

# IMPORTS INCREASE

## Gain of \$114,000,000 Shows New Tariff to Be Lower Than Old

Average Ad Valorem Rates on All Products 20.95 Per Cent—Revenue Not Impaired.

Washington—Imports exceeding by more than \$114,000,000 those of any previous similar period came into the United States during the first 11 months of the operation of the Payne-Aldrich tariff law, ended June 30 last. More than 49 per cent of these imports entered free of duty, being a larger percentage than in the corresponding period of any previous year except 1897, the closing year of the Wilson tariff law, and 1892, 1893 and 1894, when sugar was admitted free under the McKinley law.

Customs receipts during the 11 months of the new tariff law were \$302,822,161, exceeded only in 1907, when the first 11 months brought in \$307,053,381. These figures were made public by the bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor.

Under the Payne law the average ad valorem rate of duty on all imports has been 20.95 per cent, which is less than in any previous similar period since 1890 except in 1896, when it was 20.58 per cent, and in 1894, the closing year of the McKinley law, when it was 19.78 per cent.

On the dutiable imports the average ad valorem rate under the present law has been 41.19 per cent, the lowest of any previous year since 1890, except in 1896, when it was 39.33 per cent.

Comparing the entire period of the operation of the present law with the entire period of the operation of the Dingley, Wilson and McKinley laws, respectively, the average ad valorem rate under the Payne law is shown to be less than any of the others.

Under the Payne law it has been 20.95. Under the Dingley law it was 25.48 per cent, under the Wilson law 21.92 per cent, and under the McKinley law 22.12 per cent.

In regard to the average ad valorem rate on dutiable merchandise only, the same is true. Under the Dingley law it was 45.76 per cent; under the Wilson law 42.82 per cent, and under the McKinley law 47.10 per cent.

The percentage of merchandise entering free of duty under the Payne law has been 49.14 per cent. Under the McKinley law, which admitted sugar free, it was 35.04 per cent, and under the Wilson law 48.82 per cent.

The figures of the Payne law include the first five days of August, although the law did not become operative until August 6. The returns to the bureau of statistics did not enable it to separate the business of those five days from that of the rest of the month.

### PORTLAND HAS BIG FIRE.

Exposition Building, Multnomah Club and Many Residences Go.

Portland, Or.—Fire broke out in the Exposition building at 12:50 Thursday morning, and destroyed that building and the greater part of seven blocks adjoining it.

Though it is impossible to approximate the loss, it is feared it will exceed \$1,000,000. Over 200 head of horses are said to have died in the flames in the Fashion stables in the Exposition building.

Frank R. Price, of Oregon City, is dead. He, with three other men, was sleeping in the Fashion tables. It is not known if the others escaped. A young man terribly burned was taken from the Exposition building and rushed to St. Vincent's hospital. He will die. His name is unknown.

The Glendora hotel, 45 Nineteenth street north; three apartment houses on Washington street, the Multnomah club and several stores on four corners covered by Washington, Couch and Ella streets, are destroyed.

The entire fire apparatus of the city was called out, but despite the heroic work of the firemen it was impossible to check the flames.

### Town Twice Destroyed.

Renov. Nev.—The town of Palisade, 18 miles west of Carlin, at the intersection of the Southern Pacific and Eureka & Palisade railroad, has been destroyed by fire. With the exception of the railroad buildings, which were saved by heroic work, every business building in the town and several residences were burned. This is the second time the town of Palisade has been demolished this year. The entire town, then standing on the south side of the track, was washed away this spring by a flood.

### Phenomenal Score Made.

Wakefield, Mass.—A phenomenal score was shown in the annual New England State Rifle competition when Corporal Percy B. Scofield, of Company E, Fifth Massachusetts, nearly doubled the world's record for 500 yards at the Bay State rifle range. He scored 116 consecutive bullseyes. The world's record, held by Captain Stephen W. Wise, inspector of small arms practice of the Sixth Massachusetts, was 60 consecutive bullseyes.

### Lightning Strikes 13.

Belt, Mont.—Thirteen harvesters who took refuge under a tree during a storm were rendered unconscious by lightning and one of them instantly killed.

