

17

H. P. Maggowan,
United States Commissioner
(Territory: West Indies, except Cuba)

THE GUIANAS

COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC SURVEY



BY

M. J. MEEHAN

DIVISION OF REGIONAL INFORMATION

Trade Information Bulletin No. 516

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF COMMERCE



BUREAU OF FOREIGN AND
DOMESTIC COMMERCE

United States Department of Commerce
Office of the Trade Commissioner
Sches Building, San Juan, Porto Rico

Trade Information Bulletin No. 516

Price, 10 cents

FOREWORD

The Guianas, despite many difficulties which have retarded their development, the most serious of which has been the lack of population, have a total annual foreign trade (imports and exports) of between \$35,000,000 and \$40,000,000.

Imports into British Guiana come chiefly from Great Britain and Canada as a result of the liberal preference in tariff rates extended to these countries under special trade agreements. The United States, however, in 1926, exported to British Guiana \$1,568,000 worth of goods, consisting mainly of foodstuffs, machinery and other iron and steel manufactures, cotton goods, chemicals, automobiles, coal, lumber, and tobacco. United States exports to Surinam (Dutch Guiana) in 1926 were valued at \$1,569,000, the most important items being flour, preserved meats, and machinery of various kinds. Exports to French Guiana, more than half of which consisted of foodstuffs, amounted to \$149,700.

In view of the paucity of readily available information on the Guianas it is felt that the present bulletin, which discusses the geographic, economic, and commercial aspects of the colonies, will be found of value to exporters and others interested in the commercial development of that region. Particular stress has been laid on the market for American products, and detailed figures of United States trade with the Guianas are given. Information is also included on agriculture, mining, and forest products; on economic conditions, foreign trade, competition, transportation facilities, etc.

Further data, especially with reference to desirable agents for American exporters and on other specific points, may be had by applying to the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce at Washington or any of its district or cooperative offices in 59 cities throughout the United States.

JULIUS KLEIN, *Director,*
Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

NOVEMBER, 1927.

(II)

THE GUIANAS: COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC SURVEY

BRITISH GUIANA

British Guiana, the only British possession on the mainland of South America, is located in the northeastern part of the continent and is bounded on the north by the Atlantic Ocean, on the east by Surinam (Dutch Guiana), on the south and southwest by Brazil, and on the west by Venezuela. It is the largest and most important of the three Guianas, and its area of approximately 90,000 square miles is about equal to the combined area of the States of New York and Ohio.

The country is divided geographically into three zones. The northern, low-lying coastal zone varies in width from 10 to 40 miles. This region contains most of the population and produces practically all of the cultivated crops. Part of the coastal plain is below the level of ordinary spring tides and is subject to flood at high water, so that it is necessary to provide protection from inundation by means of dikes. The two cities, nearly all the villages and, with few exceptions, all of the sugar estates and roads and railways are in the coastal region. The first zone is succeeded by a broader and slightly elevated tract of land, the savannahs, which extend across the breadth of the colony. This belt contains valuable timber stretches. The third zone is the largest and comprises the mountainous territory, which is covered mainly by tropical forests.

The country is traversed by numerous rivers and streams, the most important of which are the Essequibo, the Demerara, the Berbice, and the Corentyne, the last forming the boundary between British Guiana and Surinam. All of these rivers flow northward in a generally parallel course to the sea. The largest, the Essequibo, with its tributaries drains more than half the area of the colony. This river is over 600 miles in length and its estuary more than 14 miles in width. It is navigable during spring tides by vessels up to 17-foot draft as far as Bartica, which is about 45 miles from the coast. The Corentyne is the second river in size and is navigable for larger craft than any other river in the country. The Demerara River is probably the best known and is commercially the most important, although it is a relatively small stream, not over 200 miles in length. Georgetown, the capital of the Colony, is situated just within the mouth of the river. The Demerara is navigable for a distance of about 68 miles, as far as Wismar, by vessels drawing up to 17 feet. The total navigable length of all rivers is about 450 miles, and they provide the principal means of inland transportation.

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION

According to the latest census, that of 1921, the population of the Colony was 297,691, and it is estimated that by 1926 the number of inhabitants had increased to 304,412, or less than 4 persons to the square mile. The growth of population has been very slow, as the 1911 census returns gave the population at 296,041, the increase in 15 years thus being only 8,371. The population in 1926 was made up as follows: Negroes, 120,856; East Indians, 125,686; Europeans, 11,797; aborigines, 9,394; Chinese, 2,812; and various other races, 33,867.

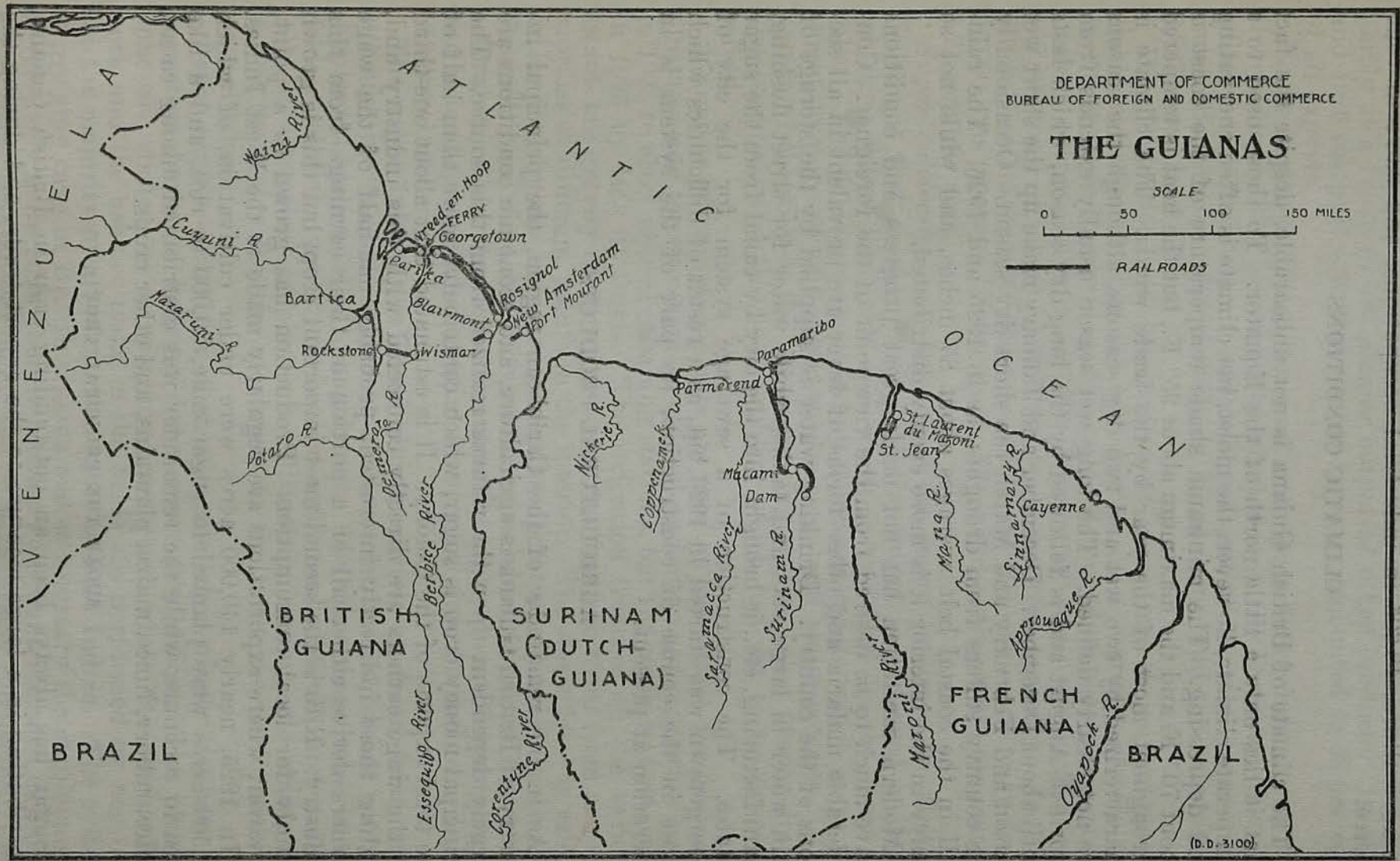
The distribution of population according to political subdivisions was as follows in 1921: City of Georgetown, 59,624; town of New Amsterdam, 8,363; county of Demerara (exclusive of Georgetown), 114,308; county of Berbice (exclusive of New Amsterdam), 60,120; and county of Essequibo, 55,276. Approximately 23 per cent of the population is urban and 77 per cent rural. The death rate in 1924 was 25 per thousand and in 1925 was 24 per thousand. The birth rate in the same years was 32 and 33 per thousand, respectively.

LABOR AND WAGES

The most pressing problem which British Guiana has been called upon to solve in its economic development is the lack of an adequate labor supply. Its agricultural industry demands the maintenance of a constant labor supply, and even with a large number of immigrants it has not been possible to provide a sufficient force of laborers. At first most of the labor was performed by African slaves, but with the abolition of slavery, the shortage on the plantations became acute and forced the Colony to turn to the Far East for immigrants. The peak in the immigration movement was reached in the decade between 1871 and 1880, when about 70,000 arrived, mostly East Indians. After that the number gradually decreased until in the period from 1911 to 1921 less than 10,000 arrived. The period of immigration accounts for the racial variety indicated in the statistics of population.

The East Indians form the principal source of agricultural labor, supplemented in a measure by the blacks. The blacks and mulattoes supply practically all of the labor for the mines and the balata industry, as well as for harbor work, mechanical work, etc. The European element is composed chiefly of Portuguese, who, with the Chinese, control most of the retail trade.

Agricultural laborers, such as cane cutters, weeders, punt loaders, etc., earn from \$0.25 to \$0.90 a day. Artisans, such as carpenters, masons, and painters, are paid by piecework and are able to earn from \$1.25 to \$2.25 daily. Wharf laborers earn from \$1 to \$1.75, while timekeepers, etc., receive from \$2.25 to \$2.50 a day. Domestic servants are paid monthly wages as follows: Males, \$12 to \$15; females, \$6 to \$10; and chauffeurs, \$25 to \$30. The laborers on the sugar estates are usually given living quarters, and on some of the estates they are allowed to cultivate small patches of rice for their own use. Certain other benefits are accorded, such as medical attention.



