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3. Report on Some Aspects of British Trade in India, 1923-24. By Thomas M. Ainscough. 1924. pp.220.

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4. Report on the Conditions & Prospects of British Trade in India, 1924-25. By Thomas M. Ainscough. 1925. pp.218.

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1926-27

DEPARTMENT OF OVERSEAS TRADE.

GENERAL REVIEW

OF THE

CONDITIONS AND PROSPECTS OF BRITISH TRADE

IN

INDIA

During the Fiscal Years 1919-20 and 1920-21,

Revised to October, 1921.

BY

MR. THOMAS M. AINSCOUGH, O.B.E.,

His Majesty's Senior Trade Commissioner in India and Ceylon.



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DEPARTMENT OF OVERSEAS TRADE.

COMMERCIAL REPRESENTATION ABROAD.

In order to foster British overseas trade to the utmost extent, the Department of Overseas Trade has developed and controls the following Services of Commercial Intelligence Officers overseas:—

1. The Trade Commissioner and Imperial Trade Correspondent Services in the Empire.
2. The Commercial Diplomatic Service attached to the British Diplomatic Missions in foreign countries.
3. The British Consular Service in foreign countries.

1. At the present time there are 12 Trade Commissioners' Offices established in various parts of the Empire overseas, viz.: three stationed in Canada, at Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg, respectively; two in South Africa, at Johannesburg and Cape Town; two in Australia, at Melbourne and Sydney; one in India (to cover Ceylon), at present at Calcutta; and one each in New Zealand, at Wellington; in the Straits Settlements, at Singapore; in British East Africa, at Nairobi; and in the British West Indies, at Trinidad.

The Trade Commissioners in the Dominions have the assistance of Imperial Trade Correspondents at a number of important centres, and the Department also has the services of Correspondents in various parts of the Empire, in which at present there is no Trade Commissioner.

The Department is represented in India by Mr. T. M. Ainscough, O.B.E., H.M. Senior Trade Commissioner, India and Ceylon.

2. The Commercial Diplomatic Service consists of between forty and fifty posts in all, and the officers of the Service are stationed in all the more important foreign markets of the world. With the exception of a few officers who, for the time being, hold appointments as "Commercial Commissioners," the members of the Commercial Diplomatic Service are styled "Commercial Counsellors" in the highest grade, and "Commercial Secretaries" in the three lower grades. They are members of the staff of the British Embassy or Legation in which they serve.

The Commercial Diplomatic Officer has general supervision over the commercial work of the Consular Officers in his area, and, with the co-operation of these two Services, a complete network of Government Commercial Representatives is thrown over foreign countries.

3. The Consular Service is being re-organised and established on an improved footing. Emphasis is being thrown on the importance of the commercial side of Consular work, and every effort is being made to recruit for the Consular Service men with the necessary qualifications for the work which they will handle.

4. Members of British firms are urged to call upon the Department's Representative abroad when they visit an overseas country. It is also important that they should make a point of their Representatives abroad keeping in close touch with the Department's officers.

A handbook, giving further details of the above Services, can be obtained on application at the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, S.W.1.

NOTE.

It should be understood that the views expressed in annual reports are the views of the officers themselves, and are not necessarily in all respects the views of the Department.

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COVERING DESPATCH.

To the RIGHT HONOURABLE STANLEY BALDWIN, M.P.,
President of the Board of Trade.

Office of H.M. Trade Commissioner,
6, Royal Exchange Place,
Calcutta.

21st July, 1921.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward for your information a general review of the conditions and prospects of British trade in India during the fiscal years 1919-20 and 1920-21.

The period under review has been so abnormal and has been so markedly a transitional period of recovery after the war, that it is extraordinarily difficult to draw safe conclusions from the many tendencies which emerge from a time of such violent fluctuations. These difficulties are increased by the fact that I am unable to write from personal observation of conditions during 1920, as I was absent on an official visit to Persia and the United Kingdom during the whole of that year. I have therefore been forced to draw upon Indian Government publications and other sources for most of my facts, and this accounts for the unusual number of quotations from various authorities.

I have to acknowledge the great assistance which the Commerce and Industry Department of the Government of India has continued to render during the period. In particular, I am indebted to the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, India, the Director of Statistics, the Controller of Currency, and the various Collectors of Customs for information which has always been readily furnished.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

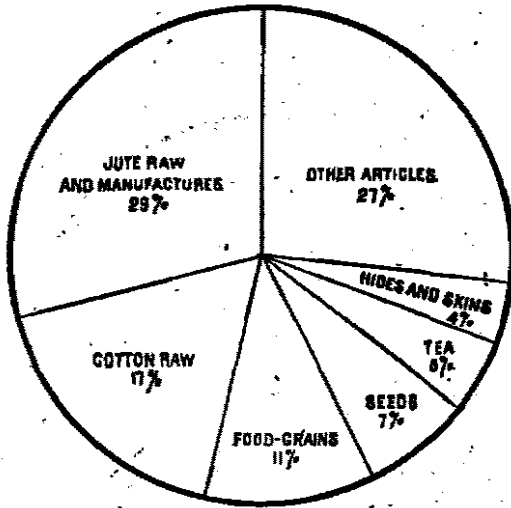
THOMAS M. AINSCOUGH,
H.M. Senior Trade Commissioner in India.

DISTRIBUTION OF INDIAN TRADE (a) COMMODITIES.