# AEROPLANE DROPS "BOMBS."

Curtiss Lands Oranges Accurately on War Ship's Deck.

Atlantic City, N. J.—Glenn H. Curtiss tossed oranges as mimic bombs within three feet of the decks of the yacht John E. Meyer II, used in place of a battleship during the sham battle arranged to demonstrate the utility of the aeroplane in coast defense.

The mock "bombs" were dropped from a height of about 300 feet and Curtiss purposely failed to strike the deck of the yacht for fear of injuring the officials and passengers on her decks.

Experts agreed that the experiments showed that a fleet of aeroplanes armed with bombs could wreck any warship before guns could be trained on them.

Curtiss was flying about 45 miles an hour when he dropped the "bombs" and officials on the deck declared that he was within accurate distance of rifle fire less than half a minute. Colonel William Allen Jones, retired, formerly of the United States Engineer corps, who is an advocate of aeroplanes for coast defense, stated after the trial his belief that the air machine has proved its efficacy.

"The armored battleship is approaching its last days as an engine of attack against a city or country guarded by aeroplanes," he said.

"I believe a fleet of a score of air machines would absolutely protect any coast city. A night flight by such a fleet not only would probably demolish an entire fleet of battleships, but would so demoralize the crew of the attacked vessels as to make them useless."

Curtiss also dropped oranges over a fortification marked out on the beach, making practically every shot a "hit," although the trajectory was sometimes as great as 30 degrees, because of the wind and his speed.

Walter Brookings' flight here was sensational, the adept driver gliding his machine toward the ocean until its runners were submerged in a breaker. He arose safely and glided to the beach.

# JAPAN AND RUSSIA SIGN CLOSE COMPACT

Washington—Evidence that the endeavors of Secretary Knox to bring about a concert of action of the powers to obtain the neutralization of the Manchurian railroad and to further the construction of another railroad in Manchuria and Mongolia had, in reality, the opposite effect of cementing relations between Russia and Japan, was manifested when the text of the Manchurian convention between those two nations was received in Washington.

The convention is a brief document—so short as to be remarkable among the important treaties of modern times—but it tells the story of the complete understanding of two nations only recently at war. Diplomatically, it is a document with which masters of international law can find no fault. The treaty will be objected to neither by Great Britain, Germany nor the United States.

### ENGLISH AVIATOR KILLED.

Trying to Land on Marked Spot, Machine Collapses.

Bournemouth, England.—In full view of thousands of persons, Hon. Charles S. Rolls, the daring young aviator, whose feat of flying across the English channel and back recently thrilled England, fell 100 feet to his death when the tailpiece of his Wright biplane suddenly snapped off, causing the machine to plunge with terrific speed to the ground.

The tragedy could not have been more dramatic. The wrecked aeroplane struck the earth directly in front of the grandstand. Rolls was dead before the doctors could reach his side.

Wrapped about by the twisted and tangled wreckage of the broken airship, it was several minutes before his mangled body could be extricated from the mass. The doctors found that he had sustained a fractured skull.

If the falling plane had struck a few feet more to the side, it would have crashed directly into the grandstand.

### Explosion is Felt Afar.

Pittsburg—A powder magazine at Cabot, Pa., exploded here killing one person and injuring 20 others. The magazine was the property of the Standard Plate Glass company, and contained 1,000 pounds of dynamite and 5,000 pounds of blasting powder. The man killed had gone to the magazine to get powder for quarries. Shortly after he was seen to enter, the explosion occurred and he was blown to fragments, leaving no clue as to how the powder became ignited. The injured will all recover.

### France May Change Time.

Paris—The cabinet has decided to submit a bill for the adoption of Western European time in France. During the old days of enmity toward England the French steadily refused to accept standard time, maintaining the solar time of Paris, which is nine minutes slower. The confusion resulting, especially in telephone communications with England, as well as the change in Franco-English relations, is responsible for the decision.