According to the 1921 census, there were 84,970 persons employed in agriculture, 48,605 in industrial occupations, and 9,621 in commerce.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

The climate of British Guiana is not unbearable, despite the fact that it lies only a little north of the Equator. To those used to a temperate climate, however, the moist, hot climate is often enervating and depressing. The minimum shade temperature of the coast is about 70° F. and the maximum about 95° F., but the heat is tempered throughout most of the year by the trade winds. The climate is characterized by two wet and two dry seasons, although the seasons are not clearly defined. The long wet season usually extends from April to August and is followed by the long dry season, which lasts until about December. December and January make up the short wet season and February and March the short dry season. Occasionally the country suffers from droughts, as in 1925 and 1926. The rainfall in the coastal belt averages about 85 inches, and while not so heavy in the interior it is more evenly distributed.

Modern sanitation has not made great progress and conditions leave much to be desired from the viewpoint of the foreigner. Considerable malaria and other forms of fever are prevalent in all sections of the country. Drinking water is supplied by the storage of rain water in large vats and tanks, while water for street flushing, manufacturing, etc., is brought into the city by canal from the sugar estates. The construction of a sewerage system for the city of Georgetown was started in 1923 but, as a result of difficulties which arose in the course of construction, no part of the system is in operation at present.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

As in the remainder of the Caribbean region, the principal industry of British Guiana is agriculture, and economic conditions are largely dependent upon the returns realized from this source. The principal money crop is sugar, which contributes more than half of the total exports of the Colony. It is estimated that about one-third of the wage earners are directly connected with this industry and, adding those indirectly interested, probably one-half of the wage earners derive either all or a portion of their earnings from this industry. Rice is the second most important crop, but this is grown mainly for local consumption. Production has grown to a point, however, where exportations are regularly made to the West Indies.

In 1925, nearly 140,000 acres were under cultivation, of which 57,500 acres were planted to sugar cane, 30,000 to rice, and a like area to coconuts, while the remainder was distributed among cacao, coffee, rubber, limes, maize, plantains, and other crops.

SUGAR THE PRINCIPAL CROP

Sugar has always been an outstanding crop in British Guiana, contributing in a large measure to the export trade, and during the period from 1880 to 1920 this one product constituted 80 per cent of the total exports, although the marketing of secondary products

was steadily expanding. During the past few years the proportion has been less, partly on account of the lower price of sugar and partly as a result of the greater output of other products. In 1925 and 1926 the products of the sugar industry amounted to 53 per cent of all exports.

Sugar is grown along the coast and for a short distance up the river valleys. The greatest area planted is in the Demerara district, which has 34,384 acres, or about 60 per cent of the total area, under cane. Berbice has 20,289 acres, or 35 per cent, and the balance, or 2,827 acres, is in Essequibo.

The production and exportation of sugar has shown no appreciable variation during the last quarter of a century, despite the fact that there is suitable land available to produce several times the present output. The 1911-1925 average of sugar production was 102,800 tons, of which 95,300 tons were exported annually. In 1925 production reached 107,580 tons, while the 1926 estimates vary from 90,000 tons to about 110,000 tons. The yield averages approximately 1.77 tons per acre.

Sugar cultivation.—A feature of the sugar industry in British Guiana is that a large portion of the output is produced on land which is below high tide and which is protected by sea dams or dikes. The fields are traversed by numerous canals, which serve the threefold purpose of irrigation, drainage, and transportation. The nature of the soils in the sugar-growing region makes proper drainage essential, and this is a problem which has yet to be properly solved.

A number of pumping plants are used on the estates for drainage purposes, and the Government utilized part of an appropriation made in 1923 to erect several pumping stations, but the work was retarded in 1926 by lack of funds. The irrigation trenches on the various estates are gravity ditches, the water running into them from storage supplies at different points in the interior. The water level is raised or lowered by use of water gates, the operation of which is usually dependent on the tides. Occasions arise when rains are heavy for several days and the tides are unusually high; then the present system is inadequate and the entire country becomes flooded to a depth of several inches.

The sugar industry is based almost entirely on hand labor and, although mechanical equipment has been introduced, it has not yet supplanted human labor to any extent. The numerous ditches in the fields render the use of mechanical equipment difficult, and practically all operations of planting, cultivating, cutting, and transporting to the punts for the movement to the mills are performed by manual labor.

Labor supply.—The lack of an adequate labor supply has been an important factor in keeping down sugar production. The plantations are staffed, as a rule, by Europeans, while the mechanical work and the heavier tasks in the fields are performed by negroes, but the majority of all plantation labor is East Indian. The system of growing cane in British Guiana makes necessary the employment of relatively more labor than is necessary in countries, such as Cuba, where sugar is produced under the most favorable conditions. Consequently, with a population which has been practically stationary

for years and with the expansion of other lines of endeavor, part of the available labor supply has been drawn to more desirable or profitable endeavor and little opportunity has been presented for the expansion of the leading industry. The more general use of mechanical aids, which appears to be possible despite the difficulties to be overcome, might permit the industry to expand somewhat, even though the labor element remains constant.

Modern methods have been introduced in the mills as a result of the necessity for reducing production costs. According to the latest available returns, the number of active sugar factories was 26, the largest of which produce from 10,000 to 16,000 tons of sugar per annum. The majority of the mills are equipped with British machinery, but eight of them have American machinery. The sugar produced is principally dark crystal, with small quantities of the following grades: White crystal, yellow crystal, dark molasses crystal, and yellow molasses crystal. Sugar from British Guiana is afforded preferential treatment in Canada and the United Kingdom and, as a result, the bulk of the exports naturally moves to those destinations. The remainder is shipped mainly to the British West Indies and Surinam (Dutch Guiana). No important shipments have been made to the United States since 1920. In 1926 about 30 per cent of the exports went to the United Kingdom and about 70 per cent to Canada. Less than 1 per cent went to other destinations.

Sugar by-products.—From the sugar industry are also derived rum, molasses, and molascuit, the last-named product being a derivative used for animal food. Rum is the most important by-product, but its production has steadily declined, owing to a lack of markets. The average annual exportation for the five-year period 1922–1926 amounted to 711,448 gallons, as compared with 3,112,252 for the preceding quinquennial period. The rum is exported mainly to the United Kingdom, but important shipments are also made to Canada, Newfoundland, and the West Indian Islands.

Exports of molasses are expanding, and greater amounts are being diverted to the local production of alcohol for use on the sugar estates. In the 20-year period from 1902 to 1921, molasses exports averaged 193,000 gallons, while by 1926 exports had jumped to over 2,000,000 gallons. Molasses is exported mainly to the United Kingdom, Canada, and the British West Indies. According to official figures published in British Guiana, the United States purchased a considerable quantity of the exports in 1924, but in 1925 these shipments decreased, and the 1926 returns show no exportation to the United States. United States statistics show imports from British Guiana of over 1,000,000 gallons in 1926, however, and no satisfactory explanation has been found for this discrepancy. Exports of molascuit also go mainly to the United Kingdom.

RICE

Rice is the second crop in importance in British Guiana and is a staple food product. The amount of land devoted to rice cultivation rapidly increased from 17,500 acres in 1903 to 61,400 acres in 1919. The development of the rice industry dates from about 1886 and has been largely due to the East Indian settlers, although the Government has lent encouragement through experimentation and other

aids. The owners of the sugar estates have also encouraged rice growing, and in 1925 over 9,000 acres of land on sugar plantations were used for rice growing. Since 1919 the production has declined, the yield of paddy being over 14,000 tons less in 1923 than the average for the period 1918-1922, and only a little more than half that of the five-year average from 1913 to 1917. In 1924 and 1925 both the acreage and the production increased over 1923.

The expansion of the rice industry is reflected in the increase in the exports of rice. At the end of the nineteenth century, British Guiana was importing large quantities, amounting to over 11,000 tons in 1899, but by 1917 the production had increased to a point where it was not only sufficient to care for the local demand but provided a surplus for export. With the curtailment of acreage this surplus dwindled, but rice is regularly exported to the British West Indies and to the other Guianas. Exports in 1926 amounted to 6,526,000 pounds, as compared with 15,496,000 pounds in 1925 and 10,013,000 pounds in 1923.

In 1925 the area under rice cultivation amounted to some 30,000 acres, of which over 10,000 acres produced two crops, giving a yield of about 23,000 tons of cleaned rice. Complete returns for 1926 are not available, but it is estimated that the area devoted to rice was approximately the same as in 1925 and the yield 20,000 tons of cleaned rice. The smaller crop was largely the result of the damage wrought by a plague of worms. Considerable suitable land is available for the production of rice, so that under favorable conditions the output could be expended considerably.

Cultivation of rice is generally on a small scale, and the work is largely accomplished by hand labor. In 1925 there were 131 rice mills in the country, according to the published figures of the Government. Most of these are small.

COCONUTS AND OTHER FRUITS

Numerous fruits are produced for local consumption, but the only fruits and fruit products which are exported in commercial quantities are coconuts and limes and their derivatives. The estimated area devoted to coconuts in 1925 was about 30,000 acres, or 4,779 acres in excess of that in 1924. The increase, however, is attributed to the more complete returns received. In any event, the figures show a large increase in acreage since 1904, when 5,140 acres were planted. The exportation of coconuts and coconut products is given at over 17,000,000 nuts in 1926, as against 11,000,000 in 1925 and less than 5,000,000 in 1922 and previous years. The nuts exported as oil are figured on the basis of 60 nuts to the gallon and copra as 450 nuts to the hundredweight. The nuts are shipped mainly to Canada, the copra to the United Kingdom, and the oil to Surinam.

Limes are the only other fruit exploited on a commercial scale for export. Results so far have not been entirely satisfactory, and the area devoted to lime culture has decreased in recent years, the acreage in 1925 being 655 acres as compared with 711 in 1924 and 1,102 in 1921. The exports go out in the form of lime juice and lime oil. The shipments of concentrated lime juice in 1926 were 4,974 gallons

and of lime oil 277 gallons. The 1925 exports were 8,430 gallons and 306 gallons, respectively, and in 1924, 9,650 gallons and 396 gallons. The concentrated lime juice is exported to the United States and the oil to the United Kingdom.

