

Western Samoa.

The following table gives in general terms the external trade for the past five years :—

Year.					Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.
					£	£	£
1923	..	..	..	..	268,881	288,774	557,655
1924	..	..	..	..	274,803	361,418	636,221
1925	..	..	..	..	345,989	379,388	725,377
1926	..	..	..	..	324,940	320,783	645,723
1927	..	..	..	..	304,369	335,978	640,347

It will be noted that the only adverse trade balance was in 1926.

The United Kingdom is Samoa's best customer: £144,145 worth of goods were sent to the United Kingdom in 1927. Germany (£70,322), United States of America (£31,327), Australia (£8,200), and New Zealand (£7,628) were the other chief buyers last year. New Zealand uses only a very small quantity of the classes of goods exported by Samoa, and the amount purchased in 1927 is made up chiefly of cocoa-beans (£7,443).

The value of the imports into Western Samoa from the main countries concerned was during 1923-27 as under :—

Year.					Australia.	New Zealand.	United Kingdom.	United States of America.
					£	£	£	£
1923	..	..	..	..	98,000	78,000	20,000	63,000
1924	..	..	..	..	99,000	87,000	25,000	42,000
1925	..	..	..	..	104,000	91,000	64,000	55,000
1926	..	..	..	..	80,000	92,000	50,000	66,000
1927	..	..	..	..	69,000	89,000	63,000	51,000

It will be seen that the United Kingdom is gaining and that Australia is losing trade.

The quantity and value of the chief exportable products of Samoa during the past five years are shown below :—

Calendar Year.					Cocoa.		Copra.		Rubber.	
					Tons.	Value.	Tons.	Value.	Tons.	Value.
						£		£		£
1923	..	..	..	..	221	12,787	13,484	269,995	..	..
1924	..	..	..	..	1,016	57,958	13,202	284,272	..	..
1925	..	..	..	..	664	39,626	14,519	331,274	3	1,165
1926	..	..	..	..	356	20,151	12,249	275,086	33½	6,702
1927	..	..	..	..	792	48,216	11,665	242,672	158	24,802

The export of rubber from Samoa ceased in 1918 and has been re-established only in recent periods. The exports during the past year reached a figure more than double that of any previous year.

Cook and Niue Islands.

The Dominion proper does a substantial trade with the Cook Islands. The following figures show the value of goods purchased during the past four years by the Dominion from those islands: 1924, £149,676; 1925, £126,465; 1926, £119,407; 1927, £113,396.

The exports from the Dominion to Cook and Niue Islands amounted in 1924 to £96,757; in 1925 to £80,977; in 1926 to £109,636; in 1927 to £98,669.

The total external trade last year was £254,963. Trade between Cook and Niue Islands and New Zealand in 1927 represented 83 per cent. of the total imports and exports of those islands.

The principal items received by the Dominion in 1927 were oranges, £57,000; tomatoes, £19,000; bananas, £26,000; copra, £5,000.

Samoa - Niue - Norfolk Island - New Zealand Trade.

A new five-weekly service is being inaugurated between New Zealand, Samoa, Niue, and Norfolk Island by the new Government motor-vessel "Maui Pomare," which left Auckland on her first trip to Samoa on the 26th June, 1928. Leaving Apia, the vessel will call at Niue, and from there proceed direct to Lyttelton, thence to Wellington and Auckland, making Dunedin her port of call, instead of