### Parents of 13 Honored.

Pensacola, Florida—Mr. and Mrs. Barberi, of this city, received from Governor Gilchrist a handsome spoon bearing the seal of the state of Florida. The wife is now only 37 years old, but Mr. and Mrs. Barberi are the parents of 13 children. Governor Gilchrist suggested that the legislature pass an act allowing the parents a pension.

# GENERAL NEWS OF NATIONAL HAPPENINGS

## AMERICAN ATTITUDE WATCHED

German Diplomats Believe Treaty is Defeat for Knox.

Berlin—While the German foreign office has refrained from giving an official suggestion as to its view on the new Russo-Japanese agreement, the question has been the subject of careful consideration. The feeling is that the compact introduces a new element in the arena of world diplomacy. The attitude of the United States is watched with special interest for an indication of its possible effects on the international situation.

The press here is divided, one section urging the foreign office to take a firm stand in seeking the co-operation of America against the Russo-Japanese exclusion policy. Most of the other newspapers urge the government to seek friendlier relations with Russia, which is now free to play a more important and dangerous role in European affairs.

In diplomatic circles the agreement is regarded primarily as a diplomatic defeat for America. It is said here that Knox's naive proposal to manage the Manchurian railroad question forced Russia and Japan into each other's arms.

## DR. WILEY STANDS FIRM.

Believes He Will Win Fight on Benzene of Soda.

Washington—Although the American Institute of Homeopathy, at its convention at Pasadena, Cal., recently, adopted a resolution rescinding its action taken last year condemning the use of benzene of soda, as a food preservative, Dr. Wiley, chief chemist of the department of agriculture, has stronger opinions than ever before on that subject.

But Dr. Wiley's views did not prevail in the department of agriculture, as the board appointed by Secretary Wilson to consider questions arising under the pure food law sanctioned the use of benzene of soda as a food preservative.

"The developments in the last year," said Dr. Wiley, "have accentuated my opinions as to the harmful character of benzene of soda as a food preservative. I expect to see that view sustained by the Federal courts, as evidence submitted recently in Indiana cases points that way."

## RATE SUSPENSION PROVIDED.

Authority to Be Exercised Cautiously, Commission Says.

Washington—In an official statement, the Interstate Commerce commission announces that it is its intention to suspend all tariffs naming general and important rate advances, pending an investigation as to the reasonableness of the proposed increases.

"No more definite statement in this regard can now be made," says the commission, "but the specific orders will be announced from time to time as they are entered and served. It is expected that the suspension in each case will be for 120 days from the effective date named in the tariff, but the commission intends by subsequent orders to provide for making effective on the same day such advances as may be allowed."

It will be incumbent on the railroads to show reasonable cause for the advances they may make in these tariffs from time to time, the burden of proof of the reasonableness of the tariffs bearing on the carriers.

## Militia to Get Monitor.

Vallejo, Cal.—The oil burning monitor Cheyenne was commissioned at the Mare Island navy yard. Lieutenant Charles T. Owens, who is temporarily detached from the cruiser West Virginia, is in command of the new boat. He is under orders to sail for Seattle on July 23. There the monitor will be turned over to the naval reserve of the state of Washington. Owens and the skeleton crew will then return to Mare Island.

## Submarine Boat Contracts Sublet.

Washington—The Electric Boat company, which has the contract for building three submarines for Pacific Coast duty, has sublet contracts so that one boat will be built at Seattle by Moran Brothers, and two by the Union Iron works, of San Francisco. The subcontract price is approximately \$400,000 for each boat.

## Canal Work Accelerated.

Washington—The total excavation on the Panama canal for the month of June was 2,616,609 cubic yards, against 2,477,818 for May; concrete laid during month, 124,214 cubic yards, against 107,043 cubic yards for the month previous. Daily average output was 100,639 cubic yards against 99,105 for May.

## Knox's Proposal Comes Late.

Tokio—The terms of the new convention between Japan and Russia, it is said on good authority, were virtually settled before Secretary Knox submitted the proposal for the neutralization of the Manchurian railroads. American interests in no way will be affected.

