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CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES AND TRADE
OF NORWAY AND DENMARK



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FOREWORD

The prominence of the chemical industry in the economic structure of Norway is indicated by the accomplishment of the Norsk Hydro-Elektrisk Kvaestofaktieselskab, the largest single commercial enterprise in the country. This company has practically built the towns of Notodden, with a population of 8,000, and Rjukan, with a population of 10,000.

The completion of the Norsk Hydro, as it is commonly called, made possible an estimated total production of chemicals and allied products valued around \$40,000,000, of which approximately 75 per cent is nitrogen. Norway is, therefore, more of an exporter than an importer of chemicals, total exports aggregating around \$20,000,000 in value, while imports total only half as much.

In addition to electrochemicals, comparatively large quantities of explosives and matches are manufactured, as well as smaller volumes of pigments, paints, and varnishes, and medical and pharmaceutical preparations. These last-named commodities are also imported, a trade in which the United States participates.

Norway has offered an increasing market for American chemicals. The recorded export from the United States, worth around \$700,000 annually, is much less than the actual trade, since there are considerable receipts through North Sea free ports.

Denmark, although not primarily a manufacturing country, is nevertheless a fairly large consumer of chemicals and allied products, with an importation in 1929 valued at \$28,000,000, two-thirds of which were fertilizers; exports were valued around \$3,000,000. Denmark produces as by-products cattle raising, important pharmaceuticals, such as glandular biologicals, which enter into the export trade. Rennet is also produced and exported.

Among imports fertilizers take a prominent place. The United States shares to a large extent in the trade in naval stores, phosphate rock, and carbon black, and to a lesser degree in the trade in many other chemicals.

This bulletin, the bureau's first comprehensive report on the chemical trade of Norway and Denmark, is one of a series publishing the results of studies made by American representatives abroad, of the industries of the major chemical-producing countries in Europe. William T. Daugherty, American trade commissioner at Berlin, made a special trip to Norway and Denmark to study their chemical industries, and was aided in the preparation of this report by representatives of this bureau in Oslo and Copenhagen. Bulletins of the series previously published deal with the chemical industry and trade of Germany, France, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Poland, Great Britain, Portugal, Switzerland, and Sweden.

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Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

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