

NEW TARIFF A POWERFUL TRADE INSTRUMENT

(Continued from page 1) preferential rate is fixed at 17.18 per cent., because that cannot be said to be lower than a fair revenue tariff. In some cases a preference is allowed of 11.2 per cent. on imports from Britain, and 15 per cent. in the case of other countries.

"I think, however, repeated Mr. Fielding, "it will be found, on the whole, that as a result of the revision we leave the preference to Britain quite as much, and probably larger, than it is today, and that Britain will have a better chance to compete with foreign countries under this tariff than she has had in the past."

In connection with British preference the amount of British labor entering into a foreign product to qualify it as a British article has occasioned considerable difficulty. It is now provided, by regulation, that to entitle an article to admission under the British preference it must have 25 per cent. of British labor without counting the profits as a portion of that labor.

The Intermediate Tariff. The intermediate tariff, he explained, would contain rates of duty somewhat below those of the general tariff. On duties of 30 per cent. or less the difference, rightly showing, would be about ten per cent.; in some cases it might be a little more. This middle tariff, however, would still leave a material preference in the British column. It was not proposed, at the present time, to apply the intermediate tariff to any country. The intention was to use it as an estimate by which Canada might negotiate more favorable tariff terms with the outside world.

"Canada was desirous of extending her markets abroad and wanted some tariff concessions to offer as inducement for them to concede us more favorable terms. Just how far we might be able to use an instrument of this character for negotiations was a very interesting question that brought us into the field of what might almost be called Canada's foreign relations."

"The wisdom of British subjects has given self-governing countries like Canada practical fiscal independence, subject only to that imperial veto power which, although necessary under a constitutional system, is very seldom exercised. Canada had the right to negotiate commercial arrangements with foreign countries which, however, might be terminated at any time by another party thereto. It was desired to frame a more permanent agreement, however, that could only be done by treaty."

Although Canada enjoys a very large measure of self-government, it is quite recognized that the treaty-making power still belongs to the sovereign. In practice there would be no difficulty in negotiating any such treaty that might be desired through the proper channels.

A Fair Trade Persuader. "All we fear of adopting this intermediate tariff is to hold it up to countries abroad and say: 'This is something you may obtain if you reciprocate.' In negotiations with Canada you may obtain the whole tariff for equal compensation or you may obtain a part. You may have it from day to day by reciprocal agreement or you may obtain it by treaty through the proper diplomatic channels."

W. F. Maclean—Does this schedule include every article in the tariff? Mr. Fielding—Every article is set forth, but it does not follow that there is a difference in any article. On many there is no difference at all. The general tariff would have power to bring temporary applications of this general tariff into force from time to time. The granting of this intermediate tariff to any country would undoubtedly diminish the British preference to a certain extent, but not so as seriously limit the advantages of the latter.

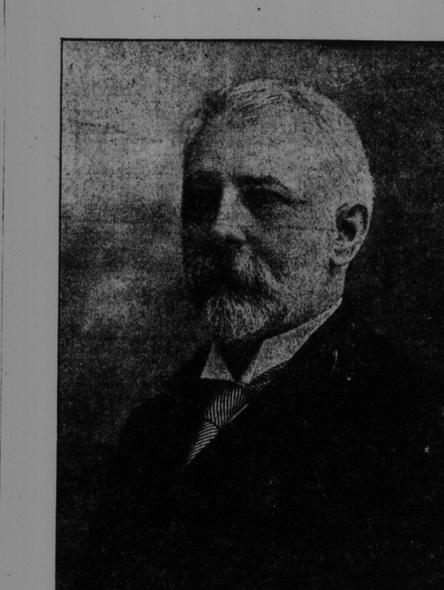
The operation of former nation treaties with several European powers was another serious complication that made it unwise to bring Canada's middle tariff into force at once.

"We must try," said Mr. Fielding, "to get several countries to make an arrangement with us and then if we should find them in about the same line it would not do us any harm if we had to bring in some half dozen other countries under Britain's favored nation treaties, the trade of which is not very important."

"It had sometimes been complained that the free admission of certain articles which were used for a special purpose (chiefly manufacturing) was open to abuse and led to evasions. A few of these items were easily administered comprising articles that could be used alone for the specific purpose for which they were designed. In such cases no change was made. Where, however, articles might be used for more than one purpose the duty must hereafter be paid, a refund, however, being allowed to the extent of 95 per cent. of the duty upon proof that the article was used for the purpose designed."

"The arrangement which has prevailed from time immemorial by which a merchant importing goods for the government import duty free is now discontinued, as it has led to frequent misunderstanding and to evasions of the spirit and intent of the law. With a few exceptions, therefore, this privilege of free importation is withdrawn. The anti-combine clause of the customs act is simplified in its operation by providing that where proceedings before any court of record have disclosed the existence of combinations in restraint of trade the government reduced or abolished the customs duty on the goods in question without the necessity of a special commission of inquiry. The judicial investigation may still be employed by the government, but the executive will not be under the obligation of resorting to that expedient."

Dumping Clause Extended. "The dumping clause, which on the whole had served its purpose well, was to be extended so as to apply to imports whether dutiable or free. In the case of articles on the free list where the dumping clause is applied the duty to be charged will not exceed 15 per cent.



HON. W. S. FIELDING, Minister of Finance.

Further by a continuation of the system of bounties. These bounties are given elsewhere in this correspondence. It was desired also to increase the larger use of Canadian ore. For this reason the bounties on pig manufactured from Canadian ore have been reduced.

"If Canada had not adopted the bounty system, unquestionably she would have been obliged to largely increase the duties on iron or to allow industries of great importance to the country to be closed down. The bounties had not been fruitless of good, but had already accomplished a great deal for the development of the country."

