THE ESTHONIAN
ECONOMIC BULLETIN

A SHORT GEOGRAPHICAL SURVEY.

Area and boundaries.

Esthonia has her geographical position defined by long. 23° 23' E. and long. 28° 20' E. and lat. 57° 28' N. and lat. 59° 40' N.

The natural boundaries are: in the West the Baltic Sea, in the North the Gulf of Finland, in the East the frontier line of Russia, in the South the frontier line of Latvia.

The coast line covers a length of more than 1000 km. Besides mainland there are about 100 islands scattered in the vicinity of the western and northern coasts.

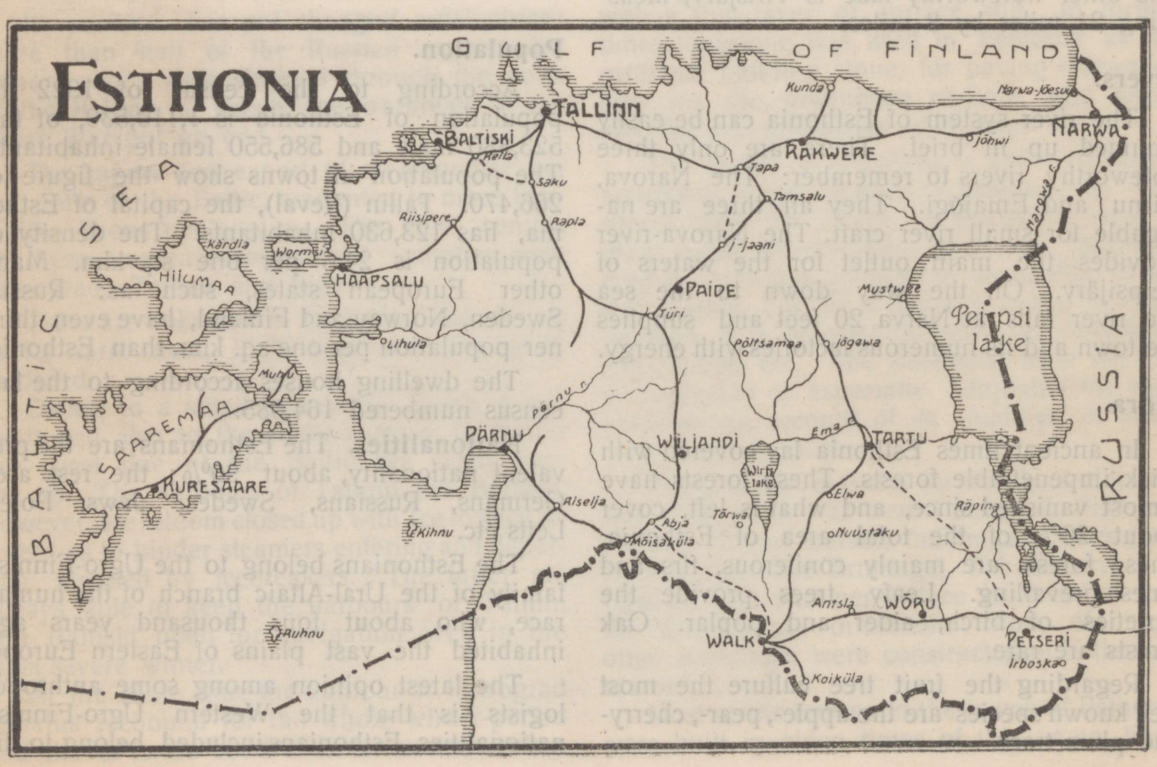
The largest of these are Saaremaa (Oesel), of about 2860 sq. km., Hiiumaa (Dago) — 960 sq. km. and Muhu (Moon) — 277 sq. km.

The total area of Esthonia covers 47,550 sq. km., of which 22% is areable land, 25% meadows, about 17% pasturage, 20% forests, and 15% peat and marshland. The inland waters cover totally 2,328 sq. km.

Physical features.

Esthonia, as viewed generally, bears the character of a lowland, rising from 100 up to 200 ft. above the level of the sea. The eastern and south-eastern country is intersected with small hills, which run as continuation of the Russian Heights. The highest summit of these hills is known by the name of „Munamägi", which reaches the height of about 1080 ft. above the level of the sea.

The coast line, which is low, sandy, and marshy in the West, rises abruptly in the northern direction, forming high limestone rocks and cliffs, approaching in some places the



Est.
Tartu Ülikooli Raamatukogu

height of nearly 200 ft. These high cliffs and surrounding hills often abound with dense forests and rich vegetation, which offer a picturesque view and invite summering pleasures for tourists.

Climate.

The climate of Esthonia, owing to the proximity of the sea, is rather mild, although the winter is long and somewhat severe. The temperature throughout the summer is on an average 60° F. or in the winter months 10° F.

South-western and western winds prevail. The spring is cold and dry. The raingauge shows about 20 inches of rain in the northern country, and 24 inches in the southern country, which quantity perfectly suffices for farming, evaporation being small.

Lakes.

Of the numerous lakes in Esthonia Peipsijärv is the largest. Its uninterrupted length together with Pihkvajärv runs for about 90 miles.

Three rivers send their waters into the Peipsijärv. The only outflowing river is the Narova. These rivers partly account for the high level of the water prevailing in the lake. The other noteworthy lake is Virtsjärv, measuring 21 miles by 8 miles.

Rivers.

The river system of Esthonia can be easily summed up in brief. There are only three noteworthy rivers to remember: The Narova, Pärnu and Emajõgi. They all three are navigable for small river craft. The Narova-river provides the main outlet for the waters of Peipsijärv. On the way down to the sea the river falls at Narva 20 feet and supplies the town and its numerous factories with energy.

Flora.

In ancient times Esthonia lay covered with thick impenetrable forests. These forests have almost vanished since, and what is left, cover about 20% of the total area of Esthonia. These forests are mainly coniferous, firs and pines prevailing. Leafy trees provide the varieties of birch, alder and poplar. Oak forests are rare.

Regarding the fruit tree culture the most well known species are the apple-, pear-, cherry- and plum-trees.

Acclimatized southern plants in Esthonia, which bud in the open air, are the lilac, the leder tree etc.

The most known berries are: strawberries, gooseberries, raspberries, blackberries, bilberries and cranberries.

Cereals: Rye, wheat, barley, oats and lentils. Other common articles of commercial value are the potato and flax which find excellent ground in Esthonia. Sugar beet can well be raised. The main forage crops are clover and timothy.

Fauna.

Rapacious animals, such as bears and wolves, are nowadays seldom found in Esthonian forests. Foxes, badgers, polecats, common otters, squirrels, martens and weasels are more common. Deer and wild goats are likewise scarce.

Of migrating birds nesting in Esthonia can be mentioned the stork, wild goose and other small birds. There are many different varieties of lake and river fish, among them the salmon, carp, lampreys, pike etc.

The fish of the Baltic sea are: the Baltic herring, cod-fish, eel etc., and sprats which are tinned in Tallinn under the well-known name of „Tallinna Kilu".

Population.

According to the census of 1922 the population of Esthonia is 1,110,530, of this 523,880 male and 586,550 female inhabitants. The population in towns show the figure of 266,470. Tallin (Reval), the capital of Esthonia, has 123,630 inhabitants. The density of population is 24.6 per one sq. klm. Many other European states, such as: Russia, Sweden, Norway and Finland, have even thinner population per one sq. klm. than Esthonia.

The dwelling houses according to the last census numbered 164,585.

Nationalities. The Esthonians are the prevalent nationality, about 90%; the rest are: Germans, Russians, Swedes, Jews, Poles, Letts etc.

The Esthonians belong to the Ugro-Finnish family of the Ural-Altaic branch of the human race, who about four thousand years ago inhabited the vast plains of Eastern Europe.

The latest opinion among some anthropologists is that the Western Ugro-Finnish nationalities, Esthonians included, belong to the

North European race, who are typically represented in the Scandinavians, North Germans and Anglo-Saxons.

Occupation. About 70% of the total population are engaged in farming and agriculture, about 5% derive their living from the fishing industry, 3% are skilled mechanicians and workshopmen and the remaining 22% have gone in for various other pursuits.

The Baltic sea.

The Baltic Sea, in its importance to Esthonia, ranks with benefits as the Atlantic Ocean does to England and America.

It used to be the gateway to Northern Europe in ancient times; it also was a busy thoroughfare of merchandise in the Middle-Ages.

One of its important ports was, and still is Tallinn (Reval), which once belonged to the Hansa League.

The Baltic Sea played a most important part in the early days of civilisation and later in the economic development of Russia. It was by this route that the culture and civilisation of Western Europe found their way into Russia through the merchants and traders of those days.

Its position has not changed much since: more than half of the Russian export and import goods were shipped through the ports of the Baltic, to which the outbreak of the Great War put an end.

The import and export of merchandise, via the ports of the Baltic, amounted to more than £ 50 millions per annum. The chief centres of these immense commercial activities were Petrograd, Tallinn and Riga.

Tides are unknown in the Baltic, and, owing to its narrowness, high seas are very rarely recorded.

Owing to a small percentage of salt (I per cent) and also to the shallowness of its shores the coast line of the Baltic sea easily freezes up. The harbours of Tallinn and Baltiski, however, are seldom closed up with ice to such an extent as to hinder steamers entering and departing unaided by icebreakers. The latter are always able to keep the harbours of Tallinn and Baltiski open for navigation even in the most severe winter.

At the same time the harbour of Petrograd remains icebound for the whole winter-period and the ice is too solid even for an icebreaker.

The ports of Tallinn and Baltiski are linked up with the Russian railway system, one route traversing Narva via Petrograd to Moscow, the other via Pihkva to Moscow. A third railway line runs between Tallinn and Riga, where it links up the Polish and German railways. There is besides that a narrow-gauge railroad between Pärnu-Valk-Tallinn.

MINERALS AND MINERAL RESOURCES OF ESTHONIA.

The geological formation of Esthonia, in general, does not suggest a great and extensive variety of subterranean mineral riches, but still minerals of some industrial and commercial value are to be found. With the intensity of scientific exploitation involved, there would be more mineral products than is necessary for home needs.

Limestone, dolomite, marble, gypsum and other building materials.

Limestone layers are found throughout the north of Esthonia and partly in the south. In some places limestone beds are covered only with a thin layer of surface soil. In former times limestone was used in Esthonia as the principal building stone, for paving sidewalks, also for the production of lime, and lately also for the production of cement.

The quality of limestone in Esthonia varies, according to the locality of origin. The best comes from the North of Esthonia, near a place called Wasalemma, and well resembles marble. Although inferior in its quality to the real marble, due to a different chemical composition, it is successfully used for doorsteps, tomb-stones etc. The limestone from the Isle of Saaremaa is especially adaptable for such purposes on account of its qualities of attaining a good polish.

The principal markets for this kind of limestone before the war were Petrograd, Riga and Finland. Many notable buildings in Petrograd, for instance The Ermitage, The Resurrection Church, The Summer Palace in Peterhof and the architectural ornamental work of mann other buildings, were constructed of Esthoniay marble.

Most of the houses in the towns of Esthonia were built in olden times of this same lime-

stone. These old massive structures built some 400—500 years ago are still standing and are up to the present in an excellent state of preservation.

The largest limestone quarries are near Reval and Narva.

Dolomite has also been in request as building material, being largely exported from Esthonia to Petrograd prior to the war.

The gypsum layers have not yet been thoroughly investigated. Gypsum is mostly found in the district of Irboska, in layers covering about 30 sq. klm. with an average thickness from 2.5 to 5 meters. Before the war Irboska numbered 7 gypsum works, of which there is at present one at work, and supplies the home market only.

The white gypsum of Irboska contains only one per cent of clay.

Of other minerals the granite is used as building material. This is mostly used for macadamizing roads and paving streets.

Clay and sand beds.

Of the paleozoic clay beds the Cambrian and „Blue-Clay" may be well noted. The thickness of this layer is estimated up to 100 meters. In most cases it is very plastic, only occasionally containing sand or gravelstone layers. It can well be used for the manufacture of bricks, and tiles. Owing to its contents of calcium and ferreous substances, it is not fireproof.

In pottery Mid-Devonian clay is used, largely also in the brickworks, and various drainage tube works.

Quarz-sand is found in scattered places and supplies the Glass works of this country.

Oil-shale.

The shale layers of Esthonia were discovered by J. Georgi, who reported of having found in the district of Rakvere a kind of earth that burns when treated with fire. According to the latest researches and investigations bituminous slate clay formations traverse in fairly thick layers, not deep below the surface, the whole northern part of Esthonia, from Baltiski to Narva. In a dry state the slate has a light brown colour; when moistened it is dark brown. It is easily inflammable, burns like tar, and, when burning, smells like burning rubber.

Analysis shows that it contains 15.8% of moisture, 41.1% of mineral ashes and 43.1% of bituminous substances.

The calorific value of the I-st quality shale is about 3500 calories. Usually it varies between 1750 and 4500 calories.

The bituminous substances are extricated from the shale by means of various methods of distillation; and these, in turn, are fractioned by a further heating process into various lubricating and fuel oils.

The distillation of raw shale by laboratory methods gives 38.4%, 36%, 33%, 28% and 22.8% of raw mineral tar respectively. The distillation in factories yields 30,8% (of specific gr.·92), 29.3% (of specific gr.·89 to·96), 25% and 20% of mineral tar.

After the elimination of organic substances from shale there remains a residue, consisting of inorganic ashes, which are used as raw material in the Cement Works. Therefore, most of the enterprises, which are engaged in distillation of oil from the shale, favour also a parallel industry of cement production. Raw shale may easily be used as fuel, and, as such, is actually used in Cement factories, Railway works, Gas factories etc.

About 12 meters deeper, than the layers of shale strata, other bituminous clay formations are to be found, which are known in England as tremadoc. The peculiarity about this layer is that it contains rather a high per cent of sulphur. These strata traverse the country from Baltiski to Narva; their southward reach is not yet exactly known.

This bituminous mass contains about 18 to 21% of organic substances, 60 to 70% of carbon, and 5 to 7% of hydrogen.

The calorific value of tremadoc is about 1500. Its analysis shows:

10.0% of moisture
10.0% of gases
4.6% mineral tar
0.6% of sulphur
74.5% of residue

This mineral tar, being distilled renders a comparatively high per cent of oils with a low boiling point, and rich in sulphur.

Pyrites often abound in this layer and have drawn the attention of chemists to the possibilities of exploiting same for the purpose of manufacturing of sulphuric acids.

AGRICULTURE.

The experiences of the last years before the Great War made the Esthonian farmer enlarge his scheme of merely grain-growing, into developing the line of dairy farming and cattle breeding. Esthonian farmers were unable to compete with those parts of Russia, where cereals were grown at a lesser expense. The prices of rye and wheat were in consequence firm. Only the prices of dairy products kept steadily increasing, due to the proximity of an excellent market at Petrograd.

There are other reasons too why the Esthonian farmer took to cattle breeding. The summer with its prevalent humidity, is far more favourable for forage-crops and herbs, than it is for cereals.

The extension of the potato-growing, being cheaper and yielding more than anything else in its line (the surface soil in Esthonia is particularly good for potato-growing), was likewise an important factor in the change which took place in the national farming scheme.

This was the more encouraged by the knowledge that potato, apart from being a cheap food, has a double commercial value at the same time. It is profitably used by the spirit distilleries, and the residue of the distilleries is used as food for cattle.

With the era of independence many changes were brought about in agricultural and farming pursuits. Methods had been improved, and they have become far more intensive. The use of machinery in agriculture has become a common thing. Thrashers, mowers, tractors etc., are to be found everywhere. Artificial manure has been in use for years.

THE AGGREGATE AND NET HARVEST OF THE PRINCIPAL CROPS IN 1922.

(Data of the Statistical Bureau.)

	Plough area Acres	Total tons	Seed tons	Net tons
Winter rye . .	387,600	139,600	26,600	113,000
Winter wheat .	22,000	9,200	1,500	7,700
Summer rye .	4,700	1,500	300	1,200
Summer wheat	30,200	11,200	1,900	9,300
Lentils, peas, beans . . .	19,200	5,800	1,330	4,400
TOTAL .	463,700	167,300	31,630	135,600
Barley . . .	331,300	143,200	22,800	120,400
Oats	398,900	143,700	29,500	114,200
Sundry . . .	159,000	74,700	11,700	63,000
TOTAL .	889,200	361,600	64,000	297,600

An Esthonian Farmhouse.

	Plough area Acres	Total tons	Seed tons	Net tons
Potatoes . . .	186,700	706,700	199,400	507,300
Root forage crops . . .	7,800	58.900	—	58,900
Linseed . . .	—	8,200	3,100	5,100
Flax fibre . .	59,200	9,300	—	9,300
TOTAL .	253,700	783,100	202,500	580,600

These figures, as compared with those of the previous years, give a clear summary of their development, indicated by the following table:

	1922 Tons	1921 Tons	1913 Tons	1910–1914 Tons average
Winter rye . .	139,600	169,800	152,200	170,100
Winter wheat .	9,200	7,600	6,800	7,000
Barley . . .	143,200	122,700	121,200	114,800
Oats	143,700	159,000	130,100	109,300
Potatoes . . .	706,700	746,900	736,400	754,800
Linseed . . .	8,200	7,800	14,100	12,500
Flaxfibre . . .	9,300	6,600	16,000	12,900

The crops of rye and wheat in 1922 did not come up to the expectations. Heavy snows in winter and a wet summer spoiled the crops. In spite of this barley, oats and summer wheat showed a better harvest, than it was prior to the war. Potatoes were spoiled by the wet summer. The produce of flax has not yet reached its pre-war standard, although this line is showing marked signs of improvement in comparison to previous years.

CULTIVATION OF POTATOES.

The growing of potatoes has always been an important feature in the Esthonian agriculture.

Potatoes are grown mostly in the Northern country. The district of Rakvere alone exports more potatoes than all other districts put together. Potatoes grown in the Rakvere district contain about 18% of starch and if raised on sandy soil even 22%.

„Emperor", „Magnum Regnum" and „Professor Märker" are the well known sorts, but there are other varieties too.

Land occupied under potato fields in the years:

1919 135,000 acr. yielding a yearly crop of 492,000 tons
1920 157,000 „ „ „ „ „ „ 569,000 „
1921 167,000 „ „ „ „ „ „ 747,000 „
1922 187,000 „ „ „ „ „ „ 707,000 „

Prior to the war the greatest bulk went to Petrograd (about 40,000 to 60,000 tons yearly) and to a certain extent also to the English, Swedish, and Finnish markets.

The following table shows number of tons exported during the last four years:

1919 13,900 tons
1920 25,600 „
1921 19,200 „
1922 46,000 „

The reopening of spirit distilleries has increased the home use of potatoes, which provide also material for starch, and glucose (starch sugar) factories.

In 1921 the yearly output of starch, and glucose (starch sugar), amounted to 1,200 and 34 tons respectively.

CULTIVATION OF FLAX.

According to the data of the Central Statistical Bureau the average area under flax in Esthonia in amounted 1922 to 59,186 acres.

The average crop per acre is 3 cwts of fibre and 2.7 cwts of seed. Hence the total crop amounts to:

9,260 tons of fibre
8,200 tons of seed

The following figures show the increase in area tilled under flax, and also the total output, for the last year:

Year	Tilled soil in acres	Crop of fibre	Crop of seed
1908	96,187	20,367 tons	19,900 tons
1920	50,049	5,076 „	4,650 „
1921	49,650	6,825 „	7,710 „
1922	59,186	9,263 „	8,202 „

We may see from these figures that the crop has not yet reached the output of the pre-war standard. There are several reasons for this. The main reason is the increase in the cost of labour. Prior to the war the farm hands received no overtime pay, which they get now, and this, consequently, increased the price of flax products.