A wide variety of other fruit, such as oranges, bananas, pineapples, mangoes, etc., is produced, but only insignificant quantities are exported. Study has been given to the possibilities of banana culture on a commercial scale, but so far no definite progress has been made.

COFFEE AND CACAO

Coffee cultivation is not extensive, the area devoted to the crop being less than 2,000 acres. This is more than sufficient to supply the local demand, and the larger portion of the output is exported. The production of coffee in 1926 was about 1,000,000 pounds, according to the estimate of the Department of Science and Agriculture, an increase of about 100,000 pounds over 1925. Exports in 1926 were 773,000 pounds and local consumption estimated at 250,000 to 300,000 pounds. In recent years the destination of the bulk of the exports has been given in the customs returns as the Netherlands.

The area devoted to the cultivation of cacao has remained practically unchanged at some 2,000 acres, and while a small export trade was carried on up to 1920, no exports have been made since and imports have continued to mount, although the trade is not large. Cultivation is generally on a small scale, but there are a few fairly large estates. Land suitable for the raising of cacao is available, but the principal drawback appears to be in the lack of capital among the small growers.

FOREST PRODUCTS

The forests of British Guiana cover about 78,000 square miles, but at the present time forest products contribute only 6 per cent of the exports. Of the total area of commercial timber under course of exploitation, 739,649 acres has been alienated and 2,862,676 is Crown land, which is either worked under lease or the products exploited by license. Unexploited Crown lands still available for application total 5,293,675 acres. Acreage of other forest lands, at present inaccessible, amounts to more than 41,000,000 acres. The forests embrace a wide variety of woods, varying from hard to soft and from very dark to white.

The most important timber exported is greenheart, which is used principally in marine construction and is the best known of British Guiana's woods. The market for this wood appears to be expanding slowly from year to year, over 725,000 cubic feet having been produced on Crown lands in 1925.

According to the Bluebook of British Guiana, there are 6 power-driven sawmills in Georgetown, 4 in New Amsterdam, 1 on the Corentyne River, 1 on the Conje River, 1 on the Berbice River, 1 on the Waini River, 1 on the Pomeroon River, and 5 on the Essequibo River, also a Government water-power mill at Christianburg, on the Demerara River. Timber is also cut by hand power at numerous places. Georgetown has 4 power-driven woodworking factories.

BALATA

Balata is the principal forest product exported from the Colony, and in 1926 exports amounted to 597,000 pounds valued at \$358,441, which was somewhat below shipments in the years immediately preceding. Its principal use is in the manufacture of cables and belting, but it has a variety of other applications. The product is obtained by tapping the balata tree, the gum or coagulated latex forming into thin sheets, in which form it is marketed. Balata is exported principally to the United Kingdom. In 1925, 3,305 laborers were employed in balata tapping.

RUBBER

Although soil and climatic conditions in British Guiana were found to be favorable and the industry showed some small development prior to the war, the acreage under rubber declined from the maximum of 5,200 acres in 1917 to 2,200 in 1925, the greater part of which is not producing at present. The decline came about during the war as the result of the low prices of rubber and of the more profitable returns realized from sugar. Exports in 1926 amounted to only 17 tons and in 1925 to 5 tons. Those interested in the rubber possibilities of the Guianas are referred to Trade Promotion Series No. 40, "Possibilities for Para Rubber Production in Northern Tropical America," issued by the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce and sold by the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, and by district offices of the bureau for 65 cents.

PASTORAL INDUSTRY

According to the 1925 returns, the number of livestock in British Guiana was as follows: Cattle, 113,315; horses, asses, and mules, 10,272; buffaloes, 175; sheep and goats, 25,977; and swine, 12,889.

It is estimated that 500 head per month of all kinds are slaughtered, of which about 450 are slaughtered in Georgetown. Cattle and swine are regularly exported to Surinam, but the number shipped annually is not large, exports to that Colony in 1926 amounting to 45 head of beef cattle and 550 swine. Hides exported in 1926 totaled 7,916, with a value of \$9,490, all of which went to the United Kingdom.

MANUFACTURING

Aside from the sugar, rice, and sawmills, British Guiana has only a few manufacturing establishments. In 1925 the number of establishments, other than those which have been mentioned previously, were as follows: Aerated water, 27; foundries and machine shops, 10; steam bakeries, 4; biscuit factories, 2; match factories, 2; confectioneries, 1; creameries, 1; electric-car factories, 1; and cigar factories, 1. No data are available as to the number of persons employed in these industries or the value of the output.

MINING

A wide variety of minerals are known to exist in British Guiana, but only three—diamonds, gold, and bauxite—are exploited on a commercial scale. Production and exportation have increased in

recent years, and the proportion of the total exports contributed by mineral products has been growing steadily, as will be seen by the following figures: 1920, 5 per cent; 1921, 13 per cent; 1922, 31 per cent; 1923, 33 per cent; 1924, 32 per cent; 1925 and 1926, 35 per cent. This expansion was the result of the increased production of diamonds and bauxite.

DIAMONDS

Prospecting for diamonds was carried on prior to the opening of the twentieth century, but until 1920 the production did not exceed 20,000 carats. In that year and since 1921, when the systematic development of the Mazaruni field began, production jumped rapidly, reaching 188,207 carats in 1925. Difficulties incident to the drought in 1926 caused the production to fall to 164,167 carats. Production from 1919 to 1926, measured in carats, has been as follows: 1919, 16,706; 1920, 39,363; 1921, 102,604; 1922, 163,640; 1923, 214,474; 1924, 184,571; 1925, 188,207; and 1926, 164,167.

The proved diamondiferous area extends in a northerly and southerly direction from the Potaro River to the Cuyuni River, a distance of 150 miles. It extends eastward for 40 miles from the foot of the Pakairama Mountains. The most important present-day field, the Mazaruni, is located in about the center of this area. Practically all of the diamonds found to-day in British Guiana are from a relatively small area, which has only been scratched, and further mining under more scientific conditions may reveal richer fields.

BAUXITE

The production of bauxite is of recent development, 1923 being the first year of steady operation. Prior to that time about 50,000 tons had been produced and exported. Production in tons in more recent years has been as follows: 1923, 10,346; 1924, 154,324; 1925, 174,999; 1926, 183,859. The output is exported. In 1926 exports went entirely to the United States, and in 1925 all but 4,976 tons, which went to the United Kingdom.

Valuable and extensive deposits of bauxite in accessible locations have been discovered, but the deposits vary in quality, and so far none but the highest grade can be profitably extracted. The most extensive deposits are located along the banks of the Demerara River, some 75 miles from its mouth. The ore is mined by a single company, which has installed modern equipment for its efficient handling. The crushing and drying plant is located at the highest point on the Demerara River, which can be reached by ocean-going vessels (68 miles from the coast). Vessels are loaded from the company's wharf by mechanical loading equipment.

GOLD

Gold-bearing areas are widely scattered over the Colony, and at one time the extraction of gold was the principal mining industry. The history of the industry dates from 1884, and the development was rapid until 1893-94, when the record output of 138,000 ounces was obtained. Subsequently, the production declined, until in 1924 it amounted to only 7,187 ounces. The average production for the

past five years, 1922-1926, was only 8,375 ounces, and the total production in the 43 years from 1884 to 1926, inclusive, amounted to 2,661,537 ounces.

Most of the gold obtained has been from alluvial workings, by hand methods, and the greater returns from the diamond fields have drawn the workers into the more lucrative employment, this being one of the causes for the decline in production. Quartz mining and hydraulic extraction have been attempted and, while these have produced good results for short periods, the results were not satisfactory after the superficial deposits were worked. Some gold has also been obtained by dredging. The gold exported goes to the United Kingdom.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

The year 1927 opened inauspiciously for British Guiana and promised only slight improvement from the unfavorable economic situation which prevailed throughout 1925 and 1926. The depressed condition which characterized both of the two past years was the result of the low prices received for the leading export product and the severe drought, which not only reduced agricultural production but also caused serious losses to the livestock, mining, and lumber industries. It is readily understood how this drought adversely affected agricultural productivity and the livestock industry, but it may be explained that the mining industry suffered likewise, because of the difficulty of moving supplies, equipment, and workers over the rivers, as well as from the lack of water for working the mines. The lumber industry met with the same obstacles, and the gathering of balata was seriously hampered. Difficulty was also encountered in moving the sugar crop, which is largely transported by water.

The drought was of such serious proportions and its effects so widespread that the Government appointed a committee to investigate its industrial effects. This committee estimated the capital loss directly attributable to the drought at \$2,700,000. While this does not appear to be a very large loss, it represents a decided setback to a country as undeveloped as British Guiana and which is badly in need of capital. The loss by industries was distributed as follows: Agriculture, \$1,590,000; mining, \$900,000; livestock, \$155,000; and forest products, \$55,000.

The reverses suffered by industrial interests in the past two years caused an unusual amount of unemployment, which depressed merchandising trade, and a number of concerns found difficulty in meeting their obligations and some were forced out of business. Banks reported collections increasingly difficult and had numerous requests for extension of payments. The official receiver does not record the above condition and, in fact, the 1926 figures show only seven insolvencies, with a total excess of liabilities over assets of \$55,354, as compared with 19 in 1925 with an excess of liabilities of \$279,842. The 1926 figures, however, do not include the largest failures (one involving over \$700,000), as the affairs of these concerns still remain in the hands of the banks.

Toward the end of 1926, with sugar prices showing a strengthening tendency, the outlook appeared to be somewhat more favorable.

Sugar prices did not strengthen sufficiently to allow the industry to recoup its losses though, and during 1927 little improvement has occurred.

Various suggestions have been put forward for ameliorating the depressed state of affairs, some of them being made campaign issues in the 1926 elections. The Combined Court, the ruling body of the Colony, after its election in October, studied the situation, and the measures suggested for relief prolonged the session into March, 1927. The delay in passing important legislation affecting business caused merchants to proceed slowly, as customs matters in particular were uncertain. The customs and tax ordinances were not passed and approved by the Governor until March. Relief measures may serve as a temporary expedient, but no real improvement is possible until the underlying factors affecting prosperity become more favorable.

