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## BRITISH EAST AFRICA. SEYCHELLES.

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Statistics now available show that both the imports and exports of the British colony of the Seychelles Islands showed increases during 1916, compared with those of the year 1915, when both the imports and exports showed decreases. In 1916 the imports were valued at \$482,195, against \$359,270 in 1915, and the exports at \$542,475, against \$457,393 in 1915.

### Distribution of Foreign Trade.

As in previous years, the trade of the Seychelles was controlled in 1916 principally by India and other British possessions, France, and England. The following table shows a comparison of values of imports from and exports to the principal countries sharing the trade of the Seychelles in 1915 and 1916:

Countries.	Imports from.		Exports to.	
	1915	1916	1915	1916
United States.....	\$4,814	\$5,002		
Arabia.....	5,509	5,905		
British possessions.....	190,811	330,994	\$40,471	\$33,066
Dutch colonies.....	2,330	9,098		
France.....	39,809	33,825	279,647	280,008
French colonies.....	18,208	11,897	58,174	149,320
United Kingdom.....	89,809	77,157	78,197	78,660
All other countries.....	7,980	8,317	904	1,421
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>359,270</b>	<b>482,195</b>	<b>457,393</b>	<b>542,475</b>

The principal articles sent by British possessions were cotton goods, dholl and lentils, rice, and sugar from India and sugar from Mauritius; exports to British possessions consisted chiefly of guano to Mauritius and copra and whale oil to South Africa. England sent principally cotton goods, manufactured metals, and soap and received vanilla and essential oils; France sent chiefly wine and spirits, cotton goods and other textiles, and manufactured metals and received 95 per cent, or \$257,821 worth, of the total exports of copra, some vanilla, and other articles. The \$5,002 worth of imports from the United States represented petroleum oil and benzine, against \$4,498 worth of petroleum and benzine and \$316 worth of sugar-mill machinery in 1915. There were no exports from the Seychelles to the United States in either 1915 or 1916.

## Principal Items of Import and Export.

The value of the principal articles imported into and exported from the Seychelles in 1915 and 1916 is shown in the following table:

Articles.	1915	1916	Articles	1915	1916
IMPORTS.			EXPORTS.		
Beverages.....	\$22,773	\$19,423	Cinnamon bark.....	\$5,060	\$4,009
Breadstuffs:			Copra.....	281,094	271,463
Dholl and lentils.....	19,950	26,404	Cotton goods (reexported).....	2,780	70,043
Flour.....	10,376	11,042	Dholl and lentils (reexported).....	15,880	21,223
Gram.....	12,421	10,953	Ghee (reexported).....	2,068	6,418
Rice.....	70,195	109,075	Gram (reexported).....	11,611	10,163
Bullion and specie.....	9,732		Guano.....	19,075	9,537
Coffee.....	8,823	9,050	Haberdashery (reexported).....	220	9,014
Drugs and chemicals.....	5,376	5,605	Oils:		
Ghee.....	2,564	7,273	Coconut.....	9,655	9,151
Haberdashery.....	9,084	18,162	Essential.....	13,662	30,558
Metal manufactures:			Whale.....	33,620	6,812
Iron.....	8,861	4,530	Other.....	959	
Machinery.....	9,999	2,401	Shells, turtle.....	4,486	5,263
Other.....	8,162	11,955	Soap, coconut-oil.....	10,149	12,821
Petroleum and other mineral oils..	5,918	5,290	Vanilla.....	8,811	53,224
Provisions.....	5,292	3,596	All other articles.....	38,263	22,771
Soap.....	8,431	11,570			
Sugar.....	22,636	30,366	Total.....	457,393	542,475
Textile manufactures:					
Clothing.....	4,666	8,111			
Cotton goods.....	54,252	126,231			
Other.....	4,573	5,213			
All other articles.....	55,183	52,945			
Total.....	359,270	482,195			

## Agriculture and Live Stock—Other Industries.

According to the Blue Book of the Seychelles for 1916, there were 41,000 acres of land under cultivation in the colony in 1916 and 60,000 acres of uncultivated land. About 23,530 acres of the cultivated land is estimated to be devoted to coconuts, for use in the local copra industry. The approximate number of cattle on the island at the end of 1916 was 1,000; of goats, 500; sheep, 200; and horses, 150.