Wherever a farmer has to employ any outside labour we usually see reduction of the area tilled under flax.

Export:

Year.	Fibre.	Seed.
1921	5,482 tons.	1,257 tons.
1922	9,911 „	3,112 „

The consumption of flax and tow in the mills of Esthonia amounted in 1921 to 750 tons.

FORESTRY.

Forests, coniferous and deciduous (totalling 17,000 sq. miles), cover about 20 % of the total area of Esthonia. Of this 2,6 million acres belong to the State and the rest to private owners.

There come approximately 9.7 acres of forestland per individual in Esthonia.

The State forests are administered and exploited by the Forestry Department of the Ministry of Agriculture. This department periodically decides on portions for felling to be leased or sold by auction. In 1920 these allotments were limited to 23,000 acres, but owing to the increasing demand they were revised in 1922, and an additional increase of 1,000 acres has been decided upon, making a yearly felling portion of 24,000 acres.

The yearly growth of forests is estimated at 120 to 140 cub. ft. per acre.

Although a great deal has been done by replantations for the purpose of safeguarding of future supplies, per drainage of marshy areas etc., yet there remains much to be done to manage an up to date forestry on a sound economic basis.

It may be noted that timber has always been the most important item of the export-trade of Esthonia.

Planted young forest in Esthonia.

Timber can be exported from Esthonia without a licence, but is subject to export duty, which is charged per sq. ft. except pine and fir boards, deals and battens, where the duty is charged per standards.

The export of timber produce from Esthonia in 1922 amounted to 147,800 tons — 901,955,000 Emk.

ESTHONIAN INDUSTRIES AND THEIR DEVELOPMENT.

Situation before the independence and during the last war.

As a former part of the Russian Empire, Esthonia inherited from the latter big industrial enterprises, among which metal works, wood factories, paper and cotton mills occupy a prominent place. In 1913/14 the number of workers employed in these branches was:

Metal works	17,000
Paper mills	2,200
Textile trade	19,300
Wood works	3,300

These enterprises being situated on the territory of the Russian Empire, were established according to the needs of the Russian market, which supplied them with raw materials and fuel, and where they sold a large part of their products. Certain metal works and shipbuilding yards in Tallinn, as, for instance the „Russian Baltic" and „Boeckers" etc., served directly the needs of the „Naval fortress of Peter the Great".

The first years of the Creat War produced a certain boom in the metal and textile industry, which received big orders from the Ministry of War. Later, however, owing to the German advance and loss of Riga, the equipments of some factories were evacuated to some distant Russian provinces; this happened, for instance, with the shipbuilding yards and metal works of „Boeckers" Ltd., and the works of Electrical engineering supplies „Volta" Ltd. The pulp mill of „Valdhof" Ltd. in Pärnu, and some small enterprises were destroyed. The heaviest loss to the industry was caused by the Russian Revolution of 1917, which, besides the decline in productivity, created great difficulties in securing of raw materials and fuel. Connections with the Russian and foreign markets broke down entirely after the Bolsheviks came into power in October of the same year, depriving the Administrations of the factories of their working capital. Members of the Boards were dispersed all over Russia and soon after that the country was occupied by German troops. All activity stopped, and all efforts to resume it failed owing to the indifference of the German military administration. Only after the German resistance gave way to the heavy pressure of the Allied armies, the German troops left the country, and after Esthonia, being forced to fight against Russian Bolshevik troops, who tried to invade her from the East, successfully terminated that war by honourable peace, was it possible to make a survey of the situation, view the prospects of Industries, and draft further plans for the future.

Situation after the liberation war.

The prospects were not encouraging: all industrial concerns had suffered under the results of the war, whether directly or indirectly. In some instances they were destroyed or damaged; in other cases their equipments were removed and their managers dispersed. No capital, no connection with the outer world, and the loss of markets. On the other hand, the home market was deprived of goods and the number of unemployed was steadily increasing. The lack of goods led the manufacturers to hope for a profitable sale of their products, and encouraged them to look for means of restarting their factories and enterprises, while, on the other hand, the State looked for means of settling the unemployment question. Thus the situation harmonized with the interests of the manufacturers and those of the government to a certain extent, inducing joint activity on both sides. 1920, the first year after Peace, did not prove satisfactory to all expectations. It soon became evident that it was impossible to recommence work on a pre-war scale, in enterprises inherited from the Russian régime and that it is necessary to adjust them to the changed political and economical situation. The Russian market could not come under consideration neither as supplier of raw material and fuel nor as customer; the country itself could not supply a sufficient quantity of fuel and raw materials, and consume the entire production alone. It became necessary to import coal, which formerly came from Russia, and as there was shortage of money, great difficulties were experienced in securing working capital, credit and raw materials. It was the period of speculation, where capital rendered large profits in some safe investments and where foreign capital was very retentive on account of the neighbourhood of Russia, which might bring eventually painful surprises. Hostile agitation, carried on abroad against Esthonia by left and right radicals, who anticipated the final victory of commu-

nism and nationalization of private property, likewise exercised certain influence. Most of these difficulties were overcome in the course of time, and work in the factories started, though not on a full scale.

Textile industry.

Principal branches of Industry.

The following columns give an idea of the output of the most important and best developed industries in Esthonia.

Kind.	Number of factories. Belonging to private societies	Number of factories. Belonging to individuals	Power used in HP	Capital in (Esth. marks.)	Number of workers employed before the war	Number of looms	Annual output before the war	Annual demand of raw materials
Cotton mills	2		11,707	2.448,000,000	13,000	575,926	84,257,160 yards of cloth.	23,032 tons of cotton.
Woollen-cloth factories	3		2,909	799,000,000	2,830	29,980	1,424,280 yards of woollen cloth.	968 tons of wool.
Linen factories	5	4	3,105	712,470,000	3,216	16,052	5,484 tons of coarse cloth. 241,800 yards of fine cloth. 842 tons of thread.	3,621 tons of flax. 4,838,5 tons of jute.
Felting factories		1	60		200		65,5 tons of felt and its produce.	
Cord factories		2	130		120		467,5 tons of rope etc.	484 tons of hemp and 77 tons of flax.
	10	7	17,991	3,959,470,000	19,336	621,958		

The situation in 1921/22 is illustrated by the following table:

KIND	Number of workers 1919	1920	1921	Output 1919	1920	1921
Cotton mills	3,239	3,428	3,456	9,257,937 yards of cloth and 379 tons of thread.	12,789,806 yards of cloth; 688,5 tons of thread and 15,2 tons of cotton-wool.	12,762,000 yards of cloth, 598 tons of thread and 20 tons of cottonwool.
Woollen cloth factories	1,856	1,430	1,622	344,542 yards of woollen cloth.	78,864 yards of woollen cloth.	336,060 yards of woollen cloth, 27,368 rugs; 1,560,000 yards cotton cloth worked on
Linen factories . . .	1,386	1,097	835	398 tons of coarse linen 75,969 yards of fine linen, 430 tons of thread.	136,872 yards of linen and 450 tons of thread.	715,233 yards of linen and 321 tons of thread.
Felting factories. . .	48	45	47	13,7 tons of felt.	34,5 tons of felt.	27,4 tons of felt.
Rope and cord factories.	35	35	44	34 tons of rope and cords.	19,4 tons of rope and cords.	156 tons of rope and cords.
	6,564	6,035	6,004			

As mentioned above, the products of the textile trade were sent in 1913/14 principally to the Russian market. After its dropping out the textile trade was forced to seek new markets and to adjust its products according to their requirements. While the Russian market received raw cotton cloth — unbleached, undyed and unprinted, neither the home nor the new foreign markets wanted any raw tissue at a rate which would provide the factories with sufficient work. Thus the factories were forced to open special bleaching, dyeing and printing departments, which gave good results and contributed toward a better sale of their products Care was also taken to produce a greater variety of patterns, especially by the woollen cloth factories.

The establishment of a cotton thread department at the „Baltic Cotton Mill" Ltd., in Tallinn ought to be mentioned here. This department has now developed into an independent enterprise. Its equipment has been made at a big local metal factory, the Dvigatel Ltd, and its production covers the demand of the home market. Its sewing thread is considered superior to foreign thread, and the Mill has received several orders from abroad.

The home market uses only a small part of the entire output of the textile industry. Most of it is being sent abroad. In 1922 11,355 tons of its fabrics, valued 1,576,500,000 Esthonian marks, were sold abroad.

The paper industry

was the first one to adjust itself to the changed economic situation and requirements of the new markets, and also to achieve substantial results.

Its productive capacity and output during the last year are given in the following:

Products	Factories		Power used in H. P.	Capital in Esth. marks.	Number of workers in normal conditions	Annual output in normal conditions	Number of workers			Annual output		
	Belonging to companies	Individual property					1919	1920	1921	1919	1920	1921
Paper.	4	1	4532	1,275,000,000	1930	34,516 tons of paper; 10,967 tons of cellulose.	1048	1109	1462	7,355 tons of paper; 1,868 tons of cellulose.	12,149 tons of paper; 3,166 tons of cellulose.	16,691 tons of paper; 5,193 tons of cellulose.
Pulp .	1	3	2879	17,000,000	195	7,419 tons of pulp.	88	131	135	3,172 tons of pulp.	4,071 tons of pulp.	4.590 tons of pulp.
Paper articles .		3	11		117	210,000,000 cigarette-holders & 161 tons of cardboard boxes.	57	85	106	118,382,250 cigarette-holders; 40,3 tons of cardboard works.	180,716,000 cigarette-holders; 43,5 tons of cardboard works.	182,380,000 cigarette-holders; 58 tons of cardboard works.

The most important paper and pulp mills are the Northern Paper- and Pulp Mills Co., Ltd., and „Türi Paper Mill" Ltd. The enterprises have supplemented their equipment with new modern machines, and have entered into successful competition with the neighbouring countries in securing foreign markets. It is worth mentioning that until the 1-st half of 1922 the Russian market was the chief buyer, ceding subsequently its place to America and Western Europe.

The productes of the pulp mills are used by the local paper mills, while the paper articles produced — cigarette-tubes, cardboard cases, paper bags etc. are sent to the home market. The number of paper article factories was 12 in 1922, and their maximum annual output amounted to 2,419 tons.

The timber and furniture industry

worked on a high standard before the war, and enjoyed a good reputation on the Russian and foreign markets. Its output greatly decreased during the world war and subsequent times of unrest. During the last years, however, a substantial increase may be observed, and at present the products of the timber industry rank among the most important articles of export. Before the war Esthonia had six big factories producing furniture. Their power plants amounted to 1,400 HP, the number of workers being 2,700. The annual consumption of timber was 3,750,000 cubic feet, and the total value of the output 629,000,000 Esth. marks. The number of the big sawmills was 10. Their power plants reached 700 HP. and the number of workers 600. The annual output was 5,800,000 cubic feet.

The following table shows the output and the number of workers employed in the timber and furniture industries in prewar times and during the last three years:

	1913/14	1919	1920	1921
Furniture factories . .	6	7	7	7
Number of workers . .	2739	274	877	1080
Annual output	Esth. marks	Esth. marks	Emk.	Emk.
	636,281,950	51,893,000	102,350,000	120,411,000
Saw mills and timber factories	10	13	18	52
Number of workers . .	600	225	400	1160
Annual output:				
Boards	19,262 stand.	12,550 std.	13,830 std.	33,160 std
Beams	267,000 pieces.	105,000 pieces.	300,000 pieces.	160,000 pieces.
Shingles	2,000,000 pieces.	500,000 pieces.	500,000 pieces.	100,000 pieces.
Doors & windows . .	—	—	—	7,000 pieces.
Houses	—	—	—	5 pieces.
Sailingships and boats .	—	—	—	28 boats. 1 sail.ship 213,80 br. reg. ton.

Among the furniture factories A. M. Luther, Ltd., of Tallinn, deserves special attention. Its plants are equipped up to date, and among its products the well known plywood (veneer), chair seats, and furniture, are of wide reputation. They are well known on the Continent under the trade mark of „Lutherma" and also in England, her colonies, and America, under the name of „Venesta". The factory is closely connected with the Venesta Ltd., of London. The principle markets for the timber and furniture industry after the war are England, Holland and Belgium.

Leather industry.

Before the war Esthonia had two big leather factories: Th. V. Grünvaldt in Tallinn and O. Vildenberg, Ltd., in Kuresaar. Besides these there were 24 tanneries which tanned, (without

any machines), hides of small domestic animals (sheep, calves). „Th. V. Grünvaldt" produces principally sole and strap leather, and on a small scale also Russian leather. It employs 80 workers. The O. Vildenberg Ltd., produces, besides sole leather also chromic leather, employing 300 workers. Both these factories used 100,000 skins of, larger and 40,000 skins of smaller animals annually. Small tanneries worked totally about 85,000 skins per annum.

The factory of O. Vildenberg Ltd., Kuresaar, was destroyed by German troops during the war. The work of other leather factories was impaired by regulations of the military authorities, according to which the purchase and sale of hides came under Government control. The Esthonian Government declared in 1919 the leather trade free. This was the beginning of development of the leather trade. A number of new factories were founded, while the old renewed and supplemented their technical equipment. At present the number of big leather factories is six, medium — 24, and small — 60. The capital of these enterprises amounts to 85,000,000 marks. The total capacity of their power plants is 540 HP. Number of the hands employed — 400. They use 200,000 raw hides of big animals and 150,000 raw hides of small animals annually, and might use 35% more. Raw hides are secured partly at home, partly in America, where the hides of big animals, used for making of sole and strap leather are purchased from. Small hides are supplied by the home market.

The import of leather products has, therefore, greatly decreased, and only such sorts of leather are being imported, which are not supplied by the home industry, i.e. kid skin and patent leather. Among the leather products sole, strap, shoe, Russian, and chromic leather occupies a prominent place. Coloured leather for shoes and furniture is produced at the factory „Kodumaa" near Tallinn.

Hand in hand with the development of the tanning industry, the leather goods industry made a great progress. In 1921 Esthonia had no shoe factories. In 1922 there were already three big and 2 medium enterprises of this kind. The capitals of the shoe factories reached in 1922 to the sum of 45,000,000 marks. The factories employed 338 workers, the annual output being 103,600 shoes. Like the tanning factories, the shoe industry sells most of its produce to the home market.

The chemical works

may be grouped into five classes — drugs and dyes, wood distillation, oils, cosmetics and soap, and matches.

The biggest enterprise of the first group are the „Richard Mayer" Ltd. chemical works, Tallinn. In 1913/14 it employed 360 workers and produced various chemicals such as sulphuric acid, sulphate, hydrochloric acid, ether, glue, acetic acid, soda sulphate, ink, glucose, carbonate of soda, antichlorine, lead white, varnish etc. valued at 340,000,000 Esth. marks annually. In 1921 the value of the output amounted to 19,712,000 Est. marks.

There were four more important wood distillation works before the war, employing 115 workers. Their annual output was 371 tons of tar and 242 tons of other products, as turpentine, pitch, sweet oil etc. In 1922 their number rose to 6, without, however, influencing the figure of output owing to installation of new machinery and repairs.

Among oil factories, those producing raw linseed oil and varnish, deserve special mentioning. Before the war there were two enterprises of this kind. They employed forty workers and their annual output was 322,5 tons of oil and varnish. During the last three years, however, their number increased to 10.

Their total annual output was 2,884 tons of oil and varnish and 4,838 tons of linseed-cake.

The number of the soap and cosmetic factories in 1913/14 was 3. Their annual production was 1,129 tons of washing and toilet soap, and 2,096.5 tons of various greases for lubricating purposes. With the beginning of the Esthonian independence there was better possibilities for developement in producing of cosmetics and higher quality toilet soaps at home. Five new plants for producing soap and cosmetics were established, and in 1921 their output reached 100,000,000 Esth. marks.

Among the principal articles produced by these enterprises are: washing and toilet soap, Eau de Cologne and perfumes, powder, creams etc. So far most of the output goes to the home market, one third of the output being sold to Russia and other neighbouring countries.

The match factories, numbering four, consumed 1913/14 181,790 cub. feet of alder, producing 72,000,000 boxes of matches (60 matches in each). 405 workers were employed at this time. During the war the output decreased by 70 per cent owing to the lack of chemicals. Already in 1920, however, the output reached 37,000,000 boxes and the total output of 1922 was 60,000,000 boxes.

At that time 543 workers were employed and 168,070 cub. feet of wood consumed. The match factories have renewed and perfected their equipment, and are able to produce now 77,500,000 boxes annually. Aside from the home market matches have been sold abroad, and their export in 1922 reached the sum of 10,000,000 Emk.

Exploitation of subterranean riches.

The cement industry is the most important in this line. There are two cement works, employing in normal conditions 1400 workers, with an annual output of 700,000 barrels of 0.6 tons each of portland cement which, owing to the small per cent (3%) of magnesia is considered to be the best of its kind in the world. During the Esthonian war for Liberation the factory buildings were looted by the Russian Bolshevik troops. With the peace, however, the work of reconstruction began. Local oil shale, near at hand, was used as fuel, and was found very economical and convenient in use, as its ashes are good as ingredient to the cement without deteriorating the quality of the latter. For this reason the output has increased from year to year, and a rapid progress may be observed at present, owing to the grown demand at home and abroad. While before the war Russia was the principal buyer of cement, the chief customers at present are France, Belgium and the United States.

The glass industry was the first one to suffer under the consequences of the war, as all German citizens were deported from the country, by the Russian authorities, and 90% of all workers employed in the glass industry were those German citizens. Owing to the lack of hands the factories were obliged to close down. Later the buildings were used for military barracks and suffered under the looting instincts of soldiers. Reconstruction began after the war for Liberation, and in 1922 three of four factories were working. Their annual output in 1922 was 580 tons of window glass, and 3,000,000 of bottles, glass vessels, etc. Thus we see that the production (645 tons of window glass and 1,000,000 bottles, etc. in 1914) has nearly reached the pre-war scale in regard to window panes, and three times surpasses it in respect of glass articles. It seems just to believe that the pre-war output of window panes will also be surpassed in the nearest future, as a new factory is in the course of construction and the older enterprises are perfecting and modernizing their equipments.

The total output of the lime and brick kilns, which were grouped under 16 big and medium, and about 150 small enterprises, was 50,000,000 bricks and 96,774 tons of lime in 1913/14, the number of hands employed reaching 700. Like all other branches of industry, the brick and lime industry was forced partly to decrease its production, partly to stop work under the pressure of war time circumstances. With the increase of building activity all big and medium entreprises of this kind, and part of the smaller, have started their activity. It is expected that after successful negotiations concerning marketing of these products abroad these enterprises will be able to work on a full scale.

The spirits and tobacco industries.

The spirits industry is closely associated with agriculture. It derives its raw material — potatoes – from the soil, and gives in return their refuse — dregs — a valuable indispensable cattlefood. In 1913/14 283 alcohol distilleries were active in Esthonia, the annual output being 346,180,000 degrees of pure alcohol. At the beginning of the world war the Russian Government prohibited the sale of spirits and wines, and this regulation remained in force until 1920. During this time the sale of alcohol could be effected only for technical or medical purposes by special licences, and owing to a decrease in consumption most of the distilleries were forced to stop their work. In 1920, when prohibition was abolished, work was started in 77 distilleries, producing 27,743,300 degrees, but already in 1921/22 the number of working distilleries was 178, with a production of 67,496,900 degrees. One third of the production of 1921/22 was sold abroad, leaving the rest for home consumption and technical purposes.