## 30,000 Acres to Be Reclaimed.

Washington—The bureau of Indian affairs has completed plans for reclaiming about 30,000 acres of swamp lands in the Yakima reservation in Washington. All plans have been made and active work probably will begin next week.

## LAND RESTORED TO ENTRY.

Areas Taken Out of Irrigated Tracts and National Forests.

Washington—The secretary of the interior has restored to the public domain several tracts of land that had been withdrawn in connection with the irrigation projects but that are not needed now by the reclamation service. The restorations of the week include: Boise land district, Idaho, 43,980 acres, subject to settlement September 17 and to entry October 17.

Phoenix land district, Arizona, 3,200 acres, subject to settlement September 19 and to entry October 19.

The unappropriated public lands in the area eliminated from the Coeur d'Alene and Pend d'Oreille national forests in Idaho by presidential proclamation will become subject to settlement under the homestead laws on August 22 and to entry September 21. About 8,200 acres were eliminated, but only about 1,000 acres were unappropriated. The lands are located in Bonner, Laah, and Kootenai counties.

An area eliminating from the Pecos national forest, New Mexico, and amounting to 31,560 acres, can be settled on August 15 and entered September 14. The lands are located in Santa Fe and Rio Arriba counties.

## BOARD MEETS THIS MONTH

Army Engineers to Take Up Work on Irrigation Projects.

Washington—General William Marshall, retired, formerly chief engineer of the army, who recently was appointed consulting engineer of the secretary of the interior for the reclamation service, has returned to Washington after a brief vacation.

The board of five army engineers appointed by authority of congress to advise the president in the expenditure of the \$20,000,000 issue of certificates of indebtedness will meet here this month. At this meeting plans for the prosecution of irrigation work will be formulated. Dr. Newell, of the reclamation service, called on General Marshall, but pending the arrival of the army board they did not go deeply into the situation.

General Marshall believed, in view of the president's desire to expedite the work, that the board would divide into two or more parties and operate in assigned districts.

## CORN CROP WILL BE LARGE.

Increased Acreage This Year is Figured at 5,000,000 Acres.

Washington—According to the opinion of the statisticians, the falling off of the crop of spring wheat was considerably exaggerated throughout the country, so far as its effect on the general transportation companies and upon the total yield of the crops is concerned.

It was pointed out that the corn acreage showed an increase of more than 5,000,000 acres, while the condition of winter wheat, a more important crop than spring wheat, showed an increase for July over the report of June 1. The corn crop promises to be so large that, in the opinion of many of these statisticians, the amount to be transported will exceed that of last year.

## Shy at Postal Banks.

Washington—Because postmasters are slow about asking for the establishment of postal banks, the bank advisory board will decide which cities shall have these banks, without waiting for requests.

Postmaster General Hitchcock states that San Francisco will be one of the cities in which a bank will be established.

"We expected many more requests for postal savings banks than have come in," said Mr. Hitchcock. "This, however, is not surprising. Postmasters naturally do not want to do more work without more pay, and postal banks would entail much additional labor."

## Few Corporations Tardy.

Washington—Reports received at the Treasury department give the total payments on account of the corporation tax as \$25,793,610, out of an assessment of over \$27,000,000. The time allowed by law in which corporations were allowed to pay without incurring any penalty for default expired on July 10, but as that day fell upon Sunday one day more was allowed, and many of the big corporations took advantage of it.

## Won Praise From Roosevelt.

Oyster Bay—A reporter who called on Roosevelt at Sagamore Hill appeared before the colonel with one of his hands bandaged. Roosevelt asked what was the matter. The reporter replied that he had sprained his hand while whipping a foreigner who was beating his wife.

"Fine, just fine" exclaimed the former president with enthusiasm. "That's an honorable wound. I am proud of you men who will not permit wife beating."

## Crop Averages Less.

Washington—A bulletin issued by the department of agriculture says the general average of the crop growth all over the United States on July 1, was 5.5 per cent lower than last year at the same time. The condition of the crops in the far West on July 1, the bulletin says, was 3.6 per cent below the average of last year, and 4.3 per cent below the general average.

# "OLD BILL" MACABBE.

Saw Halley's Visitor from Deck of the Constitution in 1835.