FOREIGN TRADE

The foreign trade of British Guiana has dropped steadily in the past three years. This loss is attributable to the unfavorable world market conditions for the principal export crops and to adverse local conditions in industry, such as the drought, which seriously affected the productivity of the Colony and which caused a general slackness of demand in the import trade. The following table summarizes the trade for the years 1913 to 1926, inclusive:

FOREIGN TRADE OF BRITISH GUIANA

[Value of imports, excluding transshipments, and exports of domestic produce]

Year	Imports	Exports	Year	Imports	Exports
1913.....	\$7,734,862	\$9,565,844	1920.....	\$22,669,002	\$26,282,456
1914.....	7,665,530	11,313,082	1921.....	15,710,247	15,451,325
1915.....	8,796,247	14,833,824	1922.....	11,004,414	13,123,535
1916.....	10,509,931	16,140,110	1923.....	12,811,011	17,395,207
1917.....	13,947,440	18,253,716	1924.....	13,171,898	15,553,377
1918.....	16,292,249	13,817,315	1925.....	13,960,483	14,242,059
1919.....	15,721,822	17,592,450	1926.....	12,474,352	12,249,006

The loss of nearly \$2,000,000 in the export trade in 1926 from the previous year is largely due to the loss on the two largest export items, sugar and diamonds. Sugar exports were 13,069 tons less in quantity and \$735,483 less in value. The price received per ton was very low in both 1925 and 1926, and for approximately the same amount of sugar sold in 1924 over \$2,400,000 more was received. Exports of diamonds dropped from 188,207 carats, valued at \$4,057,285 in 1925, to 145,097 carats, valued at \$3,300,952 in 1926.

EXPORTS FROM BRITISH GUIANA

Articles	1924		1925		1926	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Sugar, raw..... tons	85,896	\$8,482,200	97,728	\$6,785,740	84,659	\$6,050,257
Diamonds..... carats	184,572	4,097,437	188,207	4,057,285	145,097	3,300,952
Bauxite..... tons	154,324	781,736	174,999	886,343	183,859	920,682
Rum..... proof gallons	769,304	363,856	1,148,124	562,212	789,643	398,871
Balata..... pounds	1,370,212	822,162	904,784	543,033	597,401	358,441
Timber, lumber, and products:						
Timber..... cubic feet	168,257	124,664	216,750	151,718	313,461	258,331
Firewood..... tons	6,477	19,569	6,144	21,429	7,716	25,619
Lumber..... feet	180,863	19,565	146,561	15,741	189,034	17,512
Charcoal..... tons	2,268	38,763	1,683	34,879	2,067	40,672
Shingles..... number	1,278,200	8,661	1,892,238	15,155	1,312,000	9,674
Railway sleepers..... do	39,238	31,519	39,777	32,921	10,794	6,654
Rice..... tons	4,470	312,587	6,918	523,964	2,914	218,146
Copra..... pounds	1,848,895	71,495	1,935,110	96,110	3,820,468	190,055
Coffee, raw..... do	513,115	56,075	668,029	114,593	773,257	132,623
Molasses..... gallons	1,160,757	96,943	1,345,243	100,428	2,017,862	103,443
Raw gold..... ounces	5,491	98,803	6,974	131,870	5,434	98,263
Coconut oil..... gallons	21,804	17,535	30,394	30,601	18,778	18,620
Molascuit..... tons	1,102	16,006	1,268	20,887	1,075	17,743
Rubber..... pounds	3,955	498	10,752	7,179	34,360	13,439
Hides and skins..... number	8,811	8,758	9,801	13,341	7,917	9,496
Lime juice..... gallons	9,785	13,961	8,430	12,130	4,974	7,156
Cattle, live..... number	391	7,220	514	14,332	44	918
All other.....		63,344		70,168		51,439
Total.....		15,553,377		14,242,059		12,249,006
Reexports.....		735,564		785,332		874,697

EXPORTS BY COUNTRIES

The United Kingdom and Canada are the leading markets for the exports of British Guiana by reason of the preferential tariff treatment, in accordance with the trade agreement. In 1926 the United Kingdom took 38.1 per cent and Canada 35.3 per cent of the exports. The United States purchased 7.7 per cent. The purchases of the United States consist principally of bauxite and small quantities of fruit juices, cacao, balata, and lumber. In 1926 the United States purchased all the bauxite exported to the amount of \$920,682, which accounted for more than 95 per cent of our total purchases. Sugar goes almost entirely to Canada and the United Kingdom, and diamonds to the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, and Belgium.

BRITISH GUIANA EXPORTS, BY COUNTRIES

Country	1924		1925		1926	
	Value	Per cent	Value	Per cent	Value	Per cent
United States.....	\$847,526	5.5	\$894,837	6.2	\$946,812	7.7
United Kingdom.....	6,040,751	38.8	6,428,402	45.2	4,665,224	38.1
Canada.....	6,734,551	43.3	4,049,095	28.4	4,325,583	35.3
Other British possessions.....	523,244	3.4	711,455	5.0	385,950	3.1
Other countries.....	1,407,305	9.0	2,158,270	15.2	1,925,437	15.8
Total.....	15,553,377	100.0	14,242,059	100.0	12,249,006	100.0

IMPORT TRADE

The loss of purchasing power in recent years resulting from unfavorable local conditions is reflected in the declining purchases abroad. Inasmuch as none of this loss was compensated for by

increased output from national industry, the drop in the import trade is a good gauge of market conditions. Proportionately, however, the imports have not declined to the same extent as the exports.

The leading imports in the order of their importance in 1926 were as follows: Flour, cotton piece goods, metal manufactures, machinery, meats, fresh and dried vegetables, tobacco, fish, bags and sacks, petroleum oils, and soap. The imports, by commodities, are shown in the following table:

IMPORTS INTO BRITISH GUIANA

Article	1924		1925		1926	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Food, drink, and tobacco:						
Aerated and mineral water.....		\$14, 879		\$12, 327		\$14, 075
Beer and ale.....gallons..	114, 796	177, 103	158, 641	239, 384	150, 986	230, 735
Biscuits, bread, and cake.....						
.....pounds..	196, 492	51, 825	229, 452	59, 825	227, 741	52, 321
Butter.....do..	602, 501	220, 219	573, 488	207, 652	553, 234	194, 114
Butter substitute.....do..	85, 004	18, 714	147, 685	27, 875	216, 437	35, 894
Cheese.....do..	212, 275	50, 157	241, 125	61, 442	229, 388	55, 371
Cocoa.....do..	188, 373	31, 670	218, 306	36, 659	174, 085	28, 548
Confectionery.....do..	73, 747	28, 532	92, 632	34, 413	94, 050	34, 366
Fish—						
Canned.....do..	482, 787	84, 779	619, 615	110, 448	479, 691	94, 490
Smoked or dried.....						
.....hundredweight..	31, 876	292, 675	34, 554	322, 778	31, 285	236, 928
Fruits and nuts.....		64, 255		74, 400		69, 412
Grain, pulse, and preparations—						
Grain.....pounds..	5, 248, 505	132, 053	5, 180, 351	142, 888	6, 286, 902	172, 890
Flour.....bags..	172, 031	1, 185, 316	151, 822	1, 359, 509	184, 492	1, 478, 701
Pulse.....pounds..	5, 013, 782	201, 788	4, 075, 137	157, 609	4, 835, 292	189, 790
Other.....		61, 529		60, 192		58, 670
Jams, jellies, and preserved fruits.....pounds..	66, 417	12, 434	91, 115	18, 829	111, 003	21, 289
Lard and lard substitutes.....do..	337, 576	49, 513	363, 109	56, 560	350, 072	51, 759
Meats.....		374, 734		426, 978		421, 684
Milk, condensed.....pounds..	605, 215	114, 886	789, 495	155, 349	813, 656	160, 407
Oils, edible.....gallons..	167, 887	180, 728	243, 453	261, 364	246, 356	233, 327
Sugar, refined.....pounds..	617, 939	42, 117	871, 163	41, 401	892, 612	37, 966
Tobacco, leaf.....do..	369, 651	65, 114	390, 454	70, 624	351, 793	57, 710
Tobacco, manufactured.....do..	195, 761	318, 041	202, 409	331, 802	169, 328	280, 814
Vegetables, fresh and dried.....do..	1, 636, 481	357, 731	1, 720, 130	330, 656		382, 130
Other.....		420, 654		473, 673		469, 353
Total.....		4, 551, 446		5, 074, 637		5, 066, 744
Unmanufactured articles:						
Coal and coke.....tons..	31, 597	284, 396	33, 274	271, 066	26, 362	209, 202
Lime.....do..	3, 637	54, 076	4, 769	66, 586	3, 572	49, 637
Oils, petroleum.....gallons..	1, 387, 672	274, 962	1, 383, 704	234, 477	1, 641, 269	291, 654
Lumber.....M feet..	3, 920	236, 252	4, 374	255, 724	4, 040	224, 002
Other.....		98, 577		310, 667		175, 983
Total.....		948, 263		1, 138, 520		950, 478
Manufactured articles:						
Apparel.....		119, 490		229, 748		177, 863
Arms, ammunition, and explosives.....		51, 105		43, 461		36, 929
Automobiles.....number..	206	149, 169	227	147, 846	275	155, 292
Bags and sacks, empty.....dozen..	85, 643	179, 373	90, 325	255, 482	104, 549	295, 199
Bags and trunks.....		12, 782		18, 581		13, 252
Books, printed.....		35, 993		38, 372		48, 482
Boots and shoes.....dozen pairs..	17, 406	273, 027	15, 226	265, 757	14, 130	209, 827
Bricks and tiles.....number..	896, 837	36, 030	813, 136	33, 858	304, 431	12, 030
Brooms and brushes.....dozen..	6, 028	17, 245	6, 176	16, 803	5, 770	14, 650
Candles.....pounds..	31, 825	5, 409	51, 102	8, 414	36, 857	6, 290
Cattle and other animal food.....pounds..	805, 265	24, 055	863, 692	26, 447	851, 886	24, 355
Cement.....barrels..	29, 255	93, 850	36, 442	119, 136	28, 156	91, 913
Chemicals, n. e. s.....		59, 883		111, 005		61, 317
Chinaware, porcelain, etc.....		27, 154		33, 576		28, 717
Cotton piece goods.....yards..	8, 373, 008	1, 297, 191	9, 905, 949	1, 544, 213	8, 528, 769	1, 154, 977
Cotton, other manufactures.....		240, 428		242, 014		215, 159