Liquor distilleries and makers of various cosmetic articles deserve mentioning among the enterprises working alcohol. There are six liquor distilleries which in 1922 produced 13,000 barrels of (of 12.5 l) various drinks like Cristall-Kümmel, Swedish Punsh etc. of 30 various brands.

A large part of these products is consumed in the country, the rest being sold abroad. Of the cosmetic articles, Eau de Cologne and perfumes are being exported to the neighbouring states.

The tobacco industry came into existence in 1919, when, owing to the import difficulties, there was a great shortage of tobacco and its products. The first important tobacco factory „Havanna" Co. of Tallinn could start its work in the first quarter of 1921. „Havanna" was soon followed by others, until in 1923 the number of tobacco and cigarette factories reached seven. The tobacco industry employes one thousand hands, the annual output being 3,000,000 cigarettes and 7,000 lbs. of seasoned tobacco. The action capitals of these enterprises reach the total of 85,000,000 Emk.

Raw tobacco is imported from Turkey, Greece, Russia, and America, and turned out into cigarettes and pipe tobacco. Thus in 1922 645 tons of raw tobacco was imported, representing a value of 281,000,000 Emk. The value of products was 472,000,000 Emk. and were sold mostly to the home market.

This short survey, which comprises only the better developed branches of Esthonian industries (a survey of the less importantis to follow) indicates that these industries have already, to a certain extent, recovered from the losses caused by the war, and are showing progress.

ESTHONIAN PEAT INDUSTRY.

(According to the State Peat-Industry Department.)

Esthonia has an abundance of marshes. Climate, soil and yearly rainfall are favourable for their formation and growth. The marsh lands, cover an area of about 4700 sq. klm. A little more than half of this area (2500 sq. klm.) are peat-bogs, and these alone are taken into account for the possible peat-industry.

The lower bogs are very valuable for this purpose, and after an effective drainage and cultivation are very useful for agriculture.

The largest moor areas are in the northern and western parts of the country where the lower bed is a Silur formation, whilst the Mid-Devon sandstone layers in southern and eastern Esthonia are less favourable for peat-moor formations.

Investigations undertaken in the last few years show that the moors are almost exclusively of recent formation. Their prevalent formation is: bottom Seggers-Carex-rush-peat, top Sphagnum Eriophorum-peat. Depending on the age of the bogs the one or the other kind prevails. The new Sphagnum-peat is the only kind to be mentioned; the so-called difference line between the old and new Sphagnum-peat is not yet fixed.

Further it has been proved that in most cases the moors are stagnation moors. This circumstance is highly favourable for their use, as irrigation on a large scale is excluded in consequence. Another important fact in favour of their use is that the peat generally contains a small quantity of ashes, about 5%.

The lowest calorific heat value of an air-dried peat, with 25% of water is about 3,500 calories; this value varies, of course, according to locality and methods of production. The depth of peat layers is also variable, in some places up to 10 meters, the average depth being taken 3.2 meters. Usually 1 cbm. of raw peat renders about 135 kg. of air-dried peat containing 25% of water.

Taking into consideration all these favourable conditions, one would naturally expect that Esthonia is a land of well developed peat industry (being, as it were, predestined so by nature). In fact, it is not so; on the contrary, the peat industry has very little been developed yet.

As fuel, peat has been used only for domestic purposes. It also was largely used as a mixture for manure by big landowners.

The reason why little attention was paid to peat, as fuel for industrial purposes lies in the abundance of well preserved forests supplying plenty of cheap firewood. Industries being small, the fuel question not acute, the requirements in pre-war time were amply supplied for by firewood and cheap coal.

The World-War brought many changes in the economic life of the land, affecting also the fuel question. Coal supply was cut off for some time, and forests became devastated or felled for military purposes instead of being cultivated and taken care of. The fuel question became acute. In 1918 about 80 peat undertakings were registered, 10 of these employing manual labour and 13, machinery for peat cutting and pressing. More propaganda for peat industry was made in 1919. An Association of peat Industry was founded with good success, also a special Peat-Department had heen appointed by the Ministry of Trade and Industry with the functions of furthering and promoting the peat industry, by establishing projected undertakings. From this time onward the development of the peat industry has made great progress. With the aid of the Ministry of Trade and Industry, machinery for the peat industry have been ordered from abroad (Germany) by the newly founded undertakings, also became the local manufacturers of machinery interested in building plants to suit the local requirements and conditions. Since 1922, 75 plants are kept working with machinery, of which 27 are manufactured in Esthonia by Franz Krull, of Tallinn, of the „Krull-Anrep" type, 10 „Ornstein-Koppel", Berlin, 2 — „Wielandt" and I Strange bagger type.

Great stress has lately been laid on the ways of the exploitation of the peat-bogs by new undertakings. The ruinous way of exploiting peat-bogs without the slightest knowledge of its conditions has been expelled. A great number of bogs previous to exploiting for peat cutting have undergone a strict and systematical investigation and research in regard to their geological composition, together with the technical possibilities as to their paying the costs of exploitation. The bogs have been measured, levelled, sample cuts made and analysed in laboratories. The results of these investigations, together with the descriptions of the conditions of various bogs have been published. The work done in this direction by the Ministry of Trade and Industry on the Jõõpre-Moor (an area of 22,400 hectares) north of Pärnu is particularly noteworthy.

Other state and private concerns have followed the example. The Peat-Bureau, for instance, has investigated through their engineers about 27,000 hectares of peat-bogs. In all about 35,000 hectares of peat-bogs have been thorougly explored and plans, with estimates for their exploitation, drafted.

This is a proof to the keen interest the new branch of industry aroused, anticipating great importance in the future economic life of the country.

In developing the peat production by scientific methods a marketable fuel can be obtained, which in weight, ashes, and moisture contents, and in calorific heat value, equals to other fuels, such as wood or coal.

It is the more significant that our peat-bogs deliver a peat which is light in weight and consequently requires inexpensive transport costs.

The production of peat powder for fertilizer mixtures should specially be taken into account for which purpose our peat is especially adaptable. After supplying the requirements of home markets we can even count onan export trade.

Shortly, Esthonia is rich in moors, and these moors form an important part of the riches of her soil.

These peat moors could be exploited at a comparatively small cost and without difficulty.

Most of the plants cut peat for fuel, lately also for electric powerplants. Peat production finds still few exploiters, which is partly due to the fact that in former days nearly every farm had its own production of peat manure mixture.

According to the statistic in 1920 there were more than 100 peat cutting plants, counting amongst these the peat cut for domestic need. The number rounds itself at the present to 300, with an average output of about 300,000 cub. meters of peat. It has been ever increasing since.

In conclusion it may be mentioned that in the years from 1905—1915 on the moors of the estate Kaardi Station Vägeva by Tapa—Tartu railway line various articles as binding bandages, insulation material, inner soles, and etc. were manufactured.

The following table gives a general Survey of the most important enterprises in the peat-industry in Esthonia, during the last 2—3 years, showing the date of their foundation, their activity and other data:

Year of foundation and name of the enterprise	Location	Kind of moor, area in hectares	Purpose	Number of machines Elec. driv = E Steam Eng. = S
1. State Peat Cutting Plant. Aruküla, State-Peat Industry Tallinn.	Tallinn. Tapa, railway Aruküla.	Lowmoor	Fuel.	4 S.
2. State Peat Cutting Plant. 1921. Ellamaa - Sooniste. State Peat-Industry, Tallinn.	Tallinn. Haapsalu, Ellamaa.	Peatmoor	Electric Power-Plant 2000 KW. Action radius 65 km.	20 E.
3. State Peat Cutting Plant 1922. Lavasaare (Jõõpre). State Peat-Industry, Tallinn.	25 km. north of Pärnu, private rly.	"	Electric Power-Plant 200 KW. Action radius 20 km.	2 Wieland Bagger E. 2 L.
			Fuel	2 E.
4. 1920. Peat-Industry Harku. Property of the Prisons Dept.	12 km. from Tallinn by Fort rly. Harku.	435 (part)		
5. 1918. Peat-Industry Kunda—Aru—Rakvere property of District Council, Rakvere.	10 km. from Rakvere, Aru by Kunda—Rakvere.	Peatmoor 175	Fuel Electr. Power-Plant 200 KW. Action radius 10 km.	5 E.
6. 1921. Private enterprise Krenholm Spinning Mills Krenholm—Tallinn.	Narva private rly.	Peatmoor 330	Fuel for own consumption.	2 E.
7. 1921. Private enterprise, Pääsküla.	7 km. from Reval, Pääsküla by Reval—Haapsal rly.	Peatmoor 666 (part)	Fuel	1 S.
8. 1921. Private enterprise Lehtse, Tallinn.	Lehtse by Tallinn—Taps rly. 2 km. from St.	Peatmoor (trans. moor) 117	Fuel	4 S.
9. 1922—23. Private enterprise Ülenurme Ulila Elect. andPeat - Industry Company Tartu.	18 km. from the Station Tartu.	85 Lm 326 Sm	Fuel Electr. Power-Plant 2800 KW. Action radius 25 km.	3 E.

THE FINANCES OF THE ESTHONIAN REPUBLIC.

The Budget of the Esthonian Republic for 1923.

Expenditure.

	Ordinary Expenses.	Extraordinary Expenses.
	(In million of marks).	
Riigikogu (Parliament)	55.8	11.7
Riigivanem (Head of the State) and State Chancery	24.5	—
The Office of the State Controller . . .	36.0	—
The Ministry of Finance	792.9	396.0
The Ministry of Trade and Industry . . .	21.7	61.1
The Ministry of Education	551.6	52.1
The Ministry of Justice	274.4	—
The Ministry of Home Affairs	325.2	30.5
The Ministry of War	1,308.5	306.1
The Ministry of Agriculture	286.5	232.5
The Ministry of Communications . . .	1,324.4	297.1
The Ministry of Foreign Affairs	114.9	—
The Ministry of Labour and Public Welfare	231.4	32.4
	5,347.8	1,427.5
GRAND TOTAL	6,775.3	

Revenue.

Ordinary revenue.	In million marks.
Income Tax	210.0
Tax on trade	266.5
Tax on property	41.8
Stamp duties	199.0
Customs	1,126.3
Excise	236.2
Spirit monopoly	991,5
State Property revenue .	2,074.3
Other income	558.5
Total ordinary revenue .	5,704.1
extraordinary revenue	1,071.2
Grand total	6,775.3

The extraordinary revenue includes 707.2 million marks to be met by loans and other credits assigned to cover the deficit.

As a comparison in connexion with the budget for the period 1921—1923 the following comparative table is of interest:

Expenditure	1921	1922	1923
	(In million of marks)		
Ordinary	4,841.5	4,686.9	5,347.8
Extraordinary . .	1,931.4	1,242.8	1,427.5
	6,772.9	5,929.8	6,775.3
Revenue:			
Ordinary	4,264.1	4,806.4	5,704.1
Extraordinary . .	1,104.1	510.0	364.0
Loans and credit operations . .	1,404.7	613.4	702.2
	6,772.9	5,929.8	6,775.3

CIRCULATION OF MONEY.

There are two kinds of notes in circulation: currency Treasury notes, and the notes of the Eesti Pank (The Bank of Esthonia).

The Esthonian Parliament has limited the issue of currency notes to 3,200 millions Emk. Actually the amount of Treasury notes in circulation has been considerably less than the limit, and has decreased during the year 1922. As a special guarantee fund, easily realisable, there is at the disposal of the Exchequer, in foreign money and gold, an amount of Emk. 2,393 millions.

Currency notes in circulation during the year 1922:

on January 1-st 1922 in Emk.	2,757,181,270.15
„ February „ „ „ „	2,799,094,870.15
„ March „ „ „ „	2,763,499,070.15
„ April „ „ „ „	2,880,552,902.80
„ May „ „ „ „	2,870,730,307.65
„ June „ „ „ „	2,784,648,702.55
„ July „ „ „ „	2,721,717,700.35
„ August „ „ „ „	2,901,791,792.30
„ September „ „ „	2,661,145,323.40
„ October „ „ „ „	2,577,577,166.25
„ November „ „ „	2,599,305,648.40
„ December „ „ „	2,565,110,636.25
„ January „ 1923 „ „	2,516,959,651.—

The issue of banknotes is limited to the amount of the assets of the Bank (Eesti Pank) and, according to the regulations, the banknotes must be covered by gold or foregn currency, treasury notes and bills discounted.

In the balance sheets of the Bank the amount of banknotes in circulation is shown by two separate items: „Banknotes issued" under liabilities and „Reserve of Notes (Cash in hand") under assets. The real circulation is the difference between the two amounts.

On January 1-st, 1922, there were in circulation:

	(in million Emk.)	
Currency notes issued		2,757
Banknotes	350	
less Cash in hand	152	198
Total:		Emk. 2,955

	(in million Emk.)
Funds of the Exchequer in gold and foreign currency	2,556
Funds of the Bank in gold and foreign currency	290
Total:	Emk. 2,846

In pounds sterling these totals would come to approximately:

(at Emk. 1535 to one £)

£ 2,000,000.— £ 1,800,000.— = 91%.

On January 1-st, 1923, there were:

	(in million Emk.)	
Currency notes in circulation		2,517
Held by the Bank of Esthonia		232
Total issued		2,749
Banknotes	1,500	
less Cash in hand	708	792
	Emk.	3,541

	(in million Emk.)
Funds of the Exchequer in gold and foreign currency	2,393
Funds of the Bank in gold and foreign currency	782
	Emk. 3,175

(Emk. calculated 1580 to = £)

£ 2,200,000.— £ 2,000,000.— = 91%.

The increase in the guarantee funds is due to the natural surplus of payments effected, and not to new loans, internal or external. Not only did the Esthonian Government take up new loans, but interest and instalments on former external loans were paid in 1922, as follows:

to the British Government:

Interest . . . . . £ 34,065.11.6

to the French Government:

Interest . . . Frs. 500,000.—

Instalments . . „ 3,400,000.— frs. 3,900,000

(The loan due to the Finnish Government, including interest, viz. Finnish marks 25,000,000 was repaid by the Esthonian Government already in 1921.)

The moderate increase in notes in circulation is attributed not to fiscal needs, but to the liveliness of trade and industry during the year 1922, a proof of which is to be found in the fact that during 1922 the Esthonian mark showed a tendency to rise. The average quotation of the American Dollar was:

January 1921 $ 1.— = Emk. 368.—
January 1922 $ 1.— = Emk. 365.—
January 1923 $ 1.— = Emk. 341.—

Encouraged by the real stability of the Esthonian mark during the last two years as well as by the favourable proportion of the funds of gold and foreign currency to the issue of notes, a proportion which does not obtain the majority of the other states of Europe, the Esthonian Government has drawn up a scheme for a Bill of monetary reform, which will be submitted at the next Parliamentary Session. According to this scheme the value of the Esthonian mark will be fixed in the proportion of 100 Emk., to 1½ gold franc and the treasury notes in the hands of the Exchequer together with the Exchequer fund of gold and foreign currency, will be handed over to the Bank of Esthonia. The Bank would then regulate the circulation of notes in the way the Central Emission Banks did before the war.

BANK OF ESTHONIA

(Eesti Pank) in 1922.

The most important task of the Eesti Pank during the year of 1922 consisted in regulating the Credit and in stabilizing the exchange of the Esthonian Mark.

At the end of 1922 the Bank had granted Loans to the amount of Emk. 3,053 millions, as against Emk. 1,355 millions in 1921.

From the investment of such a large amount in economic undertakings a considerable profit in the shape of interest accrued to the Bank, more than covering the increased incidental expenses. This is a satisfactory state of things in itself, no doubt, but a still greater importance attaches itself to the influence exercied on the economic situation of the country by the addition of more than 1½ milliards of fresh loan capital. Although it would be too much to assert that all demands for credit were satisfied, it is only fair to mention that the conditions of credit in this country have been more favourable than in any other of the new states.

Loans effected by the Bank:

1) BILLS DISCOUNTED, ADVANCES ON CURRENT ACCOUNTS, and TIME ADVANCES:

1)	Industrial Concerns:		
	large concerns	Emk. 842,976,000.—	
	small „	„ 433,709,000.—	Emk. 1,276,685,000.—
2)	Commercial Undertakings		„ 522,717,000.—
3)	Municipalities		„ 140,317,000.—
4)	Banks		„ 315,727,000.—
5)	Agriculture		„ 67,543,000.—
6)	Co-operative Societies		„ 261,582,000.—
7)	Publishing Firms		„ 43,880,000.—
8)	Various Undertakings		„ 181,748,000.—
			Emk. 2,810,199,000.—
II)	Letters of Credit (Documentary Credits)		97,999,000.—
III)	Liabilities of Customers for Guarantees		325,991,000.—
			Emk. 3,234,189,000.—

This total consists of loans in Emk. 3,052,872,000.—
Loans in foreign currency amounting to „ 181,317,000.—

This statement shows that the Bank has invested comparatively large sums in large Industrial undertakings.

The most difficult question which our new state has had to face is that of finding employment for the large number of workmen who were connected with the extensive industrial undertakings founded during the Russian period. Consequently, the natural aim of our political economics is to keep these concerns going, so far as the existing marketing and selling conditions will allow. During the Russian period these undertakings were financed by Russian and Foreign Banks. With Esthonia declaring her independence, neither Russian nor foreign capital were available and the only means of reopening the works was to find the necessary funds in the country itself. The Eesti Pank, as the central state bank and being at the same time the only bank, which had capital at its disposal, to any considerable amount was, in consequence, expected to supply the capital so urgently needed in most cases at the unction of the Government or of the Ministry of Trade and Industry. In granting these loans, part of which were long termed, the Bank obtained from the Government direct or indirect guarantees totalling nearly Emk 400,000,000.—, which were covered by deposits of the Exchequer with the Bank. The remainder of the loans is covered by goods, materials and other liquid securities, easily realisable, so that the security of the Bank's is not affected in any way by them.

To commercial Undertakings were granted Emk. 523,000,000.— as supplementary trading capital. In the first place the Bank has financed the Export of Flax, Wood and Agricultural Products, and, in the further interests of agriculture, the Import of Agricultural Machines, Artificial Manure and Iron. Articles of general use such as Salt, Oils, Coal, Sugar etc., were also financially supported, whilst articles of fashion and luxury and other articles of no great importance from an economical point of view did not receive any loans to support their import.

Agriculture takes the first place in Esthonia's economy. In the above statement the loans which agriculture has received from the Banks show a comparatively small amount of Emk. 67,000,000.— But as a matter of fact many of the loans dwelt upon further under other headings, have gone to recipients, who in reality have served to support agriculture. Thus, for instance, the heading „Commercial Undertakings" includes loans for agricultural machines, artificial manure etc., which were secured by bills given by farmers to commercial undertakings. Again the headings „Small Concerns" and „Co-operative Societies" include loans to flour-mills, woolcarding-mills, flax-, potato-, starch- and dairy co-operative societies, provincial loan- and savings-banks, etc., and all these loans taken together would make it appear that agriculture has received about Emk. 400,000,000.—

The Stabilisation of the Esthonian exchange, mentioned in the beginning, is closely connected with the question of loans treated thus far.

In fixing the rates of exchange the Bank has consistently tried to prevent great fluctuations. The subjoined table shows:

The Dollar exchange in 1922:

on the 2nd	January	Emk. 366.—
„ 1st	February	„ 357.—
„ 1st	March	„ 340.—
„ 1st	April	„ 342.—

on	1st	May	Emk. 337.—
„	1st	June	„ 329.—
„	1st	July	„ 341.—
„	1st	August	„ 341.—
„	1st	September	„ 340.—
„	1st	October	„ 348.—
„	1st	November	„ 342.—
„	1st	December	„ 342.—
„	31st	December	„ 342.—

Thus the exchange of the mark compared with that of the dollar, on a gold unity basis, has fluctuated between 366 and 329, remaining at 340—342 towards the end of the year.

