

FARM IMPORTS ARE GIVEN

THERE WAS A GREAT INCREASE IN 1909 OVER PREVIOUS YEARS AND TOTAL WAS LARGE.

The United States department of agriculture has issued an interesting bulletin on the imports of farm and forest products. The general survey follows:

The value of farm products imported into the United States during the year ending June 30, 1909, amounted to \$225,000,000, an increase of \$20,000,000 over the previous year and \$12,000,000 more than in 1907. The value of all merchandise imported in 1909 was \$1,312,000,000, an increase of \$118,000,000 as compared with 1908, and a decrease of \$123,000,000 compared with 1907; the imports of farm products formed such a large proportion of the total imports as to show a percentage for the three years, respectively, of 43.7, 45.2, and 48.7 per cent.

The imports of forest products in 1909 exceeded in value those of each previous year and were valued at \$124,000,000, an increase over the previous year of \$25,000,000 and \$1,500,000 more than in 1907. Of the enormous increase over 1908 \$25,000,000 was due to India rubber, the article that caused more than 90 per cent of the big decline in the total of 1908 from that of 1907.

The relative rank of the grand divisions as sources of imports of farm and forest products was the same for each of the three years, with one exception. North America ranked second as a source of imports of forest products in 1907, but rose to first place in 1908 and 1909. Each of the grand divisions, with one exception, Africa, shows an increase as a source of imports of farm products in 1909 as compared with 1908.

Farm products valued at \$214,000,000, or nearly one-third of the total farm products imported, came from Europe, \$152,000,000 from North America, \$135,000,000 from Asia, and \$137,000,000 from the other three grand divisions. The largest increase in value in 1909 over the preceding year was in imports from Europe; farm products from this grand division amounted to \$177,000,000 in 1908, and \$214,000,000 in 1909, which was \$10,000,000 more than in 1907.

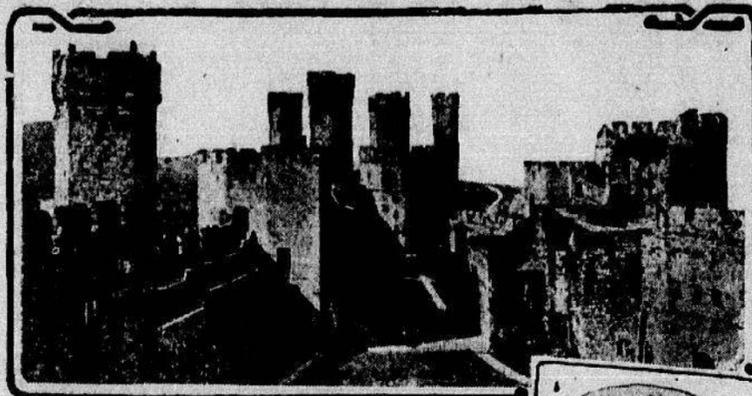
In imports of forest products South America, compared with other grand divisions, showed the greatest decline in 1908 and the greatest increase in 1909, both of which were due to India rubber.

In each of the three years mentioned the imports from Cuba exceeded those from any other country. In 1908 the imports from that country were \$14,000,000 less than in 1907, and in 1909 they were \$15,900,000 more than in 1908, the variations being due principally to shipments of sugar. Other countries showing large increases in 1909 over 1908 were as follows: United Kingdom, \$20,000,000; Argentina \$11,000,000; Brazil, \$9,000,000; Dutch East Indies, \$9,000,000; France, \$6,000,000; Chinese Empire and Italy, each \$5,000,000; other countries having an increase of more than \$4,000,000 were British India and Japan.

Imports of forest products in 1909 were valued at \$124,000,000; of this amount \$80,000,000, or nearly two-thirds, came from three countries, Brazil, Canada and the United Kingdom. Brazil occupied first place in 1907, fell to second place in 1908, and rose to first place in 1909—these changes being due to imports of India rubber from that country. Other countries showing increases which were due principally to the same article were the United Kingdom, \$7,000,000; Germany and Mexico, each with increases of more than \$1,000,000.

The aggregate value of the six principal groups of farm products imported in 1909 was \$437,000,000, as compared with \$253,000,000 in 1908 and \$443,000,000 in 1907. The value of the leading groups in 1909 was nearly \$98,000,000 for sugar and molasses, \$52,000,000 for packing-house products, \$30,000,000 for silk, \$79,000,000 for coffee, \$45,000,000 for wool and \$43,000,000 for vegetable fibers, chiefly cotton, sisal, manila and lute. Other imports

Investiture of Prince Is to Be in Wales



Carnarvon castle, where it is suggested the Prince of Wales shall be formerly invested, and a recent photograph of the prince.

London, Oct. 1.—For the first time in centuries the investiture of the prince of Wales will take place in Wales itself, and this has caused a hot contest between two Welsh cities, Carnarvon and Cardiff. Carnarvon's right to claim such a ceremony has been disputed by several people, notably by the lord mayor of Cardiff. There is no doubt that sentimentally, Carnarvon is the place the majority would choose; but for the opposition it is pointed out that the story of the first English prince of Wales having been born in the Eagle tower of Carnarvon castle is a myth. It is claimed, indeed, that it has been proved beyond doubt that although Edward II. was born in Carnarvon, he could not have been born in the Eagle tower, for the simple reason that the tower was not erected until he was 33. It is also recorded that it was not at Carnarvon, but at Lincoln, that he was created prince of Wales, and that it was at Chester, not at Carnarvon, that he received the homage of the