Probably one of the most interested spectators of the comet's journey from the eastern to the western sky last night was William Macabbe, an inmate of the United States Naval home at 24th street and Gray's Ferry Road, the Philadelphia Inquirer says.

"Old Bill," as he is familiarly called by his comrades at the home, is 108 years old, and when Halley's comet made its last appearance in 1835 he was a sailor, 31 years old.

When seen yesterday Bill was propped up in bed, for he has had a broken leg which has kept him indoors for more than a year, and when asked if he remembered seeing the comet seventy-five years ago, the old sailor, taking another pull at his corn-cob pipe, said, "Yes, I believe I do."

"Now, since it comes back to me, I remember the night distinctly. It was my watch, and we all had been on the lookout for the comet to cross the sky for several days. I do not remember exactly what boat I was on at that time, but I think it was the old United States frigate Constitution.

"I had been pacing the deck for some time when I suddenly spied the comet, and I called some of my shipmates to witness it as it trailed across the sky. It was not very large, probably as big as a head of cabbage, and it had a long, milky tail. We saw it after that for two or three nights, and then it disappeared.

"I have seen many comets while at sea, and several times I have seen huge meteors shoot through the sky and fall with a loud hiss into the ocean, while a column of steam caused by the meteor's contact with the water rose into the air."

Last night "Old Bill" was wheeled out on the naval hospital veranda to see the comet. He has been very much interested hearing the other inmates of the hospital ward where he has been for so long a time talk about it, and he expressed a desire to again see the aerial visitor on its journey across the sky.

# TALKS ON ADVERTISING

For the sins of their business few men punish their stomachs. People eat three times a day in dull times as well as in active times. They will buy those things of the man who tells them that he has them for sale. People do not buy as much in dull times as in good times, nor will they buy certain things at all when depression comes. However, at dull seasons they have time to think about these things beyond their present reach and will cut out certain objects of desire which they will surely purchase when pocket-books are fuller. In the dull time, therefore, press upon the public mind the worth and beauty and utility of the goods you have for sale. Then, when money is more plentiful, the goods will move. Emulate the furnace makers, who advertise in summer, and the refrigerator people, who fill the winter magazines with their advertisements.

He didn't have a dollar, he didn't have a dime; his clothes and shoes looked as though they had served their time. He didn't try to kill himself to dodge misfortune's whacks. Instead, he got some ashes and he filled five dozen sacks. Then next he begged a dollar. In the paper in the morning he advertised tin polish that would put the sun to scorn. He kept on advertising and just now, suffice to say, he's out in California at his cottage on the bay.—Mecca Herald.

That advertising may bring the most returns for the outlay, and that it may be definitely known that it is or is not paying, requires concentration of effort, experience and careful calculation.

Some one has said that trying to do business without advertising is like winking at a girl in the dark; you know what you are doing but nobody else does.

## The Hope Chest of a Maiden.

Every German girl has a hope chest. This is much different from the dowry chest which the American girl, on becoming engaged, begins to fill in advance of her wedding day. The German maiden begins to stock her hope chest even before she meets the man to whom she is to be married. She begins to save for her wedding day long before she is engaged. She is imbued with a sense of thrift and also with an ambition to have a larger dowry than her mother had. Often the German girl begins to collect things when she enters her teens. Silently she saves her money to use in buying articles for her chest. With skill she embroiders her initials on each article of linen. Thus by the time she is engaged to be married she is thoroughly equipped with hundreds of little articles that are useful in housekeeping.

## Useless Conversation.

Yeast—I see a Miss Elizabeth S. Colton, of East Hampton, Mass., can express her thoughts in fifty-four different languages.—Tonkers Statesman.

If the fool and his money were inseparable there would be no get-rich-quick schemes.

It is better to be correct than it is to be corrected.

# ALL ABOUT THE HOG

SOME STORIES OF THE USEFUL, IF UNORNAMENTAL, ANIMAL.

## Razorback Variety May Be Depended Upon to Furnish Something New—How Woodpeckers Fooled Drove of Arkansas Man.

The group on the porch was talking about razorback hogs and the storekeeper was telling a story.

