## UNITED STATES TARIFF COMMISSION

## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FOREIGN TRADE

## OF <br> VENEZUELA

One of a Series of Reports on
Recent Developments in the Foreign Trade of the American Republics
be

## UNITED STATES TARIFP CONOISSION

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## FOREWORD

This is one of a series of reports on Recent Developments in Foreign Trade in the Latin American Republics.

Other work in preparation by the Comission relating to trade problems of the American Republics includes a series of reports under each of the following headings: Economic Controls and Commercial Policies; Mining and Manufacturing Industries; and Agricultural, Pastoral, and Forest Industries.

In the preparation of this report the Comission had the services of Franklin W. Ryan, David Lynch, Allyn C. Loosley, and other members of its staff. The statistics were compiled by the Statistical Division of the Commission.Introduction:Venezuela-e summary descriptionThe Venezuelan economy1The foreign trade of Venezuela
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## 

## Introduction

## Yenezuela-s_summary doscription.

Located on the northern coast of South America, the United States of Venezuelal/ is bounded on the west by Colombia, on the east by British Guiana, and on the south by Brazil. Extending about 900 miles from east to west, and nearly 800 miles from north to south at its widest point, its area is 352,000 square miles, slightiy smaller than that of the States of Texas and Colorado combined.

In general, Venezuela may be divided into four regians-the mountainous region of the Andean and Coastal ranges in the west and north, the Orinoco plains to the south, the Guians Highiands on the east, and the coastal plain. The mountainous region extends from the Colombian border northeast to the Caribbean Sea, and thence eastrard along the coast. To the south of the Andean and Coastal ranges, stretching more than 600 miles frow east to west, lie the Orinoco lowlands, or llanos, one of the three major plains regions of South America. South and east of the Orinoco system, toward British Guiana and Brazil, are the Guiana Highlands, a plateau largely covered with tropical forests, much of which still is mexplored. Between the Andes and the Caribbean Sea is a narrow coastal plain; at its western end, surrounded by the Andean highlands, lies the low region around Lake Maracaibo, the country's principal oil-producing area.

Although Venezuels lies entirely within the Tropics, its climate varies greatly with the elevation. There are three general climatic areas--the torrid region, from the coast up to an altitude of about 2,000 feet; the temperate region, from 2,000 up to about 6,000 feet; and the cold region, over 6,000 feet. In the lower altitudes along the coastal plain and in the interior plains and river valleys, the climate is tropical. Because of the heavy precipitation during the rainy season large areas in the llanos are annually in flood The climate in the highlands, where most of the cities are located, is mild, healthful, and invigorating. In the very high altitudes it is cold and damp.

In 1905 there were $2,598,000$ persans in Venezuela; according to the census of 1936 the population was $3,468,000,2$ or about 10 persons to the square mile. Most of the inhabitants, however, are concentrated in the northern highlands and in the northwestern part of the country in the vicinity of Lake Maracaibo. Caracas, the capital and principal city, bad a population of 203,000 in 1936. Other important cities, with their population that year, were Maracaibo ( 110,000 ), Valencia ( 49,200 ), Barquisimeto $(36,400)$, Maracay $(29,800)$, and Ciudad Bolivar $(25,100)$.

Mixed races constitute about two-thirds of the Venezuelan population and persons of European extraction, about one-fifth; Negroes and Indians account for the remainder. There has been little immigration since the and of the colonial period. Only amall numbers of persons are permitted to enter the country annually, and in some years emigration has equaled imigration.

## The Venezuelan economy. ${ }^{3 /}$

From the stendpoint of internatianal trade, the production of petroleum is the most important economic activity in Venezuela. No other country of

1 Officially lnown as Estados Unidos de Venezuela. The federation conalste of 20 States, 2 territories, and the Federal District.

2/ An estimate for 1940 placed the population at $3,943,000$.
3/ This briaf description of the Venesuelan economy relates principally to the period before the outbreak of the war.

## 2

Latin America, except El Salvador, is dependent upon the export of a single compodity to the same extent as is Danezuela. In recent years about ninetenths of all Venezuelan exports, in terms of value, have consisted of petroleum and its derivatives. Practically the entire production is by foreign-controlled companies operating under Government concession. Other minerals occurring in the country include gold, $1 /$ silver, copper, magnesite, coal, iron, tin, asphalt, asbestos, mica, and salt. The country's iron reserves are potentially important, but have not been exploited to any considerable extent. Venezuela also is believed to have extensive reserves of coal; in general, however, the fields are inaccessible and have not been developed.

Coffee is the leading Venezuelan agricultural export commodity; cacao ranks second. Other agricultural products, geown chiefly for consumption within the country, include corn, sugar, cotton, tobacco, weat, rice, beans, potatoes, fruits, and a wide variety of vegetables. In recent years the Government has attempted to stimulate agmiculture and agricultural exports by aids of various kinds to agriculturalists and by export bounties on agricultural producta.

Pastoral ectivities, especially the cattle industry, form a aignificant source of national wealth. Cattio hides are an important export product; the beef is consumed largely within the country. Sheep, goats, hogs, and horses are also raised, and goatakins are exported.

The extensive forest resources of Venezuela include at least 600 species of wood. About two-fifths of the country's land ares is forested, but there has been no extensive development of lumbering. The chief forest producte are cabinet woods, rubber, balata (a gum reaembling gutta percha), the tonka bean (a seed used for flavoring), divi-divi- (a substance ueed in dyeing and tanning) copaiba (a resinons substance used for medicinal purposes), and vanilla.

Venezuelen manufacturing induatries are not extensive, although in recent years there has been a considerable developeent in certain lines, and for some products the entire domestic requirements are produced within the country. High duties are imposed on imported manufactures, but domestic prom duction on the whole is so small that there 18 little competition with imported commodities in most lines. Through the tariff and through loans, the Government encourages the establiahment of amall incuatries, especially those wich utilize domestic raw materiale. Manufactures produced within the country include cotton textiles, soap, cigars, cigarettes, candles, cheose, vegetable 011s, canned meat and fish, sugar, chocolate, beer, ahoes, clothing, cement, glass bottlea, matches, paper, cordage, furniture, rugs, straw bats, refined petroloum procucts, lumber, and light iron products.

[^0]

## The Foroign Trade of Venesuela

In proportion to its population, the foreign trade of Venezuela is larger than that of most Latin Amorican countries. In 1940 its exports, as officially reported, were equal to $\$ 68$ per caplaty (about $\$ 38$ per capita if adjusted for overvaluation of petrolecn 17) and its imports to $\$ 25$, compared with $\$ 30.50$ and $\$ 20$, respectively, for the United States. The petrol oue industry, the predoainant industrial activity of Venezuela, produces almost axclusively for export. The Governeent depends heavily upon foreigo-trade activities for its ordinary revenues, nearly twothifis of which are derived from import duties and frol taxes and roynlties paid by the petroleus compenies.

Certain of Venczuela's products, inciuding petrolewn, coffee, and cacan, play an isportant role in world comarce. Venazuela ranks third among the petraleve-producing countries of the world, and flrot among comiries axporting crude petrolewa. In the reported value of its foreign trade in 1938, it ranked third asong the countries of Latin America. Reportod exports in 1938 (materialiy overvalued) amounted to 887 million bolivares ( 287 nillion dollars), 27 equal to approximately 15 percent of total exports from the 20 Republica of Latin Agrica, and 19 percent of exports from the 10 South American countries. $\sqrt[3]{ }$ Imports into Venosuola in 1938, valned officially at 371 dition bollvares ( 97 million dellers), represented neariy 7 percent of the total received by the 20 Latin American countries and 9 percent of those entering the 10 Republice of south Amorice.

According to official Venezuelan statistics, exporto since 1927
have exceeded inports; the reported export balances (including gold) in 1937 and 1938 mere, reapectively, 567 million and 576 aillion bolivares ( 183 aillion and 189 miliion dollars). Several factors make it difficult to interpret the published statietics, particalarly as they relate to the Venezuelan balance of trade. The arbitrary value placed on exporte of petraleva is much in excess of actual vilues. Yoreover, because of the foreign ownership of the potroleus companies, an important part of the value of petroleven exports is not rade available to the coumkry in the form of foreign exchange with which to finance imports or
1/ an arbitrary overvaluation is placed on Venezuelan exports of petrolevir and derivatives. If an adjustment is made for this overvaluation, Venezuole, as an exporting pation, ranked fourth in 1938 among the Latin Awericen countries, and third among the countries of South America. The probable actoni vaiue of total exports from Venezuela in 1938 was about 565 million bolfvares ( 177 million dollars), and that of exporte of petralowe and its products wes about 506 aillion bolivares ( 159 aillion dollars). In the period 1937-39 exports of petroleme appear to have been overvalued by about two-thirds.

2/ Inoluding gold. Excluding gold, Venezuelan exporta in 1938 were valued officially at 872 aillion bolivares (282 aillion dollars); with adjugtment for overvaluation of potroleve products, exporta in 1938, excluding gold, amounted to about 550 million bolivares ( 172 million dolLara).

3/ With adjustaent for overvaluation of potroleun products, total exports from Venozuela in 1938 constitutod 10 percent of exports from the 20 Republics of Latin America, and 13 percent of exports from the countries of South Amorica.
to service comsercial and public obligations abroad. Partly offsetting this is the fact that inports by the petroleum companies ordinarily account for nearly 40 percent of total imports. $1 /$

The petroleun cospanies do, however, find it necessary to purchese with forelgn funds Venezuelan currency to pay taxes and operating expenses within the country. When an adjusted trade balance is computed representing the difference between total exports excluaive of petroleum and total imports exclusive of imports by the petcoleus companies, Venezuele had an average annual import balance of about 125 million bolivares in the period 1935-38. 2/ Venezuelan currency purchased by the petroleum companies during this period 3/ appears to have been sore than sufficient to provide cover for this amount.

During each year of the period 1940-42 Venezuela continued to have an excess of exports over inports. The officially reported export belance declined from 627 million bolfvares in 1939 to 550 million bolfvares in 1940 ( 181 inilion dollars, or 53 million dollars, if adjusted for overvaluation of petroleum), kut in 1941 it reached a record high of 774 gillion bollvares ( 253 million dollars, or 119 million dollars on the adjusted basis). In 1942 because of the narked docline in exports occasioned by the shortage of shipping, the official export belance declined to 495 aillion bolivares ( 153 million dollars; 71 million, adjusted), a saaller export balance than any in the period 1937-39. Fenezuela's trade with the world in the period 1924-42 is shown in table 1.

Exports.
The Venezuelan export trade consists principally of crude petroleva (five-sixthe to nine-tenthe of the total, not adjusting for the overvaluation of petroleum) and to a lesser extent on coffee, gold, and cacao. This predoninance of petroleum 18 relatively recent. Coffoe, which long ago displaced cacao as the leading export commodity, remained the most important until 1925, when petroleum took the lead. According to official statistics, $4 \sqrt{ }$ the country's export trade increased from 871

1/ Imports by the petroleum companies in 1937 were estimated to be about 100 million bollvares.
2/ Report to the Hinister of Finance Subaitted by the American Advisory Economic M1ssion to Venezuela, Fashington, 1940, pp. 275-276.
3 about 175 nillion bolivares in 1937.
4/ In recent years special exchange rates have been employed for certain Venesuelan export products. In this report the following factors (tentativo) have boen used for converting to United States dollars the values roported in the Venezuelan trade statistices

| Commodity | 1937 : | $1938{ }^{\text {\% }}$ | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { Exportsy } \\ \text { Petroleu: } \\ \text { : } \end{gathered} \$ 0.3145: \$ 0.3236: \$ 0.3236: \$ 0.3236: \$ 0.3236: \$ 0.3236$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Coffee | . 2920: | .3236: | . 3236 | . 3236 | .2937t | . 2301 |
| Cacao | .2941: | . 32368 | . 3236 | .3236: | .31108 | . 2427 |
| Livestock | - 30508 | -32368 | - 3236t | . 32368 | .27438 | . 2725 |
| Gold - | . 30898 | . 31558 | . 3155 | . 31558 | . 30878 | 8 |
| All othor commoditiest | . 29808 | . 31798 | . 3186 | . 3186 | . 30758 | . 3003 |
| Woighted rate for | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 |  |
| total export trade -i | . 31218 | . 32338 | -32338 | . 32338 | . 32178 | . 3062 |
| 1 | 1 | 1. | 1 | 1 | 1 |  |

a Included in "All other comnodities."
Source: Prepared from prelininary data supplied by the International Econonice and Statistics Unit, U. S. Department of Commerce.

Table 1.- Venezuals: Trade with the world, 1924-42

| Year | Exports $1 /$ |  | Imports $3 /$ |  | Convaralon rates <br> 1. bolfivar equals - |  | Balance of trado ${ }^{3 /}$ |  | Ratio of imports to exporte |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Bolfivares | J. S. dallare | Bolfrarea | $\begin{aligned} & \text { J. S. } \\ & \text { dallars } \end{aligned}$ |  |  | Bolfvares | $\begin{aligned} & \text { O. S. } \\ & \text { dollara } \end{aligned}$ |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | (Percent) |
| 1924 - | 213,486 | 41,053 | 215,925 | 41,522 |  |  | -2,439 | -469 | 101.2 |
| 1925 - | 329,999 | 63,657 | 303,673 | 58,578 |  |  | +26,326 | +5,079 | 92.0 |
| 1926 - | 395,403 | 76,155 | 422,382 | 79,425 |  |  | -16,979 | -3,270 | 104.3 |
| 1927 - | 444,115 | 84,293 | 363,589 | 69,009 |  |  | +80,526. | +15,284 | 81.9 |
| 1928 - | 609,555 | 117,339 | 416,613 | 80,198 |  |  | +192,942 | +37,147 | 68.3 |
| 1929 - | 7778,560 | 150,262 | 452,852 | 87,400 |  |  | +325,708 | +62,862 | 58.2 |
| $1930-$ | 762,494 | 144,111 | 363,858 | 68,769 |  |  | +398,636 | +75,342 | 47.7 |
| $1931-$ | 651,618 | 111,036 | 210,759 | 35,913 |  |  | +440,859 | +75,123 | 32.3 |
| 1932 - | 628,259 | 94,804 | 253,458 | 23,157 |  |  | +474,801 | +7,647 | 24.4 |
| 1933 - | 627,547 | 114,987 | 143,588 | 26,736 |  |  | +473,959 | +88,251 | 23.3 |
|  |  |  |  |  | Exports | Inports |  |  |  |
| 1934- | 671,942 | 185,658 | 159,686 | 45,239 | 80.2763 | \$0.2833 | +512,257 | +140,419 | 24.4 |
| 1935 - | 711,730 | 182,488 | 225,194 | 57,447 | . 2564 | . 2551 | +486,536 | +125,041 | 31.5 |
| 1936 - | 768,463 | 197,034 | 211,590 | 53,977 | . 2564 | . 2551 | +556,873 | +143,057 | 27.4 |
| 1937 - | 871,463 | 271,984 | 304,634 | 89,075 | . 3121 | . 2924 | +566,829 | +182,909 | 32.8 |
| 1938 - | 887,276 | 286,856 | 310,949 | 97,483 | . 3233 | . 3135 | +576,327 | +189,373 | 34.0 |
| 1939-- | 953,337 | 308,214 | 326,393 | 102,324 | . 3233 | . 3135 | +626,944 | +205,890 | 33.2 |
| 1940 - | 860,909 | 278,332 | 311,169 | 97,551 | . 3233 | . 3135 | +549,740 | +180,781 | 35.0 |
| 1941 - | 1,061,565 | 341,505 | 287,825 | 88,276 | /.3217 | . 3067 | +773,740 | +253,229 | 25.8 |
| 1982- | 720,516 | 217,569 | 215,691 | 64,384 | 4. 3062 | 4. 2985 | +149.855 | +253.785 | 29.6 |

General exports. Bullion and epeoie are included. Parcel post is excluded. Values are ourront markot values, f.o.b. venezuolan port or frontier. Including export dutios apd taxes, except in the case of petroleum, for which fixed unit values which greatily exceed market values have bean employed. See the section on exports.

2/ General imports. Bullion, speoie, and parcel post are inoluded. Values are f.o.b. port, as per congular invoice.
3/ An export balance is indicated by + and an inport belanoe by - . The export balance is exaggerated bechuse of the overvaluation of petroleum exports.
$4 /$ subject to revicion.

million bolivares ( 272 million dollars) in 1937 to 953 million bolivares ( 308 allilion dollars) in 1939, but this apparent increase was due to a greater overvaluation of petroleum in the latter year. Adjusting for arbitrary overvaluation of petroleum, the real value of Venezuela's total exports declined from about 632 million bollvares to 515 million bolivares. In 1940, immediately after the outbreak of the war, the value of the export trade (as reported) declined to 861 milion bollvares ( 278 million dollars), chiefly because of the disruption of the coffee market and the loss of European markets (both direct and indirect) for petrolevan. In 1941 reported exporta increased to a record high of 1,062 milition bollvares ( 342 aillion dollars), principally because of the quantitative expansion of exports of petroleun; in 1942, hgwever, they decilined to 71 million bolivares ( 218 million dollars), 1 largely because of the reduction in exports of petroleum brought about by submarine warfare.

As previously stated, the arbitrary valuation placed on exports of petroleum results in a considerable overstatement of the total value of Venezuelan exports. This overvaluation must be borne in mind in any analysis of the composition of Venezuelan exports, and also in any analysis of the export trade with certain particular countries. During the period 1937-4, for example, the actual value of exports of petroleum and derivatives averaged oniy about 59 percent of the officiaily published values. 2/ The real value of total exports in the same period averaged about 62 percent of the published values. 3 Inasmuch as petroleum and its derivatives constitute so large a share of total exports, however, adjustment for overvaluation in the years 1937-41 reduces the ehare of petroleum and derivatives in the total trade by only 3 to 6 percentage points.

Composition. 4/ -Recently four commodities have accounted for more than 95 percent of the total value of Venezuelan exports. During the period 1937-39 aineral products (principaily petroleum and derivatives) accounted for about 92 percent of total exporta ( 87 percent if adjusted for overvaluation); crude petroleum alone constituted 88 percent ( 83 percent on the adjusted basis). Agricultural products (principaily

1/7ith the adjustment for arbltrary valuation of exports of petroleum and derivatives, the real value of total exports in 1942 was 462 million bolivares ( 134 million dollars).

2/ According to official estimates by the Ministry of Fomento, the real values of exports of petroleum and derivatives for the period 193741, conpared with officially published values, were as follows (values in millions of bolivares):
$\frac{\text { A varage }}{1937-12}$
$\frac{860.6}{511.2}$

|  | $\frac{1937}{790.0}$ | $\frac{1938}{828.3}$ | $\frac{1939}{895.3}$ | $\frac{1940}{809.0}$ | $\frac{1941}{1,00.6}$ | $\frac{1937-41}{860.6}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Official value | 531.0 | 506.0 | 457.0 | 428.0 | 634.2 | 511.2 |
| Real value <br> Real value percent- <br> age of official value | 69 | 61 | 51 | 53 | 63 | 59 |

3 Adjusting for arbitrary valuation of exports of potroleum and derivatives, the real values of total exports from Venezuela in the period 1937-41, as contrasted with official values, were as follows (values in millions of bolivares):

| illions of bollvares) | $1937$ | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | $\frac{\text { Average }}{\text { 1937-42 }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Official | 871.5 | 887.3 | 953.3 | 860.9 | 1,061.6 | 926.9 |
| Real value | 632.4 | 565.0 | 515.0 | 479.9 | 695.2 | 577.5 |
| Real value as percentage of offictal value | 73 | 64 | 54 | 56 | 65 | 62 |

4/ Although ahipments by parcel past are included in the Venezuelan import atatistics, they are excluded from those for exports. " Exports by parcel post, howevery are small.
coffee and cacao) averaged about 5 percent of the total ( 8 percent if adjusted for overvaluation of petroleum) and shippegty of gold were about 2 percent ( 4 percent on the adjusted basis). $1 /$ Coffee, the second-ranking export comodity, constituted about one-sixth of total exports in 1929 but in the period 1937-39 accounted for only 3 percent of the total ( 5 percent, if the total is adjusted for overvaluation of petroleum).

The principal developments in the composition of venezuelan export trade since the outbreak of the war have been the increased importance of exports of coffee, the decline in the importance of cacao, the marked increase in shipaents of gold to the Onited States, and the decline in 1942 in the share of petroleum, chiefly because of the shortages in shipping wifich developed during the year. Exports from Venezuala, by principal commodities, 1937-42, sre shown in table 2.

