

**BULLETIN NO. 22. U. S.
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.
SECTION OF FOREIGN MARKETS.
OUR TRADE WITH SCANDINAVIA,
1890-1900**

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FRANK H. HITCHCOCK

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1890-1900.

BY

FRANK H. HITCHCOCK,
CHIEF, SECTION OF FOREIGN MARKETS.



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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
SECTION OF FOREIGN MARKETS,
Washington, D. C., September 1, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a statistical review of our trade with Scandinavia during the fiscal years 1890-1900, and to recommend its publication as Bulletin No. 22 of this Office.

Very respectfully,

FRANK H. HITCHCOCK,
Chief.

HON. JAMES WILSON,
Secretary.

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OUR TRADE WITH SCANDINAVIA 1890-1900.¹

GROWTH OF THE TRADE.

Among the noteworthy examples of commercial development during the past decade is that disclosed by the records of the trade carried on between the United States and the Scandinavian countries—Denmark, Sweden, and Norway.

In 1890 our exports to these three countries were valued at less than \$9,000,000; in 1900 they amounted to nearly \$29,000,000. The ten years subsequent to 1890 have witnessed a gain in annual value of about \$20,000,000, or over 200 per cent.

Our importations from Scandinavia are comparatively small, the trade being extremely one-sided. The import value for 1890 fell below \$4,000,000, and even in 1900, when the highest figures on record were reported, the value barely exceeded \$5,000,000.

The balance of trade in favor of the United States increased from less than \$5,000,000 in the former year to nearly \$24,000,000 in the latter.

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Following is a summary statement that shows the official² value of the merchandise imported and exported by the United States in the trade with Scandinavia during each fiscal year from 1890 to 1900, inclusive:

Value of merchandise imported and exported by the United States in the trade with Scandinavia (Denmark, Sweden, and Norway), during each fiscal year from 1890 to 1900, inclusive.

Years ended June 30—	Imports.			Exports.			Total imports and exports.	Excess of exports over imports.
	Free.	Dutiable.	Total.	Domestic merchandise.	Foreign merchandise.	Total.		
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
1890	170, 125	3, 603, 278	3, 773, 398	8, 592, 923	18, 968	8, 611, 891	12, 386, 379	4, 838, 483
1891	220, 387	3, 761, 550	3, 981, 937	8, 245, 929	14, 888	8, 260, 817	12, 252, 204	4, 268, 430
1892	265, 838	3, 717, 644	3, 983, 477	14, 987, 738	12, 519	14, 966, 057	18, 933, 534	10, 966, 580
1893	337, 749	4, 074, 499	4, 412, 239	9, 350, 071	5, 067	9, 355, 138	15, 737, 377	4, 942, 839
1894	306, 078	3, 108, 890	3, 306, 960	9, 401, 969	39, 914	9, 441, 883	12, 748, 849	6, 134, 917
Annual average, 1890-1894	240, 822	3, 652, 772	3, 898, 594	10, 105, 726	18, 129	10, 123, 855	14, 017, 449	6, 230, 261

¹The statistical tables that form the basis of the present report were originally compiled for use in Bulletin No. 9, entitled "Trade of Denmark," but it was found that their inclusion in the bulletin mentioned would make it too large for convenience, and they are accordingly made the subject-matter of a separate publication.

²The statistics of importation and exportation given in the present bulletin are based on the official returns of trade published annually by the Bureau of Statistics, United States Treasury Department.

Value of merchandise imported and exported by the United States in the trade with Scandinavia, etc.—Continued.

Years ended June 30—	Imports.				Exports.		Total imports and exports.	Excess of exports over imports.
	Free.	Dutiable.	Total.	Domestic merchandise.	Foreign merchandise.	Total.		
	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>
1895	857,526	2,438,828	2,856,154	8,073,288	43,639	8,127,927	10,364,061	5,271,773
1896	389,000	3,315,907	3,654,907	11,553,879	34,571	11,588,450	15,243,357	7,933,543
1897	532,439	2,324,034	2,856,473	15,652,967	5,511	15,658,498	18,514,971	12,802,025
1898	258,135	2,628,795	2,886,930	18,992,012	19,195	18,011,207	21,898,137	12,124,277
1899	306,606	2,679,147	2,865,753	28,799,756	24,361	28,824,117	31,709,870	25,938,364
Annual average, 1895-1899	356,742	2,669,302	3,028,044	16,615,384	28,656	16,642,040	19,670,064	13,613,966
1900	698,564	4,486,173	5,184,737	28,901,774	22,684	28,924,458	34,060,215	23,769,701

DISTRIBUTION OF THE TRADE.

Denmark is the principal factor in our Scandinavian trade, the exports to that country for 1900 having a value of more than \$18,000,000, while the combined shipments to Sweden and Norway were valued at about \$10,000,000. Unfortunately the official trade returns of the United States do not present separate statements of the commerce carried on with Sweden and with Norway, and it is therefore impossible to determine from our export statistics which of these two countries furnishes the larger market for American products. Judging from the customs returns published by Sweden and by Norway, however, it would seem that the latter country is at present the more important customer.

Since 1890, when our exports to Denmark were valued at little more than \$5,000,000, and our exports to Sweden and Norway at less than \$4,000,000, the former, according to the records of 1900, have increased over \$13,000,000, and the latter about \$7,000,000.

Although Denmark is the leading destination of our exports in the Scandinavian trade, our imports come chiefly from Sweden and Norway. The value of the goods purchased from these two countries during 1900 exceeded \$4,000,000, while the importations from Denmark had a value of only \$920,000. In the imports from Sweden and Norway, however, there was comparatively little increase during the past ten years, whereas the record of importation from Denmark shows a decided gain, the value for 1900 being more than double that reported for any year of the preceding decade.

As in the case of the exports, the United States returns of importation do not give the amounts received from Sweden and from Norway in separate statements.

The following table shows the value of the merchandise imported into the United States from Denmark, and from Sweden and Norway, during each fiscal year from 1890 to 1900, inclusive: