

**ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE  
FOREIGN COMMERCE OF  
THE UNITED STATES, 1913**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649257874

Annual review of the foreign commerce of the United States, 1913 by Various

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**VARIOUS**

**ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE  
FOREIGN COMMERCE OF  
THE UNITED STATES, 1913**



## CONTENTS.

---

	Page.
General statement.....	5
Comparison with earlier years.....	5
Increases in imports and exports compared.....	5
Effect of higher prices on total values.....	6
Notable features of the import trade.....	7
Growth in importation of nondutiable merchandise.....	7
Increased imports of raw materials.....	7
Gains in imports from American countries.....	8
Manufacturers' materials of foreign production.....	8
Leading articles imported for manufacturing.....	9
Character and sources of materials imported for manufacturing.....	9
Leading food products of importation.....	12
Manufactures imported.....	14
Countries supplying imports into the United States.....	17
Decrease in share of imports from Europe.....	17
Manufactures come chiefly from Europe.....	17
Relative growth in contributions by grand divisions.....	18
Imports from Europe.....	18
Imports from North America.....	20
Imports from South America.....	21
Imports from Asia and Oceania.....	22
Imports from Africa.....	24
Notable features of the export trade.....	25
Relative gains in classes of merchandise exported.....	25
Decline in exports of foodstuffs.....	26
Increase in manufactures exported.....	26
Exports to grand divisions and principal countries.....	27
Twelve leading countries to which exports were sent.....	28
Principal articles exported to each principal country.....	29
Distribution of principal articles exported.....	33
Exports of manufactures.....	33
Distribution of principal manufactures exported.....	34
Share of reexports in international trade.....	37

# ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE FOREIGN COMMERCE OF THE UNITED STATES, 1913.

## GENERAL STATEMENT.

The foreign commerce of the United States made its highest record in the fiscal year 1913. Imports, both free and dutiable, were larger than ever before, and exports, both domestic and foreign, were also the largest on record. Imports were 1,813 million dollars, against 1,654 million in the fiscal year 1912, and exports were 2,466 million dollars, against 2,204 million in 1912.

### COMPARISON WITH EARLIER YEARS.

The table which follows gives opportunity for a comparison of the trade of 1913 with that of each year during the twentieth century and the earlier decennial years mentioned:

Year ended June 30—	Imports.					Exports.				Excess of exports over imports.
	Free.	Dutiable.	Total.	Per cent free.	Per capita.	Domes- tic.	Foreign.	Total.	Per capita.	
	<i>Million dollars.</i>	<i>Million dollars.</i>	<i>Million dollars.</i>		<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Million dollars.</i>	<i>Million dollars.</i>	<i>Million dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	
1880....	208	490	688	31.19	12.51	824	13	836	16.43	138
1890....	265	324	789	33.83	12.16	845	13	858	13.43	68
1900....	367	483	850	43.21	10.93	1,372	27	1,399	17.76	544
1901....	340	484	824	41.26	10.25	1,400	27	1,427	18.53	603
1902....	397	507	904	43.93	11.18	1,365	26	1,391	16.86	477
1903....	425	600	1,025	41.55	12.28	1,392	28	1,420	16.96	394
1904....	454	637	991	45.83	11.73	1,435	26	1,461	17.14	470
1905....	517	600	1,117	46.30	12.74	1,492	27	1,519	17.48	402
1906....	559	677	1,237	44.81	13.95	1,718	26	1,744	18.75	517
1907....	644	790	1,434	44.90	13.97	1,864	27	1,891	20.91	447
1908....	638	659	1,295	44.01	13.11	1,835	26	1,861	20.32	606
1909....	660	712	1,372	45.70	13.94	1,636	25	1,663	17.82	351
1910....	755	602	1,357	48.51	16.54	1,710	35	1,745	18.28	188
1911....	777	750	1,527	56.87	16.05	2,014	36	2,050	21.15	523
1912....	882	772	1,654	53.33	16.24	2,170	34	2,204	22.41	550
1913....	987	825	1,813	54.47	17.94	2,429	37	2,466	24.06	654

