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CONTROL EXPORT OF HIDES, SKIN AND LEATHER

*Owing to Abnormal Situation
in Market Government,
After Trade Conference
Puts Restriction on Export*

SITUATION EXPLAINED

The Minister of Trade and Commerce has given publicity to the following communication:—

Owing to the abnormal situation of the hide and leather markets, which vitally affects the interests of both consumers and producers of boots and shoes in Canada, the Government has called a conference of the various interests concerned to consider and advise as to the best course to be pursued in the premises. In the meantime, it is deemed wise as a preliminary measure to place the export of hides, skins and leather under control. An Order in Council has therefore been passed and is now operative to the effect that, pending consideration of other necessary action, the exportation from Canada of raw hides, skins and leather for the manufacture of boots and shoes shall be prohibited, except under license from the Canadian Trade Commission. The main features of the situation above mentioned are as follows:—

1. A great advance in prices of hides, followed by a consequential advance in cost of leather and of boots and shoes made therefrom. In June, 1918, heavy upper leather sold from 46 to 48 cents, based upon hides costing from 24 to 26 cents. On July 1, 1919, similar leather sold at 84 to 86 cents, based on hides at 60 cents. That is, the price of leather has advanced about 82 per cent whilst in this same period, the price of hides has advanced 140 per cent.

2. These prices are greatly in excess of English prices, owing to the fact that English buyers purchased heavily in foreign markets before the advance in prices caused by the stringency thus created. There is an embargo on the export of hides from the United Kingdom and British producers of boots and shoes are thus enabled to manufacture at prices which inure to the advantage alike of British consumers and of the export trade of Great Britain.

3. Under these conditions, the boot and shoe industry of Canada is faced with a lack of supply of leather for their productive output for export purposes and with necessity of producing even that supply at a cost which will be reflected heavily in the cost to the consumer in Canada. In the meantime, Canadian hides and leather are being exported in large quantities. The main problem is how to secure the necessary

TRADE COMMISSION IS ALLOWED TO ASSESS FOR PERCENTAGE.

The volume of trade which has passed through the hands of the Canadian Trade Commission has become so large that an Order in Council has been passed allowing the Commission to assess Canadian vendors one per cent on the orders obtained through the Commission. The order, passed on August 2, is as follows:—

The Committee of the Privy Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Trade and Commerce, advise that in order to provide a fund out of which shall be defrayed the expenses of the Canadian Trade Mission in London and the Canadian Trade Commission, incurred by them in performing the services imposed by Orders in Council dated respectively, 7th November, 1918, and 6th December, 1918, and by any subsequent Orders in Council amending the same, the Canadian Trade Commission be authorized to assess upon the vendors of Canadian products receiving and executing orders or contracts obtained through the above mentioned organizations, one per cent of the face value of such orders to be paid into the credit of the Canadian Trade Commission in a chartered Bank of Canada.

The expenses of the Canadian Trade Mission in London and the Canadian Trade Commission will be a legitimate charge upon this fund and will be paid by cheque, signed by officers properly authorized therefor by the Canadian Trade Commission. This fund and all receipts into and expenditures therefrom will be subject to the audit of the Auditor General of the Dominion of Canada.

RODOLPHE BOUDREAU,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

supply of leather at reasonable cost, first, to meet the demands of Canadian consumption, and secondly, to enable the industry to participate in the export markets of the world.

The Order in Council in full is as follows:—

Whereas His Excellency the Governor General in Council has had under consideration a recommendation from the Minister of Trade and Commerce, in which he calls attention to a report from the Cost of Living Commissioner to the Minister of Labour respecting the increasing price of hides and leather and the consequent increase in the cost of boots and shoes.

Therefore His Excellency the Governor General in Council is pleased to order and it is hereby ordered that, pending the consideration of other necessary action in the premises, the exportation from Canada of raw hides, skins and leathers for boot and shoe purposes, shall be and the same is hereby prohibited except under license from the Canadian Trade Commission.