Coffee and gold have been the second- and third-ranking Venezuelan export comodities in recent years. In the period immediately before the war (1937-39), the value of exports of coffee was substantially greator than that of gold. In 1940 exports of gold were nearly as large as those of coffee; in 1941, however, exports of coffee increased, whereas those of gold declined, and in 1942 the value of exports of coffee was pore than twice that of gold. Cacao; ordinarily the fourthranking export commodity, accounted for nearly 2 percent of the fenezuelan export trade in 1937; its share declined to 1 percent in 1939, 2 and remained approximately the same during the period 1940-42, largely bocause of the loss of the German market. A number of relatively unimportant products, chiefly agricultural and pastoral raw materlals, forest products, and ninerals, wake up the remainder of the Venezuelan export trade; none of tatae commodities has accounted for as much as 1 percent of total exports. Shipments of tonka beans, however, increased in 1941 to anny times their value in the years before the war.

Potroleum and derivatives.-Petroleus products not only doninate its export trado, but Venezuela is the major crude petroleum exporting country of the world. In 1939 its output of petroleum accounted for 10 percent of the world total and Venezuala ranked third among the petroleut-

[^1]producing countries of the world. 1/ Nearly one-third of the revenue of the National Goverment is derived from taxes and royalties paid by the petroleum industry, and the country depends upon the proceeds derived from petroleum exports for an important share of its foreign exchange. Venezuelan exports of crude petroleum to principal markets are shown in table 3.. On the basis of official Venezuelan trade atatistics, petrolew and its products accounted for 94 percent of total exports in the 3 years 1938-41, and for 90 percent in 1942. With adjustments for overvalustion, based on the estimates of the Ministry of Fomento, the proportion for the period 1938-41 was 90 percent; that for 1942 was 84 percent. 27

With the expansion of Venezuelan petroleum-refining capacity after 1938, 3 exports of residual fuel oil increased substantialiy (see table 2); in 1940 they constituted (on the basis of official valustions) 9 percent of total exports, compared wh an average of less than 3 percent in the period 1937-39. 47 Exports of other petroleum derivatives, principally gas oil and gasoline, accounted for less than 1 percent of the total before 1940; since then they have becone somewhat more important.

1/Venezuela 1s the major petroleum-producing coumtry of Latin America, accounting in 1937 for about three-fourths of the total output in that area; the principal oil-producing countries in 1937 were the United States, the Soviet Union, Venezuela, Iran, the Natheriands Indies, Rumania and Mexico.

2/ The combined share of Venezuelan exports exclusive of petroleum and its derivatives ordinarily. is small. Consequentily, the adjustrment of export figures for overvaluation increases the importance of other exports, but effects only a minor reauction in the share of petroleum and products. This is shown in the following tabulations


3 See U. S. Tariff Comission, Mining and Manufacturing Industries in Venezuela, 1945 [processed].

4/: Assuming that exports of residual fuel ofl were overvalued by the same proportion as those of the entire group of petroleun and derivatives, adjustment for such overvaluation in 1940 reduces the value of residual fuel oil in that year to 42 million bolivares ( 13 million dollars), or 8.8 percent of the total real value of Venesuelan exports. $A$ sinilar adjustment reduces the average value of exports of residual fuel oil in the period 1937-38 to 16.6 million bolfvares ( 5 million dollars), or 2.7 percent of the total real value of exports.
rable 2.-Venesuolat Exporte, $\boldsymbol{y}_{\text {to }}$ prinoipal cocmodities, 1937-42

| cormodity $2 /$ | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1942 | 1942 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Yalue (l,000 bollvarea) | V.lve (1,000 bolfigare) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 87.163 | 887.276 | 953.337 | 860,909 | 1,061,565 | 710,546 |
| Petroleus and 1 to derivetives | 770,042 | 828,265 | 895,338 | $\begin{aligned} & 609,022 \\ & 703,309 \end{aligned}$ | 1,000,559 | $635,102$ |
| Crude petroleum-merne | $\begin{array}{r} 736,428 \\ 24,111 \end{array}$ | 797,443 | 649,168 |  | 863,707 | $546,064$ |
| Fuel oil |  | 25,974 | 36,486 | 79,645 | 93,712 | $57,158$ |
| Gasoline- | $2,030$ | 61.107 | 3,416 | 4,381 | 27,187 | $11,648$ |
| Gat 011 - | 166 |  | 1,806 | 9,118 | 14,199 | 10,787 |
| Coffeor | 38,091 | . 25.677 | 21,273 | 18,654 | 23,940 | 37,328 |
| Gold- | 36,11512,758 | 14,913 | 17,622 | 16,786 | $\begin{aligned} & 15,995 \\ & 15.912 \end{aligned}$ | 13,885 |
| Bart- |  | 12,754 | 14,987 | 15,459 | $15,912$ | 13,883 |
| - Coin-m | 20,800 |  |  |  |  | , |
| Cacao beand | 13,942 | 9,977 | 9,656 | 8,528 | 6,056 | 9.107 |
| Tonka beansCattio | 145 | . 5 | 1,665 | 1,150 | 4,649 | 4,340 |
| Hides and skins | $\begin{aligned} & 2,731 \\ & 4,371 \end{aligned}$ | 1,640 | 2,199 | 1,784 | 1,797 | 1,341 |
| Reexporta | 2.376 | 2,312 | 3.161 | 3,178 | 4,160 | 2,922 |
|  |  |  | 12 11.000 | dollay |  |  |
| Total | 271,984 | 286,856 | 308,214 | 278,332 | 342,505 | 217,569 |
| Patrolove and ita dorivatives | 242,178 | 268,027 | 289,731 | 261,800 | 323,781 | 205,713 |
| Crude petraleup | 231,607 | 258,053 | 274,791 | 227,591 | 279,4\% | 176,706 |
| Fuol oll | 7,583 | 8,405 | 11,807 | 25,773 | 30,325 | 18,496 |
| Oasolins- | 638 | 20 | 1,105 | 1,418 | 5,562 | 3,769 |
| Gas 011 - | 52 | 35 | 584 | 2,951 | 4,595 | 3,491 |
| Coffee | 11,123 | 8,309 | 6,884 | 6,036 | 7,031 | 8,589 |


| Gold <br> Bar: <br> Coln <br> Crear <br> Toaka beane <br> cettle <br> gldes and aking <br> Reexports | $\begin{array}{r} 11,156 \\ 3,941 \\ 6,425 \\ 4,100 \\ 43 \\ 1,303 \\ 704 \end{array}$ | 4,705 <br> 4,024 <br> 3,229 $561$ <br> 521 <br> 735 | 5,960 4,726 3,125 167 599 702 1,007 | 5.296 <br> 4, 677 <br> 2,760 <br> 20 <br> 372 <br> 568 <br> 1,023 | 4,930 4,912 1,883 1,430 551 553 1,279 | 4,170 4,169 $\begin{array}{r} 2,210 \\ 24 \\ 1,163 \\ 403 \end{array}$ <br> © 87 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Parocat 4 |  |  |  |  |  |
| total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Potroleum and 1ts derivekrey crude petreletr | 8.68.52.8.24.44.12.52.62.6$5 / 3$.5.3 | 93.3 89.9 2.9 $3 /$ $3 /$ 2.9 2.7 1.4 3.1 .2 .2$\qquad$ | 93.9 <br> 89.1 <br> 3.8 <br> .4 <br> $\cdot 2$ <br> 2.2 <br> 2.0 <br> 1.6 <br> 1.0 <br> 5 <br> .2 <br> .2 <br> - 3 | 94.0 81.7 | 94.3 | 69.5 76.9 |
| Tuel oll |  |  |  | 9.3 | E. | 8.0 |
| Oasoline- |  |  |  | . 3 | 1.6 | 1.6 |
| cas 011 |  |  |  | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.5 |
| Coftern |  |  |  | 2.8 | 2.3 | 3.3 |
| cold <br>  |  |  |  | 1.9 | 1.5 | 2.0 |
| Codre |  |  |  | - | - |  |
|  |  |  |  | 2.0 | .6 | $\underline{1.3}$ |
|  |  |  |  | 3 | -28 | 6 |
| Hides and shanta |  |  |  | .2 | . 2 | . 2 |
| Revxport |  |  |  | - 6 | 4 | -1 |


 creatty exoed maricet viluen ase anployed.
 coonding to their value in 1941.

7 Caloulatad from rarounded date.
3 Less than 0.05 peroont.


Table 3.-Venezuela: Exports $\stackrel{1}{6}$ of crude petroleun to principal narkete, 1937-42


|  |  |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 231,607 | 258,0 |
| 31,228 | 32,9 |
| 188,316 | 209,2 |
| 4,654 | 2,5 |
| 3,035 | 5,5 |
| 1,863 | 3,0 |
| 616 |  |
| 441 | 5 |
| 1,454 | 3,509 |

$\left.\begin{array}{r}1,447 \\ 439 \\ 378 \\ -133\end{array}\right] \quad 2$,

| 371 | 672 | 1,640 |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 303 | 3,531 | 2,103 |
| $2 /$ | 759 | 1,675 |
| 405 | 218 | 47 |
|  | -515 | 2,105 |


| 640 | 1,349 | 396 |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 103 | - | - |
| 474 | - | 90 |
| $-\overline{4}$ | 204 | $-9,663$ |


| 274,791 | 227,591 | 279,4\% | 176,706 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 38,617 | 42,376 | 53,633 | 14,126 |
| 206,701 | 165,586 | 211,830 | 122,212 |
| 4,394 | 4,407 | 6,707 | 8,642 |
| 12,580 | 4,988 | 2,942 | 1,372 |
| 968 | 2,364 | 1,945 | 570 |
| 5,090 | 3,031 | - | - |
| 1,094 | 2,414 | - | * |
| 314 | 683 | 295 | 130 |
|  | - | - | 28,047 |
| 3,033 | 1,742 | 2,144 | 1,607 |


| 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 13.5 | 12.8 | 14.1 | 18.6 | 19.2 | B.0 |
| 81.3 | 81.1 | 75.9 | 72.8 | 75.8 | 69.1 |
| 2.0 | 1.0 | 1.6 | 1.9 | 2.4 | 4.9 |
| 1.3 | 2.1 | 4.6 | 2.2 | 1.0 | . 8 |
| - | . 2 | . 3 | 1.0 | .7 | . 3 |
| . 8 | 1.2 | 1.9 | 1.3 | - | - |
| . 3 | $3 /$ | .4 | 2.2 | - |  |
| . 2 | . 2 | . 2 | . 3 | . 12 | .1 |
| $\frac{-1}{6}$ | - | 1 $\overline{1}$ | - | $\vec{\square}$ | 15.9 |
| . 6 | 1.4 | 1.1 | . 8 | . 8 | 4 |

Frar.ce
Frar.ce
Trinidad
Trinidad


All other
All other
Total, all countries
Total, all countries
ONITFI STATES
ONITFI STATES
Canada-
Canada-
Kinizdo
Kinizdo
Canary Islend
Canary Islend
France
France
Netherln
Netherln
Countries of destination not shown-
Countries of destination not shown-
Countries
Countries

1/ The values for petroleum exports are based on arbitrary valuatione which are much greater than market values: see the section on exports.
2) Less than 500.

3/ Less then 0.05 percent.

[^2]In 1942, because of the acute shortage of shipping, exports of petrolens and derivatives were sharply reduced; in that year production of crude potroleum in Venezuela declined to 148 willion barrols ( 7 percent of world output), the lowest share of world production in several years, compared with an annual average of 198 willion barrals (about 9 percent of world output) in the 5-year perlod 1937-41. In 1943, with improved shipping facilities, exports of petroleum and its derivatives increased maricedly; Venezuela continued to be the largest exporter of crude petrolevim and became the morld's second largest petrolenm-producing country.

Ordinarily about three-fourths of Venezuelan petroleun is exported as crude ofl to the islande of Aruba and Curacao in the Netherlands West Indies, where it is refined and reexported principally to the United Kingdom and the United States. Other petrolem products exported from Venezuela include residual fuel oil, gae oil, and gasoline. Approximately tro-thirds of the entire Venezuelan output of crude petroleum is from enterprises operated by United States interests, and most of the remainder by the Royal Dutch-Shell interests. Inamuch as the refineries on Aruba and Curagao operato almost entirely with Venezuelan crude potroleus Venesuela and the Netherlands West Indies, in effect, form a single unit in the petroleva induetry (seo table 4e).

Coffee.-Coffee is Venesuela's most important agricultural export product; before the Fise in the importance of petroleum in the decade following 1920, it was for many years the country's major export. Venezuela, however, accounts for less than 3 percent of the world output and for less than 4 percent of morld exports of coffee. 1 Kevertheless, coffee culture contributes to the livelihood of a considerable portion of the population, a very auch larger portion than does the oil industry.

Venezuelan coffee is of the mild type and has bean used principally for blending purpoeses. During the years frmediately preceding the war, 1938-39, exports of coffee averaged 22 millition bollygres ( 7 aililion dollars) annually, and accounted for nearly 3 percent 2 of the value of the country's total export trade. Before the war Venezualan higb-grade coffee ment chiefly to Europe, especially to Germany, whi oh was the major outlet for Venesuela's coffee. Middle-grade coffee was shipped to Now York, and low-grade was eif ther consumed locally or exported to Prance. Before the depression of 1929, Spain was also an important outlet. Since - 1939 the Onitod States has been the principal market; in 1942 it took 96 percent of total Venezuelan shipments of coffee. Venezuelan exports of coffee to principal markets are shown in table 3a.

The imediate offects of the outbreak of the war were to dibrupt the world coffee markot, to oreate a decline in prices paid for coffee in the Onited States, and to reduce the value of total Venezuelan shipmente of coffee. In 1940 exports of Venezuelan coffee were below those in 1939 in torms of value, though slightly greator in torms of quantity. After 1940, exports of coffee Increased both in value and in relation to total exports. In 1942 coffee represented more than 5 percent 3 of the value

[^3]of the country's export trade compared with 2 percent in 1940 and 1941. The value of exports of coffee in 1942 was about double that in 1940 (see table 3a), though less than in 1927. This increase after 1940 is attributable principally to the higher prices of coffee which prevailed in tha United States after the signing of the Inter-American Coffes Agreement. l/ Factors contributing to this price increase were the continuing strong demand for the mild grades of coffee in the United States, the increased proportion of higher priced washed coffees in Venezuelan exports, and the favorable quota assigned to Venezuela by the Inter-American Coffee Board. 2/

Gold.--Venezuele ranks fifth among the countries of South America in the production of gold; its output, however, constitutes less then one-half of 1 percent of morld production. Gold ranks third among Venezuelan export products. Practically all the domestic output is shipped abroad. During the period 1938-39, exports of gold averaged 127,000 troy ounces, valued at 15.7 million bolivares ( 5.1 million dollars) a year. Thore was little change during 1940 and 1941, but in 1942 shipments were reduced to 116,000 ounces valued at 13.9 million bolivares ( 4.1 million dollars). In 1943, because of difficulties of obtaining imports of mining machinery and other supplies, Venezuelan gold mines operated at only about 40 percent of capacity; the value of exporte of gold in that year declined to less than half that in the years 1940-41.

Cacao.-In ordinary times, Venesuela accounts for about 2 percent of the world production of cacao beans and for about 9 percent of the total South American output. Venezuelan cacao, bowever, is of high quality and excellent flavor, and usually comands premivm prices in world markets. In 1938 and 1939 exporte of cacao accounted for about 1 percent of total Venezuelan exports. 3 In 1937 the principal narkets wore the United States ( 36 percent), Trinidad ( 20 percent), and Germany ( 17 percent). In 1940, after the outbreak of the war, the value of exports of cacao dealined moderately; in 1941, largely owing to the loss. of important European warkets, it declined to the lowest level in many years. In 1942, however, chiefly because of the marised increass in prices paid in the United States, exports increased substantially in value. Because of the war the United States has becone the predominant market for Venezuelan cacao, taking, since 1939, more, than two-thirde of the total.

Deatination of exports.-The distribution of Venezuelan exports, by regions and principal countries, 1937-42, is shown in table 4. Throughout this table the figures are considerably distorted by the fact that exports of petroleum are overvalued in the Venezuelan statistics. The principal consequence (see table 4) is that the exports to the Netherlands West Indies, which consist alnost exclusively of petroleum, are exaggerated as compared with exports to other countries in which the petroleum trade 1s of lesser importance (in some cases insignificant). In 1937, according to official Venezuelan statistics, the Netherlands Fest Indies

[^4]Fable 3a.- Venesualez Bxports of ooffee to prinaipal markets, 1937-42

| Country | 2937 | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1942 | 1942 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Quentity (netrio tons) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total, all ooumtries | 41,708 | 35,893 | 27,391 | 28,752 | 44,629 | 35,636 |
| UEITED STATES - | 10,685 | 8,473 | 8,467 | 21,207 | 29,862 | 33,636 |
| Argention - |  |  |  | ${ }^{2} 85$ | 7,5003,549 | 479 |
| Chile - | 1 | $1 /$ | 1 |  |  | 256 |
| Japan | 112 | 401 | 194 | 653 | 636 | - |
| Siltserland | 358 | 60 | 20 | 144 | 333 | 749 |
| Sredian Bothorlands Mest Indies |  | 218 | 21 | 25 | 333 | 309 |
| Italy | 3,866 | 1,186 | 1,481 | 2,993 | - | - |
| Dencark | 1,584 | 1,020159 | 824438 | 1,467 | $\overline{7}$ | 1 |
| Spein -_-_-_ |  |  |  | 1,312 | 1 | 2 |
| Germany (including Austria) | $\begin{array}{r} 16,413 \\ 6,878 \\ 450 \end{array}$ | 20,153 | 23,909 |  | 1 | - |
|  |  |  | 1,582 | $1 / 13$ |  | - |
| Hotherlands |  | 59 | $344$ | 132 |  |  |
| All other | 80.4 | 678 |  | 651 | 4,043 | 207 |
|  | Velue ( 1,000 bolfvares) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total, 11 countries | 38,091 | 25,677 | 21.273 | 18,654 | 23.240 | 37.328 |
| UNITED STATES - | 9,874 | 6,472 | 6,971 | 14,394 | 17,210 | 35,320 |
| Argentiona | 1 |  | - | $1 /$ | 2,812 | 388 |
| Chile - | - | $1 /$ | 11 | 56 | 587 | 289 |
| Japan - | 63 | 269 | 119 | 410 | 354 | , |
| Suitzerland | - | - | - | 67 | 323 | 848 |
| Sueden - | 325 | 48 | 13 | 134 | 272 | - |
| Hetherlands West Indies | 458 | 184 | 21 | 17 | 151 | 304 |
| Italy | 3,411 | 838 | 841 | 1,520 | - | - |
| Denmark - | 1,376 | 998 | 456 | 1,146 | - | 1 |
| Spain | 44 | 70 | 176 | 310 | 1 | 1 |



Table 3a.-Veneruelat Bxports of coffee to prinoipal markete, 1937-42-Continued





Eatadfatica Hercantily Huritian.
accounted for 72 percent of the total export trade. In that year the estimated trus value of petroleun exporta was only 69 percent of the official value (oven this was a higher percentage than in any of the later years covered by the table). If petroleua had not been overvalued, the share of the Netherlands Feet Indies in total exporte might have been as low as 65 percent. In 1937, as in all other recent years, the United States ranked second in the export trade ( 14 percent of the total). Other important markets for Venezuelan exports in 1937 were the United Kingdon, Canada, and France.

Although much of the trade of the world ultimataly is of an indirect charactor, seldom does 50 striking an example of this appear as in the case of exports of petroleum from Venezuela through the Netherlands West Indies to other countries. The official trade statistics of Venezuela naturally do not reveal the ultimate markets for there indirect exporta through Curacao and aruba. The latter are, in effect, entrepôt stations - for the reshipment (after refining) of potroleun, Venezuela's major export product. When the trade statistics are adjusted for such reshipments, the percentages of total exports (direct and indirect) to other countries are thereby increased. If it be assumed that reshipments of the products of Venezuelan petroleus from the Netherlands Fest Indies are in rough proportion to the total exporte from that region (almost exclusively products of petroleum originating in Venezuela) the apportionment of total venemulan exporta (direct and indirect) for 1937 would be approximately that shom in the final column of table 4a. On the adjusted basis, the principal narkets for Venezuelan exports in 1937 were as followes The United Kingdom, 30 percent; the Onited States, 23 percent; the Retherlands, 7 percent; and Germany, 6 percent. These percentages, like those in table 4, are considerably affected by the overvaluation of petroleua exports, which, as already pointed out, tend to exnggerate the exports to the Fetherlands Fest Indies. Consequentiy, the proportion of Venezuelals direct and indirect exports going to countries which receive lenge quantities of petroleus products from the Netherlands Fest Indies are sonewhat overstated, particularly those for the United Kingdon, the United States, and the Netherlands. 1/

After the outbreak of the war there was a stoady deciline in the importance of Europe as a market for Venexuelan exports, and a corresponding increase in the importance of the Weatern Hemisphere. In 1940, because of the offectiveness of the blockade, direct exports to Europe were substantially reduced; in 1941, with the expansion of the areas of naval warfare, the share of Europe was still further reduced and accounted for only 1 percent of total exports. In 1941 European markets for Venezuelan products were virtually restricted to the United Kingdom, Finland, the Soviet Union, Spain, Ewitzerland, and Sweden.