### INCREASES IN IMPORTS AND EXPORTS COMPARED.

The changing character of the foreign commerce of the United States is illustrated by a comparison of the figures of 1913 with those of earlier years. Imports show in recent years a much more rapid gain than exports. While imports increased but 27 per cent in the 20-year period from 1880 to 1900, they increased 113 per cent in the shorter period from 1900 to 1913. On the other hand, exports, which increased 67 per cent in the 20-year period from 1880 to 1900, gained only 77 per cent in the period from 1900 to 1913. Imports formed in 1900, 37.8 per cent, and in 1913, 42.4 per cent of the total foreign commerce. Foodstuffs imported in 1900 aggregated 231 million dollars and, in 1913, 406 million; manufacturers' raw materials imported increased during the same time from 276 million to 635 million dollars, an increase of 534 million dollars in the value of foodstuffs and raw materials imported during this period.

On the other hand, foodstuffs exported during the period under consideration show a decline of 44 million and raw materials an increase of 406 million, a net increase of but 362 million dollars in foodstuffs and raw materials exported, compared with an increase of 534 million in foodstuffs and raw materials imported.

In manufactures, however, the growth in exports has exceeded that in imports. Imports of manufactures for further use in manufacturing increased from 134 million dollars in 1900 to 349 million in 1913, and finished manufactures from 203 million in 1900 to 408 million in 1913; while on the export side manufactures for further use in manufacturing increased from 153 million dollars in 1900 to 409 million in 1913, and finished manufactures from 332 million to 778 million, the increase in manufactures imported during the period having been 420 million dollars and in manufactures exported 702 million dollars.

#### EFFECT OF HIGHER PRICES ON TOTAL VALUES.

The large increase in the valuation of the various groups of merchandise imported and exported in recent years does not represent a corresponding increase in quantities. In a large proportion of the articles forming international trade, prices in recent years are much higher than those in the earlier years of the period under consideration, and the increases in quantities are in many instances less than the increases in total values, this being especially true of foodstuffs and manufacturers' materials. India rubber, for example, imported in the fiscal year 1902 averaged 50 cents per pound, but in 1910 and 1911 exceeded \$1 per pound and, in 1913, 80 cents per pound. Pig-tin imports in 1900 averaged 27 cents per pound and, in 1913, 46 cents; jute averaged \$39 per ton in 1900 and \$74 in 1913; hides of cattle, 12 cents per pound in 1900 and 14 cents in 1913; hemp, \$132 per ton in 1900 and \$193 in 1913; carpet wools, 9 cents per pound in 1900 and 14 cents in 1913; raw cotton, 12 cents in 1900 and 19 cents in 1913; and boards, deals, and planks in 1900 an average import value of \$11 per thousand feet and, in 1913, \$17 per thousand feet.

In finished manufactures the determination of prices is much more difficult, though for a limited number of articles prices may be ascertained, and these show in most cases a less advance than that in raw materials or foodstuffs. Of cotton cloth not bleached, for example, the average import value per yard was in 1900, 11.7 cents and in 1913, 12 cents; and of bar iron in 1900, 2.2 cents per pound and in 1913, 2 cents per pound.

The advance in prices on the export side is also especially apparent in manufacturers' materials and foodstuffs. Raw cotton, the principal manufacturers' material exported, showed in 1900 an average export price of 7.7 cents per pound, and in 1913, 11.9 cents. Of leaf tobacco, the average export price advanced from 8.7 cents per pound in 1900 to 11.9 cents in 1913; boards, planks, etc., from \$16.94 per 1,000 feet in 1900 to \$24.3 in 1913; wheat, from 72 cents per bushel to 97 cents; flour, from \$3.62 per barrel to \$4.67; corn, from 41 cents per bushel to 59 cents; fresh beef, from 9 cents per pound to 12.3 cents; bacon and hams, from 8.4 cents to 13.1 cents; and lard, from 6.3 cents per pound in 1900 to 11.2 cents in 1913; while copper in pigs, bars, and ingots, of which the exports exceed 100 million dollars per annum, declined in average export price from 16.7 cents per pound in 1900 to 16.3 cents in 1913.