"There was a feller travelin' through here," he said, according to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. "He was a stranger in these parts. One day he came across a bunch o' haws that had big silts in their ears. He figured at them silts. They was too big for brands. What else could they be? After a bit a native come down the trail. 'Jess lookin' at them haws,' said the stranger. 'You was,' says the native. 'D'y'e min' tellin' me what them big silts in their ears is fer?' said the stranger. 'Not at all,' says the native. 'Have you noticed these hills? 'What d'y'e mean?' 'Noticed how steep they is?' 'Yes, I have.' 'Wal' says the native, 'that's it. We have to put them silts in the haws' ears so they kin stick their hind legs through 'em and rough lock themselves down these hills to keep from killin' themselves.'"

There was a salvo of very hearty outdoor laughter at this, and Mr. Antwine stirred behind his newspaper.

"That remin's me of one they used to tell down on the Arkansas line," he said. "There was a feller goin' through there, too. He saw a drove o' razorbacks carryin' on mighty queer. There was about 20 of 'em, and they acted like they was crazy. They would run fast to one tree an' then to another, tryin' to climb it. Then they would spin aroun' on their noses, crack their tails, an' squeal in the most plaintive way you ever heard. The traveler watched them haws fer 15 minutes, an' the more he saw of 'em the more they puzzled him."

"Finally he went on through the woods till he came to a house. There was a man out in front. He was bakin' in the sun. 'Is them your haws up there in the hills?' the stranger asked. 'Yep,' says the native.

"At that the traveler stepped up an' looked his man in the eye. 'Say,' he said, 'what in the Sam Hill's the matter with them haws?'"

"The native kin' o' half smiled. 'They does act queer, don't they?' he said. 'I should say they does.' 'Wal, it's this way,' said the native. 'We had a hard winter in here this time an' there was no feed in the hills for them haws. Ah had to let 'em have corn. Along late in the winter Ah took such a bad col' Ah couldn't holler pocketooey any more. Ah had to call 'em up by hittin' the corncrib with a ax handle, an' now,' he says, lookin' up the hill, 'them damn woodpeckers is settin' them crazy.'"

## Were Glad to End Season.

A New Yorker who has just returned from London gives one explanation of the promptness with which Englishmen closed their town houses after the death of the king and so readily consented to give up all entertainments for the rest of the present season. "Londoners were in many instances very much relieved to shirk a season of expenditure," he said, "because this has not been a good year financially for them. They were not anxious to spend any more money than necessary, and when court mourning gave them a dignified opportunity to close up their houses and skip a season they were very well satisfied that they could do this without having to have undertaken anything so unconventional on their own responsibility. So nobody need think that English houses in London will be opened later in the season or that there will be anything like the usual entertaining there."

## Typewritten Signatures.

"I had a letter from a friend today," said a literary man, "giving me a winking for signing my typewritten letter to him with the typewriter, and I notified him at once that he didn't know what he was talking about. I told him I had written the letter with my own hand on the machine and it was proper to sign it in type. If I had written the letter with a pen, I told him, the signature with the pen would have been all right, and a pen was just as much an implement of writing as a typewriter was. Therefore my signature in type was quite proper, though I admitted it would not pass as a legal signature. However, I was not writing a legal document and a signature in the text of the letter was perfectly good form. That is my contention now and if anybody can prove that I am wrong I'd like to hear his argument."

## Dolls' House Many Years Old.

There are at least two famous dolls' houses in England; one is at Nostell priory, the Yorkshire home of Lord and Lady St. Oswald. This dolls' house dates from 1690 and it contains some exquisite Chippendale furniture made in miniature. The dolls which inhabit it are dressed in gorgeous old brocades and the dinner service off which they eat is of silver. The other dolls' house is in a house near Petersburg and is not quite so valuable is nevertheless very beautiful and a much cherished possession. A curious fact in connection with the lovely Chippendale furniture, some of the finest specimens known at Nostell priory, is that the receipts bills for it are also preserved there, conclusively proving that it is genuine.