In the period 1940-42, the United States displaced the Onited Kingdom as the most important ultiwate market (including both direct and indirect exports) for Venezuelan producte. In 1942 Canade ranked next to the United States; Venezuelan direct exports to the United Eingdon $2 /$ in that year continued to decline (see table 4) and were only a small fraction of the pro-war total. 'Argentina, likewise, became a more important market

1/ It will be noted that in table 4 a the total value of exports from the Netherlands West Indies 15 gmaller than the reported value of exports from Venezuela to the Netherlands Fest Indies, notwithstanding the value added by the process of refininge The disparity is mainly (perhaps wholly) due to the overvaluation of Venezuelan exports of crude petroleum.

2/ Meanwhile, however, large indirect trade with the United Kingdom through the Hetherlands Fest Indies continued. In the early months of 1912 it was oatimated that Venezuela was eupplying, directly and indirectiy, 80 percent of the petroleum requirements of the United Kingiom (South American Journal, January 17, 1942).

Table L.- Venezuelat Exports, $1 /$ by regions and by prineipal countriea, 1937-42



Table fe- Hetributian of total exports fron Venesuale (direot exporta and reexports of Fenesuelan petrolens Irom the Netherlands West Indies) to principal markets, 1937

| Cormety | Dlrect exporte from Venerwela $1 /$ |  | Total exporta from the Hothorlands Teet Indiea $2 /$ |  | Eatimated distribution <br> of indireat exporte from Venesuels (72 percent) through the Netherlanda Nest Indies | Batimated diateribution of total Veneruelan exports direct and indirect) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Valu in thousands of U. 8. dallare | ```Percent of value``` | Value In thousands of U. 8. dallars 4 | Porcent of velue |  |  |
| 111 eountries | 271,984 | 100 | 148,577 | +100 | 72 | 100 |
| UITTSD STATES - | 37,161 | 14 | 19,010 | 13 | 9 | 23 |
|  | 196,490 | 72 | 18.731 | - | - | 20 |
| Snited Iingreim | 14,967 | 6 | 48,731 | 33 | 24 | 30 |
|  | 995 | $5 /$ | 15,138 | 10 | 7 | 7 |
| Germany | 6,605 | 2 | 8,104 | 6 | 4 | 6 |
| Pruch logt Arrion |  | - | 6,299 | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| Argatin | 230 | $5 /$ | 5,425 | 4 | 3 | 3 |
|  |  | 5 | 5,257 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| France | $4,417$ | 2 | $3,375$ | 2. | 2 | 4 |
| 111 other | 11,219 | 4 | 37,238. | 25 | 18 | 22 |

## 1 Mot adjuated for overvilustion of petroleur.

Potroleva and potroleve producta accounted for 99 percent.
, coaverted irce bolivares ( 1 bolivar $=\$ 0.3121$ ).
Converted from guilders (i guilder $=\$ 0.5504$ ).
Leas than 0.5 perceot
Fot reported moparately.
Lebs than 500.
 officin statinties of Currepeo.
for Venerualan products than in the years before the war; in 1942 direct exports to Argentina were more than 20 times those in 1937.

Byports to Latin American countries.-Bofore the war, the export trade of Venczuala nith other Latin American countrles was saill; in 1939 it constituted less than 1 percent of total exports. In that year seveneights of the direct shipnents from Vemezuela to Latin American mariets went to three countries; Chile (43 percent); Colombia ( 28 percent); and Brazil (15 percent); the principal exports were petroleum and beef cattle. 17 These and other Latin Anerican countries, notably Argentina, purchased from the Fotherlands Fost Indies substantial quantities of petroleve products which came indirectily from Venesuela.

In 1940, principally because of increased direct shipments of petroleus to Brasil and Argentina, Venezuelan exports to Latin American countries increased to nearly 2 percent of total exports. In 1942, with further increases in shipaents to Brasil, Argentima, and Uruguay, and unprecendently large exports of coffee to Argentine 2/ (partiy for traneshipnent to neutral European countries) Venezuelan exports to Latin Anerican countries accounted for more then 3 porcent of total exports, and were nearly seven tizes more than in 1939; nine-tenths of the shipments went to three countries, Argentina ( 46 percent), Brazil ( 30 percent), and Uruguan ( 13 percent). Chile, wich had been the principal Latin Anerican customer in 1939, ranked sixth in 1941, partily because direct shipeents of Venezuelan petroleus to that country wore replaced by indirect shipments through the Hetherlands West Indies, and partiy because Peru, after the outbreak of the war, becane the most important supplier of petroleun to Chile.

In apite of the sharp increase resulting from the mar, Venezuela's exports to other Latin American repablics are still small in relation to total exports because these countries ordinarily have large requirements for manufactered goods, which Venezuela cannot supply, and rolatively small requirements for petrolem, coffee, and cacao, which constitute nost of the country' s exports. Shipments to Latin American coumtries during the 2 years 1940-4 were markedly greater than imports from those countries; in earlier years the export balance mas small.

Inports.
The Venesuelan inport trade is characterised not only by the prodominance of manufactured goode but by the increasing importance, in recent jears, of imports of agricultural products, principally foodstuffs. Machines, instruments, apparatus, vehicles, and accessories constituted the most important subgroup of manufactured goods, followed by motals and mannfactures, and textiles. Agricultural products (prinoipaliy foodstuffs) accounted for about one-firth of the total importe. In 1937 and

[^5]1938 Venezuela purchaged more than one-half of ite imports fros the Onited States, one-eighth from Gernany, and about one-trelfth from the United Kingdom. Isporta from Latin America during the period 1937-39 averaged about 1 percent of the total.

The upward trend of isports into Venesuela, which begna in 1933, resched a peak in 1939; imports that year were valued at 326 million bolfveres (102 sillion dollars). 1 An outstanding developent was the zubstantial increase in, inports of iron and steel manufactures in 1938 and 1939; a large part of these inports were utilized in the expansion of the country's petroleum-refining capacity. Inports into Venezuela, for the period 1924-42, are shom in table 1.

The steady decline in isports into Venozuala after 1939 resulted from a conbination of factors, including the closing of European sources of supply, shortages of shipping, and the restrictions imposed on exports of critical articles from the United States and other countries. Inports In 1942 ancomted to only 216 million bolivares ( 64 millicn dollars), about tro-thirds as much as in 1939. It asy be assumed that, an the average, pricas were rising and that the reduction in quantities was greater than that of value. In 1943 imports began to increase; in the first 6 months of 1943, they were 23 percent greater than in the first half of 1942.

In the first 2 years after the outbreak of the war, manufactured goods contimued to constitute about three-fourths of total importas in 1942, partiy as a result of United States restrictions on shipents of critical articles, this group declined to leas than two-thinds. Agricultaral products (principally foodstuffa) acoomited for one-seventh of total ixports in 1940 and 1941 as in 1937-39; in 1942 partiy because of riaing prices, their valus mas nearly twice as great as in the period 1937-39, and constituted nearly one-fourth of total purchasers abroad. In the first 3 years after the outbreak of the mer, three-fourths of Veneruela's imports were supplied by the United 8 tates (in 1942, 74 percent). In 1941 Latin American countries supplied 8 percent of venesuale's imports and in 1942, principally becance of difficulties of obtaining goods from the United States, 15 percent.

Compontiton. -The most prominent changes in the composition of the Venczuelan import trade fron the beginning of the war through 1941 wore the increasing proportions of foodstuffs and cheadcal products, and the decline in the importance of the two groups of machines, instruents, apparatus, vehicles, and accessories, and metals and manufacturen. Textiles and manfactures continued to be important in the trade.

During the 5 years 1937-41, manufactured goods (excluding processed foodetuffs) constiturted approxdmately three-fourths of total venezuelan imports, in termes of vilues agricultural and pastoral prodncts (both edible and inedible) accounted for about one-fifth, and nometalile aineral products, for about one-twentioth. In 1942, with the markedly reduced total voluse of imports, the shares of manufectured goods and nometallie macral products were considexably maller. The share of

1 The previous record was achieved in 1929, when irports were valued at 453 aillion bolivares ( 87 nillion dollara).
agricultural and pastoral products consequentily increased, principally because other Latin American countries were able to supply in large part the demand formerly met by imports from European, Asiatic, and other sources. Imports into Venezuels, by groups, subgroups, and principal commodities, 1937-42, are shom in table. 5.

The Venezuelan tariff law, in force since 1936, provides three classifications for imports: Dutiable imports; nondutiable (duty-free) isports; and products the importation of which is prohibled or reserved to the National Government. 1/ Producte not subject to duty fall into two categoriest "Nondutiable" (duty-free) inports; and dutiable items which, ty official authority, have been exempted or exonerated from payment of duties. Most of the import requirements of Venezuelan agriculture are nondutiable (duty-free) according to the import tariff law. Other products admitted into the country without payment of duty include well-drilling machinery; barbed wire and other materials for foncing; stoves and water heaters; insecticides and exterminating apparatus; and dutiable imports purchased by the National Goverment for its own use. The greater part of Venezuelan inports which in recent years have ontered the country without payment of duty are included in the statistics of dutiable imports, even though they have been specially exonerated in one manner or another; only a minor part of such imports was ande up of "nondutiable" goods.

Table 5 a shows the actual tariff treatanent accorded the 10 "dutiable" import groups in 1938 and 1941. In most of the groups duties have been collected on the greater part of the 1aports of dutiable comodities, but for some groups the exemptions bave been large. The highest percentages on which duties wore actually collected in 1938 were those on foods and beverages ( 99 percent) and textiles ( 95 percent). In the important group comprising machines, instruments, apparatus, vehicles and accessories, only 49 percent (in terns of value) entered duty-paid, and the proportion was only 23 percent in the case of metals and menufactures.

In 1941, principally because of the difficulty of obtaining essential comodities froi abroad, 73 percent of "dutiable" imports actually paid duty, compared with 61 percent in 1938 (see tahle 5s). This increase was due chiefly to the smallor proportion of limports by the petroleve companies which were exonersted in 1941.

Imports into Venezuola by parcel post consist largely of electrical, eporting, and miscellaneous goodes textiles; animals and induatrial andsal producta; and plante and industrial vegotable producta. In 1938, about one-tenth of the commodities in these three groups entered Venezuela ria parcel post (see table 5a). The use of parcel post is advantageous to the importer, inasmuch as the duty on such iaports is levied on net woight, with a moderate duty on the packing, $2 \sqrt{\text { whereas }}$ on other dutiable imports the rates of duty are besed on grose weight.

Hachines, instruments, apparatus, vehicles, and accessories.Inporta of this group, the most important group of Vengzuelan purchases abroad, refleot the nation's industrial development. 3 They consist
$1 /$ Articies the importation of which 18 prohibited by, or reserved to, the National Government include sea and rock salt, and solsd preparations with a base of soa or rock salt; frozen, dried, and salted meats (axcopt frozen poultry); matches; cigarette paper; and coconuta and copra.
2/ Duty-free imports by parcel post are negligibles in the flrst 6 months of 1938 they anounted to only 200,000 bolfvares $(\$ 63,000)$.
3/ In the Venevuelan statistics this clabsification includes only dutiable goods; and it oxcludes many important nondutiable products such as articles for agricultural use; well-drilling maohinery; weaving machinory and parta; and machines for grinding corn and neat.

Table 5.-Venesuele: Imports, by groups, subgroupe, and principal commodities, 1937-42





[^6]Table 5.-Venesuelas Imports, by groupa, subgroupa, and principal commodities, 1937-42-Continued


Tood, paper, ondboand and mempactures
Peper cardboard and inttations mwanimetwred
Vegetabis substences and industrial producte
Plants and their argane
Antrals and induetrini animal products
IIden and adns, and manufecturas
Ities and aldis terned, mmafeotmred
Detayefree inport:
Machines and spparatus
For drilling welis and accessorise
drticlen for egriontural uper
Goods the importition of which is prohibited or is reserved to the goverwnent
Products eppecially exempt sron duty
Parcel post $\qquad$

1 General inporta. Bullion, epeoie, and parcel post are inciuded. Valuos are P.o.b. port, as per conoular involce.
2/ Classifications emploged in this table are those given in the Vonesublen ipport statioticse oroups are ranked according to thoif value in 1941.


 cent of the total.

A/ Includes govesnment supplies, which are distributed among the verious grougs for aubsaquant jeara.
5 Diatributed among the various groups.
Parcel post, Fhich is distributed among th groups, mibgrops, and comodities, Fas viued at followas

| Ten | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Bolivares } \\ & \text { (M111/onf) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { T. g. dollari } \\ & \text { (Yilithod) } \end{aligned}$ | Tens | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Bolifares } \\ & \text { (Hi11/ton) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { U. 8. doller: } \\ & \text { (Hillem) } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1937 | -13.1 | 3.8 | 1940 | $-14.4$ | 4.5 |
| 1938 | $-13.7$ | 4.3 | 1941 | -12.9 | 3.9 |
| 1939 | $-15.7$ | 4.9 | 1942 | -8.3 | 2.5 |

7/ For converaion rates, we tabie 1.


Table 5a.-Venesueles Iaports, by dutiable groups, shoning tariff treatment, 1938 and 1941

| Cormodity Group | Duty-paid Imports (not exonerated) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | "Dutisble" inports exonerated from duty |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Venezuelan commerce |  | Petroleum and other forelgn companies |  | Pareel post |  | Total duty-pald |  | National Government |  | 011-company contracts |  | Other exemptiona |  | Total exonerated from duty |  |
|  | 1938 | $194{ }^{1 / 1}$ | 1938 | 1942] | 1938 | 1941 | 19382/ | $1942^{7}$ | 1938 | 1941 | 1938 | 1941 | 1938 | 1941 | 1938 | 1941 |
| Total dutiable importomemen | 52.7 | 69.5 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 4.7 | 3/ | 60.7 | 72.8 | 7.3 | 6.0 | 30.3 | 17.0 | 2.7 | 4.2 | 39.3 | 27.2 |
| Mechines, instruments, apparatug vehicles and accessoriee- <br> Motals and manufactures-__ | 46.5 | 60.3 | 2.4 | 2.8 | 1.7 | $3 /$ | 50.6 | 63.1 | 10.1 | 10.8 | 36.4 | 19.3 | 2.9 | 6.8 | 49.4 | 36.9 |
|  | 20.9 | 35.6 | 2.5 | 2.4 | 2.2 | $3 /$ | 25.6 | 38.0 | 9.9 | 6.4 | 62.6 | 50.8 | 2.9 | 4.8 | 74.4 | 62.0 |
| Textiles- | 79.0 | 93.6 | . 8 | . 5 | 15.2 | $3 /$ | 95.0 | 94.1 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 2.9 | 1.2 | . 2 | 2.7 | 5.0 | 5.9 |
|  | 95:8 | 91.7 | 3.6 | 4.2 | 4 | $3 /$ | 99.4 | 95.9 | . 4 | 2.4 | 4 | . 1 | . 2 | 1.6 | .6 | 4.1 |
| cellaneous goode | $\begin{aligned} & 43.5 \\ & 73.8 \end{aligned}$ | 74.5 | 3.8 | 3.3 | 19.4 | $3 /$ | 66.7 | $\begin{aligned} & 77.8 \\ & 84.2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 6.3 \\ & 2.6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 7.0 \\ & 3.3 \end{aligned}$ | 25.1 | 11.5 | 1.9 | 3.7 | 33.2 | 22.2 |
| Chomical producte |  | 82.1 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 6.3 | $3 /$ | 81.3 |  |  |  | 13.8 | 9.4 | 2.3 | 3.1 | 18.7 | 15.8 |
| ceramics, and mamfactures Wood, papar, cardboard, and | 40.3 | 46.3 | 10.9 | 16.9 | 2.6 | 3/ | 53.8 | 63.2 | 14.0 | 10.4 | 30.0 | 23.0 | 2.2 | 3.4 | 46.2 | 36.8 |
| manufactures | 53.6 | 71.6 | 14.9 | 4.0 | 3.4 | 3 | 1.9 | 75.6 | 6.9 | 11.8 | 20.6 | 6.9 | . 6 | 5.7 | 28.1 | 24.4 |
| Animals and Industrial animal producte <br> Plant: and indugtrial Tegetable | 80.9 | 93.3 | .8 | .2 | 9.8 | $3 /$ | 91.5 | 93.5 | 6.6 | 3.2 | 1.7 | 1.2 | . 2 | 2.1 | 8.5 | 6.5 |
| product | 63.8 | 85.2 | 4.0 | 1.4 | 8.0 | $3 /$ | 75.8 | 86.6 | 3.2 | 1.3 | 19.9 | 6.0 | 1.1 | 6.1 | 24.213 .4 |  |

1 Includes parcel post.
2/ May include negligible anounts of parcal post ontered under "Dutiable imports exonerated from duty".
3/ Included under "Vezesualan comerce" and "Petroleum and other foreign companien".
Less than 0.05 percent.

chiefly of oil-well and pipe-line equipaent; scientific instruments and apparatua; buainese michines; boats; airplanes; and automobiles, trucks, and accessories. 1) In recent years the United States has constituted the mafor source of these imports, supplying more than threefourths in 1937; other important sources were Germany, the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands. During the years 1938-39 imports in this olaselfication constituted more than one-fourth of the total (see table 5). The value declined elightly in 1940; in 1941 the reduction was marked, and in 1942 it reached the lowest level in several years, principally because of United States reatrictions on shipments of critical and strategic materials.

The most important subgroup in this classification is that of vehicles and accessories (predominantly automobiles, trucke, and accessories). In 1940, after the outbreak of the war, such imports increased moderately, but they declined markedly in 1941, and, in 1942, were only a fraction of those in previous years (see table 2).

Hetals and manufactures.--Practically ail of the nation's requirements for unorked iron and steel and semifinished and finished iron and ateel manufactures, as well as for other metal products, are inported. 2/ Before the war the chief sources of supply were Germany, which in 1937 accounted for nearly one-half of such 1mports, and the United States, which supplied nearly one-third; other important sources mere Belgium, the United Eingion, the Nethorlands, and Japan. In 1937 this classification ranked fourth among the country's import groups. In 1938 and 1939, largely because of increased purchases by petraleun companios operating in Venezuela, imports in this general group increased markedly, and ranked second anong the import groups. After the outbreak of the war there was a steady decline in both 1940 and 1941, but second rank was maintained. In 1942, because of United States restrictions on shipments of critical and atrategic materials, iaports in this group declined substantially (see table 2).

The most important subgroup in this general category is that of finished iron and steel manufactures. Even though "dutiable," such inports ordinarily are exempted from payment of dutiea in order to footor domestic production. In 1937 imports of this type constituted nearly 3 percent of total importa; during 1938-39 thair value was more than five times that in 1937. A large part of these materials were utilised in constructing a new oil refinery at Caripito.

Foodatuffin- One of the objectives of the astional progrean for $000-$ nomic development is the creation of a more balanced agrioultural economy. 3/ In recent years a very large part of the nation's food requirenents has been imported, and the expanding petrolevie induatry has attracted morkors from the ranks of agriculture. The Jnited states has been the principal source of imports of food producte, accounting in 1937 for more than onehalf; other important sources, in the order of their importance, were Prance, the Notherlands, Germany, Italy, and the Onited Xingdom.

In the 2 years 1937-38, foodstuffs and beverages ranked fourth among the import groups and in 1939, third. About one-third of the value was

[^7]representod by cereals, flours, and starches. Among the individual commodities, the most important during the period 1938-40 were wheat flour, preserved ailk, rice, prepared weats, dietetic foods, and edible fats. In 1940 and 1942, after the outbreak of the war, with the closing of sources of imports in Europe and Asia and the accompanying shortages of shipping, imports of foodstuffs declined; in 1942, with the marked deciline in the total trade, imports of such products were smailer in 1938, but they continued to rank third among the 1mport groups (see table 5).

