

fore omitted from this record, was \$129,090,241, as compared with a value of \$74,308,983 imported during the calendar year 1915, \$80,063,679 imported during 1914, and \$145,226,972 imported during 1913. Previous to 1913 the record is shown covering the fiscal years. During the twelve months ending March, 1913, the imports were valued at \$148,579,272, as against imports valued at \$105,614,450 during the twelve months ending March, 1912.

Between 1895 and 1904, the imports of iron and steel increased from about \$8,600,000 to over \$40,000,000. During the next five years there was comparatively little change, but from 1909 to 1913 the increase was again very rapid. During the latter part of 1913 there was, however, a distinct check to imports with the heavy falling off shown in 1914 and 1915. A detailed statement of the imports of iron and steel during the calendar years 1915 and 1916 is shown in the general tables of imports of iron and steel goods following.

The imports during 1916 subject to duty were valued at \$107,863,317, the imports free of duty during the same period being valued at \$21,226,931. The imports during 1915 subject to duty were valued at \$62,842,171 and the imports free of duty during the same period were valued at \$11,466,812. These imports include all classes of manufactured iron and steel goods as well as those of cruder form. In many cases the values only of the imported goods are given, so that a total tonnage of imports cannot be stated. In the case of most of the cruder materials, however, the quantities are given and a compilation of these showing the importation of the cruder forms of iron and steel since 1909 is shown in the accompanying tables. Thus, during the twelve months ending December, 1916, there were imported 864,916 tons of iron and steel valued at \$52,114,258, or an average of \$60.25 per ton, together with other iron and steel goods of which the quantities are not stated, valued at \$76,975,910.

During the twelve months ending December, 1915, there were imported 771,007 tons of iron and steel valued at \$27,504,685, or an average value per ton of \$35.67, together with other iron and steel goods of which the quantities are not stated, valued at \$46,804,298.