IMPORTS INTO BRITISH GUIANA—Continued

Article	1924		1925		1926	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Manufactured articles—Continued.						
Cutlery.....		\$12,437		\$13,322		\$10,680
Electric apparatus.....		46,263		43,477		27,520
Glass and glassware.....		45,170		51,234		40,572
Haberdashery and millinery.....		211,763		213,084		85,739
Hardware.....		186,277		225,275		181,798
Hats and bonnets.....		106,588		120,283		90,974
Hemp manufactures.....		36,101		37,160		36,912
Implements and tools.....		100,315		104,263		80,753
Leather and leather manufactures, except boots and shoes.....		20,593		25,994		24,222
Linen manufactures.....		6,164		1,585		2,409
Machinery.....		1,028,322		1,002,156		581,723
Matches..... gross of boxes.....	19,436	23,162	12,986	12,022	11,530	12,207
Medicines and drugs.....		144,146		161,706		150,416
Metal manufactures.....		441,067		586,649		675,769
Musical instruments.....		25,133		22,025		26,591
Paints and varnishes.....		87,088		104,851		78,407
Paper.....		159,969		218,805		170,035
Plate and plated ware.....		17,302		6,860		6,869
Rubber manufactures.....		82,926		75,811		93,428
Silk manufactures.....		88,619		80,877		77,034
Soap..... pounds.....	2,056,453	175,213	2,180,957	209,631	2,405,401	238,572
Stationery other than paper.....		28,270		29,393		32,334
Toys and games.....		31,632		32,498		31,914
Wood and timber, manufactures.....		76,414		106,956		108,672
Wool manufactures.....		151,642		150,287		119,597
Other.....		1,672,278		923,017		891,007
Total.....		7,627,038		7,693,934		6,422,466
Bullion and specie.....		9,384		21,260		17,117
All other articles.....		35,767		32,132		28,047
Grand total.....		13,171,898		13,960,483		12,474,852

TRADE WITH THE UNITED STATES

According to United States figures, our trade with British Guiana in 1926 was considerably below that of 1925. The actual returns do not record a very marked decline in view of an unusual item—tin imports valued at \$233,188—which brings the total imports to a somewhat higher level than in the preceding year and almost offsets the decline in exports. Imports of bauxite, the principal item, dropped about \$51,000 in value, but imports of cacao and molasses contributed relatively large increases.

The loss in our export trade in 1926 was distributed over practically all items in the trade, the only notable exceptions to the general trend being bituminous coal, cooperage, electrical machinery, mine cars, and fertilizers. The total trade figures presented in the following tables of the trade of the United States with British Guiana do not agree with those previously given from British Guiana sources. This discrepancy results from the different statistical methods employed, as well as from the difference in valuation and other factors. For instance, we include in our imports from British Guiana the aforementioned imports of tin, which would be shown as a re-export in the British Guiana figures. Other irreconcilable differences occur, such as in the imports of molasses. British Guiana figures show no shipments of molasses to the United States in 1926, while we show imports of over 1,000,000 gallons, and this is verified by the declared export returns of the consulate at Georgetown.

The following table gives the details of our trade with British Guiana in the past three years:

TRADE OF THE UNITED STATES WITH BRITISH GUIANA

Articles	1924		1925		1926	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
IMPORTS						
Cacao.....pounds..	22,945	\$1,836	7,722	\$842	141,912	\$24,505
Molasses.....gallons..	379,028	417,706			1,100,000	41,746
Balata.....pounds..	15,608	9,673	5,500	3,313	3,960	2,860
Diamonds.....carat..	181	7,905	368	25,520		
Bauxite.....tons..	136,142	703,090	172,431	911,412	173,151	860,528
United States products returned		123,310		26,099		22,538
All other articles.....		43,442		13,175		¹ 253,980
Total.....		930,962		980,361		1,206,157
EXPORTS						
Animals, live.....		12,486		28,019		804
Pickled beef.....pounds..	1,248,441	125,201	1,135,895	119,356	739,139	85,064
Hams and shoulders.....do..	128,584	31,241	145,311	40,161	130,929	40,907
Pickled pork.....do..	787,272	92,119	976,951	143,706	615,050	83,557
Butter.....do..	59,804	17,821	59,406	17,344	33,217	10,814
Lard.....do..	18,460	2,833	37,352	7,164	14,688	2,722
Fish.....		32,905		56,742		41,699
Cottonseed oil.....pounds..	11,913	1,343	700	112	412	70
Grains and preparations:						
Wheat flour.....barrels..	2,401	17,265	4,566	37,863	2,740	22,944
All other.....		14,563		20,546		19,647
Potatoes.....bushels..	18,097	17,178	16,125	15,971	5,130	5,900
Tobacco, leaf.....pounds..	373,051	63,157	385,401	64,570	317,286	50,538
Vegetable oils.....		16,822		432		273
Leather manufactures.....		13,133		18,200		8,644
Rubber and manufactures.....		14,008		19,621		18,104
Cotton cloths.....square yards..	499,064	71,709	657,563	103,583	764,276	90,400
Cotton hose.....dozen pairs..	12,007	20,244	13,237	23,931	13,981	24,068
Cotton knit underwear.....dozen..	7,255	21,816	13,083	37,946	8,796	25,624
Cooperage.....		1,125		5,551		17,630
Boards, planks, and scantlings.....M feet..	1,504	67,089	1,480	69,826	1,221	60,149
Paper and manufactures.....		7,766		12,073		12,375
Coal, soft.....tons..	16,852	93,522	15,493	79,741	19,378	97,564
Gas and fuel oil.....gallons..	94,257	12,242	35,290	6,238	66,067	9,697
Lubricating oil.....do..	74,038	42,707	73,059	42,687	87,535	43,658
Lubricating grease.....pounds..	129,891	10,337	99,452	8,385	68,633	6,722
Iron and steel manufactures.....		87,772		125,867		111,190
Machinery:						
Electrical.....		45,729		41,163		59,885
Agricultural.....		46,146		127,187		19,308
All other.....		126,047		220,894		124,625
Vehicles:						
Automobiles.....number..	68	43,492	42	42,441	21	19,180
Mine cars.....do..	37	10,771	20	5,650	34	10,500
All other.....		27,044		18,971		5,293
Brass, bronze, and copper.....		10,114		12,794		11,817
Pigments, paints, varnishes.....		12,704		8,039		7,251
Shoe polish.....pounds..	75,304	12,827	83,765	14,186	26,742	11,190
Fertilizers.....tons..	151	9,661	300	18,425	995	59,424
Explosives.....		12,579		14,608		9,276
Chemicals.....		41,832		61,215		41,944
Musical instruments.....		10,080		10,835		9,072
Toys and sporting goods.....		2,029		12,216		1,192
All other domestic exports.....		226,225		269,554		287,486
Total domestic exports.....		1,545,714		1,984,767		1,568,207
Exports of foreign merchandise.....		19,522		15,835		13,337

¹ The large increase in "All other articles" in 1926 is accounted for by imports of tin to the amount of \$233,188, a reexport from British Guiana.

DISTRIBUTION OF IMPORT TRADE

The share of the United States in the import trade of British Guiana in the past three years has averaged about 15 per cent. The United Kingdom and Canada together furnish between 70 and

75 per cent of the total, the former supplying about 47 per cent in 1926 and the latter about 24 per cent. This leaves only about 10 per cent to other countries, and half of that is made up of imports from British possessions. The imports from "other countries" come mostly from Europe, the Netherlands and Germany being the leading sources of supply. In the following table the imports by countries, with percentages, for the past three years are given:

BRITISH GUIANA IMPORTS, BY COUNTRIES

Country	1924		1925		1926	
	Value	Per cent	Value	Per cent	Value	Per cent
United States.....	\$1,891,511	14.3	\$2,144,315	15.4	\$1,900,762	15.2
United Kingdom.....	7,116,072	54.0	7,388,492	52.9	5,911,406	47.4
Canada.....	2,671,177	20.3	2,877,169	20.6	2,961,310	23.7
Other British possessions.....	783,467	6.0	716,304	5.1	768,760	6.2
Other countries.....	709,671	5.4	834,204	6.0	932,614	7.5
Total.....	13,171,898	100.0	13,960,483	100.0	12,474,852	100.0

One of the major causes of the very low percentage of the import trade held by the United States is found in the various trade agreements concluded with Canada, under which the products of the latter country enjoy preferential treatment in customs, also extended to the United Kingdom. In the fiscal years 1910-11 and 1911-12, however, before the original preferential agreement was negotiated, the share of the United States in the import trade of British Guiana was only 27 per cent. The principal change since the conclusion of the convention has been in the proportion of the trade enjoyed by Canada, which has increased from 8 per cent for the two-year average before the adoption of the original agreement to 23.7 per cent in 1926. What percentage of Canadian trade is represented by goods manufactured by United States factories established in Canada, it is impossible to determine.

In the 1912 agreement a limited number of products were given a mutual preference of 20 per cent. Subsequently, in 1920, a new convention was negotiated, which superseded the more limited agreement then in force, under which the list of products enjoying preference was greatly extended and the amount of preference allowed Canadian products in British Guiana was increased to 50 per cent, with certain exceptions. Dissatisfactions with the latter agreement led to a revision in 1925. While important provisions relating to steamship services were incorporated in this most recent treaty, the preferences accorded Canadian products imported into British Guiana remained essentially the same. The new pact became effective April 20, 1927, but the new duties were actually put into operation in March, 1927, and the benefits, as in previous treaties, were automatically extended to the United Kingdom.

The preferential treatment accorded to the products of the United Kingdom and Canada has made it difficult for the United States to compete in many lines on a price basis and, as British Guiana is largely a price market, this has been the determining factor in the placement of many orders in Canada and in the United Kingdom.

It is interesting to note, however, that the average percentage of the total imports supplied by the United Kingdom for the two years immediately preceding the original agreement was 50 per cent, whereas in 1926 it was less than that or, to be exact, 47.4 per cent. While the United Kingdom undoubtedly benefited in certain lines, on the whole it has just about maintained its share of the trade.