The above table shows that on December 31st the exchange of the mark was 24 points higher than on January 2nd, which is equal to a rise of about 7%.

The improvement took place during the first six months, because, as is the case every year, considerable amounts of foreign currency then came on to the market. Toward the middle of the year the exchange was stationary and remained at about 340. Slight fluctuations took place at the end of Sepetmber and in the beginning of October, when the exchange rose to 349, caused by the fluctuations of the dollar and the pound sterling on the world's money markets. In this country the pound sterling formed the basis for the calculation of our rates of exchange, but the falling of the pound sterling auomatically raised that of the dollar. The Tallinn Exchange, in order to prevent fluctuations, which did not affect the real position of the mark, has since the end of 1922 adopted the dollar as the basis for its quotations. Thus the fluctuations of the mark during the year 1922 may be regarded as very slight indeed, and these fluctuations have constantly diminished in the course of the last few years, so that the mark shows a rising tendency. The consequence has been a fall in prices throughout the country. Not only have prices fallen, but they have remained stable, the buyingpower of the country has increased and there is greater confidence in its financial position.

At home and abroad the Esthonian mark is beginning to be looked upon as a stable currency. There is no doubt that in the first place this fact must be attributed to the country's favourable trade balance and the balance of payments effected. But the Directors of the Bank adhere to an opinion that the co-operative activties of the Bank form an important factor in the stabilisation of the mark. Thus the Esthonian mark has not been stabilised by exterior pressure or legal coercive measures, its stability has developed in a natural way from healthy economic conditions and the Bank's task has been to regulate these conditions in accordance with the interests of the state, in a manner satisfactory to all parties concerned. The Eesti Pank regulated the money-market with a firm hand and thus eliminated those elements, in whose aim was profit in the fluctuations of the exchange. In fighting against these profiteers the Bank has had two efficient measures at its disposal: reserves of foreign currency and the right of emission.

The year 1922 produced a good harvest, the export of which brought much foreign currency to the market; of this the Bank acquired considerable amounts and thus was enabled to create its reserves.

The reserves of foreign currency of the Bank were:

on	1st January, 1922,	Emk.	280,800,000.—
„	1st April	„	614,000,000.—
„	1st July	„	1,088,800,000.—
„	1st October	„	753,200,000.—
„	1st January, 1923	„	781,700,000.—

This fund serves to cover those demands which are not met with on the market, thus suppressing attempts to weaken the exchange of the mark for speculative purposes.

If, on the other hand, speculators should attempt to bring about a temporary rise, an event which happened in the beginning of 1921, the Bank has the possibility of buying up foreign currency by issuing new bank-notes.

On the 31-st December, 1922, the Eesti Pank made use of its right of emission to the extent of 1½ milliard marks, as against 350 millions at the beginning of the year. The average monthly circulation of bank-notes during the year of 1922 was Emk. 517,600,000.

The reserves of foreign currency, bought during 1921 and 1922, amounted on an average to Emk. 737,200,000.—per month. From this it is obvious that the issue of bank-notes during 1922 principally served for the purchase of foreign currency and not for the purpose of granting loans, so that the emission was not a source of large direct profits in the shape of interest on loans. About the middle of the year the stock of foreign currency rose to Emk. 1,088,800,000.— and the bank-notes in circulation amounted only to Emk. 700,000,000.—, less cash in hand Emk. 257,100,000.— Towards the close of the year the situation changed, and the

stock of foreign currency diminished. But in consequence of a pronounced demand for credit the Bank did not diminish the amount of notes in circulation, but on the contrary, the amount was increased for the purpose of granting temporary credits. Seeing that the money-market of the country is not extensive, a comparatively small amount of new paper-money, put into circulation in the shape of credits, was sufficient to influence the exchange; for this reason the Bank has always proceeded with great caution when it was found necessary to issue new notes. The Bank has always endeavoured o choose the right moment and avoid imperilling the exchange of the mark.

The increase in Deposits during 1922 was comparatively large.

Deposits.

	Private Accounts.	Treasury Accounts.
On January 1-st 1922	Emk. 277,600,000.—	617,500,000.—
„ April 1-st „	„ 309,200,000.—	1,095,100,000.—
„ July 1-st „	„ 388,800,000.—	1,345,400,000.—
„ October 1-st „	„ 460,900,000.—	1,296,300,000.—
„ January 1-st 1923	„ 665,400,000.—	1,493,800,000.—

The fact that deposits with the Eesti Pank as well as with the other banks of the country are increasing, allows of the conclusion that in consequence of the revival in the economic conditions of the country fresh money capital is accumulating and is beginning to flow into the banks. Naturally, some time must still elapse ere these sums reach the pre-war standard as the war has impaired the capital power of the whole country.

Considerable business was reached in 1922 not only with regard to the accounts mentioned so far, but also in connection with other branches of the Bank activity. Thus the intercourse with foreign countries has progressed satisfactorily. During the year 1922 the Bank received to accounts in Foreign Banks about Emk. 7,563 millions and paid out about Emk. 7,651 millions.

The clearing department in 1922 accounted for 20,793 cheques, totalling Emk. 4146 millions.

Securities in deposit with the Bank on December 31-st 1922 amounted to Emk. 707,800,000.

The total turnover was Emk. 76,066 millions.

Turning back to the activity of the year 1922, and by way of conclusion, it may be mentioned that during the second half of the year all Treasury Offices, which up to that time were subordinate to the Treasury itself, were transformed into Branches of the Eesti Pank. These Branches perform the functions of the former Treasury Offices, and the Bank does not receive any compensation on the part of the State. The Branches have taken up various operations of profit to the Bank. They have to bear all expenses connected with their numerous staff, but the profit-yielding banking operations not having yet developed the Branches naturally work at a loss. However, for the first few months the loss incurred cannot be considered very large. The receipts amounted to Emk. 7,600,000 and the expenses to Emk. 8,400,000.—, so that the total loss is only Emk. 800,000.—, i. e. 10 Branches showed a loss of Emk. 2,400,000.— and 2 Branches a profit of Emk. 1,600,000.

The year 1922 has been a profitable one to the Bank. The Profit and Loss Accounts show the receipts of Emk. 280,060,060.02, and the expenses of Emk. 107,497,933.38, which leaves a net profit of Emk. 172,562,126.64, as against Emk 134 millions in 1921.

ESTHONIA'S EXPORT AND IMPORT TRADE.

(Data supplied by the Statistical Bureau.)

The main items of export are: flax, timber, paper, textile goods, potatoes, alcohol, linseed, pork etc. Imports include: coal, metals and metal goods etc.

The following comparative figures show the gradual increase both of import and export in the last 4 years:

Year	Import		Export	
	Emk. (000's omitted)		Emk. (000's omitted)	
1919	782,440	100%	382,311	100%
1920	1,395,185	178%	1,228,379	315%
1921	4,482,607	572%	2,286,638	587%
1922	5,589,415	714%	4,811,580	1,235%

The month of May, 1921, still found the Esthonian export trade suffering under certain Government restrictions, which, with a few exceptions, provided for all goods a special export-licence, and required home needs to be satisfied in the first place. This, of course, considerably hampered foreign trade, which was rather slack and got straightened up only when the licence system had been withdrawn. The country rapidly regained its pre-war stability, and the speed of its economic deve-

lopment is even surpassing that of the pre-war standard.

The figures below give an appreciable survey for 1922:

Goods	Import		Export	
	Emk. (000's omitted)	Tons	Emk. (000's omitted)	Tons
Food, beverages, fruit, vegetables etc.	1,635,259	77,196	1,270,601	83,590
Livestock	839	—	83,144	—
Animal products	163,804	1,728	79,616	538,5
Plants & seeds	16,542	361	63,009	3,193.5
Timber & wood materials	55,305	3,916	901,954	140,054
Paper & printings	240,337	16,825	596,092	21,453
Textiles and cloth	941,843	6,350	1,576,477	11,353
Metals and metal goods	674,305	26,130	35,877	10,663.5
Machinery, vehicles, means of conveyance and transport	759,024	11,451.5	37,700	319
Stones, earthenware etc.	161,107	17,646	99,442	22,187
Oil-shale, coal, oils, fats etc.	590,945	108,131	14,053	401
Chemicals	268,518	21,555	21,600	1,051.5
Fancy goods	48,672	134	551	—
Other goods	23,294	336	31,458	357
Miscellaneous	9,615	—	—	—
Total	5,589,415		4,811,580	

This trade balance seems to be a passive one, as the imports stand rather high over the exports. Still one should bear in mind that the excess of import over export is well counterbalanced by the national shipping in foreign seas, as well as by various other items.

The following countries were traded with in 1922:

	Export to (in thousands of Esth. marks.)	Import from
Austria	—	50
Belgium	346,902	56,004
Denmark	203,757	196,618
Danzig	39,900	407,703
Holland	85,568	56,027
Switzerland	12	589
England	1,071,531	829,696
Italy	1,059	—
Latvia	310,069	248,798
Lithuania	2,161	9
France	135,659	9,027
Norway	3,569	3,905
Poland	108	100
Portugal	—	64
Sweden	316,760	150,499
Germany	609,291	3,059,112
Finland	325,913	356,467
Russia	1,235,122	82,785
U. S. A.	33,374	130,875
Other countries	89,918	1,081

The largest imports were from Germany (51%) and England (14%). In the exports column Russia occupies the first place, after her come England, Germany, and Sweden.

These figures do not actually represent the countries of origin or destination. The Esthonian Statistical Bureau preferred to confine the information to the countries of embarkation, rather than of origin. Goods dispatched from Czecko-Slovakia, Switzerland or Hungary via German ports are classed as German goods.

Main items of Esthonian export.

(Data of the Statistical Bureau).

Goods:	1922 Tons	1921 Tons	Value of Exports 1922 in millions Emk.
Foodstuffs			
Cereals	21,475	5,281	340.13
Rice	1,544	99	50.75
Groats	261	118	5.60
Flour	5,780	812	110.63
Potato	45,890	19,270	136.13
Potato flour	1,342	375	35.25
Spirit	1,810	694	172.20
Meat	2,090	113	119.14
Cheese	84	34	10.27
Butter	984	126	211.69
Eggs	311	151	23.48
Apples	325	1,196	8.66
Chocolate	23	—	5.64
Fodder	667	—	8.41
Live animals:			
Horses	1,148 animals		28.70
Cattle	3,005 „		24.14
Pigs	8,545 „		30.27
Hides & leather goods:			
Hides	283	0.3 tons	23.50
Worked leather	159	3 „	40.18
Furs	17	5.6 „	8.92
Linseed	3,111	1,240	61.42
Timber & timber produce:			
Deals & battens	82,055	29,732	417.56
Props	35,120	8,852	91.86
Sleepers	16,685	14,336	79 79
Plywood, veneer & joinery work	5,897	2,828	277.50
Paper & printings:			
Paper	20,532	10,223	574.91
Textiles & textile produce:			
Flax (fibre)	9,511	5,516	987.86
Tow	399	—	23.32

Cotton goods .	1,009		407.00
Linen	229	1,012	89.29
Cotton thread & yarn	152		52 67
Cement. . . .	20,505	6,368	98.48
Soap	188	—	11.57
Matches . . .	198	13.7	10.44

These figures represent 95 per cent of the total export trade. The exports in 1922 amounted to a total value of 4,811,580,868 Emk.

Chocolate, soap and cotton yarn appear as articles of export for the first time in 1922.

The principal articles of export were:

Flax	987.8	Million Emk.	25% of total Export.
Printing paper	574.9	„ „	11.9% „ „ „
Deals & battens	417.6	„ „	8.7% „ „ „
Cotton goods .	407.0	„ „	8.4% „ „ „
Cereals . . .	340.1	„ „	7.1% „ „ „
Plywood, veneer & joinery works . . .	277.5	„ „	5.8% „ „ „
Butter . . .	211.7	„ „	4.4% „ „ „

Main items of import.

(Data of the Statistical Bureau.)

Goods:	Quantity 1922 Tons.	Quantity 1921 Tons.	Value of 1922 Imports in millions of Emk.
Foodstuffs			
Cereals . . .	11,419	4,348	146.2
Rice	1,545	3,369	45.4
Flour	14,388	12,150	425.1
Groats . .	900	366	25.7
Herrings . . .	6,401	13,589	112.5
Salted fish . .	404	847	4.1
Sugar . . .	14,413	11,019	499.3
Salt	24,887	13,359	51.9
Tea	164	77	30.8
Cocoa butter .	79	242	6.1
Cocoa . . .	329	24	27.4
Tobacco . . .	632	282	102.3
Wines . . .	86	26	28.0
Saccharine . .	40	99	32.3
Hides . . .	1,379	700	51.7
Worked leather	225	106	64.1
Live plants & seeds . . .	359	139	16.5
Timber & timber goods .	22,287	9,676	55.3
Cellulose & woodpulp . .	13,564	5,890	131.2
Metal & metal goods.			
Pig iron . . .	1,069		8.4
Iron	12,466	8,461	187.8
Steel	1,163		22.9
Copper . . .	155	50	14.4
Textiles & textile goods.			
Cotton. . . .	3,087	1,416	175.6
Wool	421	431	44.2
Cotton cloth .	608	—	236.3
Woollen cloth .	244	469	205.8
Cotton yarn & thread . . .	109	66	29.1
Silk yarn & thread . . .	1.6	1.3	2.7
Woollen yarn & thread . . .	42	24	10.5
Vehicles, means of conveyance & transport, machines, tools.			
Motor cars and trucks		259	91.6
Bicycles . . .		27	20.9
Boats & other craft		3	20.9
Thrashing machinery & steam-engines . . .	1,118	202	68.4
Tractors . . .	181	171	22.9
Sewing machinery	135	60	23.9
Locomobiles .	345	280	16.5
Glass & glassware.			
Glassware . .	1,532	864	59.6
Faience . . .	445	289	24.5
Porcelain . .	592	126	16.7
Coal, coke . .	90,906	26,650	249.5
Crude oil . .	2,271	163	13.8
Refined oil (kerosene) . . .	7,169	3,779	80.9
Petrol	1,055	635	33.2
Rubber footwear	111	90	24.3
Tanning material	1,314	455	24.2
Manure . . .	11,410	3,466	39.3
Soda	347	66	4.8
Carbonates of soda	84	90	2.6
Caustic soda .	761	332	18.4
Paints . . .	208	103	50.8

The imports of 1921 and 1922 show a marked decrease in respect of these goods.

Rice imports show 1,545 tons, instead of 3,369 tons, herring imports showing 6,401 t.

in place of 13,589 t., salted fish — 404 instead of 847 tons, and saccharine — 40 tons instead of 99 t.

Wools and carbonates of soda kept on steady. Other imports, however, show an increase.

The imports of 1922 were estimated at 5,589,415,787 Emk. The highest percentage in import was reserved for sugar, to the amount of about 8.9%, the import value of which was 499,276,502 Emk.

Other imports: —

Flour	425	million Emk.	7.6% of total import
Coal, coke	249.5	„ „	4.5% „ „ „
Cotton cloth	236.3	„ „	4.2% „ „ „
Woollen cloth	205.8	„ „	3.7% „ „ „
Iron	187.8	„ „	3.2% „ „ „

FOREIGN TRADE OF ESTHONIA IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1923.

(Data of the Statistical Bureau.)

The figures of foreign trade during the first quarter of 1923 are as follows:

64,134.7 tons of goods, 10 animals and two boats of 679 rg. tons were imported, the total value being 1,613,097,962 Estonian marks;

28,313.7 tons of goods and 2101 animals were exported, representing a total value of 1,232,103,554 Esthonian marks. The total turnover was thus 2,845,201,516 Esthonian marks, and the excess of imports over exports 380,994,408 Esthonian marks. The import represented 56.7 per cent and the export 43.3 per cent of the turnover.

The principal items of import were foodstuffs and condiments, to the value of 396,844,890 Estonian marks, representing 37 per cent of the total import. They are followed by.

1. Textile products	12.8	per cent of the total import
2. Working and power machines (with the exception of agricultural machinery) and means of conveyance	9.7	per cent of the total import
3. Metal goods	„	„ „ „ „ „ „
4. Textile raw materials	5.8	„ „ „ „ „ „
5. Oils, greases, tars and their products	5.3	„ „ „ „ „ „

The principal items of the export were:

1 Textile materials	44	per cent of the total export
2. Textile products	19.6	„ „ „ „ „ „
3. Foodstuffs and dairy products	10.2	„ „ „ „ „ „
4. Timber and articles of wood	9.8	„ „ „ „ „ „
5. Paper and paper articles	6.6	„ „ „ „ „ „

The foremost countries in the import trade were: Germany — 56 per cent; of the total value of imported goods; England — 15.3 per cent; Danzig — 6.4 per cent; United States — 4.7 per cent; and Latvia — 4 per cent.

The countries where the exports were placed were: England — 24.5 per cent of the total value of imported goods; Belgium — 21.6 per cent.; Germany — 9.6 per cent; Finland — 9.6 per cent., and Denmark — 8.2 per cent.

The total turnover of foreign trade during the first quarter of the preceding year was 1,681,865,379, i. e. by 1,163,336,137 Esthonian marks inferior to that of 1923.

The following scheme gives full particulars as to the items of foreign trade:

Foreign trade in the first quarter of 1923.

(Showing the respective value of goods.)

	IMPORT		EXPORT	
	Tons.	E. marks.	Tons.	E. marks.
1. Grain, flour, potatoes, fodder	11,013.5	226,112,040	754.3	5,440,748
2. Foodstuffs and dairy products	1.6	179,610	901.3	126,049,150
3. Fish and fish products	1,224.0	40,216,100	15.9	591,280
4. Other foodstuffs and condiments . . . alcohol and beverages	10,101.6	330,337,140	253.5	18,197,030
5. Live animals and fowl	10 animals	155,000	2,101 anim.	25,094,740
6. Leather, leather articles and other animal products	302.2	29,464,515	148.9	17,941,390
7. Seeds and liveplants	61.2	4,171,810	316.7	8,217,200
8. Timber and timber products	320.1	7,426,100	12,553.5	121,821,375
9. Paper, paper articles and printed matter	1,141.6	29,539,785	3,385.4	82,532,355
10. Cotton, flax and other textile material	1,181.2	93,022,700	4,973.7	548,940,200
11. Textile products	422.1	207,171,680	648.5	241,813,371

	IMPORT		EXPORT	
	Tons.	E. marks.	Tons.	E. marks
12. Metals	3,073.7	60,214,480	2,713.9	17,572,550
13. Metal goods	1,911.3	109,193,068	11.2	1,226,500
14. Agricultural machinery	1,103.4	53,957,362	2.3	176,000
15. Other working and power machines and vehicles of conveyance	1,440.5 + + 2 boats (679.7 rg. tons)	157,339,313	6.7	2,018,300
16. Instruments, apparatus, arms	54.4	16,057,440	2.7	825,000
17. Stones, earths and their produces	1,434.0	33,731,630	1,321.5	5,990,165
18. Coal, coke and oil shale	23,107.0	58,256,360	0.1	160
19. Oils, greases, tars and their produces	3,840.3	85,206,948	2.5	197,735
20. Fertilizers	621.6	2,109,650	177.0	493,875
21. Chemical articles, dyes, drugs	1,736.4	55,701,985	123.5	6,780,430
22. Objects of art and musical instruments	43.0	13,693,790	0.6	184,000
TOTAL	64,689.7 + 10 animals + 2 boats (679.7 reg. tons,	1,613,097,962	28,313.7 + 2,101 anim.	1,232,103,554

Foreign trade in the first quarter of 1923.
(Showing the countries.)

