

|                     | Imports | Exports | Total imports<br>and exports | Export<br>surplus |
|---------------------|---------|---------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1896—1900 . . . . . | 5 966   | 7 014   | 12 980                       | 1 048             |
| 1901—1905 . . . . . | 8 497   | 10 424  | 18 921                       | 1 927             |
| 1906—1910 . . . . . | 11 531  | 13 707  | 25 238                       | 2 176             |
| 1911—1915 . . . . . | 18 112  | 22 368  | 40 480                       | 4 256             |
| 1916—1920 . . . . . | 53 709  | 48 453  | 102 162                      | +5 256            |
| 1921—1925 . . . . . | 56 562  | 64 212  | 120 774                      | 7 650             |
| 1926 . . . . .      | 57 767  | 53 070  | 110 837                      | +4 697            |
| 1927 . . . . .      | 53 162  | 63 153  | 116 315                      | 9 991             |

This summary shows that the exports have usually, though not always during the Great War and the years immediately succeeding, exceeded the imports in value.

Compared with the number of population the total foreign trade (imports and exports) is larger than that of most other countries. This is largely due to the fact, that a country like Iceland which has a very limited range of products, must depend on foreign countries for a great number of important goods and necessities.

The import and export value per head of inhabitants may be seen from the following summary:

|                     | Imports | Exports | Total   |
|---------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1896—1900 . . . . . | 78 kr.  | 91 kr.  | 169 kr. |
| 1901—1905 . . . . . | 107 —   | 131 —   | 238 —   |
| 1906—1910 . . . . . | 139 —   | 165 —   | 304 —   |
| 1911—1915 . . . . . | 207 —   | 256 —   | 463 —   |
| 1916—1920 . . . . . | 583 —   | 526 —   | 1 109 — |
| 1921—1925 . . . . . | 580 —   | 658 —   | 1 238 — |
| 1926 . . . . .      | 568 —   | 522 —   | 1 090 — |
| 1927 . . . . .      | 515 —   | 611 —   | 1 126 — |

It should be mentioned that the great increase in 1916—1920 is due solely to the enormous general rise in the price-level during the Great War.

The subjoined table roughly shows the value of the imports to Iceland, distributed over the following groups:

|  | Total value      |                  |                  |                      |       |       |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------|-------|
|  | 1000 kr.<br>1925 | 1000 kr.<br>1926 | 1000 kr.<br>1927 | Reckoned in percent. |       |       |
| Foodstuffs . . . . .                       | 9 651            | 7 821            | 7 532            | 13.7                 | 13.5  | 14.2  |
| Coffee, sugar, tobacco etc. . . . .        | 5 903            | 5 708            | 4 811            | 8.4                  | 9.9   | 9.0   |
| Other goods for consumption . . . . .      | 4 537            | 4 072            | 3 502            | 6.5                  | 7.1   | 6.6   |
| Textiles and clothes. . . . .              | 11 590           | 9 109            | 7 758            | 16.5                 | 15.8  | 14.6  |
| Fuel and lighting materials . . . . .      | 9 334            | 5 763            | 7 617            | 13.3                 | 10.0  | 14.3  |
| Building materials . . . . .               | 6 009            | 5 973            | 4 851            | 8.6                  | 10.3  | 9.1   |
| Materials for the fishing trade . . . . .  | 12 178           | 8 223            | 8 111            | 17.4                 | 14.2  | 15.3  |
| Materials for farming . . . . .            | 1 365            | 1 664            | 1 220            | 1.9                  | 2.9   | 2.3   |
| Various materials for production . . . . . | 9 624            | 9 434            | 7 760            | 13.7                 | 16.3  | 14.6  |
| Total                                      | 70 191           | 57 767           | 53 162           | 100.0                | 100.0 | 100.0 |