Canadian competition has been keen in some lines in which Canada is in a particularly favorable competitive position, and in a few products Canada controls the market. Canadian competition comes chiefly in foodstuffs and in some manufactured products, such as boots and shoes, motor cars, cement, and rubber manufactures. In manufactured goods the leading competitor is the United Kingdom, and practically the only lines in which the United States predominates are hosiery, typewriters, certain classes of machinery, motor-car parts, and electrical apparatus. We furnished more than 99 per cent of the leaf tobacco in 1926, but this item is excluded from the trade agreement, although the preferential rate has been 10 cents a pound under the general rate. Some of the loss in trade is attributable, of course, to other factors. For instance, in 1910-11 and 1911-12 the United States furnished all of the illuminating oil imported, but, with the development of the petroleum industry in the near-by island of Trinidad, British Guiana has drawn the bulk of its supplies from that source. In a few lines, notably wearing apparel and butter, our percentage of the trade was greater in 1926 than in the years immediately preceding the first discriminatory agreement.

GEORGETOWN

Georgetown, situated just inside the mouth of the Demerara River, on the eastern bank, is the chief port. The channel approach over the bar varies in depth from 9 to 20 feet and has a minimum breadth of 3 cables (about 2,000 feet). The harbor has five wharves, varying in length from 240 to 380 feet, which are used by ocean steamers. The depth alongside varies from 14 to 20 feet, and ship's gear is used in loading and discharging cargo. The harbor also has a dry dock 230 feet long, 200 feet on blocks, 40 feet wide at the entrance, and 9 feet 6 inches on the sill.

Georgetown has a number of important firms which handle the bulk of the import trade, and these houses usually canvass the entire country. New Amsterdam, the only other town of importance, is usually supplied by firms in the capital, and a number of Georgetown houses have branches there.

TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES

The rivers and canals form the principal means of transportation in the Colony, supplemented by limited rail and road facilities. The rivers form the highways of communication to the interior and are used for the movement of workers and supplies to the mines and for the shipment of timber and balata. The canals in the sugar areas serve the twofold purpose of irrigation and transportation of sugar cane and supplies for the mills.

Public transportation is handled through the Colonial Transport Department and by a private company, Sprostons (Ltd.). The for-

mer operates several steamers, launches, and ferries on the rivers and along the coast. The private company operates a steamboat service from Georgetown to Wismar, on the Demerara River, and a launch from there to the upper reaches of the same river.

The total railroad mileage of British Guiana is slightly more than 100, of which all but 26 miles are along the coast. Of this total, 79 miles are operated by the Colonial Transport and 18½ by Sproston's (Ltd.). In addition, there are 9 miles of narrow-gauge road on sugar plantations. Of the Colonial Transport trackage, 60½ miles is from Georgetown to Rosignol, on the Berbice River opposite New Amsterdam, and 18½ miles from Vreed-en-Hoop, on the west bank of the Demerara River, to Parika, on the coast at the mouth of the Essequibo River. The railroad operated by Sproston's (Ltd.) runs from Wismar, 65 miles south of Georgetown on the Demerara River, to Rockston, on the east bank of the Essequibo. Several proposals have been advanced for the construction of a railroad from the coast to the diamond fields in the interior, but up to the present no definite steps have been taken for the accomplishment of this project. For a more detailed survey of the railroads of the Guianas, reference may be had to Trade Promotion Series No. 39, "Railways of South America, Part II." Copies of this bulletin can be obtained from the Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., or from the district offices of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce for 85 cents.

Highway facilities are not developed to any great extent. The total mileage of roads is reported by the Government at about 450 miles, mostly short stretches. Of these the main system comprises 270 miles and the branch roads the remainder. Of the total mileage, 300 is stated to be suitable for motor traffic. In addition there are about 400 miles of trails, the largest, the Rupununi cattle trail, having a length of 182 miles.

Motor-bus transportation has made some progress in recent years, but the lines over which the busses operate have brought them into direct competition with the Government railway. Consequently, as the Government has seen fit to protect the operation of the railroad, the development of bus lines has been somewhat hampered. Protection to the electric-car service in Georgetown has been given by the Government through the enactment of an ordinance prohibiting competition by busses from all points within an area extending 440 yards from both sides of its entire track.

SURINAM

Surinam, or Dutch Guiana, which lies between British Guiana on the west and French Guiana on the east, has an area of about 54,000 square miles. Like British Guiana, the country is divided geographically into a coastal strip, a zone of savannahs, and a forest region. The coast line is about 240 miles in extent and the chief port is Paramaribo, the capital.

The five principal rivers, all of which flow northward to the sea, are the Corentyne, which forms the boundary between Surinam and British Guiana; the Maroni, separating Surinam from French Guiana; and the Coppename, the Saramacca, and the Surinam. The Corentyne is navigable for about 70 miles and for small vessels up to 150 miles. The Surinam and Maroni are also navigable for a considerable distance. The Nickerie River runs a westerly course through the coastal plain and empties into the Corentyne near the mouth of the latter. These rivers, together with the numerous creeks and canals, form the most customary avenues of transportation. The country has one railroad, the Lawa, which extends from Paramaribo to Macami, on the Surinam River, and from the opposite bank of the river to Dam. The line is 107 miles in length and is owned and operated by the Colonial Government. The Colony has few improved roads, the better ones being near the capital.

POPULATION, LABOR, AND LIVING CONDITIONS

The population is variously estimated at from 120,000 to 140,000. The approximate division of the population, using the smaller figure, is as follows: Negroes, 56,500; British East Indians, 32,000; Dutch East Indians (Javanese), 20,000; native Indians, 9,000; Chinese, 1,500; and Europeans, 1,000.

As in the neighboring colony of British Guiana, the two requisites for development of the resources of the country are capital and population. The importation of negro slaves was abolished in 1863, and at present the laboring element is made up principally of indentured laborers from British India and Java. Unskilled laborers are imported on contracts made through the Government and receive about 25 cents per day, with free housing and medical attention. Unindentured laborers receive from 25 to 40 cents per day.

The climate is tropical, but the heat is tempered by the trade winds throughout most of the year. Health conditions are not particularly satisfactory, and the country suffers from the usual tropical diseases. The recent drought brought out the need of an assured water supply, for at present reliance is placed on rain water caught on the roofs and stored in tanks. Paramaribo has a few wells, but the water is of inferior quality and is used only in times of drought. Monengo, a mining town on the Cottica River, uses river water which is run through a purification process and stored in tanks for use. No city has a sewerage system.

INDUSTRIES

Agriculture is the leading industry, and the products raised and the conditions under which they are grown are similar to those in British Guiana. Sugar is the most valuable crop and annually contributes the greatest share of the exports. The industry has suffered from the same adverse conditions which affected the industry in British Guiana in recent years, viz, the drought and low prices. The production for the past five years has been as follows: 1922, 11,924 tons; 1923, 11,787 tons; 1924, 9,885 tons; 1925, 16,612 tons; and 1926, 13,000 tons (estimated). Molasses and rum are also produced for local consumption and export.

Coffee is the second most important crop, and production in 1926 amounted to 26,560 bags of 100 kilos, as compared with 32,438 in 1925, 16,815 in 1924, 28,239 in 1923, and 25,860 in 1922. The cacao output has recorded a radical drop, production being reported as follows, in bags of 100 kilos: 1922, 13,600; 1923, 11,606; 1924, 7,979; 1925, 4,038. Figures of production in 1926 are not available, but the output was less than in 1925. Greater attention has been given to the cultivation of cotton in recent years and the output has increased, although the total is not very large. Production in 1926 amounted to 62,300 kilos and the exports increased considerably. Exports in 1925 were 9,926 kilos and in 1926, 22,102 kilos. Other agricultural products which appear in the export trade are rice, cottonseed oil, coconut oil, vegetables, maize, and fruits. In 1924, the latest year for which statistics are available, the production of maize was 22,404 bags of 100 kilos and of rice 180,129 bags.

FOREST PRODUCTS

Surinam has great timber resources, but up to the present time no systematic effort at exploitation has been made. The areas exploited are mainly along the rivers, where the wood can be easily transported to market. Balata is the most important forest product, and this is regularly exported. Exports dropped from 687 tons in 1925 to 470 metric tons in 1926, and in the early months of 1927 indications pointed to still greater declines in production, owing to the lack of demand. Approximately 2,000 men are employed in the balata industry and, aside from market conditions, gathering operations have been seriously hampered in the past two years by the drought.

MINING INDUSTRY

The two minerals of commercial importance are gold and bauxite. While formerly gold was the more important, the production has steadily declined, and in 1926 only 250,656 grams were exported, as compared with 265,487 in 1925. The average annual production from 1876 to 1920 was 754,000 grams, whereas production since that time has been as follows: 1921, 351,000; 1922, 373,600; 1923, 396,000; 1924, 322,700; and 1925, 308,500 grams. Operations are carried on in much the same manner as in British Guiana.

At present the most important mineral exploited is bauxite, the production and exportation of this product being of recent development. The supply of this metal, as in British Guiana, lies near the surface and is obtained by open pit mining. The Surinam Bauxite

Co. was organized in 1917 to exploit the bauxite deposits, but in 1920 operations were suspended because of the unsatisfactory state of the metal market, and were not resumed until 1922. Since then work has progressed on improving the facilities of extraction and exportation has commenced. All exports go to the United States, shipments in 1926 amounting to 46,454 tons and in 1925 to 86,826 tons.

FOREIGN TRADE

The foreign trade of Surinam in 1926 did not maintain the increase which occurred in 1925 and despite a gain of 5 per cent in imports, the total trade was 9 per cent below that of 1925. The figures of the colony's trade for the years 1921 to 1926 in Dutch florins and in dollars, converted at the average rate of exchange for the year, are as follows:

FOREIGN TRADE OF SURINAM

Year	Average exchange	Imports		Exports	
		Florins	Dollars	Florins	Dollars
1921.....	\$0.3365	13, 150, 025	4, 424, 983	6, 562, 014	2, 208, 118
1922.....	.3850	10, 563, 579	4, 066, 878	5, 688, 370	2, 190, 022
1923.....	.3910	7, 855, 161	3, 071, 368	8, 388, 338	3, 279, 840
1924.....	.3821	7, 496, 453	2, 864, 395	7, 409, 441	2, 831, 147
1925.....	.4016	9, 474, 161	3, 804, 823	9, 932, 306	3, 988, 814
1926 ¹4010	9, 995, 444	4, 008, 173	7, 670, 508	3, 075, 874

¹ Figures for 1926 were furnished in dollars and the conversion was made to florins.