	IMPORT	EXPORT
	E. mks.	E. mks.
Belgium	30,289,010	266,105,690
Denmark	40,242,830	101,372,080
Danzig	103,314,380	27,590,290
Holland	12,517,000	—
Switzerland	—	—
Japan	—	1,910,200
Gr. Britain	248,169,466	302,508,858
Latvia	64,426,370	95,066,633
Lithuania	486,300	—
Norway	2,839,600	2,910.000
France	4,050,225	42,261,700
Poland	76,000	—
Sweden	21,358,505	62,909,160
Germany	918,209,087	160,087,687
Finland	45,098,594	117,883,491
Russia	45,256,700	20,405,400
U. S. of America	76,763,895	31,002,365
Total:	1,613,097,962	1,232,103,554

ESTHONIAN TRANSIT TRADE WITH RUSSIA.

Russian exports and imports via Esthonian ports were comparatively small in 1920; the whole transit of goods amounted then to 28,000 tons.

In 1921 this transit went up to 200,000 tons. Most of it was import consigned to Russia, whilst the export goods were 12,500 tons. In the first half of 1922 the transit markedly increased, but in the second half the purchasing power of Russia underwent a considerable relapse, and a susceptible decline in the volume of transit goods was felt. Nevertheless, the transit of 1922 by far surpassed that of the preceding years, giving a figure of 333,000 tons. Goods consigned to Russia via Esthonia in 1922 were chiefly foodstuffs.

The following goods were being at the time exported from Russia: textiles, timber and timber products.

It is of interest to know that Russia which formerly was the principal supplier of grain to Europe, exported only a few tons of grain in 1922.

THE MERCANTILE FLEET.

In the beginning of 1922 the mercantile Fleet of Esthonia comprised 374 ships (all above 19 reg. tons) with a total capacity of 59,795 reg. tons.

Vessels launched in 1922:

1 steamship of	51.09	reg.	tons	capacity
10 motor boats and motor propelled sailing ships	„ 1232.18	„	„	„
37 sailing ships	„ 3416.14	„	„	„
2 barges	„ 258.7	„	„	„

Total, 50 vessels, 4958.11 reg. gross tonnage.

Reconstructed — 2 steamers of 395.97 reg. gross tons.
1 sailing ship . 302.16 „ „ „

Received from Finland:
1 steamer . . . 2391 „ „ „

Purchased abroad: —
2 steamers . . . 506.56 „ „ „

The number and tonnage in 1922 had thus increased by

6 steamers of	3344.62	reg. gross tons.
10 motor boats and motor propelled sailing ships	1232.18	„ „ „
38 sailing ships	3718.30	„ „ „
2 barges	258.70	„ „ „

Damaged and worn in 1922

4 sailing ships	69.55	reg. gross tons.
1 motor boat	6.94	„ „ „

Net total of increase:

51 vessels at 8, 477.31 reg. gross tons, i. e. 15.7% increase of the total reg. gross tonnage, including vessels laid up in Russia for the time being.

The total increase in 1921 amounted to 15 vessels, registering a gross tonnage of 4,844.69 tons.

Including all vessels above 3 reg. tons the fleet comprises actual gross tonnage of the Mercantile

50 steamers	of 24,419.70	reg. gross tonnage
154 motor launches	„ 3,879.53	„ „ „
450 sailing ships	„ 23,265.84	„ „ „
30 barges	„ 5,250.56	„ „ „
Total 692 vessels	„ 56,815.63	reg. gross tonnage

Including vessels laid up in Russia, the total comes to 708 vessels of a capacity of 67,000 reg. gross tonnage.

THE PORT OF TALLINN.

Tallinn Bay is situated on the southern shore of the Finnish Gulf. It is protected from all but north-western winds, and its southern part affords a safe and good anchorage. Tallinn Bay has a total length of 16 kilometers, a width of 7 kilometers in its southern part, and a width of 15 kilometers at the mouth of the Bay. The depth following the south to northern direction varies from 60 feet to 240 feet. The Roadstead measures 7 by 7 kilometers, with an average depth of 80 feet. Tallinn Bay is protected from the east by the Viims-Rohuneeme peninsula, from the north by the islands of Aegna and Naissaar, and from the west by the peninsulae of Telliskopli and Paljassaare. The city of Tallinn is situated on the southern shore of this Bay at 59° 26′ 36″ northern latitude and 24° 45′ 15″ eastern longitude from Greenwich.

The situation of the Port of Tallinn on the southern shore of the Bay affords a good protection against the prevailing winds. The rolling of the sea is small, the maximum wave height being 1,7 meters. The normal height in the harbour is + 0,42 m. above the minimum. Changes in the depth of the water are occasioned only by the influence of winds.

The road to the harbour is indicated by two lighthouses in the direction NE 20° 51′.

As there are no currents in the Bay, the depth always remains the same. The entrance to the port is choked up only to 0,06 m. of sand annually, and dredging is needed only at great intervals.

The harbour freezes up for an average of 49 days, but for the last few years it has never been frozen beyond a few weeks. During the winter the passage is kept free by the Government icebreakers.

History.

Tallinn harbour was known already in the XI-th century. Its commercial progress, however, began only after admission to the membership of the Hanseatic league in 1284. In the XIV-th century Tallinn held a dominating position in the exchange of goods between Western Europe and Novgorod.

In the XVII century Tallinn was already in possession of specially constructed port facilities. The plans, drawn in 1688 by a Swedish engineer, show a wooden wharf which extended 300 meters west to east.

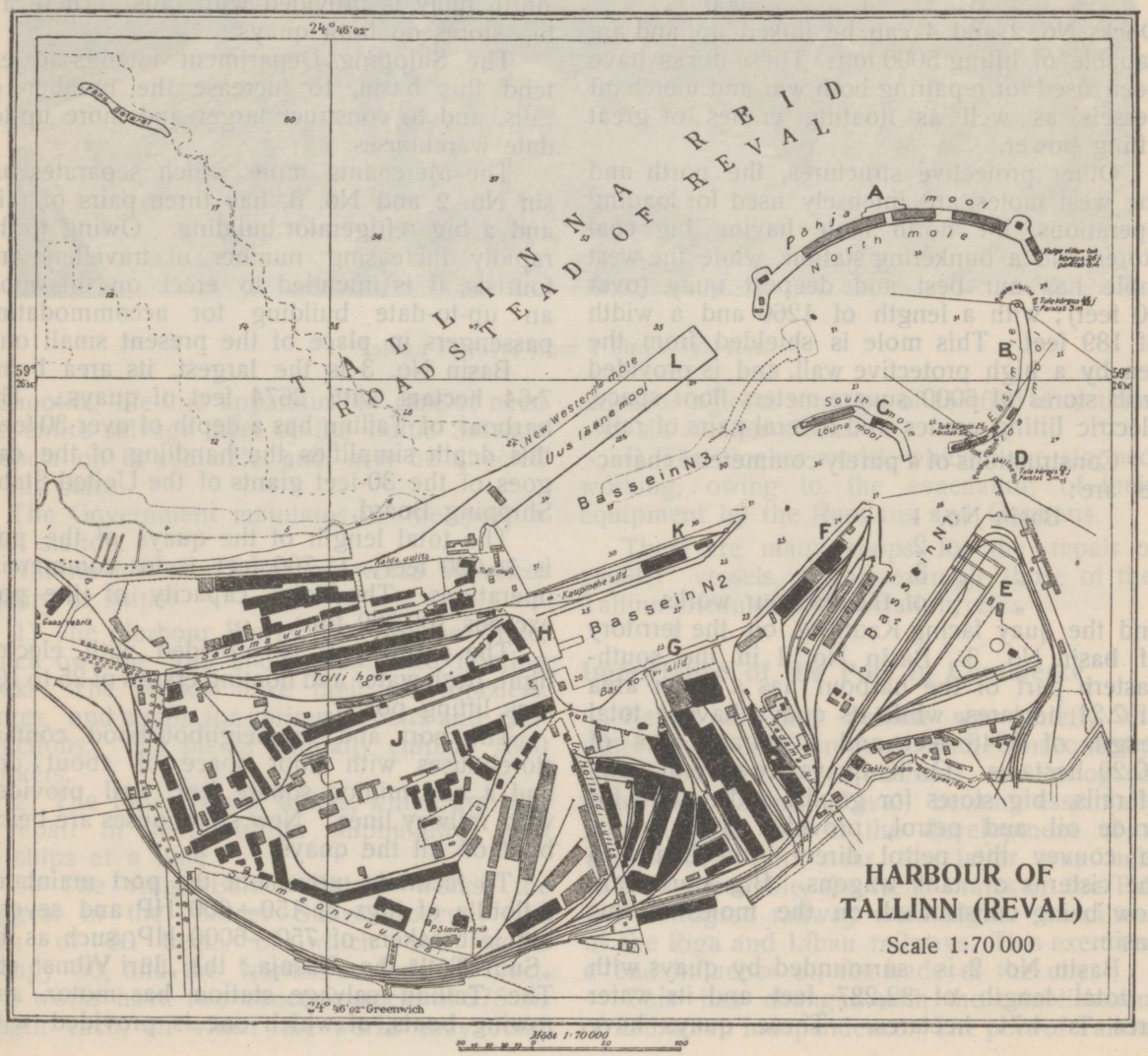
After the conquest by Russia Tallinn lost much of its commercial importance and influence, but the construction of the port for naval purposes was continued. Peter the Great ordered the construction of the west and south wharves, of which the latter is still in existence. As parts of the naval port the northern and eastern wharves were built during the XIX-th century, forming with the southern wharf the outer port. After the construction of the Tallinn-Petrograd railway in 1870 the commercial importance of the harbour began to increase. In 1881—85 a new basin was built with stone wharves and big storage places specially for trading purposes In 1886—1891 all defensive constructions, which had begun to decay, were rebuilt, and a new wharf (the Victoria wharf) constructed. In 1900—1902 a new Admiralty basin was built as anchorage and winter quarters for ships belonging to the department of lighthouses and sea-marks. In

1904—1907 a new mole was built, known as the Merchants' mole, and basins No. 2 and 3 were constructed with stone quays, and a considerable depth effected. In 1913 the Russian Government proceeded to erect a new west mole on the site of the old, but was unable to complete its construction. The Esthonian Government finished it in 1919—1921, and in the winter of 1922 the whole length of the wharf was opened for ships. During 1922 the north and the west mole were partly connected by a temporary stone dam, 10 electric cranes of 1½—3 tons were put up, and stores of 10,000 square meter floor space constructed. The improvement scheme for the future includes the widening of the admiralty basin, construction of stores, the erection of electric cranes on all the wharves, and continuation of the construction of the new port, started by the Russians during the Great War. In 1922 the construction of a mole in the new harbour was begun, and is intended specially to serve the timber trade.

The new port in its full extent will be an enormous enterprise, with a holding capacity of half a million tons of cargo steamers. Up to the present about 1500 feet of the moles is completed.

The internal arrangement.

The accompanying map indicates the position of the moles and other structures. Some of these are built for protection, the rest for loading and unloading operations.



The protective constructions are:
The west mole,
The north mole,
The east mole and
The south mole,
of which only the south and east moles are without any commercial importance, as they are isolated and without any storage space. The south mole is used by the yacht-club. and its quays are lined with yachts and other small craft. The workshops of the harbour docks are situated on the east mole. The space between the east and the south moles is occupied by floating docks, the property of the harbour, of which

Floating dock No. 1 holds 1600 tons
" " " 2 " 2000 "
" " " 3 " 1200 "
" " " 4 " 3000 "

Docks No. 2 and 4 can be linked up, and are capable of lifting 5000 tons. These docks have been used for repairing both war and merchant vessels as well as floating cranes of great lifting power.

Other protective structures, the north and the west moles, are intensely used for loading operations, the north mole having big coal stores and a bunkering station, while the west mole has our best and deepest quay (over 30 feet); with a length of 1260 and a width of 189 feet. This mole is shielded from the sea by a high protective wall, and is provided with stores of 6000 square meters floor space, electric lifting cranes and several pairs of rails.

Constructions of a purely commercial character are:

Basin No. 1
" " 2
" " 3
" of the harbour works

and the quay facing Kadriorg, on the territory of basin No. 3. Basin No. 1 in the south-eastern part of the harbour has a water area of 2.21 hectares, while its quays have a total length of 2346 feet and a storage area of 10.29 hectares. On its quays are several pairs of rails, big stores for goods, and cisterns for crude oil and petrol, provided with mains to convey the petrol direct from boats to the cisterns or tank wagons. Big stores are now being constructed on the moles of this basin.

Basin No. 2 is surrounded by quays with a total length of 32,227 feet and its water area is 4.71 hectares. These quays have 4.26 hectares of storage space. The Victoria mole of this basin has a grain elevator that holds 3225 tons. The Baikov wharf is cut by two canals leading to stores, where the goods are taken on barges.

The south-western part of the basin is connected by a canal with the basin of the harbour works. This canal has a pivot bridge. All the quays of basin No. 2 are provided with several pairs of rails and a great number of warehouses, and the Victoria quay also possesses electric cranes.

During the war the basin of the harbour works was utilized solely for repairs; recently, however, owing to the great increase of business excellent stone quays of this basin were also added to the port. The basin of the harbour works has an area of 1.79 hectares and its north quay is provided with rails. There are big stores on both quays.

The Shipping Department intends to extend this basin, to increase the number of rails, and to construct larger and more up-to-date warehouses.

The Merchants mole which separates basin No. 2 and No. 3, has three pairs of rails and a big refrigerator building. Owing to the rapidly increasing number of travellers and tourists, it is intended to erect on this mole an up-to-date building for accommodating passengers in place of the present small one.

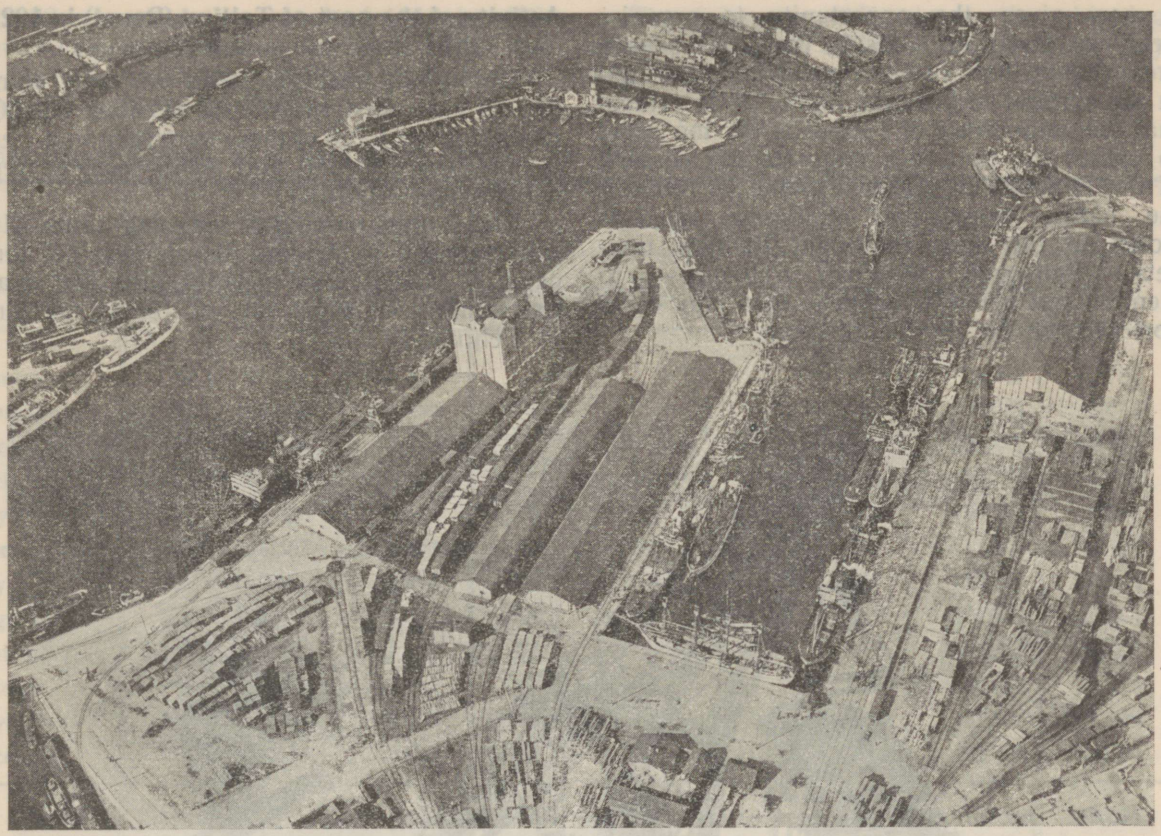
Basin No. 3 is the largest, its area being 7.64 hectars with 2674 feet of quays.. The harbour of Tallinn has a depth of over 30 feet; this depth simplifies the handling of the cargoes of the 30-feet giants of the United States Shipping Board.

The total length of the quays of the port is 14,000 feet; 11,700 feet is for commercial operations. The total capacity of the port exceeds 100,000 tons.

The entire port is provided with electric light, fresh water and floating cranes of 25 to 100 tons lifting power.

The port and its neighbourhood contain storehouses with floor space of about one and a half million square feet, well provided with railway lines. New storehouses are being built on all the quays.

To facilitate movement the port maintains a flotilla of tugs of 150—600 HP and several big icebreakers of 750—6000 HP, such as the „Suur Tõll" the „Tasuja," the „Jüri Vilms" etc. The Tallinn salvage station has motor- and rowing boats, of which one is provided with



Tallinn Harbour from a bird's eye view.

a shooting life-line apparatus. In case of need the entire salvage fleet of the Baltic Salvage Association is available and may be directed to any place.

The Government maintains in the port a pilot station.

Tallinn has the following works to effect repairs of ships:

1) The Harbour Works, run by the State, which own the four above mentioned floating docks. The works have their own braziers, forges, and shops for various repairs and constructions. The plants normally employ 1800 workers.

2) The Peter Naval Works, which are able to repair in their Morton shipbuilding yard 13 ships at a time.

3) The Anglo-Baltic Naval works, the biggest in the border States, occupy an area of 90 hect., of which the works occupy 50, and the workers' colony 40 hect. The works have two concrete stocks of 275 m. length each, on which the works may build ships of a total tonnage of 250,000 at a time, and six smaller stocks.

4) The Boeker works, which have stopped working, owing to the evacuation of their equipment by the Russians and Germans.

There are many shops for the repair o smaller vessels, as for example those of the Tallinn Steamship Association, etc.

Importance of the Port in Commerce.

Before the war Tallinn was chiefly the outer port of Petrograd, and, consequently, transacted the same business as Petrograd. Later on Tallinn (Reval) became essentially a naval base, and as the development of a commercial port near the latter was held to be undesirable, the freight rates on the Tallinn-Petrograd railway were higher than those of the Riga and Libau railways. This exercised a bad influence on the trade of the city.