## NOTABLE FEATURES OF THE IMPORT TRADE.

### GROWTH IN IMPORTATION OF NONDUTIABLE MERCHANDISE.

The striking characteristics of the import trade of 1913, when compared with that of earlier years, are: (1) An increased percentage entering free of duty, and (2) an increased percentage imported for use in manufacturing. The percentage of the imports which entered free of duty in 1913 was 54.47, being larger than in any earlier year except 1892 (55.35 per cent) and 1894 (57.98 per cent), the opening and closing years of the brief period in which sugar was admitted free of duty under the act of 1890. The total value of merchandise imported free of duty in the fiscal year 1913 was 987.5 million dollars, against 367.2 million in 1900; and of dutiable, 825.5 million dollars, against 482.7 million in 1900, merchandise entering free of duty in 1913 having formed 54.47 per cent of the total imports, against 43.21 per cent in 1900.<sup>1</sup> The duties collected in the fiscal year 1913 were 312.5 million dollars, against 229.4 million in 1900, the average ad valorem rate of duty on dutiable imports having been, in 1913, 40.05 per cent, against 49.24 per cent in 1900, while the per capita duties collected in 1913 averaged \$3.17, against \$3.02 in 1900.

### INCREASED IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS.

Manufacturers' raw materials form a steadily increasing share of the imports, having been, in 1870, but 12.76 per cent; in 1880, 19.74 per cent; in 1890, 21.62 per cent; in 1900, 32.5 per cent; and in 1913, 35 per cent. The growth in importations of manufactures for further use in manufacturing was relatively less than that of raw materials, since that group formed 12.75 per cent of the imports in 1870 and 19.27 per cent in 1913.

Manufacturers' raw materials imported in 1913 aggregated 635.2 million dollars, against 276.2 million in 1900, and formed, in 1913, 35 per cent of the total, against 32.5 per cent in 1900. Manufactures for further use in manufacturing showed, in 1913, a total importation of 349.4 million dollars, against 134.2 million in 1900, and formed, in 1913, 19.3 per cent of the total, against 15.8 per cent in 1900. Foodstuffs in a crude condition formed 11.7 per cent of the imports in 1913 and 11.5 per cent in 1900; foodstuffs partly or wholly manufactured, 10.7 per cent in 1913 and 15.7 per cent in 1900; and manufactures ready for consumption, 22.5 per cent of the total in 1913, against 23.9 per cent in 1900. The principal increase in importations of manufacturers' materials occurred in nondutiable articles, of which the imports in 1913 were 509.7 million dollars, against 210.4 million in 1900, while dutiable crude materials imported for use in manufacturing in 1913 aggregated 125.5 million dollars, against 65.8 million in 1900. The above figures relate to general imports, those of imports for consumption differing but slightly from general import figures in totals and percentages.

<sup>1</sup> The share of the imports entering free of duty under the tariff act of October 3, 1913, was, in October, 61.36 per cent; in November, 61.73 per cent; and in December, 63.88 per cent.



## GAINS IN IMPORTS FROM AMERICAN COUNTRIES.

Trade of the United States with other American countries showed more rapid gains than that with other parts of the world. Imports from North America in the fiscal year 1913 showed an increase of 180 per cent over 1900 and those from South America a gain of 133 per cent. During the same period imports from Europe increased but 103 per cent, and those from Asia and Oceania as a whole about 80 per cent, while exports, as shown elsewhere in this review, made an even more rapid increase in the trade with America. Imports from Europe in 1913 were valued at 892.9 million dollars against 440.6 million in 1900; those from North America, 361.9 million against 130 million in 1900; from South America, 217.7 million against 93.7 million in 1900; from Asia, 276.5 million, against 139.8 million in 1900; from Oceania, 37.5 million against 34.6 million in 1900; and those from Africa, 26.4 million against 11.2 million in 1900.

