months ended January	
	1949	1950

EXPORTS - Continued.

New Zealand	9,608	11,718
Singapore	4,872	4,526
Belgium	11,587	13,449
Egypt	3,122	2,142
France	31,053	22,346
Germany	986	7,998
Italy	16,992	6,681
Japan	3,112	10,919
Netherlands	2,661	2,222
Soviet Union	8,489	4,979
United States of America	19,223	26,513

IMPORTS.

United Kingdom	115,774	148,998
Canada	6,718	8,026
Ceylon	4,034	4,491
India	15,306	16,467
Malaya, Federation of	2,574	2,337
New Zealand	2,028	2,284
Singapore	2,636	4,284
Bahrain Islands	2,620	3,077
France	2,192	4,629
Germany	719	2,711
Italy	2,009	3,636
Japan	697	3,754
Netherlands Dependencies		
Indonesia	6,355	7,225
Persia (Iran)	6,247	5,568
Sweden	5,023	3,831
United States of America	19,529	29,210

The large increase in exports to India is due to exports of wheat and flour which were valued at £20,137,000 for the first seven months of 1949-50 compared with £9,545,000 for the first seven months of 1948-49.

Exports to Japan totalled £3,030,000 in January, 1950. Wool accounted for £9,432,000 of the total of £10,919,000 for the seven months ended January, 1950.

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS.

The value of wool exported in January, 1950, was £33,752,000 compared with £29,408,000 in December, 1949 and £19,620,000 in January, 1949.

Exports of wheat and flour were £3,588,000 in January, 1950, compared with £4,965,000 in December, 1949 and £4,820,000 in January, 1949.

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS - Continued.

Values of principal exports from Australia during the seven months ended January, 1950, are compared below with corresponding figures for 1948-49.

(£A. '000 f.o.b.)

Particulars	Seven Months ended January	
	1949	1950
Wool, greasy	103,504	130,516
Wheat	35,500	28,187
Wool, Scoured, Tops, Noils, Waste, etc.	19,083	23,151
Flour	21,273	15,755
Sugar	9,007	10,604
Butter	12,012	10,257
Preserved Meat (tins)	4,663	5,248
Lead	12,895	5,665
Sheepskins	3,787	5,857
Beef (preserved by cold process)	4,603	4,569
Eggs	3,940	4,194
Milk and Cream	3,283	3,644
Rabbits and Hares (preserved by cold process)	1,631	3,468
Lamb (preserved by cold process)	1,773	3,471
Silver and silver lead ores and concentrates	1,161	2,756
Machines and Machinery	3,072	2,580
Fruits preserved in Liquid	2,588	2,220

Values and quantities of principal agricultural, pastoral and dairy products exported in the seven months ended January, 1950, compared with the corresponding period ended January, 1949, are shown below. The details in parentheses relate to the value of exports to principal countries in the seven months ended January, 1950.

Butter - 1949-50 £10,257,000, 70.39m.lb., 1948-49 £12,012,000, 95.45m.lb., (United Kingdom £8,778,000).

Beef (preserved by cold process) - 1949-50 £4,569,000, 131.85m.lb., 1948-49 £4,603,000, 157.09m.lb., (United Kingdom £3,387,000).

Mutton and Lamb (preserved by cold process) - 1949-50 £4,175,000, 103.55m.lb., 1948-49 £1,943,000, 50.21m.lb., (United Kingdom £3,874,000).

Wheat - 1949-50 £28,187,000, 38.32m.bushels, 1948-49 £35,500,000, 42.83m.bushels (India £15,227,000, United Kingdom £6,166,000, New Zealand £2,634,000, Egypt £976,000, Peru £816,000).

Flour - 1949-50 £15,755,000, 9.17m.centals, 1948-49 £21,273,000, 10.04m.centals (India £4,910,000, Ceylon £3,565,000, United Kingdom £1,093,000).

Wool, Greasy - 1949-50 £130,516,000, 612.09m.lb., 1948-49 £103,504,000, 534.20m.lb., (United Kingdom £45,171,000, France £17,642,000, United States of America £18,237,000, Belgium £10,635,000, Germany £6,834,000, Poland £6,525,000, Italy £5,341,000, Japan £9,432,000).

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS - Continued.

Wool, Scoured and Washed, Noils and Waste - 1949-50
 £23,147,000, 91.76m.lb., 1948-49 £19,083,000,
 84.55m.lb., (United Kingdom £9,978,000,
 United States of America £3,059,000, Franco
 £1,639,000, Canada £1,697,000, Belgium
 £1,286,000, Sweden £911,000).

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS.

Principal imports for the seven months ended January,
 1950, compared with imports for the corresponding period in 1948-49
 were as follows:-

(£A.'000 f.o.b.)

Particulars	Seven Months ended January	
	1949	1950
Machines and Machinery (Except Electrical)	19,858	35,083
Motor Vehicles	17,623	35,029
Cotton and Linen Piecegoods	17,921	15,764
Petroleum	11,544	14,855
Electrical Appliances and Equipment	9,342	12,947
Silk and Rayon Piecegoods	10,029	8,574
Bags and Sacks	6,963	8,448
Pulp, Paper and Board	8,931	7,143
Drugs and Chemicals	7,028	6,905
Tea	4,348	6,038
Tobacco, Cigars and Cigarettes	4,878	6,337
Carpets, Linoleums, etc.	5,083	5,240
Residual Oil	5,649	4,526
Tinned Plate	3,765	4,404
Timber	3,888	4,078
Yarns	6,239	3,593

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA. A.C.T.

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