

## TARIFFS CONTRASTED.

## Examination Shows the U.S. Rate Lower Than That of Canada.

It will be urged that even after the reductions that have been made the United States tariff is no lower than Canada's. It has been pointed out that the average rate adopted in the United States is 26 per cent, and that the average duty levied on dutiable imports brought into Canada is only slightly over 26 per cent. Such a comparison, however, takes no account of the free list in either case, while the percentage levied on the goods which actually enter is no indication of the rates fixed on goods whose entrance is practically prohibited. Let us compare some of the more important articles which enter into the ultimate consumer's budget or are of primary importance in production. The first three schedules include most of the important commodities, but the fourth is naturally less complete, though fairly representative. Where not otherwise indicated the figures are ad valorem percentages.

	United States.	Canada Preferential.	Canada General.
<b>Food Stuffs—</b>			
Wheat flour, per bbl. . . . .	Free	.40	.60
Oatmeal, per cwt. . . . .	.30	.40	.60
Biscuits, unsweetened . . . .	Free	15%	25%
Sugar, per cwt. above 16 Dutch standard . . . . .	Free (after 1916)	.72	1.08
Tea . . . . .	Free	Free	Free
Coffee . . . . .	Free	Free	Free
Eggs, per dozen . . . . .	Free	.02	.03
Butter, per lb. . . . .	.02½	.03	.04
Cheese, per lb. . . . .	20%	.02	.03
Meats, fresh per lb., N.o.p. . . . .	Free	.02	.03
Fish per lb. . . . .	Free	.05	.01
	fresh water and n.o.p.		
Fruit, tropical . . . . .	Duty varying	Free	Free
Fruit, apples, peaches, pears, etc., per bushel . . .	.10	Varying	
<b>Clothing—</b>			
Woollens, tweeds . . . . .	35%	30	35
Woollens, dress goods, n.o.p. . . . .	35	30	35
Woollen blankets . . . . .	15	20½	35
Woollen clothing . . . . .	35	30	35
Cotton fabrics . . . . .	7½ to 30	14-25	26-32½
Cotton clothing . . . . .	30	25	35
Boots and shoes . . . . .	Free	20	30
Silk fabrics . . . . .	45	17½	30
Lace . . . . .	60	25	35
Diamonds . . . . .	10	Free	Free
<b>House Furnishings—</b>			
Furniture, wooden . . . . .	15	20	30
Table cutlery . . . . .	15	20	30
Carpets . . . . .	20-35	25	35
<b>Production Materials—</b>			
Bricks, common . . . . .	10	12½	22½
Cement, per cwt. . . . .	Free	.08	12½
Structural iron and steel . . .	10	22½	35
Paints . . . . .	15	20	30
Lumber, dressed both sides . . . . .	Free	17½	25
Lumber, dressed one side . . . . .	Free	Free	Free
Steel rails, per ton . . . . .	20%	\$4.50	\$7.00
Steel bridges . . . . .	20	22½	35
Railway cars . . . . .	20	20	30

Locomotives. . . . .	15	22½	35
Gasoline engines . . . . .	20	15	27½
Mining machinery . . . . .	20	Free	Free
Hides. . . . .	Free	Free	Free
Leather. . . . .	Free	10-12½	13
Harness and saddlery . . . .	Free	20	30
Mowers, harvesters, etc. . . .	Free	12½	17
Ploughs . . . . .	Free	12½	20½
Waggon. . . . .	Free	17½	25
Cream separators . . . . .	Free	Free	Free
Coal, bituminous, ton . . . .	Free	.35	.53

Except in clothing, the balance is weighted against the Canadian consumer and the Canadian producer. —(Prof. O. D. Skelton in University Magazine.)

## FIRE LOSSES.

The fire losses of the United States and Canada for February show a total of \$21,744,200. The following table gives a comparison of the losses by months:

	1914.	1913.	1912.
January . . . . .	\$23,204,700	\$20,193,250	\$35,653,450
February . . . . .	21,744,200	22,084,600	28,601,650
March . . . . .		17,511,000	16,650,850
April . . . . .		16,738,250	16,394,400
May . . . . .		17,225,000	21,013,050
June . . . . .		24,942,700	16,103,450
July . . . . .		20,660,900	15,219,100
August . . . . .		21,180,700	14,158,800
September . . . . .		17,919,300	13,779,300
October . . . . .		14,932,750	13,651,650
November . . . . .		15,207,600	16,172,300
December . . . . .		16,126,450	17,967,000
12 Months. . . . .		\$224,712,500	\$225,320,900

The fire losses of these two countries in 1911 amounted to \$234,337,250.

## BOY SCOUTS AS FOREST RANGERS.

From an annual loss of more than \$1,000,000 the damage by fire in the forests of Michigan, U.S.A., last year was reduced to \$23,000. In 1911 the fire loss was \$3,500,000, and in 1912 \$67,000. In making his annual report the State Game and Forestry Warden, William R. Coates, commends the schoolboys in the forestry district for their assistance. In the year, 3,000 Michigan forest scouts patrolled the timber sections.

It was after the disastrous forest fires in 1911 that the State Department conceived the idea of forming an organization of schoolboys into boy scouts, and the following year there were more than 1,500 enrolled, known as Michigan Forest Scouts. 5 hundred and nine fires were extinguished by these boys in 1912, according to the State records, and with an increased membership to more than 3,000 the number of fires extinguished by the boys amounted to 731.

## PAWNING AN INSURANCE CARD.

In the Assurance Agents' Chronicle, of Manchester, England, there is an account of a pawnbroker who was charged before the Sheriff Substitute with having taken in pawn for the sum of eight cents from an insured person under Lloyd George's Act, his fifth quarter's National Insurance card. The misguided man hooked the card for eight cents, and his Lordship said the matter was one of importance, and fined him.