South America is the largest contributor of the crude foodstuffs imported into the United States, having supplied, in 1913, 53.5 per cent of the total imports of that group, with an aggregate value of 113.3 million dollars, consisting chiefly of coffee and cacao. North America supplied, in 1913, 23.3 per cent of the crude foodstuffs imported, with a total value of 49.3 million dollars, consisting chiefly of fruits, coffee, cacao, breadstuffs, and vegetables, while Europe supplied 12.4 per cent and Asia 10 per cent of the group under consideration. Of imports of foodstuffs partly or wholly manufactured, of which sugar is by far the most important article, North America supplied, in 1913, 53 per cent, chiefly sugar from Cuba, and Europe, 39.4 per cent, chiefly prepared fruits, edible oils, spirits, wines, liquors, dairy products, and fish. Of crude materials imported for use in manufacturing Europe supplied, in 1913, 38.2 per cent; North America, 19.5 per cent; South America, 11.3 per cent; and Asia, 23.3 per cent. Europe's chief contributions to the raw materials imported for use in manufacturing are raw silk, wool, fibers, furs, hides and skins, india rubber, and cotton, drawn by the countries of Europe from their tropical possessions and from foreign countries and forwarded to the United States. Of the crude materials imported for use in manufacturing Europe supplied 136.6 million dollars in 1903 and 242.7 million in 1913. Europe is, of course, the chief purveyor of our imported manufactures, having supplied, in 1913, 62.2 per cent of the manufactures for further use in manufacturing and 77.8 per cent of the total imports of finished manufactures.

## MANUFACTURERS' MATERIALS OF FOREIGN PRODUCTION.

Material from abroad is evidently forming a steadily growing share of the requirements of the manufacturers of the United States. The total value of manufacturers' materials imported in 1870, including both raw materials and manufactures for further use in manufacturing, was 108 million dollars; while the value of all materials used by the manufacturers of the country, as reported by the census of 1870, was 2,488 million dollars, the stated value of the imported materials being 4.4 per cent of the stated value of all materials used. In 1910 the value of the two groups of manufacturers' materials imported was 851 million dollars and the value of the materials used in manufacturing, as reported by the census of that year, 12,143 million, making the

stated value of the manufacturers' materials imported slightly more than 7 per cent of the stated value of the materials used in manufacturing. The value of all materials used for manufacturing as reported by the census of 1910 was practically five times as great as that of 1870, while the value of manufacturers' materials imported in 1910 was practically eight times as much as in 1870.

## LEADING ARTICLES IMPORTED FOR MANUFACTURING.

The table which follows shows the value of these 10 principal articles of manufacturing materials imported in the fiscal year 1913, compared with 1910 and earlier decennial years:

IMPORTS OF IMPORTANT ARTICLES FOR USE IN MANUFACTURING, AT DECENNIAL PERIODS 1870-1910, AND IN 1913, FISCAL YEARS.

Articles.	1870	1880	1890	1900	1910	1913
	Million dollars.	Million dollars.	Million dollars.	Million dollars.	Million dollars.	Million dollars.
Cotton, raw.....	0.8	0.8	1.4	7.9	15.8	23.0
Wool, raw.....	6.7	23.7	15.3	20.3	51.2	35.6
Fibers, unmanufactured.....	6.0	9.4	22.5	26.4	82.4	49.1
Silk, raw.....	3.0	12.0	23.2	44.5	65.4	22.1
Copper ore, pig, etc.....	.2	1.0	.4	15.4	40.2	59.5
Tin in bars, blocks, etc.....	2.0	6.2	7.0	19.1	30.9	53.1
Wood, unmanufactured.....	.7	2.9	4.3	6.0	15.2	18.0
India rubber, gutta-percha, and substitutes.....	3.5	9.6	14.9	33.0	106.9	101.3
Tobacco, leaf.....	2.5	4.9	17.6	13.3	37.8	35.9
Hides and skins.....	14.4	30.0	21.9	57.9	112.2	117.4
Total.....	38.3	100.2	126.5	243.8	498.0	576.0