Welsh chiefs. This was in 1301; when he was 17. The date of the building of the castle and the Eagle tower is proved by the pay sheets. When the Black Prince was invested as prince of Wales the ceremony of coronation was held in a parliament at Westminster, the prince being crowned with a gold chaplet in the shape of a garland, having a gold ring placed on his finger and having a scepter of silver given into his hands. In later instances a scepter of gold was substituted for the one in silver. Blood has not yet been spilt, but much ink. The old spirit of the Cymry, with their tenacity of tradition, their local pride, their sturdy adherence to myths, which count for more than facts, has been stirred to its depths, and the pages of old histories are being turned over to prove that Carnarvon has a better right than Cardiff, or Carmarthen than Monmouth, or Llandudno than Pembroke, or Harlech than any one of them. To settle the difficulty of the rival



claims for the investiture, a royal progress over mountains and valleys would be a happy idea. It seems fair that the loyalty of the people of the old British race who buried the hatchet with the last Llewellyn should be rewarded by a little more pageantry from English kings.

STRANGE DISEASE KILLS DUCKS

IDAHO FOWL SUCCUMB TO STRANGE AND UNKNOWN MALADY.

Duck hunters in Idaho are getting worried over the prevalence of a strange malady in the southeastern part of the state, says the Wallace Press. The malady seems to be confined exclusively to the southern part of the state, and it has spread to most generally in the cultivated valleys, for in the wilder parts of the state there is not a section that has reported any loss of duck life. From Market lake north, along the Snake river valley and to Henry lake and all of the streams putting in on either side, is the natural resting place of the fowl, and hundreds of them are killed annually by Idaho and Montana sportsmen. For that reason the people of the two states are trusting that the disease will not spread farther north. That will mean the end of good shooting in Idaho and in Montana as well, for it is only a few hours' fly for ducks between Red Rock lake and Henry's lake and the district which seems to be affected by the strange malady. It seems that the section of Idaho which is worst afflicted includes Oneida, Blaine and Bear Lake counties. Swan lake is in the southwestern part of Blaine county. D. W. Tovey, game warden at Malad, has been requested to make a rigid investigation and forward his official report of the disease.

Thousands of Dead Ducks. Investigation made by hunting parties revealed the most deplorable condition among game fowl that has ever

been reported in Idaho. Over an area of several square miles in the Swan lake district and along the creeks and rivers and in the countless swamps and sloughs, there are thousands upon thousands of dead ducks, it is said. In places where there is a clearing in the bushes, probably a dozen yards square, all the way from 15 to 75 dead ducks can be seen. In one place a member of an investigating party counted 206 dead ducks in an open area about 150 feet long and probably 25 feet wide. Along some of the streams the dead ducks actually line the banks by hundreds. In the lake the water is dotted with the dead birds as far as the eye can reach.

Occasionally there is found a duck which is paralyzed, and, as a person approaches it is unable to move away. It shakes its head, but is unable to move its feet. When placed in the water some of them are able to swim away, but they are helpless on land. The cause of the deaths is unknown, the malady so far being of unknown origin but examinations as made so far reveal the fact that it is either cholera or cramp, or a new disease altogether, which may come near killing off the ducks in the state. It is feared that no means of remedying the conditions can be figured out, and the epidemic will spread with ever increasing severity.

The problem involved in the investigations so far conducted is to determine whether or not the ducks are affected by the disease in the same manner. It has been found that birds which devour the bodies of the ducks that have died from the peculiar disease are also soon affected, and die. The result is that there are many dead birds of other kinds, as well as dead ducks. If the disease affects the bird scavengers in that manner, it is feared that human beings who ate affected ducks might suffer the same fate.

Under the conditions that have developed, it is probable that the Idaho gun clubs, especially all hunters in the southern part of the state, will suspend proposed hunting, at least until further and more accurate details regarding the disease become known. The hunters consider the shooting to be a dangerous proposition. The shooting of sick ducks which cannot fly or swim away will be caught by the pot hunters.

Effects of Disease. According to the official report received from Walter J. Frazier, city food, dairy and sanitary inspector of Salt Lake, the situation in Utah is even more serious than it is in Idaho. Mr. Frazier has secured samples of dead birds on which bacteriological tests are being made, including teal duck, pintail duck, white crane, plover, black jack snipe, killdeer, avocet, snipe, sandpiper, hawk, gull, and all kinds of ducks and Canadian geese. H. L. Finch, member of the Bear River club, reports that the club in that district probably will call off the season. The proposal of the hunters is to call off shooting as long as the ducks continue to die. When it is apparent that the scourge is over the season will be reopened on ducks.

In the report received from State Fish and Game Warden Fred W. Chambers of Utah he says he is at sea as to what to do for the birds.



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W. R. GLASSCOCK
MISSOULA, MONT.

He has made an inspection of the conditions in the sloughs and has found them to be bad. He believes the trouble is caused by stagnant water, but this is denied by hunters. In a report received from Deputy Game Warden Joseph Smith of Utah he says: "I secured five sick ducks in one of the districts where the trouble is most serious. The ducks were suffering from some trouble with their eyes, apparently. They were found lying in the rushes unable to move. I took them to the state fish hatchery, and after bathing their eyes in salt water, placed them in a pool of fresh water. In a few days they entirely recovered and flew away. From that it seems that some condition at the duck ponds is responsible for the trouble."
Blames Stagnant Water.
"From the result of our experiments we were inclined to believe the trouble was the stagnant condition of water. But the dead ducks are found in even greater numbers where the water is fresh. Some of them have sealed eyes, while others have no trouble at all with their eyes."
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