Coconut oil is expressed in primitive mills, but little is now produced, as nearly all of the copra is exported. Various new types of copra-curing houses for drying copra within 48 hours without the use of fans are reported to have been successfully established. In one factory at Victoria coconut oil has also been obtained recently by hydraulic pressure. There are 14 essential-oil distilleries reported to be established in the colony, with a production of 20,000 liters (5,283 gallons). Citrate of lime is manufactured on a small scale at Silhouette Island; whale oil and fish guano, which were formerly manufactured, are no longer produced in the colony.

There are five soap factories on the island, the product being exported principally to Madagascar and East Africa. There are four mineral-water establishments, one ice factory, and several masonry curing houses for the preparation of vanilla, the curing being effected largely in a type of hot-air furnace.

## Banking—Movement of Vessels.

The only bank in the colony is the Seychelles Government Savings Bank, at Victoria, Mahe, with a branch at Baie Ste. Anne, Praslin. There was \$29,089 deposited in this bank in 1916, by 383 depositors; \$24,702 was withdrawn; and the total amount at the credit of depositors on December 31, 1916, was \$25,405. The rate of interest allowed on sums under 1,000 rupees (\$324) was 2½ per cent and on



sums from 1,000 to 3,000 rupees (\$324 to \$973), 2 per cent. The amount of the bank's invested funds at the end of the year 1916 was 70,000 rupees (\$22,708), and its revenue and expenditures for the year were \$623 and \$500, respectively.

In 1916 the colony's revenue amounted to \$136,238 and the expenditures to \$147,680, compared with \$123,691 and \$151,803, respectively, in 1915.

The number of merchant vessels entered at Port Victoria in 1916 was 41 steamers, registering 110,795 tons, and 4 sailing vessels, of 485 tons; the number cleared was 42 steam vessels, of 110,830 tons, and 3 sailing vessels, of 401 tons.

### MAURITIUS.

The total trade of the British Crown colony of Mauritius in 1916 amounted to \$41,613,049, compared with \$33,829,616 in 1915, an increase of \$7,783,433. The imports in 1916 were valued at \$17,506,869, compared with \$15,591,840 in the previous year, and the exports, \$24,106,180, against \$18,237,776. The imports were made up largely of farinaceous foods, principally rice for the large Indian population, chemicals, fertilizers for sugar-cane plantations, manufactured metals, textiles, and beverages. As in previous years, more than 95 per cent of the exports of Mauritius in 1916 represented sugar, of which 230,560 tons were exported, against 225,440 tons in 1915.

Of the \$17,506,869 worth of imports in 1916, British colonies sent \$8,375,976 worth (chiefly rice and other farinaceous food from India), the United Kingdom, \$5,257,947 worth, and foreign countries, \$3,872,946 worth. Of the exports, valued at \$24,106,180, France's share was \$11,195,375, United Kingdom's \$7,831,073, British colonies' (chiefly India) \$4,228,009, and all other countries' \$851,723.

#### Leading Articles Imported from United States.

In 1916 the imports from the United States were valued at \$879,420, compared with \$704,583 in 1915. There were no exports to the United States in 1916, compared with \$23,729 worth of sugar and aloe fiber in 1915.