Textiles and manufactures.-In the 3 years 1937-39 textiles and manufactures ranked fourth among the import groups. In 1940, imports of these products increased in value, but declined slightly in 1941, in which year they ranked second among dutiable import groups and accounted for one-sirth of total imports. Three-fifthe of Venezuelan inports of textiles ordinarily consist of cotton manufactures. Before the war, European countries supplied the major portion of Venezuelan imports of textiles. In 1937 the dnited Iingdon accounted for about one-third; Japan, one-sixth; Germany, one-seventh; and the Onited States, oneeighth; other important sources were Italy, Belgivm, the Netherlands, and Prance. The national program of economic development provides for an inereasing investment of capital in textile aille in order to supply a Larger proportion of Venezuelan requirements. $1 /$

Chemicals and related products.-In 1937 and 1938 the distribution of component items and the total value of Venezuelan imports of chemical products showed a considerable degree of stability, constituting about 6 peroent of total inports. Four comitries ordinarily accounted for threo-fourthe of imports of these commodities, ranking in 1937 in the following ordors The Jiitod States (one-third), France (one-sixth), Gerwany (one-seventh), and Belgium (one-eighth). Such imports decined slightig after the outbreak of the war, but in 1941, partily because of higher prices, they constitutod 8 percent of total imports. In 1942, chiefly because of United States export controls, imports of these products declined until they were less than in 1938.

Ordinarily about half of the 1mports in the chemical-products group consiats of pharmaceutical products. After the outbreak of the war, although total inports of chemicals declined, the pharmaceutical group increased; this was attributable principally to inoreased purchases from Argentins and Brasil.

Other imports.--The various classes already described ordinarily constitute more than threo-fourths of total imports into Venezuela; a fow of the remaining groups will be considored briefly. In 1938-39 isports of nonmetallic minerals, glass, coramics, and manufactures annually constitated about 5 percent of total imports. The outbreak of the war resulted in an increase in imports of these producte in 1940; this was followed by a decline in 1941; and in 1942 they were smaller oven than in 1938.

[^8]The group made up of electrical and sporting goods and miscellaneous dutiable products ranked eighth among import groups during the years 1938-39. After the outbreak of the war there was only a silight decline in imports in this caterory, as contrasted with the more substantial reductions in most other groups (see table 5). During the period 1937-40 imports of wood and paper and manufactures (principally paper and manufactures) annually constituted more than 2 percent of the total. The war had little immediate effect on imports in this group; in 1941, largely because of rising prices, they increased considerably, but in 1942, they declined below the level of 1937 (see table 5).

During the period 1937-39 animals and industrial animal producte (principally hides and akins) annually constituted about 1.5 percent of total inports. In 1940 there was a substantial deciine, followed by an approximately equivalent increase in 1941. In 1942 such goods ranked lowest asong Venezuelan "dutiable" import groups (see table 5).

Sources of imports. - In the years preceding the outbreak of the war, about three fourths of all imports into Venezuela cane from three coun-trieg- the United States, Germany, and the United Kingdom. In 1937 imports fron the United States were valued at 47 million dollars ( 53 percent) ; from Germany, 12 million dollars ( 14 percent); and from the United Kingdow, 8 miliion dollars ( 9 percent). Other sources included Belgium, the Netherlands, France, Italy, Denmark, Finland, Thailand, Spain, Colonbia, Sweden, Switzerland, and Argentina. In that year, 55 percent of Venezuela's imports came from the Western lemisphere and 42 percent from Europe. Imports from Latin American comtries other than Colombia and Argentina were negligible before the war. The distribution of Denezuelan tmports, by regions and principal countries, 1937-42, is shown in table 6.

After the outbreak of the war in September 1939, Europe declined rapidly in importance as a source of imports into Venezuela. In 1941 and 1942 less than one-tenth came from Europe, and neariy nine-tenths from the Western Hemisphere; imports came alnost entirely from the United Kingdon, Switzerland, and Swedea. Japan, which in 1937 had supplied about 3 percent of the country's imports supplied a slightly larger proportion in 1940 (ranking after the United States and the Onited Kingdom); shipments frou Japan ceased after that country entered the war in December 1941. For some years before 1940, Thailand and Burma had supplied Venezuela some 1mports (principally rice). With the expansion of Japanese conquests in Asia and the destruction of comnerce in that area, Bcuador replaced these Asiatic countries as a source of rice.

The Onited States, already by far the most iaportant source of Venezuela's imports in the period 1937-39, assumed a more important position after the outbreak of the war. Of total inports in 1941, 79 percent cane from the United States, compared with 53 percent in 1937; in 1942, however, the proportion declined to 73 percent. In dollar value, imports from the United States in 1942 were about the same as in 1937 . (silghtly less in Venezuelen currency).

Second rank as a source of imports into Venezuela, held by Germany in the years imediately preceding 1940, was assumed thereafter by the United Kingdom, aithough the actual value of imports from the onited Kingdom decilined steadily. During the years preceding 1941, Venezuelan imports from the United Xingdom had axceeded those from all Latin

Table 6.- Vanesuolas Importa $1 /$ by regions and principal countries, 2937-42



American sources combined; in 1941 imports from Latin American countries were slightly greater than those from the United Eingion, and in 1942 nearly trice as great.

Imports from Latin American countries.-In the period 1937-39 shipments from other Latin American countries ropresented about 1 percent of total Venezuelan imports; they were composed principally of agricultural products (both foodstuffs and inedible products) and textiles, the major portion of which in 1939 was supplied by Argentina, Colombia, and Brazil.

Since the outbreak of the war, the decline in the importance of Europe and Asia as sources of supply has resulted in a progressive increase in Venezuelan imports (principally foodstuifs, ginned cotton, and textile products) from the countries of Latin America. In 1941 purchases from Latin American countries were more than seven times as large as those in 1937; in 1942 they accounted for one-seventh of total Venezualan inports, and were nearly 10 times as large as in 1937. In the first 6 wonths of 1943, because of the further marked increase in shipoents from Argentins and Brazil, South American countries contributed one-fifth of total imports. The greatly increased share of Latin American coumtries in 1942 and 1943 is attributable principally to drastically reduced purchases by Venezuela in the United States resulting from wartime restrio tions on shipments of critical articles.

Before the war, agricultural and pastoral products (principally foodstuffs) constituted by far the greater share of Venezuela's purchases from other Latin American countries; imports of manufactured goods from then were of minor importance. In 194, following the loss of Buropean sources of supply, imports of manufactured goods from Latin American countries, chiefly textile manufactures from Brazil, increased substantially. They continued, however, to be of less inportance than inports of agricultural and pastoral products.

Since the outbroak of the war there has been a considerable shift in the sources of Venezuelan imports from Latin American countries. Before 1939 Colombia supplied from one-third to one-half of the total. In 1940 and 1941 Brazil became the most important Latin Anerican supplior (largely of textiles); in 1942, however, tro-fifthe of Venezuala's purcheses from Latin America came from Argentina.

A notable development resulting from the war has been the increased Importance of Ecuador as a source of Venezuelan imports of rice, a large part of which formerly had come from Thatland and Burma. Before 1940 imports from Ecuador had been negligible. In 1942 purchases from Ecuador (principally rice), constituted one-eighth of Venezuelan imports that year from Latin American sources, and wore flve times as great as in 1940.

In 1939 ootton was imported chiefly from the Onited States and Poru. After the outbreak of the war it becare increasingly difficult to obtain cotton froi the United States; consequentiy, Venezualan iaports from Latin American sources increased markedly; in 1942 a substantial quantity was imported from Argontina.

## United States Trade Fith Venezuela

Because of differences in the population and the industrial development of the two countries, the importance of the United States market to the Venezuelan econosy is, of course, much more pronomeed than that of the Venezuelan mariet to the Dnited States econony. Between 1924 and 1942, as shown in table 7, nearly one-sixth of Venezuelan exports, in terms of velue, were shipped to the Onited States. When indirect exporta through the Notherlands Fest Indies are accounted for, the Onited States in recent years has taken nearly one-fourth of all Venesuolan exporte (see table (a). This indirect trade first became of eajor importance after 1926. In the period 1937-39 wore than one-fourth of the exports of coffee from venezuela, about one-third of the cacao, and one-seventh of the petrgleun (not including indirect trade through the Netherlands Fest Indies 1/) were imported by the United States. Since the outbreak of the war these shares have increased, respectively, to three-fourths, two thirds, and one-sixth. The United States also constitutes an important source of Venezuelan importe, having provided wore than one-half of the total in the period 1937-39, and about three-fourthe since the outbreak of the war (1940-42). Venezuela ordinarily obtains two-thirds of its imports of eachinery and vehicles (including more than 95 percent of its automotive producte), more than half of its imports of metals and manufactures, and two-fifths of its imports of chemicals from the United States. These shares bave increased materially during the war.

The United States share of specified Venezuelan exports, 1937-42, is shown in table 8, and its share of specified Venosuelan import groups in table 9.

[^9]Table 7.- Vepermale: Trade Eith the United Statos, 1924-42

| Year | (Value in thousands $1 /$ ) |  |  |  |  |  | Balance of trade |  | Ratio of 1mporta to exports |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Exports $3 /$ |  |  | Imports $3 /$ |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Bolfvares | United States dollers | $\begin{aligned} & \text { U. s. } \\ & \text { ahare } \\ & \text { of total } \\ & \text { exports } \end{aligned}$ | Bolfivares | United states dollars | J. S. share of total exports | Bolfvares | United States dollars |  |
| 1924 | 32,559 | 6,261 | $\frac{\text { Percent }}{15.3}$ | 119,424 | 22,965 | $\frac{\text { Percont }}{55.3}$ | -86,865 | -16,704 | $\frac{\text { Percent }}{366.8}$ |
| 1925 | 54,123 | 10,441 | 16.4 | 163,304 | 31,501 | 53.8 | -109,176 | -21,060 | 302.7 |
| 1926 | 98,214 | 18,916 | 24.8 | 228,613 | 44,031 | 55.4 | -130,399 | -25,115 | 232.8 |
| 1927 | 104,316 | 19,799 | 23.5 | 189,723 | 36,009 | 52.2 | -85,407 | -16,210 | 181.9 |
| 1928 | 162,020 | 31,189 | 26.6 | 299,113 | 46,029 | 57.4 | -77,093 | -14,840 | 147.6 |
| 1929 | 215,984 | 41,685 | 27.7 | 248,999 | 48,057 | 55.0 | -33,015 | -6,372 | 115.3 |
| 1930 | 175,166 | 33,106 | 23.0 | 186,068 | 35,167 | 51.1 | -10,902 | -2,061 | 106.2 |
| 1931 | 135,259 | 23,048 | 20.8 | 100,489 | 17,123 | 47.7 | +34,770 | +5,925 | 74.3 |
| 1932 | 130,626 | 19,722 | 20.8 | 69,736 | 10,523 | 45.5 | +60,890 | +9,189 | 53.4 |
| 1933 = | 90,857 | 16,917 | 14.7 | 69,597 | 12,959 | 48.5 | +21,260 | +3,958 | 76.6 |
| 1934 | 107,658 | 29,746 | 16.0 | 71,979 | 20,392 | 45.1 | +35,679 | +19,354 | 68.6 |
| 1935 | 114,265 | 29,298 | 26.1 | 99,690 | 25,431 | 44.3 | +14,575 | +3,867 | 86.8 |
| 1936 | 134,563 | 34,502 | 17.5 | 100,238 | 25,571 | 47.4 | +34,325 | +8,931 | 74.1 |
| 1937 | 119,067 | 37,161 | 13.7 | 160,950 | 47,062 | 52.8 | -41,883 | -9,901 | 126.6 |
| 1938 | 117,551 | 38,004 | 13.2 | 175,244 | 54,939 | 56.4 | -57,693 | -16,935 | 144.6 |
| 1939 | 150,636 | 48,701 | 15.8 | 199,571 | 62,566 | 61.1 | -48,935 | -13,865 | 128.5 |
| 1940 | 194,098 | 62,752 | 22.5 | 229,443 | 7,930 | 73.7 | -35,345 | -9,178 | 114.6 |
| 1941 | 226,591 | 72,894 | 22.3 | 226,840 | 69,572 | 78.8 | -249 | 51 | 95.4 |
| 1942 | 109,887 | 33,647 | 15.5 | 158,438 | 47,294 | 73.5 | -48,551 | -13,647 | 140.6 |

1/ For conversion rates, ace table 1.
2/ ceneral exports. Bullion and specie are included. Purcel post is excluded. Values are current market values, f.o.b. Fonesualan port or frontior, including export duties and texes, axcopt in the case of petroleum, for which fixed unit values have bean caployed. See table an and the acoompaning text relating to indirect exports of potroleum to the Jnited Statos.
3/ Ganeral 1mports. Bnilion, epecie, and parcol post are included. Values are f.o.b. port, ac per consular invoice.
4/ An export balance is indicated by t, and an inport balence by -.
/ In 1941, because of the apread betwean the converaion factor for exports ( $\$ 0.3217$ ) and thet for importa ( $\$ 0.3067$ ), there 1s a mall export belence in terma of D.S. dollars ( 83,322 ), whereas in torsa of bolfivares there is a small import belance.

[^10]Table 8.- Veaenuelet Exports to the United Staten, $1 /$ by prinaipal commoditien, 1937-42

| Comodity $2 /$ | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1942 | 1942 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Value ( 2,000 bolfvares) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 119,067 | 117,551 | 150,636 | 194,098 | 226,591 | 109,887 |
| Petrolen and its derivitives |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grude potrolewn | 99,293 | 101,806 | 119,335 | 130,951 | 165,740 | $43,651$ |
| Fuel oil -m | - | 101,806 | 2,105 | 18,951 | 6,126 | 3,598 |
| Ienition 011 | - | 3 | $3 /$ | 2 | 3,785 | 2,289 |
| Gas 011 - | - 5 |  |  | 3,986 | 3,373 | 1,597 |
| Coffee | 9,874 | 6,472 | 6,971 | 14,394 | 17,210 | 35,320 |
| cold | 1,938 | 5,759 | 16,308 | 16,786 | 15,861 | 13,885 |
| Sara | 1,517 | 5,257 | 14,907 | 15,459 | 15,777 | 13,883 |
| Cacao | 5,072 | 1,555 | 3,402 | 5,213 | 4,613 | 6,284 |
| Tonke beans | 1113 |  | 523 | 51 | 4,649 | 79 |
| Hides and sikins | 1,473 | 593 | 794 | 853 | 1,494 | 1,238 |
| Beexporty | 948 | 2,015 | 1.574 | 2,174 | 1,618 | 792 |
|  | Value (1,000 United States dollary $4 /$ ) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 37,161 | 38,004 | 48,701. | 62,752 | 72,894 | 33,647 |
| Potroleus and ite dorivativea <br> Crude potroleut $\qquad$ <br> Fual 011 <br> Ignition 011 <br> Ge 011 <br> Cofsee <br> cald $\qquad$ <br> Bary $\qquad$ | $\begin{array}{r} 31,228 \\ 31,228 \\ - \\ - \\ 2,883 \\ .599 \\ 469 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 32,945 \\ 32,944 \\ 3 / \\ 2,094 \\ 1,817 \\ 1,659 \end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 38,617 | 42,375 | 53,633 | 14.125 |
|  |  |  | 358 | 6,133 | 2,982 | 1,164 |
|  |  |  | 3/ |  | 1,225 | 741 |
|  |  |  |  | 1,290 | 1,092 | 517 |
|  |  |  | 2,256 | 4,658 | 5.055 | 8,127 |
|  |  |  | 5,145 | 5,2\% | 4,8\%6 | 4,170 |
|  |  |  | 4,703 | 4,8777 | 4,870 | 4,169 |



Table 9.-Venesuela: Iaporta ${ }^{1 /}$ from the United Statea, by groupa, subgroupe, and principal commoditiea;

| Group, subgroup, or commodity $3 /$ | 1937 3/ | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Value ( 1,000 bolívarea) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 160,950 | 175,244 | 199,571 | 229,443 | 226,840 | 158,438 |
| Datiable importe | 78,325 | 157,288 | 178,192 | 204,887 | 202,714 | 140,735 |
| Machines, instrumente, apparatus; and accessories therofor | 34,979 | 64,855 | 63,422 | 67,132 | 53.279 | 26,922 |
|  | 22,367 | 26,901 | 27,113 | 28,827 | 22,252 | 6,053 |
| Motor-drivan vehicles, except paesongor | 8,701 | 12,513 | 12,669 | 12,688 | 9,117 | 2,415 |
| Gbasbis with body worit for convwing goods | 3,821 | 6,918 | 6,906 | 7,006 | 5,332 | 984 |
| Chasels without body work | 3,602 | 3,053 | 2,508 | 2,441 | 1,910 | 397 |
| Antomobile acceasories | 4,070 | 4,981 | 5,822 | 5,772 | 6,601 | 1,923 |
| Rubber tire | 2,572 | 2,771 | 3,046 | 2,452 | 3,275 | 235 |
| Passenger autamobiles | 8,629 | 6,013 | 5,531 | 7,403 | 4,630 | 799 |
| Refrigerators | 1,665 | 1,651 | 2,042 | 2,789 | 2,076 | 534 |
| Wirolese recelving apparatus and phonographe | 2,010 | 1,973 | 2,109 | 2,123 | 1,674 | 1,358 |
| Motals and mamufactures - | 5,357 | 34,234 | 39,366 | 50,374 | 43,181 | 29,568 |
| Iron and steel and mamufacturot | 3,712 | 29,348 | 33,639 | 43,853 | 36,946 | 25,879 |
| Iron and steel manufactures | 1,888 | 24,279 | 27,488 | $\cdot 34,828$ | 31,050 | 20,732 |
| pickeled, and connections, plugs, and cocks $\qquad$ Iron or steel mamufactures other than decorative or | 536 | 11,762 | 14,206 | 22,343 | 20,578 | 14,049 |
| ormamental (noither polished, turned, nor adjuated and -ithout any finiehing other than protective painting, gaivenizing, or tinning) $\qquad$ | 392 | 5,552 | 6,319 | 4,757 |  |  |
|  | 108 | 3,937 | 3,484 | 3,314 | 2,272 | 2,458 906 |
| Iron or eteel, 'ram or semi-iorked - | 1,824 | 5,069 | 6,151 | 9,025 | 5,896 | 5,147 |
| Copper, tronse, brass, and manufactures | 555 | 2,342 | 2,368 | 2,625 | 2,460 | 1,652 |
| Foodstuffe and bevorages | 15,162 | 19,932 | 27,117 | 27,154 | 31,150 | 23,750 |
| Coreale, moal, Sour, ete. | 7,321 | 7,193 | 7,589 | 8,111 | 10,003 | 8,416 |
| Wheat hour | 6,000 | 5,568 | 4,917 | -6,158 | 5,894 | 5,362 |
| Eggs, milt, and its proparations | 2,216 | 4,591 | 6,872 | 7,464 | 9,605 | 9,697 |
| Preserved nilk | 2,127 | 4.424 | 6,563 | 6,934 | 9,293 | 9,359 |
| Proparations, proserver, and miecollapoous products | 2,802 | 3,795 | 5,184 | 4,549 | 5,454 | 3,115 |
| Vegatables, pot horbs, fruits, and oplces | 1,268 | 1,769 | 2,433 | 2,508 | 2,352 | 1,046 |
| sextiles flbers and manureoturea | 5,124 | 5,718 | 9,579 | 12,896 | 19,237 | 19,963 |
| Cottor cran | 3.152 | 3,396 | 6,118 | 6,781 | 11,355 | 11,873 |
| Pure cotton cloth - | 770 | 1,104 | 2,617 | 1,707 | 5,543 | 7,166 |
| Mado-ly axtioler and manufacturas | 790 | 1,029 | 1,394 | 2,800 | 2,722 | 1,866 |

6sik
Chenicals
Pharmaceutical producte
Patent modicines and epecifics, n.s.w.
Chemical producte
Paints and coloring satter
Potroleun, bituman, apd dorivitiver
Potrolem and dorivatives
Labricating all
Glase and eryatal
iscellaneous producte
Hectric equipment
Mood, paper, cardboard, and manufacturee
Paper, cardboard, and imitations, umamifactured
Vegetable subatances and industrial produc
inimais and industrial andmal products
Bides ind and mamuractures
Duty-free imports

Machines and apparatue
For drilling wells and acceseories
Articles for agricultural use
Goods the importation of which io prohibited or is reserved to the Goverment

Parcel post

Total
Dutiable imports
Machines, Instruments, apparatus, and accesbories therefor $\rightarrow$ Tehicles and accessorias
Motor-driven vehicles; except passenger cars
Chassis wlth body work for convering goods
Chassis without body work
Automobile accessori*s
Rabber tires
Pastenger automobiles
Refrigerators
See footnotes at end of table.