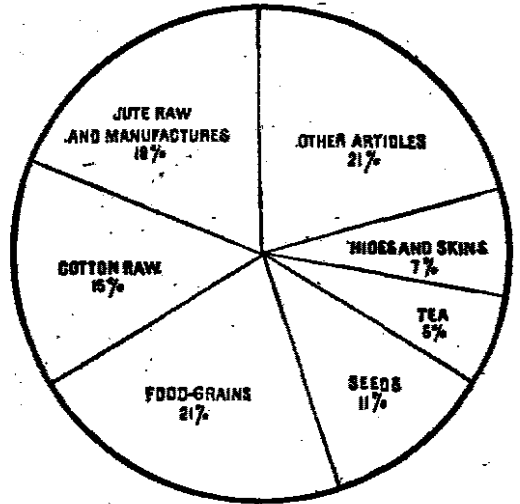
Relative proportion of principal groups and of commodities in the Export and Import Trade of India in 1920-21, as compared with the average of the five pre-war years, 1909-10 to 1913-14.

EXPORT TRADE.

1920-21
(Year under review).

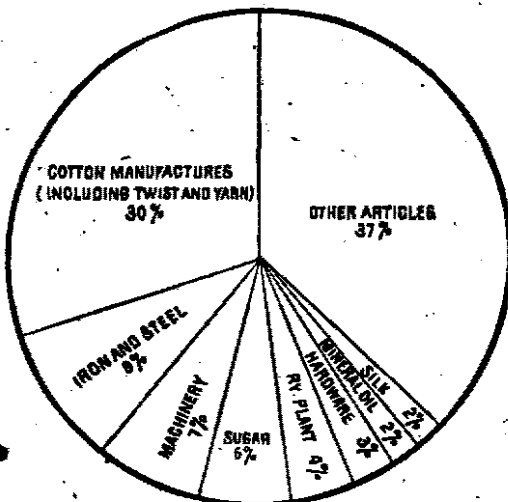


1909-10 to 1913-14
(Pre-war average).

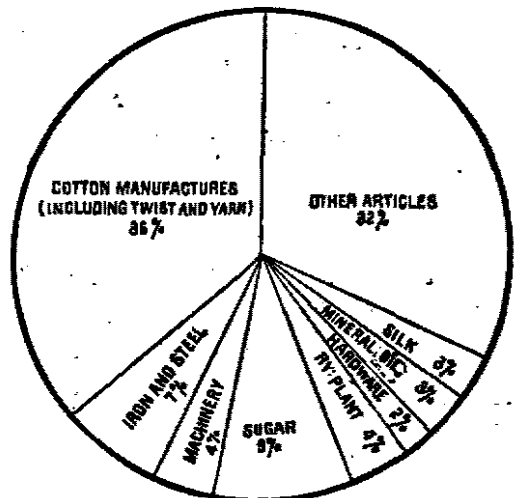


IMPORT TRADE.

1920-21
(Year under review).



1909-10 to 1913-14
(Pre-war average).



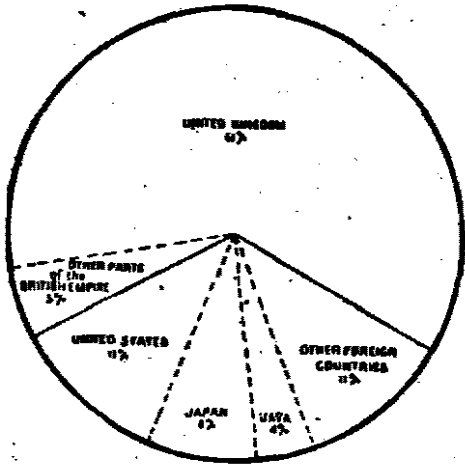
NOTE.—These Charts have been courteously furnished by the Director of Statistics, India.

DISTRIBUTION OF INDIAN TRADE (b) COUNTRIES.

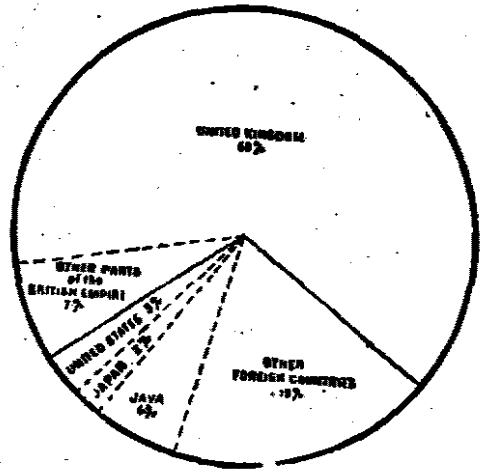
Relative share of the principal countries in the Import and Export Trade in 1920-21, as compared with the average of the five pre-war years 1909-10 to 1913-14.

IMPORT TRADE.

1920-21
(Year under review).

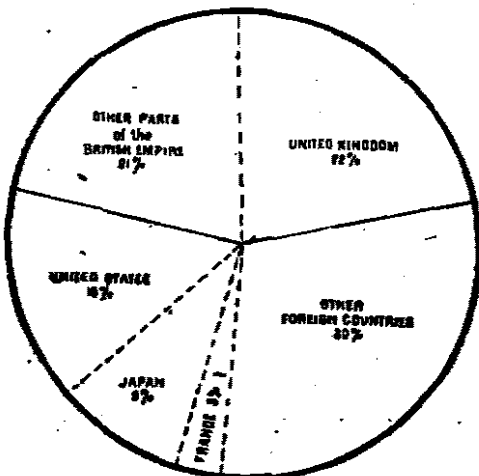


1909-10 to 1913-14
(Pre-war average).



EXPORT TRADE.

1920-21
(Year under review).



1909-10 to 1913-14
(Pre-war average).