The leading exports are sugar, balata, coffee, bauxite, cacao, and gold. The Netherlands is the principal market, followed by the United States, the former taking 67 per cent of the exports in 1926 and the latter about 9 per cent. In 1925 the percentage taken by the United States amounted to 18 per cent. The value of all important exports, with the exception of coffee, was less in 1926 than in the previous year. In the absence of complete figures for 1926, the following table of preliminary statistics showing the leading exports, by quantities, with comparable figures for 1924 and 1925, is presented:

LEADING EXPORTS OF SURINAM

Product	1924	1925	1926
Sugar..... kilos..	7, 658, 701	13, 973, 740	10, 236, 620
Balata..... do.....	555, 642	687, 415	470, 092
Cacao..... do.....	739, 514	817, 968	129, 221
Coffee..... do.....	2, 226, 649	1, 893, 072	-----
Maize..... do.....	226, 686	269, 647	147, 419
Rice, milled..... do.....	39, 425	95, 833	102, 111
Rice, dust..... do.....	60	79, 330	87, 910
Rum..... liters..	207, 649	269, 023	202, 076
Molasses..... do.....	97, 500	146, 730	-----
Gold..... grams..	315, 638	265, 487	250, 656
Bauxite..... tons..	60, 031	86, 826	46, 454
Wood..... do.....	(¹)	129, 828	232, 326
Cotton..... kilos..	None.	9, 936	22, 102
Cotton seed..... do.....	None.	7, 700	20, 245
Fruits..... do.....	(¹)	198, 378	95, 099
Hides..... do.....	57, 500	49, 997	61, 025
Coconut oil..... liters..	504	652	452

¹ Not comparable.

The Netherlands is the leading country in supplying the import trade, with the United States second, these two countries enjoying the bulk of the import business. The share of the United States in the import trade amounted to 39 per cent in 1926. Large quantities of goods are shown in the annual import statistics as imported from British Guiana, but this represents largely transshipment of goods originating in other countries. The leading imports are flour, meats, dry goods and clothing, machinery, mineral oils, fish, dairy products, and tobacco. A variety of other products is imported, and the market is similar to that of British Guiana, although the demand for foreign merchandise is more limited. Per capita imports were about \$33 in 1926.

TRADE WITH THE UNITED STATES

Surinam is the only one of the three Guianas to which our exports were greater in 1926 than in 1925. Exports were larger by \$367,586, or 36 per cent, but, on the other hand, our imports from Surinam dropped about 51 per cent. The latter loss is largely accounted for by reduced imports of bauxite, balata, crude rubber, and cacao.

The increase in our exports was largely the result of greater shipments of wheat flour, iron and steel manufacturers, and machinery, although increases also occurred in a number of other items. Detailed figures of our trade with Surinam for the years 1924 to 1926 are given in the following table:

TRADE OF THE UNITED STATES WITH SURINAM

Articles	1924		1925		1926	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
IMPORTS						
Hides and skins.....pounds.....					16,283	\$10,441
Vegetable wax.....do.....	50,709	\$9,202			88,184	26,000
Cacao.....do.....	1,249,258	98,306	1,575,426	\$163,735	521,023	66,729
Coffee.....do.....	514,536	81,267	205,249	43,571	118,707	25,196
Sugar.....do.....	2,364,653	107,103				
Crude rubber.....do.....			108,000	80,017	22,689	13,151
Balata.....do.....	189,763	143,176	190,784	136,215	24,421	16,564
Bauxite.....tons.....	47,844	156,681	86,158	287,032	48,643	153,452
United States products returned.....		6,051		8,177		14,394
All other articles.....		11,264		23,770		34,929
Total.....		613,050		742,517		360,856
EXPORTS						
Pickled beef.....pounds.....	1,106,156	109,047	1,068,550	120,241	995,750	121,563
Hams and shoulders.....do.....	77,195	13,347	100,713	22,667	62,718	17,191
Pickled pork.....do.....	204,025	27,073	175,414	29,563	88,159	16,656
Fish.....		8,883		13,002		14,193
Grains and preparations:						
Wheat flour.....barrels.....	32,078	193,520	31,231	250,274	35,608	265,705
Bread and biscuits.....pounds.....	92,181	5,817	99,496	9,024	60,952	6,152
All other.....		6,314		9,238		18,806
Vegetable oils.....		19,464		20,220		11,108
Leaf tobacco.....pounds.....	130,644	23,382	157,372	26,355	142,616	22,143
Cigarettes.....thousands.....	3,689	11,613	4,956	15,194	6,195	16,580
Rubber, total.....		14,130		14,583		22,309
Cotton cloth.....square yards.....	225,241	41,452	479,621	73,995	587,766	79,596
Cotton, all other.....		18,715		32,751		38,413
Boards, planks, and scantlings.M feet.....	56	2,278	405	19,193		
Coal, soft.....tons.....	2,601	12,249	2,434	11,787	5,040	25,173
Gasoline.....gallons.....	45,410	10,535	86,010	21,762	77,799	15,529
Illuminating oil.....do.....	255,760	44,289	325,000	56,611	242,983	52,701

TRADE OF THE UNITED STATES WITH SURINAM—Continued

Articles	1924		1925		1926	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Iron and steel manufactures.....		\$20,282		\$82,842		\$137,631
Brass, bronze, and copper manufactures.....		504		4,008		20,301
Machinery:						
Electrical.....		3,686		20,389		47,183
Agricultural.....		979		4,973		19,998
All other.....		71,035		112,962		260,042
Vehicles:						
Automobiles..... number..	7	4,884	6	3,834	19	11,810
All other.....		7,813		22,977		3,334
Explosives.....		2,670		10,156		3,415
Chemicals, total.....		8,948		3,175		17,940
All other domestic exports.....		101,679		188,585		303,251
Total domestic exports.....		784,588		1,201,137		1,568,723
Exports of foreign merchandise.....		17,129		18,523		9,212

PARAMARIBO, THE COMMERCIAL CENTER

Paramaribo is the capital and the only city of commercial importance in Surinam. It is situated on the west bank of the Surinam River, 10 miles from its mouth and has a population of about 40,000. All of the export and import trade is handled through Paramaribo, but the trade is naturally on a small scale and the wholesale business is not large. Some of the retailers are accustomed to importing merchandise direct. The towns, other than Paramaribo, are small and of little commercial importance.

FRENCH GUIANA

French Guiana is the easternmost, the smallest, and the least important of the Guianas. The physical features of the country do not differ materially from those of the other Guianas. The country is well watered by numerous streams, all of which run in a northerly direction and, as in the neighboring colonies, furnish the principal means of transportation. The one railroad in the country, owned by the penal settlement, runs between St. Laurent and St. Jean, a distance of 12 kilometers, but it is not generally used for public transportation. The mileage of improved roads is small.

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION

The population of the colony is about 50,000, or less than 2 persons per square mile for the estimated area of 32,000 square miles. This estimate does not include the penal colony. The settled population is along the coastal strip, but a large number of gold diggers, Indians, and unconfined convicts are scattered throughout the interior. Cayenne, the capital, has about 13,500 inhabitants, and the total population of the communes in the coastal territory is about 30,000. Cayenne is the only city of commercial importance. The importing houses in this city supply the demand for foreign merchandise, but the volume of trade is not large, as the inhabitants are comparatively few and purchasing power is low.

Labor is scarce and the available supply is not very satisfactory. Slavery was abolished in 1849 and with it went the established agricultural industry which, up to the present, has not been revived. An adequate supply of labor and capital is essential before any development of the rich natural resources is possible.

INDUSTRIES

Agriculture has retrograded to a point of little importance in the economic life of the Colony. Not over 9,000 acres are under cultivation at present, and only a very small quantity of agricultural products is exported. The principal agricultural products are cacao and sugar. Maize, tobacco, manioc, vegetables, and fruits are grown for local consumption. The gold industry is the most important in the Colony and has dominated its economic life, as most of the available labor is employed in its extraction. While gold deposits are found throughout the country, exploitation has been profitable only in certain scattered areas. The extraction has been largely the result of individual effort, and the workers lead a hard life from which the returns are very modest. Large-scale operations have not been successful up to the present. The construction of a railroad to the fields to facilitate the movement of workers, supplies, and equipment, would render operations more profitable, but, so far, only plans for such a

railroad have been prepared and its construction is not an immediate prospect. Exports of gold in 1924 amounted to 1,201,664 grams, valued at 12,016,640 francs, or about \$629,300.

Forestral products contribute a large share of the exports, rosewood essence and balata being the important items. Rosewood essence is obtained from a tree (*Licaria guianensis*), which is found scattered throughout the Colony. Its extraction has proved profitable and the industry expanded considerably since the first factory was started about 1900. Exports of this product amounted to 86,425 kilos valued at 12,963,750 francs (about \$678,110) in 1924. Balata is the third important export, and shipments amounted to 468,190 kilos in 1924, valued at 11,236,560 francs (about \$588,460).

The raising of livestock has received but slight attention, although an abundance of good pastoral lands are available. Some meat is produced for local consumption but practically no dairy products are, butter and cheese being imported mainly from France.

Manufactures are principally the extraction of rosewood essence and rum distillation. The Colony has several ice factories, and a few articles, such as bricks, pottery, baskets, etc., are produced on a small scale for local consumption.

FOREIGN TRADE

Statistical data on French Guiana are difficult to obtain, and figures of the foreign trade in recent years are not available. The following table presents the imports and exports from 1913 to 1923, the latest year for which figures are obtainable.