| 1,003 | 1,228 | 1,861 | 2,499 | 3,635 | 4,999 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 5,861 | 8,213 | 10,427 | 12,691 | 18,524 | 13,198 |
| 2,908 | 3,144 | 3,813 | 4,072 | 6,684 | 4,426 |
| 2,264 | 2,381 | 2,895 | 3,150 | 5,068 | 3,455 |
| 716 | 1,157 | 1,760 | 2,566 | 3,986 | 3,147 |
| 670 | 1,476 | 1,655 | 1,872 | 2,597 | 1,704 |
| 2,279 | 5,898 | 8,168 | 10,993. | 11,485 | 7,469 |
| 1,305 | 2,930 | 3,310 | 4,697 | 4,388 | 2,973 |
| 1,227 | 2,645 | 3,100 | 4,406 | 3,906 | 2,873 |
| 749 | 1,780 | 2,003 | 3,032 | 2,392 | 1,809 |
| 679 | 864 | 1,110 | 2,449 | 2,694 | 1,830 |
| 37 | 1,136 | 2,495 | 2,220 | 2,390 | 933 |
| 3,548 | 8,748 | 9,973 | 11,143 | 10,998 | 8,538 |
| 1,502 | 5,855 | 5,404 | 5,403 | 5,565 | 4,474 |
| 3,270 | 5,913 | 4,759 | 6,331 | 6,493 | 5,149 |
| 1,195 | 1,237 | 1,657 | 2,318 | 3,280 | 2,961 |
| 1,169 | 2,022 | 2,440 | 3,341 | 4,688 | 3,472 |
| 1,577 | 1,755 | 2,941 | 2,832 | 3,679 | 2,706 |
| - 1,385 | 1,502 | 2,588 | 2,297 | 2,854 | 2,141 |
| 1,172 | 1,196 | 2,182 | 1,739 | 2,384 | 1,526 |
| 6,121 | 17,507 | 21,249 | 24,403 | 23,401 | 27,483 |
| 654 | 9,926 | 7,737 | 9,124 | 9,104 | 8,011 |
| 443 1.123 | 8,175 | 5,302 | 6,978 | 6,608 | 6,043 |
| 1,123 | 1,934 | 4,916 | 5,553 | 3,913 | 2,227 |
| $\begin{gathered} 4 / 13,748 \\ 62,756 \\ \cdot 6 / \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 449 \\ & 6 / \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 130 \\ & 5 / \\ & 6 / \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 153 \\ & 6 / \end{aligned}$ | $5_{6}^{725}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 220 \\ & 5 / \\ & 6 / \end{aligned}$ |

Value ( 1,000 United States dollars 7/)

|  | 47,052 | 54,939 | 62,566 | 7,930 | 69,572 |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 22,902 | 49,310 | 55,853 | 64,232 | 62,173 | 42,009 |
| 10,228 | 20,332 | 19,883 | 21,046 | 16,341 | 8,036 |
| 6,540 | 8,433 | 8,500 | 9,037 | 6,825 | 1,807 |
| 2,544 | 3,923 | 3,972 | 3,978 | 2,796 | 721 |
| 1,117 | 2,169 | 2,165 | 2,196 | 1,635 | 294 |
| 1,053 | 957 | 786 | 765 | 586 | 119 |
| 1,190 | 1,562 | 1,825 | 1,810 | 2,025 | 574 |
| 752 | 869 | 955 | 769 | 1,004 | 70 |
| 2,523 | 1,885 | 1,734 | 2,321 | 1,420 | 239 |
| 487 | 518 | 640 | 874 | 637 | 159 |
| 588 | 619 | 661 | 666 | 513 | 405 |

Table 9.-Venesuele: Importe from the Jnited States, by groups, eubgroups, and principal commodities, 1937-42-Continued

wood, paper, oundboerd, and mamfactares
Paper, oardboard, and initations, ummafeotrored
Pegetable mbstances and induatrial producta
iningle and induetrial unimal produoti
Iden and skins and manufaotares
Eidee and ating, taned, vmennfactared
Datafree ingortat
Machines and apparetas
For drilling wella, and ceconcorios
Artieles for ageloultural ueo
Coods the ifportation of which is prohibited or is reserved to the Covergsont
Products opecially exempt from duty
Pareel poat $\qquad$

Total
Dutiable Inporta
Machines, ingtronents, apparatus and accessories therefor and Fohiclet and accessorios
Motormariven vehioles, except paesenger cart
Chasests with body work for convering goods Chassie (without body vork) tntomobile accessorias

Rubber tires
Prasenger automobiles

## Refrigeratora

Mrelese receiving apparatus and phonographs
Nataly and namfactores
Iron and steel and maninfactures
Iron or stoel mannfactares
$\qquad$
Iron and eteel piping, not coppered, bronzed, or onckeled and connections, pinges and cocks
Iron or steal mampactures other than decorative or ormamental (noithor polished, turned, nor adjusted and without any findehing other than protective painting, gaivanizing, or tinning)


ac footnoten at und of table.

Table 9.-Venezuela: Imports ${ }^{1}$ from the United States, by groups, subgroups, and principal commodities, 1937-42-Continued

| Group, oubgroup, or commodits $2 /$ | 1937 / | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Percentage diatribution |  |  |  |  |  |
| Datiable 1mports-Contimued <br> Metals and manufacturee-Contimed |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Iron or steel, raw or serai-worked |  | 70.0 | - 75.8 | 96.6 | 97.0 | 99.3 |
| Copper bronte, brese, and mamufactures |  | 53.0 | 65.4 | 74.7 | 70.1 | 80.0 |
| Toodetuffe and beverages |  | 57.9 | 58.3 | 63.2 | 75.3 | 65.3 |
| Cereals, meal, Rowr, etc. |  | 68.1 | 57.7 | 72.1 | 69.1 | 57.3 |
|  |  | 99.8 | 98.5 | 94.9 | 89.3 | 80.3 |
| Egge, milk, and its proparations |  | 65.2 | 53.7 | 64.7 | 88.7 | 94.8 |
| Proserved milk m-_ |  | 89.4 | 78.8 | 72.1 | 93.0 | 99.4 |
| Preparatione, preserves, and miecellaneous producte |  | 68.7 | 74.0 | 70.6 | 79.2 | 75.9 |
| Vegetables, pot herbs, fralts, and rpices |  | 65.1 | 70.3 | 55.8 | 62.1 | 40.9 |
| Textiles fibers and manufactures - |  | 18.2 | 26.4 | 32.6 | 50.8 | 51.8 |
| Cotton |  | 17.9 | 28.2 | 28.7 | 47.2 | 48.5 |
| Pure cotton cloth |  | 8.7 | 18.8 | 11.7 | 38.0 | 47.0 |
| Made-dy articles and mamufactures |  | 37.3 | 42.6 | 75.5 | 86.2 | 77.8 |
| S11k |  | 35.5 | 34.8 | 51.8 | 77.1 | 83.6 |
| Chemicala |  | 45.8 | 51.8 | 67.1 | 78.3 | 75.5 |
| Pharmaceatical products |  | 38.7 | 42.3 | 53.9 | 65.1 | 64.6 |
| Patent medicines and specifice, nos.m. |  | 34.2 | 38.0 | 50.6 | 59.9 | 60.7 |
|  |  | 40.0 | 49.0 | 69.0 | 80.3 | 78.3 |
| Paints and coloring asttor |  | 66.4 | 73.2 | 78.6 | 94.7 | 85.6 |
| Minerals, glass, and cerranics - |  | 36.0 | 48.3 | 62.2 | 76.1 | 64.8 |
| Petroleus, bitumen, and derivatives |  | 56.8 | 64.1 | 79.0 | 78.3 | 59.1 |
| Potroleun and derivatives |  | 56.2 | 63.5 | 78.0 | 76.5 | 58.8 |
| Labricating oil |  | 61.5 | 66.3 | 83.5 | 77.9 | 70.4 |
| Glass and crystal |  | 26.5 | 42.0 | 68.5 | 88.1 | 75.2 |
| Cerent - |  | 28.4 | 45.8 | 51.7 | 85.2 | 76.6 |
| Miseellaneors products |  | 55.2 | 66.5 | 79.5 | 82.8 | 84.7 |
| Hectric equipment |  | 75.6 | 82.0 | 86.3 | 76.6 | 86.2 |
| Wood, paper, cardboard, and mamiactures |  | 67.3 | - 65.4 | 85.6 | 75.7 | 87.5 |
| Paper, cordboard, and initakions, unammifactured |  | 46.7 | 58.1 | 84.3 | 66.8 | 90.1 |



I/ General imports. Bullion, epecie, and parcel post are included. Values are f.o.b. port, as per consular invoice. 2/Classifications employed in this table are those given in the Venezuelan import atatistics. Groups aro ranked according to their value in 1941.
3/ Statietica for 1937 are not comparable with those for later years, which are listed under three main categorleas mDutiable, "exempt," and "Kational Coverment." In 1937 the "dutiable" only is given in detail; the grand total, however, includes all three categories. For this reason the percentages have been onitted, as the "exempt" and "National Goverment" represent about 40 percent of the total.
i/ Includes goverment supplies which are distributed among the various groups in aubsequent years.
5/ Distributed among the various groups.
6/ Parcel post, which is dietributed among the groups, subgroups, and comodities, was valued as followsi

| Iear | Bolfivares (Milions) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { T. 8. dollars } \\ & \text { (Militons) } \end{aligned}$ | Iear | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Bolíveres } \\ & \text { (Militions) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { J. S. dollars } \\ & \text { (M+1liong) } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1937 | 3.2 | 0.9 | 1940 | 9.9 | 3.1 |
| 1938 | 4.0 | 1.3 | 1941 | 10.3 | 3.2 |
| 1939 | 5.8 | 1.8 | 1942 | 5.3 | 1.0 |

## 7/ For conversion rates, see table 1.

Source: Compiled by the ס. S. Tariff Comnisoion from Eatados Onidos do Vonezuola, Estadística_Marcantily yaritima.

Table 10 shows the United States statistics of total trade with Venezuela for 1924-42, distingoiahing imports of gold and silver from those of merchandise. Exports during the more recent years have been materially larger than those during the period 1920-29, but imports from Venezuela, except in 1940 and 1941, have been maller than during the latter part of that period. Comment on these changes is presented in the sections which follow.

As proviously pointed out, a dominant part of Venezuela's total exports consists of petroleum shipped to the Netherlands Nest Indies for refining, the resulting products being widely distributed. 1 The Onited States is a large importor of petrolevm products, especially fuel oil, from the Netherlands West Indies. Although a large increment ia added to the value of Venezuelan petroleum by the processes of refining, it is nevertheless true that a great part, probably more than half, of the total value of inports into the Jnited States from the Netherlands West Indies consists of crude petroleum supplied by Venezuela. Deapite the fact that exports from the Nothorlands West Indies consist almost exclusively of petroleum producta, in a mumber of recent years the value of exports of petrolew products from the Onited States to the Hetherlands Fest Indies has been greater than the value of imports of such products into the United States from that territory.

Because of the complementary relationship of the two regions in the production and refining of petrolen, it would be appropriate in some respects to consider Venezuela and the Netherlands Fest Indies as a aingle econcmic unit and to combine the statistics of United Statea trade with both areas. Nearly all the exports from the Onited States to the Netherlands Fest Indies conalet of Fetroleum products for blending purposes and of equipment and supplies for the great refineries there, the principal business of which is that of refining Vonezuelan crude. $2 /$ rable 10a shows, for recent years, the United States trade rith Venezuela and the Netheriands Weat Indies, separately and conbined. The trade in petroleum and its products is distinguished from that in other comodities.

## Importa into the Initod Stater from Fenezuela.

During the period 1937-39 the value of United States direct merchandise iaports from Venezuela averaged about 22 aillion dollars annually and accounted for 5 percent of total imports from Latin America. After the outbreak of the war, importe from venezuela expanded markedly; in 1940, chiefly as the result of the increase in imports of crude petrolevm, they amounted to nearly 42 million dollars ( 7 percent of total imports from Latin America); in 1941 they reached 49 million dollars.

[^11](Veiue in thousands of dollare)


[^12]3/ An export belance is indicated by 4 and an import balance by $m$. The computation of the belance of trede is based on total imports, including gold, and silver. See elac; footnote 2.

Sourcez Compiled by the $\dot{J}$. . Tariff Comission from official statistics of the U. S. Department of Comerce.

Table 10a.- United States: Trade Fith Venezuela and the Yetherlande Fest Indies, 1937-42

| (In millions of dollars) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Iten | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 |
| Totel, all productes Exports to- <br> Venezuele $\qquad$ Netherlanda West Indies - | $\begin{aligned} & 46.2 \\ & 34.2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 52.1 \\ & 42.6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 61.6 \\ & 38.3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 68.0 \\ & 21.6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 67.2 \\ & 18.1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 46.7 \\ & 32.4 \end{aligned}$ |
|  | 80.4 | 94.7 | 99.9 | 89.6 | 85.3 | 79.1 |
| Imports from <br> Venezuela 1 $\qquad$ <br> Netherlands Fest Indies - <br> Total $\qquad$ | $\begin{array}{r} 23.3 \\ 20.3 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21.5 \\ & 20.1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 27.8 \\ & 19.6 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 46.1 \\ & 19.1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 51.6 \\ 28.3 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 24.3 \\ & 21.0 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
|  | 43.6 | 4.6 | 47.4 | 65.2 | 79.9 | 45.3 |
| Aalance of trade with- <br> Venezuela $\qquad$ <br> Hetherlands West Indies - <br> Total $\qquad$ | $\begin{aligned} & +22.9 \\ & +13.9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & +30.6 \\ & +22.5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & +33.8 \\ & +18.7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} +21.9 \\ +2.5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & +15.6 \\ & -10.2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & +22.4 \\ & +11.4 \end{aligned}$ |
|  | $+36.8$ | +53.1 | +52.5 | +24.4 | +5.4 | +33.8 |
| Petroleum productas <br> Exports to- <br> Venezuela $\qquad$ <br> Netherlands West Indies - <br> Total $\qquad$ | $\begin{array}{r} .6 \\ 21.3 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} .7 \\ 22.0 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} .9 \\ 20.8 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | 1.3 7.5 | 1.3 1.9 | $\begin{array}{r}.7 \\ 1.9 \\ \hline\end{array}$ |
|  | 21.9 | 22.7 | 21.7 | 8.8 | 3.2 | 2.6 |
| Imports frow <br> Vonezuela $\qquad$ <br> Netherlands Fept Indies - <br> Totel $\qquad$ | $\begin{aligned} & 16.9 \\ & 19.7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 16.5 \\ & 19.1 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 19.1 \\ & 18.3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 34.3 \\ & 18.2 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | 37.8 27.3 | $\begin{array}{r} 8.1 \\ 20.0 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
|  | 36.6 | 35.6 | 37.4 | 52.5 | 65.1 | 28.1 |
| Products other than petroleums Exports to- <br> Venezuola $\qquad$ <br> Netherlands Fest Indies - <br> Total $\qquad$ | $\begin{aligned} & 45.6 \\ & 12.9 \end{aligned}$ | 51.4 20.6 | $\begin{aligned} & 60.7 \\ & 17.5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 66.7 \\ & 14.1 \end{aligned}$ | 65.9 16.2 | $\begin{aligned} & 46.0 \\ & 30.5 \end{aligned}$ |
|  | 58.5 | 72.0 | 78.2 | 80.8 | 82.1 | 76.5 |
| ```Imports from Venezuela 1/```$\qquad$```None ``` | $\begin{array}{r}6.4 \\ .6 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | 5.0 1.0 | 8.7 1.3 | 11.8 | 13.8 1.0 | $\begin{array}{r} 16.2 \\ 1.0 \end{array}$ |
|  | 7.0 | 6.0 | 10.0 | 12.7 | 14.8 | 17.2 |

1/ Including gold and silver.

Souroe: Compled by the U. 8. Tariff Comesion from official statistios of the J. B. Depertment of Comerce.

In 1942, principally as the result of shortages of shipping and the submarine warfare in the Caribbean, the 1mports from Venezuela were only two-fifths as great as in 1941, and constituted only 2 percent of total imports from Latin America. United States imports from Veneauela, 1924-42, are shown in table 10.

Composition.-Immediately before the outbreak of the war, about three-fourths of all 1mports into the United States from Venezuela consisted of crude petroleum; other products included gold, coffee, cacao, and goatskins. In 1940 and 1941, after the outbreak of the war, imports from Venezuela continued to be predominantly of petroleum, but in 1942 those of petroleum were considerably reduced. The value of Venezuelan coffee imported was greater in 1940 than in 1938 and 1939; in 1942 it was more than three times the average for those years. United States imports from Venezuela by groups, selected subgroups, and principal commodities, 1937-42, are shown in tables 11 and 12. Imports of principal commodities, in terms of value and quantity, 1937-42, are shown in table 13. The ratio of imports (by commodity groups) from Venezuela to total United States imports from Latin American countries is shom in table 14. In interpreting tables $11-14$, what has been said previously with respect to the large indirect imports of petroleum from Venezuela through the Netherlands West Indies should be taken into consideration.

A considerable portion of the crude petroleum imported directly into the United States from Venezuela is the product of oil enterprises owned or controlled by United States interests which are themselves leading producers of petroleum and petroleum products in the United States. During the period 1937-39 the value of such imports averaged 17 million dollars annually; during these years no refined petroleum products were 1mported directly from Venezuela. 1 After the outbreak of the war, the expansion of refining capacity in Venezuela and the reduction in Onited States import excise taxes effected by the trade agreement of December 1939 between the United States and Venezuela resulted in a marked increase of imports of petroleum products from Venezuela. In 1941, with expanding war demands, total imports of petroleum and derivatives reached a value of 38 mililion dollare, more than twice that in 1939; they declined, however, in 1942 on account of the wartime shipping situation.

In 1938 and 1939, Onited States imports of coffee from Venezuela were valued at 1.8 millition dollars annually; the quantity averaged about 21 million pounds per year. After the outbreak of the war, prices of coffee declined, but shipments from Venezuela to the Onited States expanded markedly because the shipping position of the country was more favorable than that of Brazil. In 1941 imports reached 69 gillion pounds, valued at 4.8 million dollars. In 1942, with increased prices, the value of imports of Venezuelan coffee was 7.8 million dolLars (representing 38 percent of total Onited States imports from Venezuela); the quantity ( 67 mililion pounds), bowever, was smaller than that in 1941.

[^13]Thble 山. Whited sti.teat ibports for consump:ion from venazuele, by groupa, celected subgroufa, end jrincipni comanoditied, 19?7-42


[^14]3/ See the section an deatinatias of exporta for a disaugion of indirect inporta of Venesualen petrolein through the Nethorlands Went Indien.
Source: Complled by the U. S. Fmriff comicaion frce official otatistics or une D. 8. Dejarteant of comerce.
Hote.- For reasons of naticanl cecurity, cartain deta for 1942 have been calttedy theae nre indicated by an asteriak (o).


## 2/ Prolininary.

2/ LeBe then 0.05 peroment.
3/ see the seotion on destination of exports for a diacupaico of indirect inporte of Veaemelan petroloun througt the Hetherlands meat Indies. Sources Conplled by the D. B. Tarifr Comiasion from offioinl atatiatios of the U. S, Dapartment of Comarce.
Hote.- for reasona of pational meourity, cortain data for 1942 have boon oadteds these are indsoated by an anterisk (i).

Table 13.- Drited 8taten: Inporte for ocnanptice from vonasuale, by prinoipal ocmodetiles, 1937-42

| Commodity | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | 2940 | 1941 | 1942 V |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| * | Falue (1,000 dollara) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 22,751 | 20,051 | 23,425 | 41,132 | 46,974 | 20,350 |
| Sue of commodition ahoms | 22,461 | 19,7\% | 23,073 | 40,406 | 46,124 | 19,841 |
| Percent of total crude petrolenm: $3 /$ | 98.8 | 98.7 | 98.5 | 88.2 | 98.2 | 92.5 |
| - For ocosumption (tarable) - | 15,760 | 14,965 | 17,726 | 21,861 | 31,708 | * |
| - For manufacture in bond and export (free) | , 1,212 | 1,5\% | 1.376 | 1,074 | 131 |  |
| Coffec, raw or green Restidnal fuol oil: | 3,286 | 1,963 | 1,781 | 2,981 | 4,766 | 7,776 |
| For coneumptica (tarable) | $\begin{array}{r} 3 / \\ 3 / \\ 1,695 \\ = \\ 2 \\ 228 \\ 352 \\ 48 \end{array}$ | $3 /$$3 / 759$ | 2, | 9,41122662,318 | 4.410185 | $\begin{gathered} * \\ 2,211 \end{gathered}$ |
| For applies of cortain ressels and aipora |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 1,995 |  |
| Gas 011 (inaluding Diesel oil) and Finished distillate fiol all: For consumption (tarablo) |  | - | - | 472 | 700 | * |
| For supplies of cortain ressels and airoraft (Ireo) - |  | - | - | 42 | 461 | * |
| For anmufacturs in boad and export (free) - |  |  |  | 1,088 | 87 | $\cdots$ |
| Articles, growth, produce, or mamufacture of the Onited stimten, reterned |  | S 307 | 514 | 650 | 498 | 221 |
| Glasiars' and engravers' diemonde, umat, n.e.E., and minors' dianoode |  | $-1$ |  | 146 | 486 |  |
| Goat and kad skins, dry and dry saltad Mank beans |  | 194 | 276 | 292 | 348 | 175 |
| Tanka besns - 25 pornem |  | 31 | 43 | 143 | 207 | 382 |
| Cattle hides, wot salted (overr 25 pounds) Diamorde, rough or umout (euitahle for outting into gan stomes) |  | - | - | $\frac{1}{5}$ | 207 35 |  |




1/ Prelleinary.
2/ See the section on destination of exports for a diecusiion of indirect ieports of venesuelan
petrolevin through the fietherlands Fost Indies.
3/ Hot soparatoly classified bofore 1939.
4 Does not inolude "containers of domestio or foreign manufacture exported ampty and roturned filled, etc."
Loses than 500.
Source: Compiled by the V. 8. Fariff Commiasion from offioial atatiotios of the J. S. Dopartment of Coumerce.
Note: For reasone of national security, cortain data for 1942 have been oaltted; these are indianted by an astoriak (*).