## CHARACTER AND SOURCES OF MATERIALS IMPORTED FOR MANUFACTURING.

*Hides and skins.*—Hides and skins form the largest single item of manufacturers' materials imported, their value in the fiscal year 1913 having been 117½ million dollars against 57½ million in 1907, having thus doubled in value of imports during the period in question. The increase in quantity, however, is much less than that in value, from 346 million pounds in 1900 to 572 million in 1913, a gain of 66 per cent in quantity as compared with an increase of 136 per cent in value. Hides and skins seem likely to continue to be an extremely important factor in the import trade, especially in view of the rapid decrease in the supply of cattle in the United States. The number of cattle other than milch cows in the United States has fallen from 51½ million in 1907 to 36 million in 1913, a reduction of 30 per cent in six years; and in this period the importation of hides and skins has increased 55 per cent in quantity. Hides of cattle (including calf skins in this classification) showed in 1913 a total of 72½ million dollars, and form about two-thirds of the total value of the hides and skins imported into the country, about 20 per cent of the 363 million pounds of hides of cattle imported coming from Argentina, 15 per cent from Russia, 13 per cent from Canada, and 8 per cent from Mexico.

Of the 25 million dollars' worth of goatskins imported during 1913, a very large proportion were drawn from tropical and subtropical

countries. Of the 96 million pounds imported during the year, 41½ million pounds came from India, 10 million from China, 7 million from Russia (chiefly the southern part), 5 million from the United Kingdom (chiefly drawn from her tropical possessions) 5 million from Mexico, 4 million from Argentina, and 3 million from Brazil. A very large proportion of the goatskins used in the United States are now drawn from abroad, despite the fact that the United States has a large area, now practically unoccupied, especially suited to this industry. The value of goatskins imported into the United States during the last 10 years is over 250 million dollars. Sheepskins imported in 1913 aggregated 12 million dollars in value, nearly one-half having been drawn from the United Kingdom.

*India rubber and substitutes therefor.*—India rubber, including gutta-percha and substitutes for india rubber, ranks second in order of value of manufacturers' materials imported, having aggregated 101 million dollars in 1913, against 33 million in 1900, 15 million in 1890, 9½ million in 1880, and 3½ million in 1870. The aggregate value of india rubber and substitutes therefor imported in the last decade is 750 million dollars. Of the 101 million dollars' worth imported in 1913, 90 million dollars' worth was india rubber. While this article is of tropical production, being produced chiefly in Brazil, the Kongo Valley, and the plantations of the East Indies, nearly one-half of the total importation is from Europe.

*Raw silk.*—Raw silk ranks third in order of value of manufacturers' materials imported in the fiscal year 1913, having aggregated 82 million dollars, against 65 million in 1910, 44½ million in 1900, 23 million in 1890, 12 million in 1880, and 3 million in 1870. Japan is the chief source of the raw silk imported, the quantity from that country in 1913 having been 17½ million pounds, compared with 5½ million from China, and 2½ million from Italy.

*Copper.*—Copper importations in 1913 were valued at 59½ million dollars, of which 13½ million dollars' worth was in the form of ore, matte, and regulus, and 45½ million dollars' worth in the form of pigs, ingots, bars, and plates. This large importation of copper into the chief copper-producing country of the world—the United States—which produces practically one-half of the world's copper, is due chiefly to the fact that the United States possesses exceptional facilities for smelting and refining. Of the copper imported in the crude form, which aggregated 107 million pounds in the fiscal year 1913, 27½ million pounds were from Chile, 33 million from Canada, 18 million from Mexico, and 6 million from Spain. Of the 300 million pounds of copper in pigs, ingots, etc., imported in that year, 112 million pounds were from Mexico, 40 million from Peru, 35½ million from Spain, 35½ million from Canada, 25½ million from Australia and Tasmania, 15½ million from Japan, 14 million from Chile, and 8½ million from the United Kingdom, this class of copper being imported chiefly for refining and the extraction of the precious metals. This copper when smelted and refined loses its identity as a foreign product, and in case of its exportation is classified as "domestic" by reason of the fact that it has passed through a process of manufacture after entering the United States.

*Tin.*—Tin imports in 1913 aggregated 53 million dollars, against 31 million in 1910, 19 million in 1900, 7 million in 1890, 6 million in