EFFECTIVE WORK DONE IN VARIETY OF RESEARCHES

Investigations Included Reduction of Low Grade Iron Ores, Wheat Genetics, Discoloration of Canned Lobster, Fish Curing and Industrial Alcohol

In his annual report of the work of the Honorary Advisory Council for Scientific and Industrial Research for the year ending March 31, 1919, Dr. A. B. Macallum, administrative chairman, sets forth the various activities of the Council during this period.

In the chapter on the "General Account of the Work of the Council," he observes that its activities have been greatly affected by war conditions, the absence of Drs. Adams and McLennan overseas and the resignation of Professor Kirkpatrick having thrown much extra work on the other members. The operations of the Military Service Act were reflected in the restricting of the number of researchers, students for studentships and fellowships, so that of the twenty-five such studentships and fellowships only seven were awarded during the year.

REDUCTION OF LOW-GRADE IRON ORES.

Discussing the various investigations conducted, Dr. Macallum says: "In spite of the handicap experienced in the lack of researchers, some effective work was done. The investigation of the reduction of low-grade iron ores under the supervision of Professor Stansfield, of McGill University, has advanced to a stage which promises important results bearing on the utilization of ores of this character so abundant in Canada. There is but a

small supply of high-grade iron ore in the Dominion, which is emphasized by the fact that 96 per cent of all the iron ore smelted in Canada is imported, this importation including, of course, that obtained from Belle Isle, Newfoundland. The total quantity of high-grade ore of the globe available is, through its use for producing iron and steel, diminishing at a rate which makes its exhaustion a not far-distant event, and in consequence it will eventually be necessary to turn to those of lower grades for the supply of ore for the industry. If the smelting could be effected on an industrial scale at a reduction in the cost which would offset the disadvantages at present attendant on the utilization of these lower grade ores it would make available, immediately or in the very near future, the immense quantities of such ores in Canada. The Research Council regards the solution of this problem as of very great importance to Canadian industry and as justifying a protracted experimental investigation carried on on a large scale."

WHEAT GENETICS.

The subject of wheat genetics is discussed as follows: "The investigation on wheat genetics, carried on for the past two years and for which the Research Council made last year a substantial grant, has already given very interesting results. It may be explained that the risks to which wheat growing in the three western provinces is exposed are early frost and the rust fungus. The Marquis wheat, the origin of which is a very noteworthy achievement resulting from the experiments in wheat breeding on the part of Dr. Charles E. Saunders, of the Experi-

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CONTRACTS AWARDED BY ORDERS IN COUNCIL

Breakwater at Souris, P.E.I., Heating Tunnel, and Wharf Repairs Let

The Department of Public Works has awarded the following contracts under Order in Council:—

Quebec, P.Q., King's wharf—Repairs to Marine Storage Building. Contractor, L. H. Peters, Ltd., of Quebec, P.Q., at \$9,060. Order in Council dated July 23, 1919.

Three Rivers, P.Q.—Concrete sidewalks, grading and seeding in connection with new public building. Contractors, A. Heon & Cie, of Three Rivers, P.Q., at \$13,808. Order in Council dated July 23, 1919.

Thessalon, Ont.—Reconstruction of wharf. Contractor, A. G. Tweedie, of Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., at \$9,428.75. Order in Council July 25, 1919.

Comox, B.C.—Repairs to wharf. Contractors, Fraser River Pile Driving Co., Ltd., of New Westminster, B.C., at \$17,358.04. Order in Council July 25, 1919.

Souris, P.E.I.—Delivery and placing of stone on portions of seaward side of breakwater. Contractors, Phillips & Mutch, of Charlottetown, P.E.I., at \$53,750. Order in Council July 26, 1919.

Ottawa—Heating tunnel on Wellington street. Contractors, Doran & Devlin, of Ottawa, at \$14,640. Order in Council July 26, 1919.

East St. John, N.B.—Roadways and grading in connection with County Hospital. Contractors, Lewis Stephen (per Thomas Stephen, attorney), of St. John, N.B., at \$5,500. Order in Council July 25, 1919.

Trade of Britain.

The total exports of Great Britain for June were 76,526,425 pounds against imports 122,945,655 pounds an excess of imports of 46,419,230 pounds.