Table 14.- Inited States: Ratio of Onited States imports from Venezuela to total value of imports from Latin American Countries, by groups, 1937-42


1/ Prelininary.
2/Less than 0.05 percent.
3/ See the section on destination of exports for aidscussion of indirect imports of Venezuelan petroleun through the Xetherlands Fest Indies.

Sources Compiled by the U. S. Tariff Comission from official statistios of the U. S. Department of Comonerce.
Note.- For reasons of national seourity, certain deta for 1942 have been omitted; these are indiaated by an asterisk (\%).

Imports of cacao from Venezuela in the period 1937-39 averagod 16 aillion poumds per year, valued at 1.3 million dollars. Prices of cacao were alightly lower in 1940, after the outbreak of the war, but, because of increased demand, shipments from Venezuela expanded to 24.3 million pounds, valued at 2.1 million dollars. In 1941 the quantity, value, and prices of imports of cacao declined slightly. The velue of such.imports in 1942 was about the same as in 1940, but the quantity (21 mililion poumds) was smaller then that in either 1940 or 1941.

Other importa from Venezuela have included dried goatskins, tonka beans, and diamonds. The imports of goatskins and of tonka beans have varied considerably; in 1942 the value of those of tonka beans was seven times as great as in 1937. Because of their strategic use, Venesuelan diamonds (mainly industrial diamonds) became a leading import product after the outbreak of the war. In 1940 they were valued at $\$ 150,000$ and in 1941, at $\$ 500,000$.

Before 1938 purchases of Venezuelan gold by the United States were sall. In 1939, however, Venezuelen gold production reached a record volume of 140,000 oumces (valued at nearly 5 million dollars), 90 percent of which went to the United States. During the 3 years 1939-47 inports of gold by the United States averaged 4.6 million dollars annualiy. As the war progressed, costs of gold mining Increased, and United States export control of materials and equipment needed in gold mining becase nore strict. Yoreover, in 1941 and 1942, in order to improve its reserve position, the Central Bank of Venezuela began to accumulate earnarked gold in the United States in quantities considerably graster than Vonezuelan gold shipments to the United States. Although imports of gold froa Venezuela amounted to 14 milition dollars in the period 1938-42, the gold reserves of the Central Bank of Venezuela increased by 39 million dollars.

Dutiable status of imports from Veneruela. - During the period 1937-39, erude petroleum, constituting more than three-fourths of total direct inports into the Onited States from Venezuela, was subject to an import excise tax; except for the relatively limited quantities manufactured in bond for reexport, most of the other major imports from Venezuela, including coffee, cacao, goatskins, and diamonds, were free of duty. No refined petroleum products came diractly from venezuela during those years, and although such products almo were subject to excise taxes, the larger part of the imports of petroleum products, which coning indirectiy from Venesuels by way of the Netherlands Hest Indies, entered free of duty as before 1937, inasmuch as they were e1ther for the eupply of vessels (fuel oil) or for further, manufacture and export (mfinished derivatives of crude).

In the trade agreement with Venezuela, effective December 16, 1939, the import excise tax on crude petroleum, topped crude, fuel oil, and gas ofl was reduced by 50 percent (from $\frac{1}{2}$ cent to $\frac{1}{4}$ cent per galion); inports at the reduced rate, however, were subject during 1940-42 to an annual quota (for all forzs combined) amounting to 5 percent of the total quantity of crude petroleum processed in refineries in the
continental Onited States during the preceding calendar year. 1/ Imports in excess of this quantity were taxable during the period 1940-42 at the rate specified in the revemue act; in the agreement this rate was bound against incroase, es were the duty-free status of crude ;etroleum and fuel oil and the tax-free status of these products when used for ships' supplies. The quota limitations were abolishod Jamuary 30, 1943, by virtue of the trade agreament with Mexico.

## Exports from the United States to Yenezuela.

In 1939 Onited States exports of merchandise to Venezuela were valued at 62 million dollars, or 11 percent of total exports to the 20 Latin American countries. In the 2 years preceding 1939 shipments to Venezuela averaged about 49 million dollars per year. After the outbreak of the war, because of the loss of European sources of important products, the value of exports to Venezuela increased, amounting in 1940 and 1941 to an average of nearly 68 miluion dollars per year. In 1942, however, after the entry of the United States into the war, exports to Venezuela declined nearly one-third to 47 million dollars, or considerably less than the value of such exports during the years 1938-39. The decrease was due chiefly to the shortage of shipping and wartime restriction of exports of strategic articles. United States exports to Venezuela, 1924-43, are shom in table 10.

Composition.-Exports from the United States to Venezuela consist principaliy of manufactured products. The nost important groups, both in the period 1937-39 and after the outbreak of the war, were machinery and vehicles, metals and mamufactures, chemicals and relsted products, and textiles. In 1939 these four groups accounted for 70 percent of total exports to Venezuela. Other groups, with their shares of the total in 1939, were andmals and animal products, 7 percent; vegetable food products and beverages, 6 percent; nommetallic mineral products, 4 percent; and wood and paper, 3 percent. Exports to Venezuela, by groups and selected subgroups, 1937-42, are shown in tables 15 and 16. Exports by principal comodities, in terms of value and quantity, 1937-42, are shown in table 17. The ratios of Onited States exports to Venezuela to total exports to Latin American coumtries, by groups, are shown in table 18.

After the beginning of the war there were notable changes in the relative inportance of the principal component groups in exports to Venezuela. Exports of machinery and vehicles, which constituted nearly one-half of the total in both 1938 and 1939, declined sharply in 1941; in 1942 they were about one-fourth of the total. In 1942, as in 1938, the nost important subsidiary classification in the machinery and vehicles group was industrial machinery, constituting about half of the group total. The most notable reduction as a result of the war took

1 For the years 1940-41, the allocation of the quota by countries was as follows:

|  | 1940 |  | 1241 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Country |  | 1,000 |  | 1,000 |
|  | Percent | barrela | Parcent | barcelis |
| Venezuela | 7.9 | 44,500 | 70.4 | 45,559 |
| Netherlands and possessions - | 20.3 | 12,564 | 21.3 | 13,784 |
| Colombia | 4.0 | 2,476 | 3.2 | 2,07 |
| All other | 3.8 | 2,352 | 5.1 | 3,300 |

place in the subgroup of automobiles, parts, and accessories; in 1938 exports in this subgroup constituted 14 percent of total exports to Venezuela, but, because of greatly reduced production in the United States and of export controls, in 1942 they were reduced to about 2 per. cent.

The value of exports to Venezuela of metals and mamufactares was substantially greater in 1940 than in 1939. In 1941, however, this group decilned and in 1942 it was less than three-fourths as great as in 1939. During the 6 years 1937-42, this group averaged one-fifth of total exports to Venezuela and was second in rank among the export groups.

Third in importance in 1939 among exports of manufactured products to Venezuela was the group designated as chemicals and related producta, which constituted 5 percent of total exports to Venezuela that year. After the outbreak of the war, exports in this arour increased. In 1941 their value was about 70 percent greater than in 1939, but in 1942 there vas considerable decrease (see table 15).

The greatest increase after the outbreak of the war took place in the textile fibers and minufactures group. In 1938 this group constituted 3 percent of total exports; by 1941 the value had more than trebled. In 1942, contrary to the prevailing trand in the other groups, exports of textiles increased, reaching $1 / 4$ percent of total exports to Venezuela, and ranked third in importance among the export groups. In 1940 and 1941 there was an increase in exports to Venezuela in the other groups (animals and animal products; vegetable food products and beverages; nonmetallic mineral products; and wood and paper). In 1942, however, as a result of the shortage of ahipping and stringent export controls, they were reduced in value; but because of the more marked decline in the two predominant groups (netals and manufactures, and machinery and vehicles), the percentage shares of these four groaps were greater than in 1939.

Balance of payments between the Difited States and Venezuela-
As a result of the large volme of indirect import trade with Fenezuels in petroleum products, the balance of trade indicated by the official statistics of trade between the United States and Venezuela proper (see table 10) is misleading. Before 1937, the United States nsualiy

| Group and aubgroup | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | $1942{ }^{1 /}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total | 46,229 | 52,069 | 61,588 | 68,048 | 67.170 | 46,673 |
| Animals and antmal procuots, edible | 1,307 | 2,441 | 4,239 | 4,019 | 4,551 | . 3,613 |
|  | 541 | 1,151 | 2,173 | 2,382 | 3,156 | 3,101 |
| Dried Ebole milk | 130 | 657 | 1.,339 | 1,715 | 2,596 | 2,624 |
| Infant's food, malted milk, etc | 313 | 374 | 679 | 403 | 329 | 190 |
| Meat producter. | 342 | 504 | 621 | 581 | 647 | 335 |
| Iner, including neutral lard-_mer | 113 | 331 | 909 | 575 | 449 | 25 |
| Anirals and anjral products, inedible (excopt wool and mair) | 451 | 599 | 1,202 | 1,037 | 1,239 | 1,068 |
| Laather and annufaotures | 430 | 573 | 1,146 | 846 | 953 | * |
| Ioather | 333 | 368 | 688 | 503 | 695 | * |
| Vegetabie food products and beveraget | 2,833 | 3,233 | 3,790 | 4,231 | 5,129 | 3,532 |
| - Graise and proparations | 2,160 | 2,355 | 2,466 | 2,545 | 3,055 | 2,461 |
| Theat flowr Oatmenl, groats and rolled | 1,579 345 | 1,635 430 | 1,506 420 | 1,849 245 | 1,746 320 | 1,560 170 |
| Frudt and preparatione | 232 | 278 | 329 | 471 | 459 | 191 |
|  | 197 | 305 | 505 | 516 | 566 | 343 |
| Vegetables products, inedible (except IIbers and wood) | 990 | 981 | 1.530 | 1,903 | 2,605 | 1,263 |
|  | 728 | 731 | 1,128 | 1,217 | 1,569 | 419 |
| Autorobile, truck, and bus casings | 373 | 365 | 575 | 608 | 943 | 45 |
|  | 111 | 132 | 163 | 319 | 376 | 349 |
| Vegetable oils, inediblemeren | 36 | . 33 | 85 | 188 | 330 | 350 |
| Textile fibers and manufacturee | 1,651 | 1,578 | 2,698 | 3,339 | 5,506 | 6,325 |
| Cotton manufaotures- | 861 | 807 | 1,403 | 1,513 | 2,873 | 3,747 |
| Cotton cloth, duck, and tire fabric | 551 | 537 | 970 | 858 | 1,924 | 2,301 |
| Cotton wearing apparel-m | 56 | 59 | 111 | 202 | 188 | 264 |
| Rayon and other synthetio textiles and manufactures | 96 | 123 | 249 | 633 | 1,128 | 1,577 |
| Noven spun rayon fabrios 23 | 65 | 74 | 1.57 | 500 | 557 | 636 |
|  | 2,282 | 1,851 | 1,911 | 2,113 | 2,217 | 1,753 |
| Paper and manufactures- | 700 | 705 | 1,181 | 1,444 | 1,697 | 1,324 |
| Triting papermumb | 209 | 175 | 244 | 260 | 314 | 221 |
| Samaill producte <br> Boards, planks esantlinges | 863 | 720 | 323 | 227 | 191 | 151 |


| Softwood: Nometailio minorale | $\begin{array}{r} 730 \\ 1,302 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 626 \\ 1,783 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 250 \\ 2,623 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 128 \\ 3,420 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 74 \\ 3,838 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 64 \\ 2,099 \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Potroloum produots | 601 | 748 | 930 | 1,372 | 1.329 |  |
| Lubricating oil. | 414 | 468 | 607 | 954 | 832 | - |
| cement, hydruuliom | 210 | 377 | 833 | 631 | 923 | 263 |
| Oleas and glage produo | 193 | 247 | 322 | 766 | 810 | 522 |
| Onfilled glace containor | 132 | 140 | 192 | 521 | 507 | 249 |
| clay and olay produotem. | 145 | 219 | 278 | 428 | 497 | 355 |
| Motels and manuractures (exospt mohinery and vohisles) | 9,218 | 10,145 | 12,634 | 16,155 | 13,550 | 8,636 |
|  | 3,694 | 5,739 | 7,291 | 10,139 | 8,564 | 5,085 |
| Tubular produots and eittinge | 3,616 | 3,133 | 4,173 | 6,601 | 5,941 | 3,769 |
| Cesing and ofl lines piper | 2,872 | 2,363 | 2,792 | 4,649 | 4,323 | 2,220 |
| Nelded galvanized plpe- | 107 | 216 | 284 | 396 | 439 | 151 |
| struotural iron and steel | 1,377 | 1,963 | 2,020 | 2,091 | 1,704 | 786 |
| Struotural ehapesm | 911 | 1,391 | 1,327 | 1,357 | 944 | 438 |
| Fater, oil, gac, oto. storage tanks complete | 321 | 426 | 343 | 254 | 446 | 193 |
|  | 408 | 401. | 829 | 944 | 683 | 381 |
| Iron and ateel advanced manufaoture | 1,797 | 2,478 | 2,979 | 3,149 | 3,108 | 1,838 |
| Hollow ware and anamel vare | 83 | 122 | 208 | 409 | 649 | 458 |
| Hardware | 232 | 275 | 380 | 472 | 472 | 287 |
| Motal furniture and IIxtures | 311 | 470 | 466 | - 442 | 351 | 90 |
| Tools | 223 | 256 | 333 | 388 | 280 | 218 |
| Iron and ateol mamuractures | 940 | 1,114 | 1,470 | 1,909 | 999 | 1,088 |
| Bars and rode -mane | 256 | 389 | 458 | 878 | 462 | 57 |
| Copper - | 389 | 427 | 417 | 348 | 412 | * |
| Mechinery and vehioles- | 22,268 | 25,017 | 25,093 | 24,475 | 19,743 | 11,564 |
| Industrial maohinery- | 9,582 | 11,441 | 10,957 | 10,085 | 8,305 | 6,607 |
| Well and refining machinory | 6,212 | 6,908 | 5,238 | 3,755 | 3,613 | 4,371 |
| Potroleum and gae woll driliing apparatue | 4,534 | 5,960 | 4,127 | 3,315 | 3,135 | 2,840 |
| Petroleum rell and refining machinery | 1,594 | 933 | 1,0\% | 398 | 431 | 1,226 |
| Conotruotion and ocnveying machinery- | 631 | 1,096 | 1,396 | 1,492 | 1,056 | 453 |
| Pumping equipmont- | 369 | 504 | 646 | 828 | 518 | 327 |
| Internal combustion engineo | 298 | 316 | 502 | 614 | 517 | 359 |
| Soring machinea and parta- | 388 | 351 | 388 | 335 | 329 | 68 |
| Electrical maohinery and apparatus- | 2,782 | 4,055 | 3,721 | 3,831 | 3,451 | 2,155 |
| Electricel rofrigerators and parto | 486 | 464 | 553 | 763 | 617 | 175 |
| 81 gnal and oommunications dovices- | 875 | 863 | 808 | 810 | 588 | 470 |
| Radso apparatus-...... | 661 | 624 | 683 | 686 | 479 | 358 |
| Battories- | 192 | 282 | 347 | 378 | 500 | 161 |
| Eleotrical appliances | 268 | 350 | 459 | 532 | 483 | 302 |

Table 15.m-Dited Statesi Exporto of domestio merchandiee to Venezuela,
by groups and solected oubgroups, 1937-42-continued


## $\frac{1}{2}$ Proliminary.

2/ Hot strictiy comparable for all years.
Sources Compiled by the J.S. Tariff Comaiseion from official statistics of the J. S. Dopartment of Comerce.
Note. For reasons of national security, cortain data for 1942 have been coilted; these arv indicated iv an asteriak ( $n$ ).
had an import balance with Venezuela, which was substantially increased when the indirect imports from Venezuela were taken into account. $1 /$ During the period 1937-39, because of the marked increase in direct exports, a large annual merchandise export balance with Venezuela developed mich was aubstantially larger than the indirect imports during those years from Venezuela by way of the Netherlands West Indies.

In 1940 and 1941, the first 2 years after the outbreak of the war, the value of United States merchandise exports to Venezuela continued to increase, but imports from Venezuela increased more rapidly, with the result that the direct export balance of the United States was reduced substantially. In 1941 it amounted to 19 million dollars and was considerably smaller than United States imports that year of petroleum products from the Netherlands Fest Indies ( 27 million dollars) . In 1942, largely because of the marked reduction in direct imports from Venezuela resulting from shortages of shipping and submarine warfare, the United States export trade balance with Venezuela was again larger than indirect importe by way of the Netherlands Fest Indies.

Imports of gold from Venezuela averaged about 4.5 million dollars a year during the period 1939-42. When imports of gold are included in the computations of trade balances with Venezuela during the years 1937-42, as they logically should be inasmuch as they are the product of Venezuelan mines, the trand, as described above, is not materially altered. A partial balance of payments between the United States and Venezuela, 1937-41, is shown in table 19.