This has changed with the establishment of Esthonian Independence. The port of Tallinn

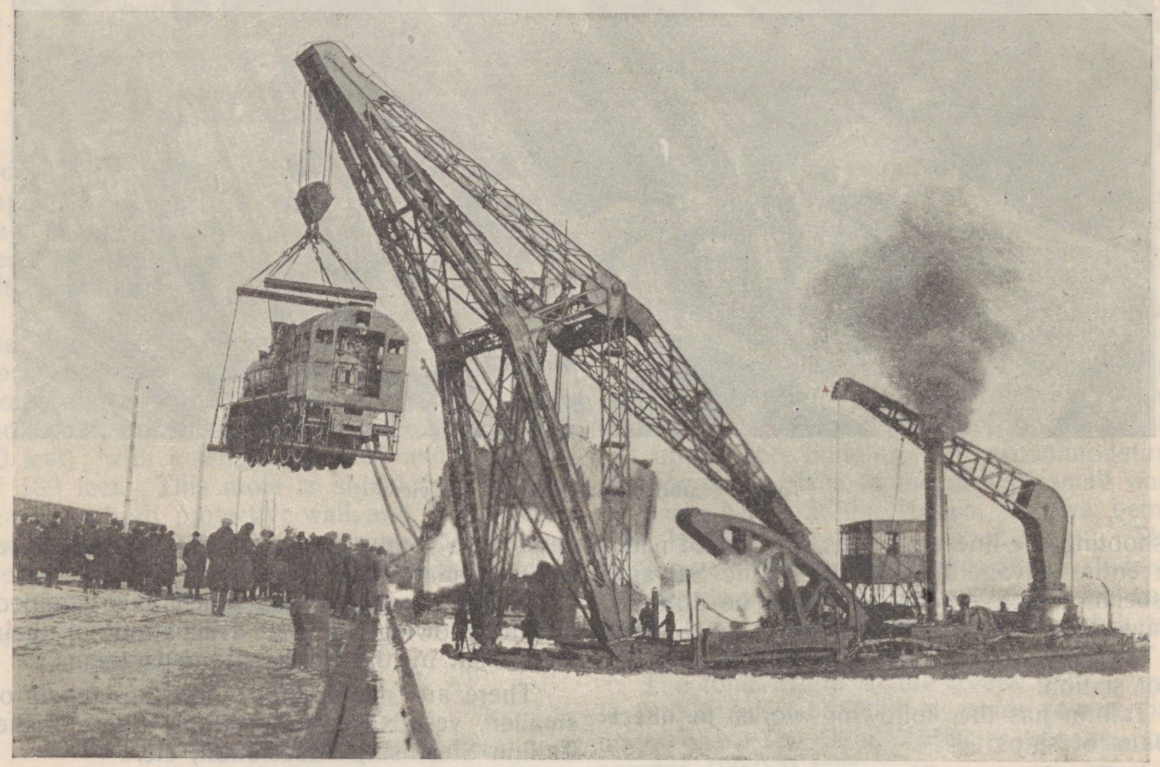
is now given the opportunity to organize freely its work. As a result, there has been a great change both in the commercial aspect and in the amount of business done. It is evident that the importance of Tallinn is far too great to reduce the port to a mere trading channel of the Republic of Esthonia alone; Tallinn is the natural transit port of Russia, as it is closer to the most important Russian markets — Petrograd, Moscow, Rybinsk — to mention but a few of them — than any other port situated on the Baltic shore.

Activity of the port of Tallinn (Reval) in 1922.

(Data of the Central Statistical Bureau.)

During the year 1922 the port of Tallinn (Reval) harboured 4,621 ships totalling 839,065 reg. net tons: 1,766 of these were seagoing (reg. net tonnage 749,193) and 2,855 coasters (reg. net tonnage 89,872).

The largest number of seagoing ships, 216, was recorded in August, the largest net tonnage — 93,790 tons in April, and the smallest number of ships, 21, of 15,644 net tons in February.



Cranes at work in Tallinn Harbour.

Tallinn has numerous shipping agencies, the most important being the Shipping Board, the Tallinn Shipping Association, Pitka & Sons, Pitka & Co, Joh. Linde, Trankmann & Co, Gahlnbäck, O. Stude, Tilga & Co, B. Whishaw, Bornholdt, Grünberg, Nurminen, the United Baltic Corporation, and others.

Tallinn is connected by regular passenger lines with all Esthonian ports, with Helsingfors, Stockholm, Petrograd, Riga, Danzig, Stettin, Copenhagen, London, Liverpool, Ghent, etc.

Coasting ships were most active in August: there were 829 ships of 19,732 net tons, while in January, February and March the coasting lines were idle.

The following figures show the tonnage and number of ships which visited Tallinn harbour in 1913—1922:

	1913	1919	1920	1921	1922
Number of ships	4212	1387	2975	3862	4621
Net reg.tonnage	958,848	210,519	293,803	689,682	839,065

The number of ships recorded in the port

in 1922 surpassed the record of 1913 by 408. Net tonnage for 1922 amounted to 87.5% of that of the prewar figure, while in 1921 the net tonnage is shown at 71.9%.

The following table shows the shipping activity of the port of Tallinn based on monthly data:

Ships entering the port of Tallinn (Reval) in 1922.

	Seagoing			Coasting			Total		
	Vessels	gross ton.	net ton.	Vessels	gross ton.	net ton.	Vessels	gross ton.	net t.
January	79	95,761	53,761	—	—	—	79	95,761	53,761
February	21	26,084	15,644	—	—	—	21	26,084	15,644
March	49	138,818	82,728	—	—	—	49	138,818	82,728
April	77	151,971	93,790	8	1,759	942	85	153,730	94,732
May	191	141,828	84,226	192	8,994	6,636	383	150,822	90,862
June	196	98,367	56,493	285	13,133	8,934	481	111,500	65,427
July	198	90,071	53,644	640	22,219	15,572	838	112,290	69,216
August	216	124,352	70,931	829	28,572	19,732	1045	152,924	90,663
September	199	118,142	67,531	460	19,080	13,366	659	137,222	80,897
October	206	111,959	62,451	264	16,938	11,761	470	128,897	74,212
November	187	96,511	54,302	121	10,616	7,087	308	107,127	61,389
December	147	89,610	53,692	56	10,330	5,842	203	99,940	59,534
Total:	1,766	1,283,474	749,193	2,855	131,641	89,872	4,621	1,415,115	839,065

Ships leaving the port of Tallinn (Reval) in 1922.

	Seagoing			Coasting			Total		
	Vessels	gross ton.	net ton.	Vessels	gross ton.	net ton.	Vessels	gross ton.	net ton.
January	84	99,103	56,513	—	—	—	84	99,103	56,513
February	19	23,598	14,108	—	—	—	19	23,598	14,108
March	23	60,474	37,243	—	—	—	23	60,474	37,243
April	74	157,152	94,661	3	141	10	77	157,293	94,671
May	213	193,617	116,619	135	13,873	8,374	348	207,490	124,993
June	193	109,272	62,263	299	17,257	11,940	492	126,529	74,203
July	179	89,175	52,825	659	23,498	16,543	838	112,673	69,368
August	213	118,915	68,371	827	31,126	21,684	1,040	150,041	90,055
September	241	116,530	66,576	472	22,088	15,143	713	138,618	81,719
October	231	114,919	64,045	230	19,032	12,560	461	133,951	76,614
November	190	92,949	51,962	130	12,247	8,415	320	105,196	60,402
December	132	83,433	49,708	77	7,584	4,475	209	91,017	54,183
Total:	1,792	1,259,137	734,891	2,832	146,846	99,178	4,624	1,405,983	834,072

Tallinn Harbour; Elevator seen on the left.

OTHER PORTS OF ESTHONIA.

Besides Tallinn (Reval), the principal port of Esthonia, there are 23 other ports and harbours. The most important of these are Baltiski (Baltic-Port) and Pärnu (Pernau).

Baltiski (Baltic-Port) is situated about 33 sea miles to the West of Tallin (Reval) and is one of the best ports on the west-coast. Seldom icebound, it has an average depth of about 18 ft. in the harbour and can accommodate about 5 vessels of 2000 to 2500 reg. tons each.

Next to this in importance comes the port of Pärnu, on the Gulf of Pärnu at the mouth of a river bearing the same name. As the shore is shallow, there is a dredged canal about a mile in length, with an average depth of 20 ft., and a width of 840 ft., with a mole on each side.

Both these ports have warehouses, quays and floating bridges for loading and unloading.

Sailing near the coast is facilitated by numerous Lighthouses, Light Buoys, Bell Buoys, Topmark Buoys and Floating Beacons. Light ships or Floats are provided with wireless apparatus.

SHIPPING ACTIVITY OF THE ESTHONIAN PORTS DURING 1922.

The shipping activity of other Esthonian ports besides that of Tallinn, during 1922 is given below:

	Incoming.				Outgoing.			
	Seagoing vessels.		Coasting vessels.		Seagoing vess.		Coasting vess.	
Ports	Vessels	n. r. t.	Vessels	n. r. t.	Vessels	n. r. t.	Vessels	n. r. t.
Baltiski	64	9,537	118	19,016	113	21,434	68	7,545
Haapsalu	42	666	294	8,832	68	1,156	248	8,072
Kuresaar	11	872	148	18,294	13	789	144	17,987
Kunda	390	9,117	192	6,439	421	13,085	156	2,458
Kuivaste	2	40	229	29,781	3	74	228	29,748
Käsmu	22	1,635	82	4,858	11	477	92	5,030
Loksa	62	1,998	306	10,882	61	2,121	306	11,026
Narva	122	13,474	163	6,167	172	11,787	110	4,891
Pärnu	87	37,708	664	23,179	95	42,330	650	19,251
Rohuküla	3	37	154	20,214	—	—	153	20,166
Virtsu	1	16	16	352	—	—	15	368
Total	806	75,100	2,366	148,014	957	93,253	2,170	126,542

The total number of vessels entering the ports was 3,172, with a net tonnage of 223,114 reg. tons, and the total number of outgoing vessels 3,172, with a net tonnage of 219,795 reg. tons.

The harbours of Esthonia are open for navigation for the most part of the year, and Baltiski (Baltic-Port) the whole year round.

The most active of these ports was Pärnu, where the in-and outgoing vessels totalled 751 in number at 60,887 reg. net tons. Comparing the shipping trade of Pärnu in 1922 with that of 1921 we see an increase of 20,068 reg. tons. Other ports which show an increase in shipping trade are:

	1921		1922	
Kunda	234 vessels	1743 reg. n. t.	582 vess.	15,556 r. n. t.
Kuresaar	135 „	13,876 „	159 „	19,166 „

ESTHONIAN STATE RAILWAYS.

(According to the data of the State Railway Administration. The Pärnu - Tallinn narrow gauge railway has not been taken into account.)

The total length of the Esthonian State railways was 1,201 klm. (main line), of which 973 klm. had a Russian broad gauge and 228 klm. a narrow gauge of 1 m. The number of stations on the broad gauge railway was 62 and on the narrow gauge railway 13. The following amount of rolling stock was in use:

Locomotives	broad gauge railway	76.
„	narrow gauge railway	21.
Passenger cars	broad gauge railway	279.
„	narrow gauge railway	26.
Freight cars	broad gauge railway	3,413.
„	narrow gauge railway	623.

The number of train-kilometers covered last year on the broad gauge lines was 1,891,439 (during the preceding year 1921 — 1,724,455), on the narrow gauge railway 103,783 (in 1921 — 87,370). The locomotives covered 2,030,127 klm. on the broad gauge way and 113,904 klm. on the narrow gauge railway, making up an average monthly total of 2,383 klm. and 492 klm. respectively per locomotive.

The total number of axle-klms. reached 89,880,567 (83,541,381 in 1921) on the broad gauge railway and 2,868,509 on the narrow gauge railway.

	On the broad gauge railway	On the narrow gauge railway
The passenger cars travelled	26,527,438	850,052
Loaded freight cars attached to passenger trains	6,545,648	269,520
Loaded freight cars running in freight trains	27,896,981	320,228

Thus the average load of the axle was:

On passenger cars (number of passengers) .	7.65	4.37
On freight cars (tons) loaded with private goods	4.37	
On freight cars (tons) loaded with transit goods	7.28	

The number of passengers conveyed on the broad gauge railways was 3,549,462 (3,046,815 in 1921) and on narrow gauge railways 168,150.

Of these the following came from or went abroad (all on broad gauge railways):

I-st class . . .	3,241
II-nd „ . . .	3,623
III-rd „ . . .	3,221

The following were conveyed within the frontier

II-nd class . . .	164,505
III-rd „ . . .	3,374,872

and 168,150 on the narrow gauge railway.

A total of 206,690.241 klms. was covered with passengers (of these 202,961,764 on the broad gauge railway). The average travelling distance of a passenger was 163.05 klm. on the broad gauge and 22.17 klm. on the narrow gauge railways.

The following quantity of goods was conveyed:

		Broad gauge railway	Narrow gauge railway
Luggage:	Number of parcels	169,215	8,273
	Weight in tons .	7,532	324
	Tons klms . . .	749,658	5,778
Private goods:	Number of parcels	188,057	6,287
	Weight in tons .	746,465	17,875
	Tons-klms . . .	88,765,816	367,799
Transit goods:	Number of parcels	26,113	—
	Weight in tons .	356,288	—
	Tons.klms . . .	84,088,022	—

It may be added for comparison that during the preceding year of 1921 the broad gauge railways carried 613,645 tons of private goods (79,087,204 tons (klms) and 211,615 tons of transit goods (46,555,212 tons (klms), i. e. substantially less than in 1922.

THE LABOUR PROTECTION LEGISLATION IN THE INDUSTRY.

In the actual Esthonian legislation concerning the protection of Labour the attention has been devoted to industrial Labour. In this direction the legislation embodies most of the modern achievements and reaches the standard of countries foremost in their Labour legislation.

The Esthonian legislation unlike the legislation of other countries in what concerns Labour protection includes in the meaning of industrial enterprises the mining enterprises, factories and workshops, but excludes the building and transport trades.

The Labour legislation can be divided into two different groups of regulations:

1. Those regulating in the undertaking the contract of employment and the maintenance of order, and
2. Those securing a regular payment of wages.

As to the contract of employment, the legislation regulates first of all the order of its dressing up and requires a special formality in the shape of an account book, the form of which has been confirmed by the Ministry of Labour. This book is divided into two parts: the first contains all conditions of the contract of employment, like e. g. the term, the amount of the pay, with an indication of the basis upon which it is calculated, and the terms of payment, the amount of the rent for rooms, bathes etc. supplied to the workers by the enterprises etc. In the second part of the book the amount due to the worker and the amount actually paid must be indicated for each term of payment. The amount due to the worker and the amount actually paid. Payments must be indicated for each term.

The contract of employment may be concluded for a fixed period or for indefinite time, and also for the time of completion of some special sort of work. The Esthonian laws do not allow however the discharing of a worker engaged for indefinite time, but require a two weeks' notice. In practice, the worker is being discharged immediately, and is paid a two weeks' salary in addition to the salary actually earned. The law equally requires a two weeks' notice from the worker, if he wants to leave; this stipulation is not being observed in practice, the more that the worker does not take any risk by not observing it. The law also dwells upon the particular cases when the contract of engagement may be regarded as void and when it may be declared void by the employer or the worker.

In view of maintaining a certain order in the enterprise, its management is obliged to keep a list of all the workers, a general book of the accounts, with the indication at each term of payment of the amount actually earned and paid, put up in a conspicuous place the rules concerning the order and work in the enterprise after their approval by the local commissary of Labour, and the tariffs of piecework. Aside from this there ought to be a book for the revisional observations of the Labour commissary, a book for registration of youthful employees, under the mature years, directions on calculating the remuneration for overtime hours etc. All these regulations are compliable with the more or less bigger undertakings, while in smaller enterprises they create a good deal of embarassment necessitating a revision of the law, the more that there is hardly a need for such formalities in smaller concerns.

The regulations concerning the protection of children and women can be considered as the most elaborate and entirely corresponding to the principles set up in the conventions passed by the General Conferences of the International Labour Organisation. According to the law on compulsory elementary education children are not allowed to be employed until the graduation from the school, which usually takes place after they reach the age of fourteen. But even after that children are not allowed to do work that is exhausting and harmful to their health. There is a list of the branches of work, to which the employment of children under 15 years of age is prohibited. Children under 17 and women are not allowed to work between 9 o'clock at night and 5 in the morning, if work is being done by one single shift, and between 10 at night and 4 in the morning, if the work is performed in two or more shifts. Women are not allowed to work underground in the interior of mines. Further, the law protects mothers, not allowing their actual engagement in work during the period of four weeks following their delivery.

The working hours are limited commonly to eight hours a day and to seven on Saturdays. Such an arrangement has been introduced in the industry sporadically, and there has never been any law urging it. In 1917 the eight hours working day was introduced by the revolution. After that, during the German occupation of Esthonia, the eight hours working day was abolished. As soon, however, as the German troops withdrew, the newly constituted Government ot the Esthonian Republic made a declaration to the people announcing the eight hours working day reintroduced in the industry and trade. The commissaries of Labour are well in a position to regulate the number of working hours, as according to the law the working hours must be mentioned in the rules concerning the order in the enterprise; the commissaries of Labour do not confirm the rules if a longer working day than the eight hours day is in-

dicated. Still the industries use overtime work on a large scale; the number of overtime hours is not limited by the law, but a special permission must be secured from the Labour minister, if the entire factory, or a considerable section of its workers, are working overtime.

The workers must be allowed time to take food at least each time after being engaged in work six hours in succession. If the conditions of the production do not allow of an interval, the workers must be allowed to take food within their working hours.

The law also provides the Sunday rest for the workmen; on Sunday and 15 holidays the worker must be free from work during at least twenty four hours in succession. Aside from this four half-holidays are foreseen by the law, when work must be suspended at noon. Deviations from this rule are allowed: 1) in regard to the workmen engaged in a continuous work, not allowing intervals without harm to the equipment, the materials or the product; such workmen are to be freed from work at least three times a month for 24 hours; 2) in regard to the workmen engaged in auxiliary work, like current repairs, taking care of the boilers, the machines, the transmission, the heating, lighting and supplying with water of the undertaking, guard or fire service; 3) in case of a sudden defect of the boilers, the machine, the transmission etc. which may necessitate a temporary suspension of the work in the entire undertaking, or in some section of it, and also in case of fire, accidents and other unexpected circumstances.

Detailed regulations on organising and running of industrial undertakings are enforced in view of protection of life, health and morality of the workers. A sufficient light and air space are requested as well as satisfactory ventilation, the removal of dust, vapours and gases caused by the process of production and the removal of the refuse. Further certain protection from dangerous contact with the machine is requested and safeguard against various dangers connected with the production, especially, against the outbreak of fire demanded.

The law pays special attention to measures, ensuring the regular receipt of the remuneration. Before the expiration of the contract of engagement concluded with the workmen, or without a two weeks' notice to workmen engaged for indefinite time, it is not allowed to decrease their earnings by fixing a new basis for calculations, to drop working days or working hours, or to decrease the tariffs of piece work. The payment of the salary must be effected at least once a month in regard to those engaged for a fixed period, and twice a month in regard to those engaged for indefinite time. If the worker does not receive his pay regularly at the fixed period, he can claim it through the court, which is entitled to award to the workman, aside from the due amount, a sum not exceeding the salary for two months — for those engaged for a definite period, and a sum not exceeding their two weeks' salary to those engaged for an indefinite time.

The law foresees certain measures against the truck system and do not permit to pay the workers salary in coupons, bread, merchandise etc. The restriction however does not include the case when the enterprise runs a store to supply its workers and employees with certain articles and if these are being given on credit on condition this amount will be deducted from the salary. Such stores are permitted only in case they are licensed and in case if the prices of commodities on sale have been approved by the Labour commissary. The same applies to the use of appartments, baths, dining saloons etc. by the workmen. At the same time, it is prohibited to take money from workmen for medical assistance, lighting of the shops and use of working instruments during the regular work.

At last, the law protects the workmen against deductions of debts from their pay. The law allows deductions of money advanced by the undertaking on the salary and the products given on credit by the factory shops. The deductions of money advanced or money requested, by the court, can amount only to $^1/_3$ of the salary of unmarried workmen, and to $^1/_4$ of the salary of the married having children, regardless of his wife living or not.

