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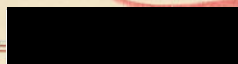
will put together

1955
B.

1st Prize

Agnes Sylvia Jackson.

Date of birth,



30, Southey Street,

Bootle.

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Church Rd.

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what parts of the Empire are supplied with the goods
which are produced in your own neighbourhood?

When I heard that we were about to enter for a Geographical Essay Competition my interest was aroused, as is usually the case when one is about to tackle something new. The dismay experienced when I heard that the subject was to deal with exports from our own neighbourhood, can not be imagined, and I was positive that I should have been bored, before the completion of the work. However, when we ourselves began to find out what local factories there were, and when our Geography Mistress corresponded with the managers of those factories enquiring about their exports to the British Empire, some of the replies we received were so unusual and unexpected that my interest was reuscitated. Our neighbourhood is the Urban District of Litherland, five miles North West of Liverpool in South West Lancashire. There are a number of factories and works, which export to all parts of the World including the British Empire. In some cases the managers invited us to inspect their works and see the processes of manufacture. Most of the firms not only export goods to the Empire, but also import their raw materials from the colonies, and after manufacture send back the finished article.

The Richmond Sausage Factory, which has its premises in numbers 7, and 11, Lincroft Road, Litherland, is only a small branch of the big firm, and yet, their letter was one of those which gave me a shock. The idea of lines of sausages being exported to Malta, Burma, West Coast of Africa, Newfoundland West Indies (British) and Straits Settlements seemed rather funny. Shortly, the Factory hope to despatch sausages to

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Gibraltar, Ceylon, and British India. Bryant and May limited in Sinaere Road, produce matches for home consumption. Their Export business is transacted in London but Bryant and May possess factories in parts of the British Empire. People who buy cars and bicycles by part exchange, often wonder what becomes of the rubber tyres and fittings of their old machines. These tyres are sent to a firm which deals in reclaimed rubber. In Hawthorne Road, Litherland, there is a big yard, stacked with rows of old rubber tyres, which are to be melted down, and used in the manufacturing of new tyres or rubber products. The yard belongs to the North Western Rubber Company, and 10% of their production is exported to India, Australia, and also South Africa, but the business is small owing to fact that they have reclaiming plants abroad; a large branch being in Canada. The Liverpool Tanning Company limited, Field Lane, Litherland, exports tanned hides to New Zealand, Canada, and the West Indies, but this exportation is insignificant, compared with home consumption business. Reckitt and Sons, limited of 189, Rice Lane, Walton export Metal Polish and Oval Blue to West Africa, Ceylon, and West Indies. The Liverpool Electric Cable Co. in Sinaere Lane, was one of the factories which offered us the opportunity to view their works. Their letter informed us, that they exported cables to Australia, New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, and Rhodesia. One of the first things I noticed was the copper wire, imported from Canada and Australia, being stretched and pulled by machine, until it was the required thickness and then slowly moved on, to the next part of the machinery. The copper wire is used as a conductor of the electricity, and layers of metal, braids, and other protective materials, are wound round the wire respectively. Lead from Canada and Australia is used for the sheath round the wire, and is covered with jute wrappings; the jute being imported from India. Various machines coat the cable

with insulating waxes, vaseline, or petroleum, wind steel-wire round for protection, add rubber as a further insulant, and the final covering is a layer of coloured cotton or silk braid. I saw the rubber as it was being made into long sheets about three feet wide, passing over hot rollers until it was the required thickness, and being left to cool. The machinery in the works is amazing. One plant, which was pounding the lead, had a pressure of three thousand tons on every square inch, a marvel of invention. Many different coloured bobbins were used in the weaving of braids, and the machine which did the weaving, caused about seven bobbins to revolve at the rate of 3,000 times per minute, until the thread was wound off all the bobbins, and woven into a long braid. A particular thing which I noticed, was the stacking of many coils of lever fleec on shelves, with E.X.P.O.R.T. written in block capitals and Australia as the place of destination. None of the cables are submarine, but great numbers are used in mines.

Collinson's Cut Boles Limited, are leather Factors, and rent works in Field Lane. All the leather they cut is tanned in country. Collinson's once exported to Canada, Australia and New Zealand, but now only export to South Africa, India, and occasionally to Canada. Countries possessing their own hides are finding it cheaper to cure and cut them without exporting, owing to the expensive duties when sent abroad. Although their employees manufacture goods for export, the Benmaenmawr and Trinidad Lake Asphalt Company in our locality does not actually export the products themselves. This is arranged by the branch in London, and the finished production is sent there first, thus causing indirect export from our neighbourhood.

Wherever you go, be it Australia, The Bahamas, India, Mauritius, or New Zealand, I think that I can vouch for it, that you will be able to buy some kind of Jacob's

Biscuits, so extensive is the amount of export business carried out. Not only is the exportation world-wide, but the firm in question also imports its raw materials from almost every part of the British Empire. During my visit to this very modern Biscuit Factory, I saw mass production in all its glory. Biscuits, many and varied, being cut out, baked, cooled, sorted, decorated, some chocolate-coated, packed, wrapped up, labelled, gummed, and either put in the cool store-room, or sent at once to the firm's own Branch Railway Depot, in the Factory yard. The guide who conducted us over the factory, showed us the machine which packed the biscuits in cardboard cartons, added five consecutive wrappers round the box, labelled and sealed it, and not once had the carton been touched by hand. A rather interesting story was told me by the guide, about one of those cartons. It packed of the biscuits had been washed up on to East Coast of North America, and the man who found it, ate the biscuits, and sent the box back to Jacobs, telling them that their goods were very tasty, and exceedingly well-packed.

