

TEMPORARY FREE IMPORTATION OF CERTAIN TANNING EXTRACTS

AUGUST 12, 1957.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. BYRD, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 2842]

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 2842) to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to provide for the temporary free importation of certain tanning extracts, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

GENERAL STATEMENT

H. R. 2842 would provide for a suspension of duty for a period of 3 years on imports of tanning material extracts which are now dutiable under paragraph 38 of the Tariff Act of 1930 at reduced trade-agreement rates ranging from 3¾ to 7½ percent ad valorem.

The Department of Commerce states that the domestic tanning extract industry has been dependent upon domestic chestnut wood and bark for the domestic production of chestnut tanning extract, the only vegetable tanning material which has been produced in the United States in significant quantity.

Since the blight virtually wiped out the chestnut trees along the Appalachian Range, domestic firms producing tanning extracts have been unable to secure raw materials for production of the extract and, as a result, the domestic availability has steadily declined. Practically all the firms which produced the extract have gone into other fields of activity. Until new stands of chestnut or other trees suitable for the production of tanning extracts are developed there is little possibility of a new domestic industry.

The Departments of State, Commerce, and Treasury recommend the enactment of this bill and the committee urges that it be adopted.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with subsection 4 of Rule XXIX of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law made by the bill, as

reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italics, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

TARIFF ACT OF 1930, AS AMENDED

TITLE I.—DUTIABLE LIST

SECTION 1. That on and after the day following the passage of this Act, except as otherwise specially provided for in this Act, there shall be levied, collected, and paid upon all articles when imported from any foreign country into the United States or into any of its possessions (except the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Wake Island, Midway Islands, Kingman Reef, Johnston Island, and the island of Guam) the rates of duty which are prescribed by the schedules and paragraphs of the dutiable list of this title, namely:

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PAR. 38. [Extracts, dyeing and tanning: Chestnut, cutch, chlorophyll, divi-divi, fustic, hemlock, logwood, mangrove, myrobalan, oak, Persian berry, quebracho, sumac, saffron, safflower, saffron cake, valonia, wattle, and other extracts, decoctions, and preparations of vegetable origin used for dyeing, coloring, staining, or tanning,] *Extracts, dyeing: Chlorophyll, fustic, logwood, Persian berry, saffron, safflower, saffron cake, and other extracts, decoctions, and preparations of vegetable origin used for dyeing, coloring, or staining, not specially provided for, and combinations and mixtures of the foregoing articles in this paragraph, 15 per centum ad valorem: Provided, That no article containing alcohol shall be classified for duty under this paragraph.*

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TITLE II.—FREE LIST

SECTION 201. That on and after the day following the passage of this Act, except as otherwise specially provided for in this Act, the articles mentioned in the following paragraphs, when imported into the United States or into any of its possessions (except the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Wake Island, Midway Islands, Kingman Reef, Johnston Island, and the island of Guam), shall be exempt from duty:

* * * * *

PAR. 1670. (a) Dyeing or tanning materials: Fustic wood, hemlock bark, logwood, mangrove bark, oak bark, quebracho wood, wattle bark, divi-divi, myrobalans fruit, sumac, valonia, nutgalls or gull nuts, and all articles of vegetable origin used for dyeing, coloring, staining or tanning, all the foregoing, whether crude or advanced in value or condition by shredding, grinding, chipping, crushing, or any similar process; all the foregoing not containing alcohol and not specially provided for.

(b) *Extracts, tanning: Chestnut, cutch, divi-divi, hemlock mangrove, myrobalan, oak, quebracho, sumac, valonia, wattle, and other extracts, decoctions, and preparations of vegetable origin used for tanning, and combinations and mixtures of the foregoing; all the foregoing not containing alcohol and not specially provided for.*