[^15]| Croup and subgroup | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 / |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| animals and animal products, edible | 2.8 | 4.7 | 6.9 | 5.9 | 6.8 | 7.7 |
| Dairy proctuots | 1.2 | 2.2 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 4.7 | 6.6 |
| Dried whole milk | - 3 | 1.3 | 2.2 | 2.5 | 3.9 | 5.6 |
| Infantal food, walted efili, oto. | . 7 | .7 | 1.1 | . 6 | .5 | . 4 |
| yeat products --_m | .7 | 1.0 | 1.0 | . 9 | 1.0 | .7 |
| Lard including neutral lasd | . 2 | . 6 | 1.5 | . 8 | . 7 | . 1 |
| Animals and animal products, inedible (exoept wool and hair) | 2.0 | 1.2 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 1.8 | 2.3 |
| Leatber and manufacturea | . 9 | 1.1 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 1.4 |  |
| Leather | .7 | . 7 | 1.1 | . 7 | 1.0 | * |
| Vegetable food products and beverages | 6.1 | 6.2 | 6.1 | 6.2 | 7.6 | 7.6 |
| Gratns and proparations | 4.7 | 4.5 | 4.0 | 3.7 | 4.5 | 5.3 |
| Whest flour | 3.4 | 3.1 | 2.4 | 2.7 | 2.6 | 3.3 |
| Oatmeal, groats, and rolled oats | . 7 | - 8 | . 7 | . 4 | .5 | . 4 |
| Fruit and preparations | .5 | . 5 | . 5 | .7 | .7 | . 4 |
| Vegetablea and preparations | .4 | . 6 | . 8 | . 8 | . 8 | .7 |
| Vegotable products, inedible (except fibers and wood) | 2.1 | 1.9 | 2.5 | 2.8 | 3.9 | 2.7 |
| Fubber and nanuracturea | 1.6 | 1.4 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 2.3 | . 9 |
| Autcmobile, truak, and bus caalingo | . 8 | . 7 | . 9 | . 9 | 1.4 | . 1 |
| Tobaceo and manufactures | . 2 | - 3 | . 3 | .5 | .6 | . 7 |
| Vegrable 0ils, inodible - | . 1 | . 1 | . 1 | . 3 | . 5 | . 5 |
| Toxtile flbers and manufactores | 3.6 | 3.0 | 4.4 | 4.9 | 8.2 | 13.6 |
| Cotton manufactures | 1.9 | 1.5 | 2.3 | 2.2 | 4.3 | 8.0 |
| Cotton cloth, duok, and tire fabric | 1.2 | 1.0 | 1.6 | 1.3 | 2.9 | 4.9 |
| Cotton woaring apparel _-_ | . 1 | . 1 | . 2 | . 3 | . 3 | . 6 |
| Rayon and other cynthotic tejztiles and mamuactures | . 2 | . 2 | - 4 | $\cdot 9$ | 2.7 | 3.4 |
| woven spun rayon labrica 3 | . 1 | .1 | . 3 | .7 | . 8 | 1.4 |
| Wood and papar -___ | 4.9 | 3.6 | 3.1 | 3.1 | 3.3 | 3.7 |
| Paper and mamufactures | 1.5 | 1.4 | 1.9 | 2.1 | 2.5 | 2.8 |
| Writing paper | . 5 | . 3 | . 4 | . 4 | . 5 | . 5 |
| Samill produots - | 1.9 | 1.4 | . 5 | . 3 | . 3 | . 3 |
| Boards, planks, scantilings, and coftwoods | 1.6 | 1.2 | . 4 | . 2 | . 1 | . 1 |



| 2.8 | 3.4 | 4.2 | 5.0 | 5.7 | 4.5 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 2.0 | 2.0 | - |
| .9 | .9 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 1.2 | $\cdots$ |
| .5 | .7 | 1.4 | . 9 | 1.4 | . 6 |
| .4 | .5 | . 5 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.1 |
| . 3 | - 3 | - 3 | . 8 | . 8 | .5 |
| . 3 | . 4 | . 5 | . 6 | . 7 | . 8 |
| 20.0 | 19.5 | 20.5 | 23.8 | 20.2 | 18.5 |
| 12.3 | 11.0 | 12.8 | 14.9 | 12.7 | 10.9 |
| 7.8 | 6.0 | 6.8 | 9.7 | 8.8 | 8.1 |
| 6.2 | - 4.5 | 4.5 | 6.8 | 6.4 | 4.8 |
| .2 | - 64 | . 5 | . 6 | . 7 | . 3 |
| 3.0 | 3.8 | 3.3 | 3.2 | 2.5 | 1.7 |
| 2.0 | 2.7 | 2.2 | 2.0 | 1.4 | . 9 |
| .7 | . 8 | . 6 | .4 | .7 | -4 |
| . 9 | . 8 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.0 | . 8 |
| 3.9 | 4.8 | 4.8 | 4.6 | 4.6 | 3.9 |
| .2 | . 2 | . 3 | .6 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| . 5 | .5 | . 6 | .7 | .7 | .6 |
| .7 | .9 | . 8 | . 7 | . 5 | . 2 |
| - 5 | . 5 | . 5 | . 6 | . 4 | . 5 |
| 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 2.8 | 1.5 | 2.3 |
| . 6 | -7 | . 7 | 1.3 | .7 | 2.2 |
| . 8 | . 8 | . 7 | . 5 | .6 | * |
| 48.2 | 48.0 | 40.8 | 36.0 | 29.4 | 24.8 |
| 20.7 | 22.0 | 17.8 | 14.8 | 12.4 | 14.2 |
| 13.4 | 13.3 | 8.5 | 5.5 | 5.4 | 9.4 |
| 9.8 | 12.4 | 6.7 | 4.9 | 4.7 | 6.1 |
| 3.4 | 1.8 | 1.8 | . 6 | . 6 | 2.6 |
| 1.4 | 2.1 | 2.3 | 2.2 | 1.6 | 1.0 |
| . 8 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.2 | . 8 | .7 |
| . 6. | . 6 | . 8 | . 9 | . 8 | .8 |
| . 8 | .7 | . 6 | . 5 | .5 | .1 |
| 6.0 | 7.8 | 6.0 | 5.6 | 5.1 | 4.6 |
| 1.1 | . 9 | .9 | 1.1 | . 9 | . 4 |
| 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.3 | 1.2 | .9 | 1.0 |
| 1.4 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.0 | .7 | . 8 |
| . 4 | . 5 | . 6 | .6 | .7 | .3 |
| .6 | .7 | .7 | . 8 | .7 | .6 |
| 7.4 | 7.1 | 5.9 | 4.9 | 4.0 | 1.0 |
| 6.6 | 4.2 | 3.7 | 4.2 | 2.2 | . 4 |

Fable 16.- United Staten: Epporte of danestio merabmalioe to Venomple, by groape and eeleoted mebgroups, 1937-42-contipued

| (Pescent of total ralue) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Group and subgroap | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 2942 | 1942 |
| Maohloery and vohialop-contilnued |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Agricultursl msohinery and implemento | 1.1 | 2.4 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 1.5 | 1.1 |
| Iraotors and parte an..._._. | . 8 | 1.1 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.1 | . 9 |
| Fracklaying traotors | .5 | . 7 | 1.0 | . 8 | .7 | . 2 |
| Automobile parte for replacenent, exropt engines - | 2.9 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.4 | 1.0 |
|  | . 9 | 1.0 | . 7 | . 7 | . 8 | * |
| Offlce appliancos | . 8 | .9 | . 8 | .7 | . 6 | . 4 |
| Cheaicals and related proctuote | 4.9 | 469 | 5.3 | 5.9 | 8.4. | 8.8 |
| Medicinal and pharmoeutioal properaticns | 1.9 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 3.2 | 3.2 |
| Piganats, paints, and varuighas | . 9 | . 9 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 2.3 | 1.4 |
| Chemical opecialtios | . 6 | .7 | .8 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.2 |
| Induatrial oharicala | . 4 | . 3 | . 4 | . 7 | 1.1 | 1.3 |
| Soap, tollet proparations, oto. | .6 | .6 | .6 | . 6 | .9 | . 8 |
| Explosivea - | . 3 | . 3 | . 3 | . 3 | .4 | * |
|  | 3.6 | 3.6 | 4.2 | 4.9 | 4.7 | 5.8 |
| Belentifie and profossional instrumente, ete. | 3.7 | . 8 | . 8 | 2.0 | . 6 | . 7 |
| Fhotographic and projeoticn goods | .5 | .6 | .6 | . 6 | .6 | - 4 |

2/ Prallainary.
Iot atriotiy comparable for all years.



Arter the outbreak of the war, the urgent requirements of the Onited 8tates and the Onited Kingdon for petroleum and petroleum prodnots and United States restrictions on eaports, operated to decrease Venezuele's nerchandise export trade balance with the United States. Exports to Venesuale were reduced to 47 million dollars in 1942, as compared with 68 million in 1941. The gold reserves of the central Bank of Venezuela, which had totaled 29 million dollars at the ond of 1940, increased markedly in 1941, and at the end of 1942 reached 84 mil110n dollars. Most of the increase was in the form of earmariked gold hold in the Onited States, and was purchased with Venezuelan-owned shortterm dallar balances, which became available during 1942 in mprecedented volue.

Because of lack of data, not all the items essential to a complete belance of international payments between the United States and Venemaale are included in table 19. Ercept for 1940 and 1941 no estimates are included for the flow of Onited States Investment capital to Venesuela or of the effects of purchases and sales of securities between the two countries; neither of these, however, appear to have been sabstential.

Tables 10 and 19 show that during the period 1937-42 the Onited States, in its direct trade with Venezuela, had a series of merchandise export balances; but these are considerably modified when the noncommodity or invisible exports and imports are considered, and they are aven furthor affected when the indirect imports from venezuela by way of the Hotherlands Indies are taken into account.

The most important invisible credit item in the balance of payments between the Onited States and Venezuela is the amual payment of difidonds and other oredits to Jnited States owners of direct investments in Venezuela. 17 Table 19 indicates that during the 3 years before the war (1937-39), this credit iten averaged about 29 million dollars a year and more than offeet the indirect imports from Venezuela by way of the Nethorlands Fest Indies during those years. 27 In 1940, after the beginning of the war, there wis a slight reduction in this item; in 1941, however, it was larger than in 1939.

1 United States direct investments in Venesuela at the end of 1940 (chiofly in petroleva properties) wore estimated by the Department of Comerce, to be 262 milytion dollars, compared with 196 million at the end of 1936. Data are not avallable regarding the flow of United States funds into direct investaents in Vemezuela during the intervening years. sone of the increase in the period probably was new capital, and sone represented the reinvestment of earnings.

2/ It may appear that potroleun ahipped to the United States from Dnited States-omed enterprises in Venezuela does not provide a source of dollar exchange in Venezuela. This, however, is not the case. The products of such imports processed in Onited States refineries customarily are sold oither in the Onited States or abroad and the payments received therelrom are deposited, for the most part, either in Onited States banks or banks in foreign countries. These bank balances in dollars or in other currencies are then drawn upon to buy Venezuelan currency to cover expenditures for wages, materials, equipment, and taxes in conneotion with petroleum production in Venezuela. Thus, shipmeats of forelgn-omed petroleum from Venezuela ultimately give rise to a considerable amount of foreign exahange. The amount is less than the value of the petroleum shipped to the Onited States froa Venezuela by that part of the value which foreign companies do not expend within the country or use to finance inports into Venezuela by the companies themselves.

| Commodits. | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | 1943/ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Value (1,000 dollare) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total |  | 56.069 | 61.588 | 68,048 | 67,170 | 46,673 |
| Sum of commoditied shown | 6,22226,04556.32,8724,5343,4181301,5803,0319113731,329210414$3 /$4081133211071,594$5 /$105$6 /$10549631341274345 | $\begin{array}{r} 26,350 \\ 50.9 \\ 2,363 \\ 5,960 \\ 3,708 \\ 657 \\ 1,635 \\ 2,204 \\ 1,392 \\ 365 \\ 766 \\ 377 \\ 468 \\ 3 / \\ 370 \\ 331 \\ 426 \\ 216 \\ 933 \\ 5 / \\ 131 \\ 6 / \\ 112 \\ 403 \\ 374 \\ 37 \\ 295 \\ 430 \\ 16 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 28,350 \\ 46.0 \\ 2,792 \\ 4,127 \\ 3,645 \\ 1,339 \\ 1,506 \\ 2,267 \\ 1,327 \\ 575 \\ 991 \\ 833 \\ 607 \\ 76 \\ 429 \\ 909 \\ 343 \\ 284 \\ 1,096 \\ 5 / \\ 162 \\ 258 \\ 143 \\ 450 \\ 679 \\ 35 \\ 326 \\ 420 \\ 73 \end{array}$ | 29,93544,04,6493,3153,3251,751,8492,8351,3576081,096631954119581575254396398$5 / 4$318114247416403179343245194 | 29,38743.84,3233,1352,6762,5961,7451,5059469439359238325404814494 | 19,236 |
| Percent of total |  |  |  |  |  | 41.2 |
| Casing and ofl line plpe, seamleas and welded |  |  |  |  |  | 2,220 |
| Petroleum and gas-rell drilling apparatue- |  |  |  |  |  | 2,860 |
| Motortrucks, busses, and chassie (nem) - |  |  |  |  |  | 458 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 2,624 |
| Theat flour- |  |  |  |  |  | 1,560 |
| Passenger cars and chaseis, (new) |  |  |  |  |  | 206 |
| Structural shapes-mon. |  |  |  |  |  | 438 |
| Autonobile tire casings (truck, bug, other) |  |  |  |  |  | 45 |
| Automobile parts for replacement 2/_-emene |  |  |  |  |  | 488 |
| Bydraulic coment (wite portiand and other) |  |  |  |  |  | 265 |
| Lubriceting oilemm. |  |  |  |  |  | , |
| Malt-an |  |  |  |  |  | 294 |
| Househald electric refrigerators and parto |  |  |  |  |  | 92 |
| Lard 4 |  |  |  |  |  | 25 |
| Fater, ofl, gas, and other storage tanks, complete, and knocked-down material |  |  |  |  |  | 193 |
| Welded galvanized pipe, stoel and wrought iran |  |  |  |  |  | 151 |
| Petroloun well and refining machinery |  |  |  |  |  | 1,226 |
| Woven spun rayon fabrics except printed |  |  |  |  |  | 358 |
| Cigarettes- |  |  |  |  |  | 347 |
| Cotton printcloth, printed m |  |  |  |  |  | 430 |
| Teblets, pills, capsules, ponders, ofntents, |  |  |  |  |  | 143 |
| Radio receiving sote- . |  |  |  |  |  | 288 |
| Infant's food, malted milk, etc |  |  |  |  |  | 190 |
| Seamless black pipe, other than casing and oil 1 ine |  |  |  |  |  | 460 |
| Ready mixed paints, otaing, and enamele |  |  |  |  |  | 210 |
| Oatmeal groate and rolled oatsme. |  |  |  |  |  | 170 |
| reble, household, kitchers and hospital utenaile, to |  |  |  |  |  | 235 |



| Cominodity | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 2 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | guantity |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 17,024 | 15,593 | 20,068 | 19,340 | 15,366 | 11,784 |
| Infants' food, melted nilk, otc. -_- 1,000 1b. | 975 | 1,078 | 1,898 | 974 | 867 | 461 |
| Seamlest black plpa, othar than caning and oil 1ine -- 1,000 1bm | 1,095 | 627 | 428 | 3,685 | 7,168 | 10,133 |
| Ready aixed paints, ataina, and onamels - $1,000 \mathrm{gma}$. | 148 | 164 | 193 | 204 | 174 | 105 |
| Oetmoal, groats, and ralled oate - $1,000 \mathrm{lb}$, | 3,769 | 5,057 | 5,461 | 3,510 | 4,290 | 2,025 |
| Table, houachold, kitchen, and hospital utenalla, otc.- 1,000 16. | 35 | 63 | 418 | 1,099 | 1,342 | 906 |
|  | 2,523 | 7,017 | 7,823 | 13,100 | 9,730 | 11,061 |
| Lend planes, porered - Nunber |  | 9 | 7 | 15 | 19 | 1. |
| Milled rice, including brown rioe, broken rice, and rice screoninge $7 / \longrightarrow 1,000 \mathrm{lb}$. | 135 | 211 | 1,906 | 1,646 | 6,256 | 3,288 |
|  | 21,869 | 10,759 | 12,036 | 8,753 | 9,247 | 2,174 |
| Tin plate and tegzara' tin - | 2,963 | 2,481 | 3,835 | 5,012 | 4,224 | 5,048 |
|  | 1,315 | 932 | 425 | 1,176 | 766 | 241 |
| Volles, organdies, lams, and batietes, combed -__ 1,000 sq. yd. | B/ 97 | 8/ 804 | 1,862 | 1,521 | 1,491 | 1,366 |
|  | 1,283 | 1,399 | 2,736 | 6,664 | 3,976 | 10,761 |
| Woven mpun rayon rabrice, printed -_-_ 1,000 10. | $6 / 100$ | 6/5 | 51 | $5 / 1$ | 1214 | . 139 |
| Stael sheots, gaivanized | 6,000 | 6,552 | 9,984 | 9.446 | 3,456 | 2,687 |
| Cotton trine, rope, and cordage $\cdots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots$ | 710 | 90 | 162 | 179 | 302 | 530 |
|  | 7,572 | 8,293 | 3,476 | 1,509 | 1,092 | 892 |
|  | . 834 | 197 | . 76 | 1. 98 | 1,092 | 37 |
| Douglas fir minm $1,000 \mathrm{ft}$. | 4,128 | 1,837 | 2,106 | 1,220 | 156 | 4 |

$1 /$ Prelisinary.
( мane, or assembly 06 nem vehiclas with foreion trado name.

Less than 500 .
Includes aeutral Inrd, begtaning in 1938.
Not separately clasaified prior to 1941.
Hot seperately ciscaified prior to 1939.
Claseifiod as milled rico, incluaing brom," prior to 1940.
Berselited at "Voilos" prior to 1939.
Berreis of 196 pounds.
Berreals of 376 pounds.
Sourcar Coapled by the J. 5. Teriff Comifesion from offiolal atatiation of the J. B. Departamt of cameprce.


Fable 18.- Onited Btatisi Ratio of Dalted States exporte to Venesuole to total velue of exports to Latin Amorican Republios, by eroupg, 1937.42

| (Porcent) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Group | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1942 | $1942^{1 /}$ |
| Total | 8.1 | 10.6 | 10.9 | 9.5 | 7.0 | 6.3 |
| Animals and animal producte, edible - | 9.7 | 16.6 | 23.9 | 20.3 | 15.5 | 14.5 |
| Animats and animal products, inedible - | 6.3 | 10.0 | 15.9 | 12.5 | 9.5 | 8.2 |
| Vegotable food producta and boverages -_-_-_-_-_- | 8.1 | 9.3 | 11.0 | 11.4 | 8.8 | 6.0 |
| Vogetable products, inedible, except fibera and mood | 4.9 | 6.0 | 7.4 | 7.8 | 6.6 | 5.2 |
| Toxtile fibers and manufactures Wood and papor | 4.2 8.3 | 4.7 | 5.9 | 6.6 | 6.4 | 6.6 |
| Honnetallic ininerale -_-_-_- | 8.3 2.6 | 9.0 3.9 | 7.9 4.9 | 5.8 5.6 | 4.7 4.9 | 3.5 3.2 |
| Hotals and manufactures, oxcept machinery and vehiclen | 10.7 | 3.9 15.7 | .4 .9 13.9 | 5.6 10.2 | 4.9 | 3.2 |
| Machinory and vehicles | 9.4 | 12.4 | 12.3 | 10.5 | 6.7 | 6.6 |
| Chemicals and related products | 7.3 | 8.8 | 8.3 | 7.2 | 6.5 | 4.7 |
| Miscellnneous | 6.8 | 8.3 | 10.5 | 10.2 | 6.3 | 5.4 |

## 2/ Prollainary.

8ource: Complied by the V. S. Tariff Comilesion from official statistics of the U. S. Dopartment of Commerce.
(In millions of dollars)



Unijke the situation in most Latin American countries, the service on foreign-held bonds is a matter of amall importance in the Venezuelan balance of payients. Few, if any, Venesuelan bonds are held abroad and the Government itself had no foreign debt whatever in the years 1mmediately preceding the outbreak of the war. 1

Other itans in the balance of payments between the Onited Statea and Venezuela registered important changes after the beginning of the war. The volume of freight carried between the two countrios in both Venozualen and United Statas ships was substantially increased as a result of the transfer to the Borth Atlantic of a large mmber of vessels, moatly of Onited Kingdin registry, which before the war had been angaged in inter-American comerce. Payments by the Onited States to Venezuela for freight and shipping services increased to 3.4 nillion dollars in 1940 as compared with an average of 2 million dollars in the period 1937-39. 2 Payments by Venezuela to the Onited States for these servives reached 3.1 nillifan dollars in 1940, or more than double the anmal average of such payments in the period 1937-39; in 1941 they were 5.1 nillion dollars.

Expenditures by United States travelers and sinilar payments in Venezuala averaged about 2 aillion dollars a year curing the period 1937-41. Expenditures by Venezuclan travelers and similar payments to the United States averaged about 1.3 million dollars a year during 1937-38, bat increased to more than 2 million dollars per year during the period 1939-41.

After the beginning of the war, Onited States clains on Venezuela on lomg-terz capital account, principally advances to assist in the production of petrolemin, increased by nearly 4 million dollars in 1940 and by 12 aillion dollars in 1941. Venezuelan short-term claims on the United States, largely Venezuelan-ouned earmarked gold, increased by 9 militon dollars in 1939, and by a total of 5.4 million dollars during 1940 and 1942.

Partly because of the impossibility of deteraining the volume of Indirect imports into the United States from Venezuela and partly because of the lack of information regarding some invisible items, an accurate net balance of paymente between the United States and Venesuela for the pericd 1937-4l cannot be calculated. The available statistics, however, Indicate that, in contrast to the series of import balances before 1937 (which were furtier augnented by indirect inporta), the Onited States, during the period 1937-41, had a large annual merchandise export balance with Venesuela. But if indirect inports by way of the Netherlands West Indies are included in the estimates, these export balanoes are markedly

1/ The Government of Venezuela incurred a amall, temporary indebtedness to the United States Export-Import Bank after the outbreak of the war. Interest payments to the Bank were $\$ 4,000$ in 1941 and $\$ 84,000$ in 1942. The total Denezuelan indebtedness to the Bank at the end of 1942 was 4 million dollars.
2) Payments in 1940 by the United States to Venezuela in the category "freight and shipping" were mado up predominantly of disbursements by United States shipowners in Venezuelan porta (about fourwfifths of the total) and a much smaller volume of payments by United States importers to Venezuelan shipowners; payments by Venezuela to the United States, on the other hand, were principally distursements by Venezuelan exporters to Onited Statea ship operators ( 97 percent of the total in 1940) and an almost negligible amount by Venezuelan ship operators in United States ports.
reduced and for 1941 apparently are changed to an import balance. However, even if an accurate serles of annual net balances could be calculated on the basis of the foregoing factors, the results might be subject to still further modification inasuuch as a part of the indicated annual value of United States exports to Venezuels (1mports into Venezuela from the Venezuelan point of view) merely reflects the large purchases in the United States of equipment and supplies by petroleum companies operating in Venezuela. Such purchases do not involve a for-eign-exchange problem for Venezuela, because they are paid for out of the funds received by the companies from the sale of their products in world markets.