The control of enforcement of the Labour protection laws is effected by a special organ — the commissaries of Labour. They number 10 at present. Their activity is co-ordinated and directed by the senior commissary of Labour. The commissaries must also act as intermediaries in conflicts arising between employers and employees, and prosecute by

the courts those guilty in violating Labour protection laws. In such cases the manager of an enterprise is being considered responsible, and can be fined or sentenced to imprisonment. The nomination of the manager is compulsory for all enterprises which are not under the personal direction of their owners and belong to several persons, a company or a company with limited liability.

According to the reports of the Labour commissaries for 1922, they had under their control 880 industrial enterprises with 35,507 workers. Among them were 19 children under 15 (6 boys, 13 girls), 697 from adolescents 15—17 (12 boys, 276 girls) and 34,790 adults (24,341 men and 10,449 women).

INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE CONTROL OF EXPORT OF BUTTER.

According to §§ 28 and 38 of the regulations regarding the control of the export of the milk products („R. Teat." No. 115/116—22) the Ministry of Agriculture has elaborated and published in the „Riigi Teataja" No.70, 1923 the following:

1. Persons wishing to export butter must register their name and full address at the department of agriculture.
2. The exporters are obliged to secure suitable accomodation in some refrigerating house, where the butter destined for exportation must be stored immediately upon its arrival in Tallinn until its shipment and control by the control commission.
3. The temperature of the storage place must not to exceed 2° R. (2° R. below 0) during the warm period from May 1-st to October 1-st.
4. The butter must be stored in the above-mentioned refrigerating house at least 24 hours before placed on board the ship provided with a refrigerating chamber, otherwise at least 48 hours before the despatch. The butter must at the time of the control be entirely prepared for export in clean barrels provided with eight clean white hoops, trade mark, and current number. There must also be three copies of the list of the entire shipment.
5. The butter is controlled by the commission only by marking the current number of the barrel from which a sample has been taken, without the controller knowing the dairy to which the controlled butter belonged. After the control the commission inspects the barrels on hand on the list attached to the bill of lading and makes observations on packing.
6. The butter found suitable for export remains after the control by the commission under the latter's control in the refrigerating house until its shipment. The butter is personally turned over by the representative of the commission to the customs officer, after declaration on behalf of the exporter according to customs regulations.
7. The exporter is entitled to request the control of the butter within 24 hours after submitting his statement to the commission.
8. By the time of the arrival of the commission the exporters must group the shipments by dairies.
9. The butter destined for exportation is sorted on basis of a system of 15 points, taking into consideration the taste, smell, preparing, consistence, colour, salting and packing.
10. The quality or sort of the butter is determined by the average number of points given by all numbers of the commission taking a part in the control.
11. The controlled butter is assorted as follows:

    a) 12—15 points mark the first sort, which is provided according to § 39 of the above-mentioned regulation with the quality mark.

    b) 10—12 points mark the second sort, in the case of which the barrels are left without the quality mark.
12. The butter which receives less than 10 points is not allowed for exportation, and the barrels are provided with the stamp „Siseturg" (home market).

13. The commission takes samples of butter which has been recognised as suitable for exportation, and sends these in order to find out the contents of water in jars and sealed boxes with the representative of the exporter to the laboratory. If it is discovered that the export butter does not contain water above 15.5 per cent and the Paris butter above 17.5 per cent, if the butter percentage is allowed in the country of destination, the exporter receives a certificate or a copy of the protocol of the commission, and the barrels are being provided with the marks foreseen in the regulation.

Note 1. The analysis of the content of water in the butter may take up to 24 hours.

Note 2. The butter which contains more water than allowed by the regulations is marked „Siseturg" (home market).

14. In cases when the packing does not meet the requirements of § 29 of the regulations or p. 3 of these instructions, the commission is entitled, inspite of the good quality of the butter not to control it and to provide all barrels under the same current number with the mark „Siseturg" (home market).

15. If the commission observes on part of the exporter an arbitrary evasion of these regulations and instructions for pursuit of some illegal purpose, it notifies the legal authorities for drawing up a protocol, and all barrels under control are market „Siseturg" (home market).

16. The certificate given by the controller is valid for seven days from the date of the issue.

17. With the publication of these instructions parts ot the directions published by the Ministry of Agriculture in „Riigi Teataja" No. 144/145 — 1922 and „R. T." No. 47 — 1923, concerning the export and control of butter cease to be in legal force.

THE TARIFF OF HARBOUR DUES.

Approved by the Government of the Republic on February 28-th 1923.

I part.

Dues levied upon ships moving from and to foreign ports.

§ 1. The quay duty is taken from all entering and leaving ships moving between foreign ports in all Esthonian harbours, at their arrival as well as at their departure, to the following amount:

a) loaded steamers and motorboats ten marks per registered ton;

b) sailboats, which have no mechanical propelling apparatus, eight marks per registered ton;

c) boats incompletely loaded or with ballast — 75 per cent of the amount mentioned in „a" and „b".

Note: A ship is being considered as incompletely loaden if the goods loaden or unloaden in the harbour represent only the twentieth part of her net displacement. Forty cubic feet correspond to one thousand kilograms.

d) boats entering the port only to take their supply of fuel, food or water and deck cargo or boats entering the port after avarage, not exchanging passengers or transacting any loading and unloading operations, twenty per cent of the amount mentioned in „a" and „b".

§ 2. Boats which make regular or periodically fixed trips pay their quay duty according to § 1—, once a year, if engaged in cabotage service, only for their first eight trips and if engaged in overseas service only for their first four trips.

Note: Trips in the Baltic Sea with its gulfs, the Belts, the Sund and Kattegat up to the Skagen-Lindesness line ant till the mouth of the Ems River via the Kaiser Wilhelm canal are considered as cabotage service.

§ 3. The delay duty for staying beyond the allowed time at the quay is taken from all ships, remaining at the quay during longer time than allowed in the following way:

a) ships or other floating means, which are loaded or unloaded without any mechanical assistance, can remain staying at the quay during the time indicated in the following scheme and pay for each extra day:

Boats with a displacement of weight tons are allowed to stay	Tallinn Narva Baltiski Pärnu	Loksa Haapsalu Rohukila Kuresaare Tartu	Wirtsu Heltermaa and other landing places of Saaremaa (Oesel) and the Peipus lake.
	Esthonian marks		
Up to 100 weight tons 5 days	200. —	150. —	100. —
101— 300 „ „ 8 „	500. —	350 —	250. —
301— 600 „ „ 12 „	750. —	550. —	350. —
601— 1000 „ „ 14 „	1,000. —	800. —	500. —
Ships with a displacement of over 1,000 weight tons must load or unload the average of 80 tons a day. The following fine is levied for each extra day and each following thousand tons	500. —	400. —	250. —

b) docks or floating means loaded and unloaded by mechanical energy, can remain staying at the quay during the time indicated in the following scheme and pay for each extra day:

Boats with a displacement of weight tons are allowed to stay	Tallinn Narva Baltiski Pärnu	Loksa Haapsalu Rohukila Kuresaare Tartu	Wirtsu Heltermaa and other landing places of Saaremaa (Oesel) and the Peipus lake
	Esthonian marks		
Up to 100 weight tons 2 days	300. —	225. —	150. —
101 300 „ „ 4 „	750. —	525. —	375. —
301— 600 „ „ 6 „	1,125. —	825. —	525. —
601—1000 „ „ 7 „	1,500. —	1,200. —	750. —
Ships with a displacement of over 1,000 weight tons must load or unload the average of 120 tons a day. The following fine is levied for each extra day and each following thousand tons	750. —	600. —	375. —

§ 4. The lighthouse duty is levied on an equal basis with the quay duty, with only the following exceptions:

a) A boat which calls at several ports of the Republic while on the same trip pays this duty only once, and namely at leaving the first port she entered;

b) In each calendar year the lighthouse duty is levied only once a year for the first eight trips of boats engaged in cabotage service and for first four trips of boats engaged in overseas service.

§ 5. Salvage steamers pay their quay, lighthouse and sanitary duty for five trips during a calendar year, which gives them the right to stay in all Esthonian ports. In case if they transact commercial operations, they pay aside from these the regular harbour dues.

§ 6. The following are freed from paying the quay and the lighthouse duties:

a) all Government ships, Esthonian and foreign, if they do not carry any passengers or goods for commercial purposes. Men of war, hydrographical, cable and lighthouse steamers, trawlers, dredging flotillas and similar service boats;

b) boats registered with the yacht club.

§ 7. A pilots duty of four marks per each net registered ton is levied in Tallinn for conducting the ship from the roadstead to the harbour and back.

§ 8. The following fee is taken in Tallinn for the transfer of the ships to another place:

a) for transfers in the area of the Tallinn Old harbour or New harbour (former mine harbour) a fee of 75 penni is charged on boats

propelled by engines and 50 penni on sail boats per net registered ton.

b) for piloting from the Old harbour into the New or back the fee mentioned in p. „a" is doubled;

c) for piloting from the Tallinn Old or New harbour to the Boecker or Anglo-Baltic naval works the fee of p. „a" is tripled.

d) if the pilot has been kept waiting on board over one hour through the guilt of the ship, he is paid a special delay of 100 marks for each extra hour, which must be mentioned in the pilot receipt.

§ 9. The pilot fee in Narva is charged in the following way:

a) for piloting from the Narva bay into the mouth of the river and back — four marks per net registered ton; the same duty is taken from boats anchoring in the roadstead;

b) for piloting from the mouth of the river to the city and back, two marks per each net registered ton.

Note: The ship is carrying the travelling expences of the pilot form the river to the city and back, and a daily fee of 100 marks

c) a fee of 80 penni per each registered ton is charged for transfers from one place to another in the mouth of the river;

d) a fee equal to that mentioned in point „c" is charged for transfers in the city with the addition of the travelling expenses and the daily fee of the pilot mentioned in „b".

§ 10. The pilot fee in Pärnu is charged in the following way:

a) for piloting from the Pärnu Bay to the Big bridge and back — four marks per net registered ton;

b) for piloting from the Big bridge to the Waldhof mills, and for transfers in the harbour — 80 penni per registered ton.

§ 11. The use of pilots is obligatory for all boats in all places, where government pilots are maintained.

Note: Ships under 10 net registered tons are freed from the pilot obligation.

§ 12. The above-mentioned quay, light-house and pilot duties are levied form all ships, the minimum for each duty being four hundred marks.

§ 13. 50 marks are charged for each ton of fresh water taken from the main on the quay. The ship pays 100 marks for each ton of fresh water pumped from the water barge or water tank ship in the harbour, and 150 marks for each ton of water pumped in the roadstead or the New harbour of Tallinn. The minimum to be paid to the water-ship in the harbour is 1,500 marks, in the roadstead and the New harbour 5,000 marks.

Note: If the waterboat is for any reason unable to supply water, the tugs are obliged to do it for compensation which must be agreed upon. If ice is hindering the movement of the waterboat, the customer must conduct her to his ship at his own expense and take her back to her former place after the water has been received. During the ice period the fee for water is raised 100 per cent.

§ 14. The sanitary duty is levied for medical inspection and first aid on the ship in the ports which have their own surgeons:

a) if the boat has a displacement

of till	300	net registered ton	450	marks
„	301—1,000	„ „ „	750	„
„	1,001—2,000	„ „ „	950	„
„	2,001—4,000	„ „ „	1,050	„
„	over 4,000	„ „ „	1,200	„

b) if the ship needs, in the opinion of the harbour surgeon, some desinfection, she also has to carry the incurring actual expences.

§ 15. A duty of two marks per each net registered ton is charged to the benefit of the Seamen's Home, this only in the first port entered and only once during a calendar year.

§ 16. A duty of one mark per each net registered ton is charged for maintenance of life boat stations only once during a calendar year at each port.

§ 17. A weight duty is levied on all goods imported and exported, to the following amount per each hundred kgms:

a) two marks 64 penni for grain and pulse, potatoes, hay, straw, cooking salt, calcium carbonate, sodium sulphate, Strassfurt salt, potassium chloride, sulphur, kaolin, all fertilisers, various earths for technical purposes, sand, clay (not colouring), gypsum, alabaster, chalk, lime, cement, ordinary bricks, roof tiles, stones (not precious, and not marble), unfinished grindstones, mill stones, metal ore, iron slag, old iron, all sorts of coal and coke, crude oil, naphtha refuse, peat, wood coal, tar, fire wood, round beams (not including valuable sorts of timber), all sorts of props, shafts, lats, deals having a length of not more than six

and not less than one foot, wood chips and pulp;

b) five marks 28 penni for all sorts of seeds flax, hemp, taw cotton, oil cake, flour, groats, malt, goudrone and timber except sorts mentioned in p „a".

c) ten marks 56 penni for goods not mentioned under „a" and „b".

Note 1. The weight duty on raw materials cannot be higher than the duty on finished products of these materials.

Note 2. The following goods are exempt from the weight duty:

a) the luggage of passengers, the mail and goods the weight of which does not exceed 100 kgms;

b) the ballast, bunker coal, ice, food supplies for the use of the crew or passengers:

c) special war supplies and coal for the military use;

d) ships brought in on decks of other ships or in parts;

e) goods which will leave the harbour on the same ship, or which have been loaded on another ship without unloading them on shore;

f) goods carried to the port on ice;

g) uncut stones and broken roof tiles;

h) goods which are not allowed through the customs house and which must be destroyed according to the laws of the State;

i) goods which have been found on their inspection damaged or spoiled to an extent that they cannot be used as products or materials;

k) goods which have entirely lost their value or been damaged by accident remain within the decision of the customs authorities.

Note 3. a) Only 20 per cent of the weight duty mentioned in this paragraph is levied on transit goods, which pass through the ports of the Esthonian Republic without stopping.

b) 30 per cent of the weight duty is levied on transit goods which are being stored or reloaded on to other ships in the ports of the Republic.

§ 18. An icebreaker duty is levied on boats and goods from Nov. 1-st to April 1-st:

a) on boats 10 marks per each registered ton;

b) on goods, according to the classification of § 17:

p.	„a"	goods	1	mark	per	each	100 kgms.
„	„b"	„	2.50	„	„	„	„
„	„c"	„	3	„	„	„	„

§ 19. The fee for use of the electric cranes is to be paid, according to a special tariff approved by the minister of communications, the representative of the ship and the receiver of the goods.

Note. All ships and receivers of goods are obliged to use the electric cranes on the quays of the port of Tallinn.

Part II.

Duties levied on ships plying between home ports.

§ 20. The quay duty is levied equally on all ships plying between home ports in all ports of Esthonia, both at the arrival and departure of the ship:

a) on loaded ships mechanically propelled five marks per net registered ton;

b) on loaded sailing ships without mechanical propelling means, three marks fifty penni per net registered ton;

c) on ships with ballast or partially loaded ships 75 per cent of the duty mentioned under „a" and „b";

Note: A ship is recognised as partly loaden if the goods loaded or unloaded in the harbour represent in weight or volume not more than the one twentieth part of her net displacement. Forty cubic feet correspond to one thousand kilograms.

d) on ships calling at the harbour only to take on their supply of fuel, food, water or deck cargo, or on ships entering after avary or for clearence, not exchanging passengers or transacting any loading or unloading operations, twenty per cent of the amount mentioned in „a" and „b";

c) if a ship used for retail trading in wood is lying in the harbour for more than a week after her loading or unloading, she is obliged to pay each two weeks the quay duty to the amount specified in „a" and „b".

Note 1. All other ships plying between home ports are paying a delay duty, the amount and payment of which are specified in § 3.

Note 2. The ships may wait free of charge in the Mine harbour during the summer

f) ships which make regular and periodically fixed trips pay the quay duty only once during the calendar year for their first eight trips, i. e. eight arrivals and eight departures, in each port;

g) salvage steamers pay their fivefold quay, lighthouse and sanitary duties for each calendar year. This gives them the right to stay in all Esthonian ports. In case they transact some commercial operations, they pay in addition to those their regular harbour dues;

h) the ships of the Esthonian or a foreign government, not transacting commercial operations and boats carrying the flag of the yacht club are exempt from paying harbour dues.

Note: the minimum amount of duty is levied on ten tons capacity.

§ 21. The lighthouse duty is levied on the same basis as the quay duty in the way prescribed in § 20, p. p. „a", „b", „c" „d", and „h", but in double amount and only for the first eight trips in each calendar year.

§ 22. The weight duty is levied in the amount specified in § 17 of the present regulations; if the same goods pass for the second times only 50 per cent of the ordinary amount of the duty is to be paid.

§ 23. Winter quarters duty of 1,000 mark is levied on sailing ships of up to 50 tons capacity. Ships that have a larger displacement than fifty tons have to pay 10 marks for each additional ton. Ships propelled mechanically pay 50 per cent more.

Note 1. The winter quarters duty is provided for the time from Nov. 1-st to May 1-st, if the boat is not engaged in commercial operations.

Note 2. The guarding and taking care of the ship lies with the owner.

§ 24. The fresh water fees are received in the way and amount specified in § 13 of the present regulations.

§ 25. A sanitary duty is levied for medical inspection and rendering of first aid in the ports which have their own surgeons:

a) all cabotage vessels up to 50 tons pay 150 marks per trip,

b) all cabotage vessels of over 50 tons pay 250 marks per trip,

c) in case if the ship in the opinion of the harbour surgeon needs desinfection, she must meet the actual expences.

§ 26. All ships travelling under the Esthonian flag between Esthonian ports are freed from the obligation of taking on a pilot.

§ 27. The duties for the Seamen's Home and the life station are levied in the way and amount prescribed in the §§ 15 and 16 of the present regulations.

This regulations came into force on March 15-th, 1923.

GOVERNMENT GRANTS OF PERMITS TO FOREIGN COMPANIES AND SOCIETIES FOR OPENING INDUSTRIAL AND TRADING ACTIVITIES IN ESTHONIA.

Permits can be applied for, and are granted to all foreign concerns, companies and societies for industrial or trading activities in Esthonia, as defined in „Riigi Teataja" No. No. 88/89, 1921.

Applications shall be addressed to the Ministry of Trade and Industry, accompanied with certificates from the respective Esthonian Legations as to the legal existence of the applicant firms in their respective countries, and copies of documents: Memorandum and Articles of the General Meeting of the shareholders of Company or Society; approval and acceptance of Company's or Society's balance sheets during the period of the last three years by the General Meeting of shareholders; resolution or declaration of Company's or Society's Directors or Board of Directors, or Managers, or Chairman, in connection with the decision of the applicant firm as to opening of the Company's or Society's industrial or commercial activities in Esthonia; the applicant's Power of Attorney, certified by the respective Esthonian Legation, or consul, and giving them legal power and testifying their being within the limits of jurisdiction of their respective country.

This rule does not apply to Banks and Insurance Societies.

REGULATIONS FOR FLAX AND LINSEED EXPORTS.

The following rules, concerning the control of the flax and linseed exports have been published in the „Riigi Teataja" No. 35, 1923.

Clause 1. All firms exporting flax and linseed shall be registered with the Trade Department of the Ministry of Trade and In-

dustry, giving their full addresses and the location of their warehouses, where inspection takes place.

Clause 2. In order to facilitate the inspection, the warehouses shall be opened in the harbour district.

Note: The inspection may be executed outside the harbour area with the concurrence of the Ministry of Trade and Industry. In this case substantial reasons have to be brought forward to justify any such inspection.

Clause 3. The inspection of the flax for export shall be carried out by the experts of the Ministry of Trade and Industry, and shall take place 3 hours after the experts of the Custom House have been notified. The exporter should have the flax grouped and sorted before the arrival of the experts.

Clause 4. Exporters, trading with flax, must sort their flax according to the right standards.

Flax exported from Esthonia is subdivided, according to the district of origine, into six standards.