The values of the principal articles of merchandise imported into Mauritius from the United States in 1915 and 1916 are shown in the following table:

Articles	1915	1916	Articles.	1915	1916
Automobiles.....	\$156,382	\$268,900	Iron and steel, etc.—Contd.		
Beef, salted and preserved....	12,656	1,708	Wire netting.....	\$44	\$1,067
Cart grease.....	2,009	5,326	Other.....	511	497
Chemicals.....	15,084	9,965	Machinery.....	124,552	121,865
Clocks and watches.....	747	4,024	Motor cycles.....		3,998
Copper.....		9,204	Oils:		
Cotton manufactures:			Edible.....	7,462	2,826
Hosiery.....	9	2,834	Petroleum and other mineral.....	210,956	234,369
Piece goods—			Paper manufactures, other than stationery.....	1,549	6,290
Gray or white.....	404	4,441	Rubber goods.....	8,062	4,928
Printed.....		1,160	Tobacco, manufactured:		
Electrical accessories.....	357	4,303	Cigars and cigarettes.....	33,494	47,966
Fish, dried, pickled, or salted.	3,552	827	Other.....	74,373	70,673
Flour.....	2,173		Wood, chiefly timber.....	16,872	2,862
Hardware and cutlery.....	3,161	20,530	All other articles.....	7,802	24,384
Iron and steel, other than machinery:					
Bars.....	7,522	3,614			
Nails.....	153	11,440			
Sheets.....	16,697	9,419	Total.....	704,583	879,420



## Value of Articles Imported and Exported.

The following table gives a comparison of the values of the principal articles of merchandise imported into and exported from Mauritius in 1915 and 1916:

Articles.	1915	1915	Articles.	1915	1916
<b>IMPORTS.</b>			<b>IMPORTS—continued.</b>		
Animals, chiefly beeves from Madagascar.....	\$154,770	\$142,591	Textiles and yarns, and manufactures of:		
Beverages, chiefly wine.....	376,684	321,705	Cotton—		
Chemicals, chiefly for manure.....	1,029,589	1,322,935	Piece goods—		
Coal.....	546,107	866,165	Gray or white.....	\$465,087	\$385,243
Coin and specie.....	2,070,118	113,919	Printed.....	523,489	595,506
Farinaceous food, chiefly rice, dholl, and bran.....	4,238,564	5,836,893	Other.....	77,687	85,270
Fish, dried, salted, or pickled.....	107,006	111,951	Gunny bags.....	27,230	790,545
Lard, margarine, etc.....	147,877	176,937	Haberdashery.....	276,906	377,700
Manure and fertilizers n. e. s.:			Other.....	95,926	120,261
Animal waste.....	63,402	142,975	Tobacco:		
Guano.....	39,327	11,877	Manufactured—		
Nitrate of soda.....	71,765	137,631	Cigars.....	45,765	66,433
Other.....	28,954	43,192	Other.....	298,460	416,191
Metals:			Unmanufactured.....	2,685	3,061
Manufactured—			Wearing apparel n. e. s.....	113,633	133,997
Hardware and cutlery.....	207,729	166,760	Wood and timber:		
Machinery.....	938,516	545,138	Manufactured.....	83,570	85,764
Other.....	416,965	441,540	Unmanufactured.....	162,731	154,674
Unmanufactured.....	77,862	223,374	All other articles.....	1,171,859	1,840,440
Motor cars.....	222,814	310,990	Total.....	15,591,840	17,506,869
Oils:			<b>EXPORTS.</b>		
Castor.....	112,384	68,609	Aloe fiber.....	154,455	139,913
Mustard.....	152,414	193,716	Coconut oil.....	29,485	45,100
Petroleum, and spirits of..	198,917	289,945	Molasses.....	59	27,549
Pistachio nut.....	104,052	139,488	Rum.....	11,331	41,476
Other.....	386,556	133,821	Sugar.....	17,551,822	22,484,154
Opium.....	25,736	156,193	Vanilla.....	9,265	7,521
Paints and dyes.....	46,792	112,639	All other articles.....	481,859	1,360,468
Paper and appliances.....	51,649	110,245	Total.....	18,237,776	24,106,180
Soap, ordinary.....	160,269	324,555			