FOREIGN TRADE OF FRENCH GUIANA

Year	Imports	Exports	Average rate of exchange	Year	Imports	Exports	Average rate of exchange
	<i>Francs</i>	<i>Francs</i>			<i>Francs</i>	<i>Francs</i>	
1913.....	12,494,765	12,222,537	\$0.193	1919.....	18,698,716	17,092,959	\$0.13682
1914.....	10,773,916	10,215,129	.193	1920.....	40,405,823	42,674,734	.0704
1915.....	10,171,597	11,371,905	.1798	1921.....	48,150,967	23,144,060	.07455
1916.....	10,779,989	11,148,601	.17	1922.....	33,545,645	27,546,319	.08201
1917.....	11,972,900	13,146,615	.1740	1923.....	41,740,540	32,847,304	.06081
1918.....	15,308,526	15,321,697	.1780				

France is the leading market for the products of the colony and takes about 80 per cent of the total. Great Britain and the United States are the second and third largest purchasers, respectively. France also leads in supplying the imports, furnishing more than half of the total. The United States is second in the import trade, with about 20 per cent. The leading imports are flour and other cereal products, wines and liquors, textiles, and animal products.

TRADE WITH THE UNITED STATES

Imports into the United States from French Guiana in 1926 were over 35 per cent less than in the previous year. The loss was in essential oils and balata, and the relatively large imports of cacao, which appeared for the first time in three years, were not sufficient to make

up the deficit. Exports to French Guiana were also 40 per cent lower than in 1925. The only increase worthy of note was in illuminating oils, which increased from 91,000 gallons, valued at \$15,968, to 124,400 gallons, worth \$23,995. The details of our trade with French Guiana for the past three years are presented in the following table:

TRADE OF THE UNITED STATES WITH FRENCH GUIANA

Articles	1924		1925		1926	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
IMPORTS						
Cacao.....pounds.....					225,000	\$37,055
Palm oil.....do.....	537,600	\$42,000				
Coffee.....do.....	34,000	8,453	1,175	\$178	2,706	516
Balata.....do.....	68,187	40,427	48,176	26,022	16,672	7,515
Essential oils.....do.....	15,206	54,658		70,524	7,586	16,234
United States products returned.....		1,492		250		645
All other articles.....		3,647		6,150		3,670
Total.....		150,677		103,124		65,635
EXPORTS						
Meats:						
Pickled beef.....pounds.....	328,975	36,102	371,325	43,403	209,970	27,251
All other.....		21,786		20,342		6,601
Butter.....pounds.....	2,200	654	4,300	1,183		
Lard.....do.....	51,172	8,363	20,817	4,512	5,300	948
Cottonseed oils.....do.....	64,643	8,550	51,060	6,359	750	125
Grains and preparations:						
Wheat flour.....barrels.....	10,768	69,795	10,901	87,468	6,080	45,232
All other.....		3,357		9,906		1,794
Leaf tobacco.....pounds.....	41,263	8,875	51,154	10,501	51,629	9,201
Illuminating oils.....gallons.....	122,670	21,462	91,000	15,968	124,400	23,995
Machinery, total.....		17,090		7,379		1,831
Iron and steel, total.....		7,621		2,730		2,870
Vehicles, total.....		5,522		3,567		7,154
Chemicals, total.....		1,507		1,425		415
All other domestic exports.....		30,182		35,902		22,285
Total domestic exports.....		240,866		250,645		149,702
Exports of foreign merchandise.....		4,941		3,701		920

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE GUIANAS

Language.—English is used exclusively in British Guiana, and while Dutch is the language of Surinam, most of the merchants read English. French is the language of French Guiana.

Banks and credit terms.—Barclays Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada, in British Guiana; the Surinaamsche Bank, Nederlandsche Handel Maatschappij, and C. Kenten & Co. in Paramaribo; and the Banque Colonial de la Guyane in Cayenne. The usual credit terms are 30 to 60 days, but credit is extended only to firms whose standing has been carefully investigated. Credit reports are obtainable from banks or mercantile agencies in the United States or from the local banks, inquiries to the latter preferably being handled through the inquirer's bankers in the United States.

Currency.—In British Guiana the standard unit is the dollar, worth 4 shillings and 2 pence, and at par is approximately equal to the United States dollar. In Surinam, Dutch currency is used, the unit being the florin, quoted at approximately par, or \$0.402. The cur-

rency in French Guiana is based on the French unit, the franc, at par worth \$0.193, but at present approximately \$0.0392.

Weights and measures.—British imperial weights and measures are used in British Guiana and the metric system in Surinam and French Guiana.

Advertising.—The newspapers and periodicals are the principal advertising mediums. Posters, billboards, and motion-picture slides are little used, and the high rate for electric current prohibits the use of electric signs. The publications of British Guiana, with their circulation, as reported by the annual Bluebook, are as follows: Daily Chronicle, 2,000 to 5,000, according to the day of the week; Daily Argosy, 3,500 to 5,000; New Daily Chronicle, 5,000. Each of these papers publish a fortnightly mail edition of about 1,000 copies each. The Tribune, a weekly publication, has a circulation of about 2,700 and the Commercial Review (monthly) about 1,000.

The Dutch-language newspapers of Surinam are De West, semi-weekly, circulation about 1,200; Surinam, semiweekly, circulation about 1,200; and De Surinamer, semiweekly, circulation about 900. The New Paramaribo Times is an English publication with a circulation of about 100.

French Guiana has four privately owned papers with a circulation of not over 400 copies each. The Government also publishes a monthly journal, which has a circulation of about 200 copies.

Commercial travelers.—Information on canvassing the Guianas has recently been published in Trade Information Bulletin No. 491, "Travel Routes and Costs in Caribbean Countries." Copies are available for 10 cents each from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., or from the district offices of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce located throughout the United States. More detailed information is contained in the Commercial Travelers' Guide to Latin America, Miscellaneous Series No. 89, copies of which are for sale at \$1.25.

Mails and telegraphs.—First-class postage from the United States to British Guiana is 2 cents per ounce or fraction and to Surinam and French Guiana 5 cents. Packages weighing up to 11 pounds may be sent to any of the Guianas by parcel post at the rate of \$0.14 a pound or fraction.

British Guiana has 74 post offices and 46 telegraph offices, according to the 1925 statistics. In the same year the Colony had 570 miles of telegraph wire, 364 miles of telephone trunk lines, and 3,391 miles of wire in telephone exchange areas. There are four wireless stations controlled by the Government.

The latest statistics for French Guiana are for 1923, when the number of telegraph offices was nine and the mileage of wire 205. The number of telephones in use was 117, with 241 miles of wire. The mileage of telephone wire in Dutch Guiana in 1924 was reported as 632.

Shipments to the Guianas.—The division of foreign tariffs of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce has prepared complete data on documents, consular invoices, packing, marking, entry, warehousing, etc., required on shipments to the Guianas and is prepared to furnish such information on request.

American consulates.—An American consulate is located at Georgetown and a consular agency at Paramaribo. For the most efficient handling of commercial inquiries, however, it is preferable to address requests to the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Washington, D. C., or to the local district and cooperative offices listed at the end of the bulletin. In this way, if the information required is available in Washington, it will be supplied without delay, or, if not, the request will be immediately forwarded to the proper consular officer. Similarly, questions involving political matters, passports, etc., should be referred to the Department of State rather than direct to the consul.

OFFICES OF THE BUREAU OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC COMMERCE

DISTRICT OFFICES

Atlanta, Ga.: 538 Post Office Building.
Boston, Mass.: 1801 Customhouse.
Chicago, Ill.: Room 845, 33 South Clark Street.
Des Moines, Iowa: 121 Federal Building.
Detroit, Mich.: 607 Free Press Building.
Galveston, Tex.: 309 Post Office Building.
Houston, Tex.: Chamber of Commerce Building.
Jacksonville, Fla.: Greenleaf-Crosby Building.
Kansas City, Mo.: Athletic Club Building.
Los Angeles, Calif.: 1163 South Broadway.
Louisville, Ky.: Board of Trade Building.
Memphis, Tenn.: Chamber of Commerce Building.
Minneapolis, Minn.: Federal Building.
Mobile, Ala.: 317 Meaher Building.
New Orleans, La.: 322 Post Office Building.
New York, N. Y.: 734 Customhouse.
Norfolk, Va.: 406 East Plume Street.
Philadelphia, Pa.: Room 812, 20 South Fifteenth Street.
Portland, Oreg.: 215 New Post Office Building.
St. Louis, Mo.: 1201 Liberty Central Trust Co. Building.
San Francisco, Calif.: 310 Customhouse.
Seattle, Wash.: 820 Skinner Building.
Wilmington, Del.: Suite 13000 Du Pont Building.

COOPERATIVE OFFICES

Akron, Ohio: Chamber of Commerce.
Baltimore, Md.: Association of Commerce.
Beaumont, Tex.: Chamber of Commerce.
Birmingham, Ala.: Chamber of Commerce.
Bridgeport, Conn.: Manufacturers' Association.
Charleston, S. C.: Chamber of Commerce.
Chattanooga, Tenn.: 1301 Market Street.
Cincinnati, Ohio: Chamber of Commerce.
Cleveland, Ohio: Chamber of Commerce.
Columbus, Ohio: Chamber of Commerce.
Dallas, Tex.: Chamber of Commerce.
Dayton, Ohio: Chamber of Commerce.
El Paso, Tex.: Chamber of Commerce.
Erie, Pa.: Chamber of Commerce.
Fort Worth, Tex.: Manufacturers' Association.
Greensboro, N. C.: Chamber of Commerce.
Indianapolis, Ind.: Chamber of Commerce.
Keokuk, Iowa: Chamber of Commerce.
Lowell, Mass.: Chamber of Commerce.
Milwaukee, Wis.: Association of Commerce.
Newark, N. J.: Chamber of Commerce.
Orange, Tex.: Chamber of Commerce.
Pensacola, Fla.: Chamber of Commerce.
Pittsburgh, Pa.: Chamber of Commerce.
Port Arthur, Tex.: Chamber of Commerce.
Providence, R. I.: Chamber of Commerce.
Richmond, Va.: Chamber of Commerce.
Rochester, N. Y.: Chamber of Commerce.
San Antonio, Tex.: Chamber of Commerce.
San Diego, Calif.: Chamber of Commerce.
Syracuse, N. Y.: Chamber of Commerce.
Tacoma, Wash.: Chamber of Commerce.
Toledo, Ohio: Chamber of Commerce.
Trenton, N. J.: Chamber of Commerce.
Worcester, Mass.: Chamber of Commerce.