## Post-War Prospects and Problems of Venezuelan Trade

After the war, the Venezuelan export and import trade probably will be as dependent on the commercial policies of the country itself, $1 /$ and on the policies madntained by the great trading nations of the world, as on the ability of the Venezuelan export industries themselves to maintain, on the basis of procuction and efficiency, their position in international and domestic markets. An important factor will be the extent to which nations in general undertake to remove the numerous barriers which in the past have restricted and channelized world trade. Important also will be future Venezuelan commercial policy with respect to tariff rates and export subsidies. Other factors will be the ability of the belligerent powers to achieve a rapid and effective peacetime conversion and reconstruction of thatr economies, and the success of the great industrial nations in adjusting their economies to function continuously near full employment, thersby maintaining the basis for a stable and prosperous international trade.

## The export trade.

Venezuela possesses important natural rescurces, but, except for petroleum, they are still in a comparatively early stage of developant. Most of the country's petroleum is exported either directly or indirectly to industrial countries, and the post-war demand for it, therefore, is contingent upon the vigor of industrial activity abroad. To a lesser extant, Venezuela's export trade will depend on the comfetitive position of coffee, gold, and cacao. 2 Other exports are likely to continue to be of minor importance, though the undeveloped deposits of iron ore and diamonds give indications of future possibilities.

The problems of post-war export markets are related to two objectives of the Government--that of providing a better balanced national econony and that of stabilizing the country's foreign-exchange position.

[^16]The Government recognizes that such great dependence on exports of petroleum and its derivatives does not provide a sufficiently wide and permanent basis for its national economic structure. It has therefore utilized revenues derived from petroleum enterprises to finance various projects designed to achieve a greater degree of balance in the national economy.

Petroleum and derivatives,--Because of the comparatively low costs, both of production and of transportation to refining centers, and because of the present apparently favorable relationship of the rate of depletion of Venezuelan petroleum reserves to that in the United States and certain other major producing countries, it seems probable that the compatitive position of Venezuelan petroleum in world markets will continue to be strong in the immediate post-war period. The production and exportation of Venezuelan crude petroleum declined to low levels in 1942; this, however, resulted from shortages of shipping and was not a reflection either of reduced productive capacity or of a decreased world demand. During 1943 many transportation difficulties were overcome; both production and exports increased markedly, and by late 1944 production had reached a new high level. 1)

The Government of Venezuela is endeavoring to promote refining within the country, of a larger proportion of the national output of crude petroleum. 2/ Petroleum derivatives produced in Venezuela, however, have hitherto not been in as strong a competitive position in world markets as are those produced, mainly from Venezuelan crude, in the refineries of Aruba and Curacao. This situation may continue in the post-war period. Costs of refining operation in the Netherlands West Indies are among the lowest in the world.

Coffee.-Coffee ranks first among Venezuela's agricultural export products; as a result of the war it has become increasingly important. As Venezuelan coffee is of the mild type and of a quality much desired in world markets, it appears that its competitive position, ordinarily good, may be further strengthened if the domestic industry is placed on a more efficient basis. Notwithstending loss of important European markets, Venezuelan coffee exports have been relatively well-maintained during the war. At the end of the war, Venezuelen coffee mill probably again have a strong competitive position in continental European markets, but the buying power of these markets is likely to be very low for soae time.

The post-war position of the Venezuelan coffee 1ndustry will presumably be affected materially by the type of coffee-control schemes initiated either by foreign countries or by international agreement. $\Delta t$ the close of the war, surplus coffee stocks may have accumulated, principally in Brazil. In the past Venezuela has benefited from the program of valorization and market control maintained by Brazil; should

1/ For a discussion of venezuelan petroleum production, see
U. S. Tariff Comidssion, Mining and Menufacturing Industries in Venezuele, 1945 [processed.

2 For a description of the various measures adopted to control the production and exportation of petroleum, see U. S. Tariff Commission, Economic Controls and Commercial Policy in Venezuela, 1945 [processed].
such support be ramoved, and ahould there be a roturn to an unregulated market, the Venesualan share of world exports may decline. Because of its special characteriatics, however, it is difficult to forecast what the particalar prospects of Venczuelan coffee will be.

World markota for Venezuelan coffog asay depend upon the future of the Inter-iserican Coffee Agrement. 1 This control progran, essentially a wartime neasure which has functioned only under wartine conditions, may be remewed or replaced by some similar arrangement to meet the exigencies of the immediate post-war period and perhaps to form the besis of amore permanent control plan. One of the besic problems of ouch a progran will be to avoid the encouragement of high-cost and inefficient production in the agreement areas and the resultant general oxpansion of production with cumulating annual surpluses.

A related problea exists with respect to agricultural export bounties, which have been granted since 1934 to exporters of various Venesuelen comodities, including coffee. 2 The administration of a subsidy progras imposes upon the Goverment the difficult task of discriminating between procuctive enterprises which in the long run will contribute to the economic strength of the country and undertakings which nay constitute a constant drain on the country's resources. It rust also take into account the possibility of competing and countervailing moasures by othor countries.

Cacao.-Venezuelan cacao beans, becanse of their quality and flavor, in ordinary times command preailus prices in world markete. During 1939 and 1940 the price of Venozualan cacao was 15 to 20 percent higher than that of the gerndoran proctuct, which ordinarily ranks as the second highest in quality in the Western Hemiaphore; it was more than twice that of the African and Brasilian varieties, which together constitute more than four-fifths of the world supply. During the war inportant aarkets for Venezuelan cacao, especially in Burope, have been lost. In view of the high quality of its product, it is probable that Venezuela will be able to regain its relative position in these markets aftor the close of hostilities, but the buying power of European countries is likely to be low, at least for some years.

Fundamental to the future export trade in Venezuelan cacao is the need for improvement in the industry itself. For the most part, production is characterized by inefficient methods of cultivation, and yielda generally are low. The system of export aubsidies has not been conducive to the adoption of modernized methods of growing and preparing the product.

Gold.--Exports of gold from Venezuela in the post-war period will depend rpon the structure of the monetary systems of leading countries, the gold-purchasing polioy of the United States, and the trend of the Venezuelan balance of international payments. Venezuela's proved goldproducing areas are now more extengive than over before. The reduced

1/ The Inter-American coffeo Agreement is described in detail in 0. 8. Tariff Commiasion, Economic Controls and Commercial Polioy in Venezuala, 1945 /processed/; for a description of the coffee industry in Venezuela, see 0. 8. Tariff Commisaion, Axricultural, Pastoral, and Forest Induatries in Vanezuela, 1945 [processed/.

2/ Agricultural export subsidies are discussed in detail in
0. 8. Tariff Comacsion, Economic Controls and Comercial Polley in Venezuela, 1945 /processed.
output and exporta of gold during the war are principally attributable to abortages of machinery, equipment, and supplies needed in gold-mining operations. Then adequate supjiles of these materials are again available, it is probable that the country's output of gold will reach new levels, provided there is then a strong world demand for gold.

Minor axportig. Duropean outlets for certain minor Venezuelan exports products, lost because of the war, have been largely replaced by markets in the United States. These commodities include tonka beans, hides and skins, and other livestock products. Buropean markets for these products may be restored to a considerable extent after the close of hostilities. Virtually all the wartime expansion of Venezuelan manufacturing industries has been to supply domestic demands, and no significant exports have been made. Although there has been some increase in the production and exportation of precious minerals (apart from gold) and forest products, these commodities have constituted only a very small proportion of the.country's total exports. In the postwar period, therefore, the export trade of Venezuela in these products appears to face no serious problems of readjustment.

The import trade.
The competition of imports in Venezuelan markets after the war will be more between different foreign countries and producers than between them and domestic industries. Because of the increase in productive capacity and efficiency in the United States and the United Kingdom ' brought about by war demands, it is possible that the costs of production of many manufactured articles from those comtries will be lower in the post-war period than before the war. On the other hand, costs of production in most of Venezuela's manufacturing industries, already high, have risen to still higher levels during the war. $1 /$

Because of the height of Venezuelan tariff rates, consumers within the country pay disproportionately high prices for imported commodities. 2/ As'a result, consumers often find it necessary either to forego the use of imported artieles or to accept less satisfactory substitutes of domestic manufacture. The American Advisory Econcaic Mission to Venesuela reported in 1940 that, despite the encouragement given to industry by high tariffs, there had been little expansion of manufacturing within the country and that such industries as did exist had been slow to adopt nodern methods; obsolete processes and inefficient units contimue in operation. There has naturally been little opportunity for Venezuela to improve industrial methods under wartime conditions. In the post-war period, however, measures designed to improve the efficiency of domestic manufacturing industries, as well as action taken with respect to tariff policy, will play a vital role in determining the future development of the Venezuelan econory.

[^17]APPDRIX
Table A.- Panomelat Importe and exporta, by regione and prinoipel countrien, 1937-42


880 footsoter at and of table.
(Velue in thousands of bolf(raren)

| Recion and country | 2997 |  | 1938 |  | 1939 |  | 1940 |  | 1941 |  | 1942 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | exporti $1 /$ | Inports 31 | xportis 1 | Isports ${ }^{3 /}$ | sporta $1 /$ | Inports $2 /$ | sporte 1 | Inports 21 | Axporta 21 | Imparta 21 | sporte 1 | Inports $2 /$ |
| Burope | $\begin{array}{r} 94,730 \\ 2,407 \\ 1,154 \\ 2,164 \\ 3,504 \\ 3,1883 \\ 4 \\ 332 \\ - \\ 47,98 \end{array}$ | 126,396 | 74,985 | 121,903 |  | 107,393 | 43,219 | 53,543 | 11,250 | 27,128 | 6,296 | 19,7/4 |
| Dalctur and Iexmbors - |  | $\begin{array}{r} 17,632 \\ 8,520 \end{array}$ | 2,33711,315 | 22,631 | $\begin{aligned} & 1,013 \\ & 16,869 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 13,600 \\ 9,704 \end{array}$ | 9,387 | 6,298 |  |  |  |  |
| Prance (incinins |  |  |  | 9,184 |  |  |  |  |  | +137 |  | 152 |
| Gearaty (inciuding luytria) - |  | 41,578 | 23,389 | 37,357 | 18,422 | 31,072 | , ${ }^{-}$ | 1,147 |  | 1,829 | - | 20 |
| Itaty |  | 6,296 | 2,594 | 7,699 | 4,765 | 8,092 | 3,208 | 6,630 | - |  |  | 6 |
| Hatharlende |  | 16,707 |  | 16,127 | 4,256 |  | 8,307 |  | - | 38 | - | 326 |
| Portagel |  |  | - | 4.225 | 176 | 64964 | - $233^{3}$ | 2942,668 | 1 | $\underset{725}{42}$ | 3 |  |
| Opein |  | 1,410 | 70 | 771 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Eradon |  |  | 3551 | 1,516 | 17 | 2,182 | 133 | 1,636 | 172 | 2,503 | 920 | 182,682 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Goltanarland } \overline{6 /} \\ & \text { Soviot Dinion } \end{aligned}$ |  | 687 |  | $\begin{array}{r}752 \\ \hline\end{array}$ |  | 1,324 | 128 | 3,393 ${ }^{12}$ | 323 366 |  |  |  |
| Voitad Kingela |  | 28,409 | 28,887 | 21,674 | 41,922 | 20,117 | 18,992- | 23;548 | 9,363 | 17,280 | 4,077 | 15,662 |
| Mra | 362 | 11,268 | 700 | 6,885 | 273 | 8,297$-\quad 47$ | 1,473 | 12,674 | 5\% | 4,258 | $7 /$ | 868 |
|  |  |  |  |  | - |  |  | 29 49 | - | 359 352 | = | 286 |
| Coina Majura | $y_{362}^{-}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 80 \\ 9.589 \\ y^{5} \end{array}$ | - | 20 | i | $\begin{array}{r} 51 \\ 6,305 \\ 34 \end{array}$ | 1,470 |  |  |  | - | 23 56 |
| Japan |  |  | 700 | 5,387 | 17 |  |  | $\begin{array}{r} 310 \\ 9,954 \\ 247 \end{array}$ | 560 | 1,469 | - | 396 |
| Hotherlande Indies |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Otber armat | 61 | 15 | 2,1305 | 6 | , 5,870 | 170 | 13,606 | 16277 | 10,234 | 70329 | 5,212 | 9346 |
| motreale |  |  |  |  |  |  | 23,6 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Whion of $8_{\text {outh }}$ Arrica 9 |  |  | 134 | - | 386 | $\frac{1}{2}$ | 76 | $\stackrel{4}{4}$ | 255 | $u^{1}$ | 46 |  |

[^18]



Table B.-Venasuela, Importe" exports, and trade beiances, by rogions and prinoipai countrios, 1937-42-Continued




[^0]:    $1 /$ The vilue of gold production in 1939 wae estimeted to be h.h ailion dollare.

[^1]:    1/ In the period 1937-39 the approximate shares of leading groups of Venezuelan exports, on both the offiolal basis and that adjusted for overvaluation of petroleum and its derivatives were as shown in the following tabulations

    Commodity

    | Commodity in | in official trade otatiotice. Percent | for overvaluation of petroleum and derivatives. Percent |
    | :---: | :---: | :---: |
    | Potroleve and derivatives | 91.7 | 86.7 |
    | Crude potroleva | 87.5 | 82.6 |
    | Potroleun derivatives | 4.2 | 3.8 |
    | Agricultural products | 5.1 | 8.2 |
    | Coffee - | 3.2 | 5.1 |
    | Cacao | 1.2 | 1.9 |
    | Other agricultural products | 1.0 | 1.6 |
    | Gold | 2.5 | 4.0 |
    | 0 ther exports (principally reexpor | Fta) $\quad .7$ | 1.1 |

    2/ Without adjustment for overvaluation of exports of petroleum and derivatives.. With such adjustments, the share of cacao in the total value of exports in 1937 was more than 2 percent; in 1939, it was almost 2 percent.

[^2]:    Source: Compiled by U.S. Tariff Comiasion from Eatados Unidos de Vonezuela, Estadistica Morcuntily Yarfima,

[^3]:    1/ Venezuela ordinarily accomete for about 5 percent of total latin American exports of coffee.

    2/ If the value of exports is adjusted for overvaluation of petroleum, exporta of coffoe in the period 1938-39 averaged more than 4 percont of the total.
    3/ If adjusted for overvaluation of petroleum, exports of coffee in 1942 represented more than 8 percent of the tountry' 8 export trade, cospared with an average of about 3.5 percent in the period 1940-41.

[^4]:    1/For a discusaion of the Inter-American Coffee Agreement, see ס. S. Tariff Comoission, Economic Controls and Cogmercial Polior in Venezuela, 1945 [proceseed].
    2) For the quota year beginning October 1942 the Inter-Anerican Coffee Board aseigned Venezuela a quota of 463,078 bega of 60 kilograms ach (increased to 680,558 bags in March 1943), compared with 438,757 bags for the quota year 1940-42. Because of severe orop damage cansed by heavy rains, only about 75 percent of the 1942-43 Venesuelan quota was filled.

    3/ If the total value of Venezuelan exports is adjusted for overvaluation of petroleun producte, the share of cacao 18 increased to nearly 2 percent.

[^5]:    1) During the years Immediataly preceding the war, Chifle and Argentina purchased from the Hethorlande West Indien substantial quantities of petroleur products which came indirectly from Venezuele.
    2/ In 1941 Argentina became the second-largest market for Venesuelan coffee. 1 conad derable volume mas reexported to European markets. Presuably nome of these indirect shipeents went to Germany, through neutral European sarkets, Inammeh as that country, before the war, was the most important sarket for Venezualan coffee.
[^6]:    See footnotes at end of table.

[^7]:    1 In 1938 about half of the canmodities in this category were exempted from payment of dities. Exonerated imports in this group include the "dutiable" inports of petroleum companies (oil-well and pipe-line machinery and equipaent) and other private imports specially exenpted for the purpose of fostoring domestic industries.
    2/ For a description of the iron and steel industry in Venezuela, see 0. S. Tariff Commireion, Mining and Manufacturing Industiries in Venezuela, 1945 [pracessed].
    3/ For a discussion of the problems of Venezuelan sgriculture, see U. S. Tariff Commisaion, Agricultural, Pastoral, and Forect Industrios in Vonezuela, 1945 [processed/.

[^8]:    1/For a deacription of the Venezuelan textile industry, see U. S. Tariff Comaseion, Mining and Manufacturing Induatries in Venezuela, 1945 [processed].

[^9]:    1 Whea indirect shipments through the Netherlands Weat Indies are taken into secount the proportion for petroleum is about one-fourth.

[^10]:    gources Compiled by the J. 8. Tariff Comifuian from Estados Onilos de Venezuela, Estadistica Mercantil y Marftima.

[^11]:    1 See the aection on destination of venezuelan exports and tables 4 and 4 a .

    2/ The exports of refined petroleum to the Netherlands Fest Indies are accounted for by the comminity of interest between the Nethorlands West Indies refining companies and affiliated oil conpanies in the Onited States. The chilef reason for these exports is that United States products are needed to improve the quelity of products refined from Venezuelan crude. Apparently substantial quantitios of the potroleur products officially listed as exports from the Onited States enter the transit trade of the Hetherlands Feat Indies, and do not becose actual imports into that territory. Possibly some United States shipaents to this region are nade to fill orders which temporarily cannot be met by the Hetherlands West Indies refineries.

[^12]:    1/ Merchandise, including reexports.
    2/ General isports. See the aection on destination of exports for a discusbion of indirect imports of Veneauelan petroleum through the Netherlends Fest Indies.

[^13]:    1) During this period the Dnited States imported refined petroleun products, averaging about 19 million dollars a year, indirectly from Venezuela via the Netherlands Fest Indies.
[^14]:    2/ Preliminnty.

[^15]:    1) In presenting an analysis of the balance of payments between the United States and Venezuela there seems to be more warrant for treating the Netherlands Fest Indies and Venezuela as a single economic unit from the standpoint of imports into the United States than from that of our exports to these comeries. United States imports from the Netherlands West Indies constitute physical products imported indirectly from Venezuela and the ultimate payment for a substantial part of these products gives rise, directly or indirectly, to certain foreign-exchange tranefers in favor of Denezuela. These paymente, in turn, constitute an important share of the total foreign-exchange receipts of Venezuela. On the other hand, United States exports to the Netherlands Nest Indies consist chiefly of shipments of materials and equipment used in the processing of petroleum derivatives which ultimately are shipped to non-Venezuelan markets and which create no payments obligations for Venezuela. United States indirect exports to Venezuela, via the Hetherlands West Indies, are negligible; in fact, all imports into Venezuela (both direct and indirect) from the Netherlands Fest Indies, during the period 1937-42, constituted only a little more than one-half of 1 percent of total Venezuelan imports during that period.

    If, however, United States exports of equipment and supplies to the Netherlands West Indies, used principally in refining Venezuelan petroleum, are considered as a part of the merchandise account for balance-of-payments purposes, it will be seen in table 10a that the United States usually has had an export trade balance for the area as a whole, amounting to 36.8 million dollars in 1937 and 33.8 milition in 1942. In 1942, for example, United States imports from Venezuela and from the Netheriands West Indies totaled 45 million dollars, while exports to these regions amounted to 79 million dollars.

[^16]:    1) For a discussion of the commercial policy and economic controls of Venezuela, see $\mathrm{O}_{\mathrm{E}}$ S. Tariff Commission, Econoric Controls and Commercial policy in Venezuela, 1945 [processed].

    2/ The subordinate position of agricultural and pastoral products in Venezuela's export trade has been a matter of concern to the Government. The various subsidies employed by Venezuela in recent years to strengthen the position of agricultural products in foreign trade, and problems conceraing agricultural export products, are discussed in U.S. Tariff Cogmission, Econonic Controls and Commercial Policy In Venezuela, 1945 [processedf, and Agriculturgi, Pastorake and Forest Industries in Venezuela, 1945 [processed.

[^17]:    1 For a discussion of manufacturing industries in Venezuela, see U. S. Tariff Commission, Mining and Manufacturing Industries in Venezuela, 1945 [processed].

    27 For a discussion of the price situation in Venezuela and its relation to the customs tariff, see U. S. Tariff Commission, Economic Controla and Comercial Policy in Venozuela, 1945 [processed/.

[^18]:     export dutiee ard taxes, exeapt in the oese of petarolece for which fixed mult valuen hive been moployed.
    
    
    I/ Leners thas 500 bolinerel.
    5 Included vith Pannin.
    Enciuded anith Pan
    7 Hot reported.
    
    9/ Mlapifica at Diglioh torth Arrios.