1. Petseri (Petchura) flax should bear in addition to its standard the „P" letter-mark:

a) P. G.
b) P. R.
c) P. H. D.
d) P. D.
e) P. O. D.
f) P. L. O. D.

2. Wõru (Werro) flax should bear in addition to its standard the „W" letter-mark

a) W. G.
b) W. R.
c) W. H. D.
d) W. D.
e) W. O. D.
f) W. L. O. D.

3. Border flax should bear in addition to its standa d the „Ps" letter-mark:

a) Ps. G.
b) Ps. R.
c) Ps. H. D.
d) Ps. D.
e) Ps. O. D.
f) Ps. L. O. D.

4. Livonian flax should bear only stand. mk:

a) G.
b) R.
c) H. D.
d) D.
e) O. D.
f) L. O. D.

5. Tartu (Dorpat) refined flax should bear in addition to its standard the „T" and „x" letter-marks:

a) Tx Gx
b) Tx Rx
c) Tx HDx
d) Tx Dx
e) Tx ODx
f) Tx LODx

6. Pärnu (Pernau) refined flax should bear in addition to its standard mark the „P" and „X" letter-marks;

a) Px Gx
b) Px Rx
c) Px HDx
d) Px Dx
e) Px ODx
f) Px LODx

Clause 5. Sorting and packing of the flax must be general. Every bale must have its standard marked on the label and should not contain flax of different standards.

Clause 6. Flax which is not sorted and labelled according to its standard must be resorted by the exporter at the experts' demand.

CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND CUSTOMS TARIFF OF ESTHONIA.

The existing Customs Regulations in force embrace respectively the former Russian Regulations, which are partly amended, and partly supplemented by Esthonian Customs Legislation.

The New Customs Regulations, although passed by the Riigikogu (Parliament), and published, have not yet come into force. They will enter force on Jan. 1st, 1924.

The General Customs Tariff has been, published in the „Riigi Teataja" No. 31, 1921, and has been in force since the 10-th of April, 1922. Some alterations in this Tariff are of later date.

Customs Duties are payable in Esthonian marks per one pood (36.1 lbs).

THE CUSTOMS TARIFF.

Decreed by the Government on the 3-rd of January, 1921, and promulgated on the 10-th of April, 1922.

Export duties.

Goods.			Duty in Emk. per pood
Clause 1	**Foodstuffs and Livestock.**		
	Grain and its produce:		
Pt. 1	Barley, oats, various sorts of groats	by gross weight	free of duty
Pt. 2	Rye and wheat.	„ „ „	do
Pt. 3	Flour, all sorts	„ „ „	do
Clause 2.	**Potatoes and their produce.**		
Pt. 1	Potatoes	„ „ „	5. -
	Note: Export of potatoes to countries, where a certificate of the plant disease is required, is allowed only with the permit of the Ministry of Agriculture to the effect that the potatoes are not infected. Specification of these countries is published by the Ministry of Agriculture.		
Pt. 2	Potato flour and starch	by gross weight	free of duty
Pt. 3	Potato syrup	„ „ „	do
Clause 3.	**Vegetables, fruits and berries.**		
Pt. 1.	Not classified otherwise :		
	a) fresh	by gross weight	do
	b) dried or preserved	„ „ „	do
Pt. 2	Onions	„ „ „	do
Pt. 3	Chicory, raw	„ „ „	do
Pt. 4	Mushrooms dried, all sorts	„ „ „	do
Clause 4.	**Milk and milk produce.**		
Pt. 1	Milk:		
	a) not specially classified	by gross weight	free of duty
	b) sterilized, condensed	„ „ „	do
	c) milk powder (dried milk)	„ „ „	do
Pt. 2	Butter		do
Pt. 3	Cheese		do
	Note: Export of articles brought under pt. 2 and 3 of this clause is permitted only with a certificate by the Ministry of Agriculture.		
Goods			
Clause 5.	Eggs per 100		do
	Note: Export of articles brought under this clause is permitted only with a certificate by the Ministry of Agriculture.		
Clause 6.	**Sweets and confectionary produce:**		
Pt. 1	Sweets, all sorts	by gross weight	free of duty
Pt. 2	Chocolate and chocolate sweets	„ „ „	do
Pt. 3	Biscuits and bakery produce	„ „ „	do
Clause 7.	**Meat:**		
Pt. 1	Pork all sorts.	„ „ „	do
Pt. 2	Beef	„ „ „	do
Pt. 3	Fowls, killed	„ „ „	do
Pt. 4	Game, killed	„ „ „	do

Pt. 5	Sausages, all sorts	by gross weight	free of duty
Pt. 6	Other meat produce not specified here	" " "	do
	Note: Export of articles brought under this clause is permitted only with a certificate by the Ministry of Agriculture.		
Clause 8.	Fish and Caviar.		
Pt. 1	Fresh and live fish:		
	a) all sorts, except smelt	by gross weight	50.—
	b) smelt		free of duty
Pt. 2	Preserved, smoked or tinned:		
	a) sprats, preserved	" " "	do
	b) sprats in oil	" " "	do
	c) eels	" " "	do
	d) salmon	" " "	do
	e) lampreys	" " "	do
	f) miscellaneous fish	" " "	do
Pt. 3	Sturgeon caviar		do
Clause 9.	Live animals.		
Pt. 1	Horses, bulls, cows and others not otherwise classified		do
Pt. 2	Pigs:		
	a) pigs, weighing less than 1 pood, per head		50.—
	b) weighing more than 1 pood, per head		200.—
	Note: Articles mentioned in this clause under pts. 1 and 2 may be exported only with the permission by the Ministry of Trade & Industry.		
Pt. 3	Fowls, per head		20.—

Group II.

Animal products and their produce.

Clause 10.	Hornes and bones:		
	Hornes, all sorts	by gross weight	15.—
	Bones, not powdered	" " "	35.—
Clause 11.	Gut of animals, all sorts	" " "	30.—
Clause 12.	Calf's bellies, all sorts	" " "	300.—
Clause 13.	Animal hair and bristle.		
Pt. 1	Horse hair, and bristle	" " "	300.—
Pt. 2	Hair of animals, except wool	" " "	10.—
Clause 14.	Hides, raw.		
Pt. 1	Calf hides:		
	a) salted wet	" " "	400.—
	b) dried and salted	" " "	800.—
Pt. 2	Sheep hides:		
	a) salted, wet	" " "	260.—
	b) dried, and salted	" " "	360.—
Pt. 3	Cow hides:		
	a) salted, wet	" " "	300.—
	b) dried, salted	" " "	560.—
Pt. 4	Horse hides, wet, or dry and salted	" " "	240.—
Pt. 5	Raw hide cuts and waste	" " "	50.—
Clause 15.	Tanned hides.		
Pt. 1	Not specified		free of duty
Pt. 2	Tanned hide waste		do

Clause 16.	Furs.	
Pt. 1	Fox	3000.—
Pt. 2	Polecat, marten and lynx	4000.—
Pt. 3	Weasel	25000.—
Pt. 4	Otter	8000.—
Pt. 5	Squirrel, rabbit and badger	600.—
Pt. 6	Hare	350.—

Group III.

Clause 17.	Timber, plants and their produce. Pine and fir wood.	
Goods.		Duty in Emk
Pt. 1.	Beams, telegraph & telephone poles above 9 ft. in length and 8″ or more, in diam. at the 9-th ft. from the foot per sq. ft.	40.—
Pt. 2	Round logs or props with bark or without:	
	a) pine up to 9 ft. in length, diam. at the top not above 8″, per sq ft.	3.—
	b) fir up to 9 ft. in length, diam. at the top not above 4″, per. sq. ft.	3.—
	c) fir up to 9 ft. in length, diam at the top 4″ and more, per sq. ft.	40.—
Pt. 3	Round laths, beams, sawn or edged beams above 9 ft. in length and at the foot less than 8″ in diam., per sq. ft.	
	a) do, pinewood	13.—
	b) do, fir	40 —
Pt. 4	Edged or sawn sleepers and all kinds of sawn or edged beams up to 9 ft in length, 5″ or more thick, per sq. ft.	10.—
Pt. 5	Pine and fir boards, all kinds of planks and sawn laths less than 5″ thick, per standard (165 cub. ft)	500 —
Clause 18.	Aspen-tree balks, beams, logs, deals, planks — per. sq. ft.	25.—
Clause 19.	Alder-tree and lime-balks, logs, deals, planks and beams — per sq. ft.	25.—
Clause 20.	Birch balks, logs, deals, planks, and beams — per. sq. ft.	25.—
Clause 21.	Common ashtree, oak, maple and elm balks, logs, deals, planks and beams — per. sq. ft.	50.—
Clause 22.	Fire wood.	
Pt. 1	Birch per sq. fathom	7.000.—
Pt. 2	Mixed birch and other fire wood — per sq. fathom	6.000.—
Pt. 3	All other kinds of fire-wood	5.000.—
Clause 23.	Ergot of rye . . . . . per. pd.	2.000.—
Clause 24.	Linseed	
Pt. 1	Not specified	25.—
Pt. 2	Seeds. By certificate issued by the expert of the Ministry of Trade and Industry	8.—
	Note: Export of articles brought under this pt. is permitted in compliance with the rules decreed by the Government on the 27 th Oct. 1921, (Official Gazette) „Riigi Teataja“ No. 97, 1921.	
Clause 25.	Flax, hemp and jute.	
Pt. 1	Flax raw and flax fibre	70.—
	Note: Export of articles brought under this pt. is permitted in compliance with the rules decreed by the Government on the 27 th Oct. 1921, „Riigi Teataja“ No. 97, 1921.	
Pt. 2	Flax tow (codilla), hemp and jute codilla	30.—
Clause 26.	Flax, hemp and jute spinning waste by gross weight	30.—
Clause 27.	Products of flax and codilla in rope factories	free of duty

Clause 28.	Flax yarn and thread.		
Pt. 1	Yarn (not twisted)		free of duty
Pt. 2.	Thread		do
Clause 29.	Flax and jute sacks		do
Clause 30.	Rags		
Pt. 1	Jute rags	by gross weight	300.—
Pt. 2	Hemp and linen rags	" " "	300.—
Pt. 3	Cotton and semiwoollen	" " "	15.—
Pt. 4	Woollen		
	a) cloth		60.—
	b) woven	" " "	120.—
Pt. 5.	Sundry unsorted	" " "	300.—

Group IV.

Factories products and manufactured goods.

Clause 31.	Cement		
	1. Powder	by gross weight	1.—
	2. Cement clinker	" " "	—.70
Clause 32.	Steel, iron, copper and cast iron, chip and steel scrap.		
	Iron, cast iron and copper		2.—
	Note: I. Export of copper is allowed only with the permission by the Ministry of Trade and Industry.		
	Note: II. Scraps of tinned sheet-iron free of export duty.		
Clause 33.	Broken Glass	by gross weight	20.—
Clause 34.	Soda in crystals	" "	free of duty
Clause 35.	Plant Glue	" "	do
Clause 36.	Spirit exported except by sea, with the permission by the Ministry of Finance, per degree		10.—

General Notes.

1. Articles not named in this tariff are free of export duty.

2. Duty is levied in accordance with the weight and number shown in the invoice, or in the bill of lading.

Custom House reserves the right to weigh, count or measure the goods.

b) Goods prohibited for export.

Clause 1. Excluded.

Clause 2. Platinum, gold, silver and their alloys, also melted into pieces, drawn into wire, sheets or crushed into powder, Russian platinum, gold and silver coins, precious stones, jewels, pearls and corals, finished or unfinished, as ornaments of articles or separate.

Clause 3. Scientific collections of any significance for national history, archeological collections, archives and rare historical manuscripts.

Note: Articles brought under clause 2, namely: precious metals, precious stones, pearls, corals, Russian platinum, gold and silver coins, are permitted for export only with a special grant by the Ministry of Finance, and the export duty is then levied in accordance with a special regulation issued by the Ministry of Finance, and Ministry of Trade and Industry.

Articles brought under clause 3 can be exported only with a special permission by the Ministry of Education.

Regulations of the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Trade and Industry concerning the export of precious metals and precious stones are published in the „Riigi Teataja" No. 24, 1923.

Clause 4. Alcohol, wine and liquors.

Note: Export of articles brought under this clause is permitted with the Ministry of Finance's certificate, provided, the regulations comply with the „Riigi Teataja" No. 65/66, 1920 and No.No. 30, 48, 81, 1921. Travellers, male-in-age, are allowed to carry with them 1.08 pints of alcohol or 1.08 quarts of vodki, liquors, free of duty.

Clause 5. Incandescent Electric lamps and Globes, all sorts.

Clause 6. Potassium salts all sorts.

Note: Prohibition of export of articles brought under clause 5 and 6 does not apply to goods which for the time being, are subject to the Customs functions, and are either to be returned to the country of origin or sent on to the importing country in transit through Esthonia.

Clause 8. Arms, like canons of all description, apparatus for throwing of exploding bombs, or gas-generating, or fire belching apparatus, bombs, shells, machine guns, small caliber guns loaded from the back, and ammunition needed for all of these arms. Likewise all guns and ammunition for guns, whether assembled or in parts, if they are despatched into the regions or places mentioned in § 6 of the international convention signed on Sept. 10-st 1919, in St. Germain en Laye.

Clause 8. Clover seeds.

Note: The unhindered export of clover seeds is allowed:

a) With the certificate of the seed-control station of the Ministry of Agriculture, if the seeds are exported in bags carrying the seal of the station with the inscription "Esthonian clover seeds".

b) Without the certificate of the seed-control station in unsealed bags, if the latter, as well as accompanying letters and bills of lading bear the inscription „Clover-seeds of unknown origin."

Freight rates during the first half of 1923.

(Data of the Exchange Committee.)

There was very little fluctuation in the amount of the freight on goods sent from Esthonia to foreign ports.

Timber freights

from Tallinn to Southampton stood during the first months at 45/—, in June in 42/6 and July at 46/— per standard, those to Manchester at 57/—57/6 per standard.

Last year the freight rates to Southampton stood at 55/—. Thus a decrease may be noticed.

Timber freights from Tallinn to Antwerp were throughout the first half of this year at 120 Belgian francs per std. The freight was the same last year, when it occasionally decreased to Frs. 115.—

Flax freights

have been quoted from Tallinn to Ghent at 27/— per ton since last March. Earlier in this year and throughout the last year the freight rates stood at 95—100 Belgian francs. Transport rates from Reval to Stettin held firm at 1500 Esthonian mark per ton during this year, and to Stockholm at 25 Swedish krones.

Mixed good freights

from Reval to Stettin stood invariably at 1200 Esthonian marks during this year, and to Stockholm at 25—35 Swedish kronor per ton. Last year the freight to Stockholm on mixed goods was less by 10—15 Swedish krones per ton.

Postal, telegraph and telephone service.

In 1922 there were in Esthonia 209 post offices, 82 telegraph and 226 telephone stations with 6,496 apparatus and fittings. The number of letters, parcels and postal orders handled during the year was 36.9 million. This makes an average of 33 letters, parcels and postal orders per individual.

The aggregate figure of postal service for 1921 shows 32.8 millions dealings or less by 4.1 million than it was in 1922.

The number of the cables dispatched during 1922 amounted to 99 per 100 individuals as compared with 30 per hundred in 1914. There came 6 telephone calls per individual in 1922.

A brief chronological summary of the chief historical events of Esthonia.

500 A. D. Somewhere about these years the Esthonians were already settled on the Baltic coast and the Gulf of Finland.

1208 First crusade of Teutons into Esthonia.

1219 Tallinn founded by Waldemar II, King of the Danes.

1238 Conquest of Esthonia by Danes.

1343—45 The last unsuccessful attempt of the Esthonians to shake off the Teutonic yoke.

1346 Esthonia sold by Waldemar III King of the Danes, to the Teutonic Order.

1561 Esthonia annexed to Sweden.

1562—83 Wars between Russia, Poland and Sweden for the possession of the Baltic Provinces.

1632 Foundation of the University at Dorpat (Tartu Ülikool) by Gustav Adolf.

1700—21 The Northern War between Russia and Sweden. Esthonia conquered by Russia.

1721 Sweden cedes the conquered provinces by Treaty of Nystad to Russia.

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1739 The Bible translated into the Esthonian language.

1764 First attempts of Katherine II to improve by legislation the hopeless conditions of the peasantry.

1816—19 Emancipation of peasants in Esthonia and Livonia.

1821 First Esthonian Newspaper edited.

1847—68 Agrarian Reforms amended and supplemented in Esthonia and Livonia.

1877 Introduction of Russian ordinance for towns.

1887 Compulsory introduction of Russian language into elementary schools in the Baltic Provinces.

1889 Russian po

1905 Outbreak

supression by military force w
lence and injustice.

1917 Outbreak of the Great Russian Revolution.

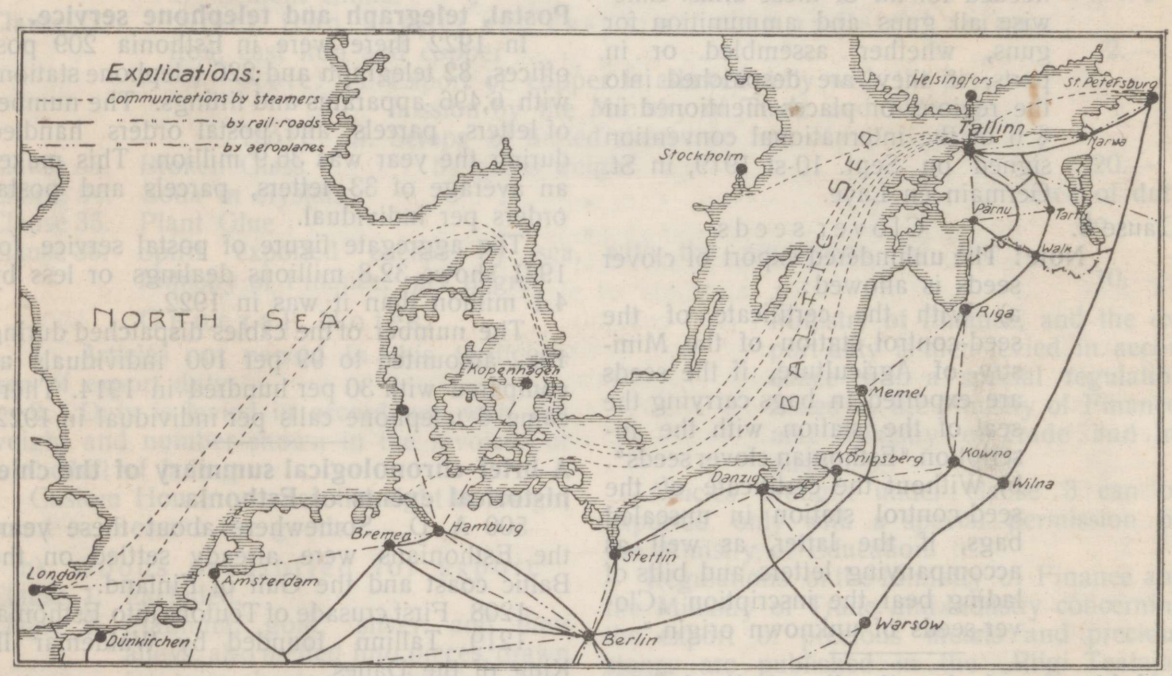
1918 German occupation of Tallinn and Esthonia.

1918 Declaration of Esthonian Independence.

1918—20 War with Soviet Russia for the Liberation.

1920 Peace Treaty of Tartu (Tartu Rahuleping). Recognition of the Esthonian Independence by Soviet Russia.

1921 Esthonia accepted into the League of Nations.



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