W. E. Criddle and Son Limited, of 67, Stanley Street, Liverpool, have a large export business, but mainly with Non-Empire countries, particularly the colder countries of the World, such as Norway, Sweden and Denmark. They supply golden syrup, and Old Fashioned Black Treacle to Canada, South Africa and a little to the West and East coasts of Africa, Australia, and New Zealand were once important customers, but now they possess their own factories. Jam is the next item to be dealt with, on my list of exports, and this jam is supposed to be one of the most famous makes, as indeed it is. William Hartley Limited, in question, export to all parts of the Globe, but most of the business is done indirectly, through their factory in London. However, Canadians, and the

people of Newfoundland must like jam too much to allow for the loss of time incurred in sending it first to London, and our local factory exports directly to the two British Possessions across the Atlantic. Printed matter is also exported from our neighbourhood, and this expensive task is promoted by the B. & R. Limited, in tintree. Primarily they are lithographic Printers, and a subsidiary part of the business is the manufacture of Folding Card-board boxes, ~~and~~ most of which are printed by the Photo litho off-set. Nearly all the world markets are closed to printed matter, and even the Irish Free State, has a prohibitive duty on English Printing. The tariffs imposed are very high, ranging from 30 to 60%. However, the firm regularly despatches large numbers of labels to Singapore, for the Canned Pineapple Trade, and to Ceylon for packet-tea. Labels are sent to Calcutta for tea packed in air-tight tins, and Australia is supplied with labels for canned shell-fish. Thousands of grease-proof labels are exported to Newfoundland, for attaching directly to chilled salmon. Tin-boxes of every kind, shape and description are manufactured for export, from Read's Tin Works, and Canada, South Africa, Australia, and the Canary Islands are supplied with the goods. The British Can Company, in Breeze Lane, Walton, also specializes in tin-boxes, and exports indirectly to India, South Africa, Canada, and Jamaica. This indirect exportation is due to the fact that their products are used to pack other commodities, videlicet: - tobacco, condensed milk, fruit, metal polish, and powder. Some empty tins are exported to South Africa. These are wrapped in water-proof paper and sent to Capetown, for use as metal polish containers. My favourite toffee is the next thing which I discovered to be exported. The natives of India are civilised enough to

like good toffee, and are supplied partly, by the William's's Toffee Limited, Waterworks Street, Bootle. They export their manufactures to practically every part of the British Empire, but the following are their largest customers: — Eldon, India, Canada, British East and West Africa, and South Africa. To prevent affection by climatic conditions, tins going abroad, are sealed with adhesive tape, and packed in cases lined with tin. Unfortunately the British Enka Artificial Silk Company of Clinton do not now export their products to the British Empire owing to Japanese Competition. Smith's Potato Crisps Ltd in Ormskirk Road, Clinton, export to all the colonies of the British Empire, since Colonial Potatoes are often unsuited for making into Potato Crisps. They would export considerably more were it not for the fact that Crisps, on account of their bulk and lightness, are expensive at present freight rates. A lot of potato crisps are consumed on liners plying between England and Colonies.

The Meccano Company export to every part of the World, and toys of every variety, especially the meccano type are sent to Canadian children, New Zealand children, little Indian boys and girls, and wherever else the arm of civilisation stretches. Automatic telephone exchange apparatus, and signalling equipment are supplied to India, South Africa, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand by the Automatic Electric Company Limited, the Strouger Works, Liverpool. One of the most interesting and informing letters, was sent to us by Howard Baker Limited, Vauxhall Soapery, Binns Road, Liverpool 13. Almost the whole of the Empire is acquainted with some brand or other of their soap. In India, ships call at the ports of Bombay, Calcutta, Karachi, Madras, and leave boxes of soaps from Messrs

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Howard Baker. Penang and Singapore in the British Malay receive exported soaps. The islands of Ceylon and Mauritius are also regular customers. Howard Baker export soap to West, and South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Gibraltar, Malta, Cyprus, British West Indies, Jamaica, Trinidad, Demerara, and Barbados. The household and soft soaps, disinfectants, and polishes are all manufactured at their Works. They receive enquiries from all over the World. They have forwarded to us letters sent to them, relating to their trade in soap, with the following parts of the British Empire - Lagos, Singapore, Zanzibar, Vancouver, and Straits Settlements.

The large amount of export business which this essay has enabled me to find out, and which is transacted by apparently insignificant unexciting factories in this district of Litherland is amazing. Litherland is not a district which produces any raw materials for export; it is a strictly manufacturing area, and for its size, export business accomplished is colossal. Through the letters which I have read concerning the buying of British Goods abroad, I have found that there is a great and growing demand for them, not only in the Empire but in other parts of the World. Critics often say, that boys and girls at school know many useless things about the countries and capitals of Europe, but know practically nothing about their own locality. This essay has created an intelligent interest, concerning the factories and works in my neighbourhood, and has stimulated my keenness for discovering more about the British Empire, whose trade is so extensive. I never imagined that small firms could be connected with so many

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different parts of the Empire, nor that in India, Australia,
Ceylon, Trinidad, and other parts of the Empire, someone
at least is dependent on the soap, leather, food, and
other goods which are manufactured in Litherland;
this small, yet busy part of a great Empire.

Map showing locality covered in essay within 1, 2, 3 mile radius
of **Litherland Central School.**