The finance minister then took up the new tariff schedules, referring only, however, to such items as were necessary to illustrate the way in which the customs revision had been accomplished.

Principal Changes in Tariff. The finance minister's statement of principal changes in the tariff is as follows: The rates on lead manufactures, including lead pipe, lead sheet and lead bullets have been reduced as follows:

New tariff rates—British preference, 20 per cent.; intermediate, 17.12 per cent.; general, 20 per cent. Old tariff rates—British preference, 23.13 per cent.; general, 35 per cent. And the preferential rate on lead in bars and sheets, has been reduced from 16.23 per cent. to 15 per cent.

In item 234 of the new tariff, formerly item 234 of the old tariff, an effort is made to divert trade to Great Britain and at the same time to cheapen the cost to the consumer. This item reads:

"Rolled iron or steel sheets, number-four gauge and thinner, N. O. P., Canada plates, Russian iron, flat galvanized iron or steel sheets, tinned plate and rolled sheets of iron or steel, coated with zinc, spelter or other metal, all widths and thicknesses, N. O. P.; and rolled or iron steel, hoop band, scroll or strip, number fourteen gauge and thinner, galvanized or coated with other metal or not, N. O. P."

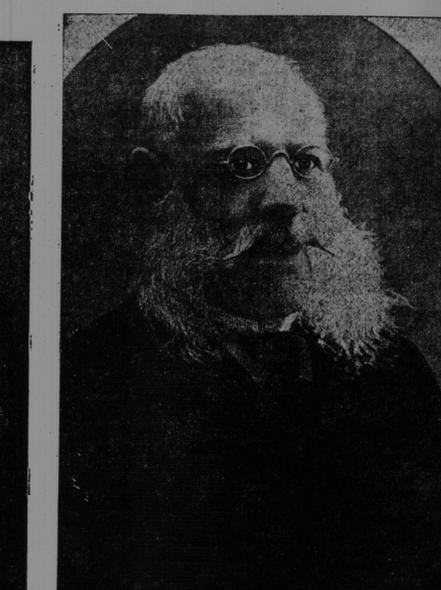
The rates were formerly: General, 15 per cent.; preferential, 13.3 per cent. The new rates are: British preference, free; intermediate, 5 per cent.; general, 17.12 per cent. The articles are made free from Britain and made dutiable from other countries.

Tin, in blocks, pigs, bars, plates or sheets, is retained on the free list. The preferential rate on japanned tinware, and all manufactures of tin; also on manufactures of zinc and manufactures of aluminum, is reduced from 10.23 per cent. to 15 per cent. The general tariff rate of 25 per cent. on these articles is continued.

Duties, namely: B. pref., 5 per cent.; inter., 7.12; general, 10 per cent., have been placed on brass in bars and rods, in coil or otherwise, not less than six feet in length, and on brass in sheets or plates, not polished, planished or coated. "Nickel, nickel silver and German silver, in bars and rods, in coil or otherwise, not less than six feet in length, and also in strips, sheets or plates." These were formerly free but they are now made in Canada in substantial quantities.

Aluminum tubing, in lengths of not less than six feet, not polished, bent or otherwise manufactured, is added to the free list. The general tariff rate on "Britannia metal, nickel silver, Nevada and German silver, manufactures of, not plated, N. O. P." is increased from 25 per cent. to 30 per cent. and the preference from 16.23 per cent. to 17.12 per cent.

Gold, silver and aluminum leaf, Dutch or Schleg metal leaf, household and bronze ware, inter., 25 per cent.; general, 27.12 per cent. Old tariff rates—B. pref., 15 per cent.; general, 25 per cent. Sterling or other silver ware, nickel plated ware or electro plated ware and manufactures of gold and silver are increased. Under general, from 20 per cent. to 35 per cent.; under preference from 20 per cent. to 22.12 per cent.



SIR RICHARD CARTWRIGHT, Minister of Trade and Commerce.

The old tariff, item 227, provided for the articles specified above at 87 per ton, general, and \$166 2.3 per ton, preferential, when weighing less than 35 lbs. per lineal yard. But if weighing over that rate was 10 per cent. general, and 6.23 per cent. preferential, under old tariff. Item 228.

Under the new item the qualification as to weight is wiped out and all such articles made dutiable at the rates above specified. Such of those articles as were dutiable at 10 per cent. were subject to a bounty of \$3 per ton.

A special item 379 at low rates; B. pref., 5 per cent.; inter., 10 per cent.; gen., 10 per cent.; has been provided covering beams, channels and angle bars, weighing not less than 40 lbs. per lineal yard, for the manufacture of bridges. Formerly such beams, channels and angle bars were dutiable as follows: If less than 33 lbs., \$7.00 per ton; if over 33 lbs., 10 per cent. The preference in favor of Great Britain is made greater than one third.

Under the old tariff, rolled iron or steel hoop, hand, scroll or strip, twelve inches or less in width, number 13 gauge and thicker, N. O. P., per ton, \$7.00. New tariff—B. pref., \$4.25 per ton; inter., \$6.00 per ton; gen., \$7.00 per ton. Old tariff, item 229, B. pref., \$4.65 2.3 a ton; gen., \$7 a ton.

Under the old tariff item 230, universal mill plates, without qualification as to size, were rated at 10 per cent. for manufacture of bridges. It is now specified that the size shall be over 12 inches wide, 36 inches in length, and not less than one quarter of an inch in thickness when imported by manufacturers of boilers for use in the manufacture of boilers; B. pref., 3 per cent.; inter., 10 per cent.; gen., 10 per cent.

Rolled iron or steel plates not less than four-eighths of an inch in width and exceeding one-half inch in thickness, N. O. P.; B. pref., 5 per cent.; inter., 10 per cent.; gen., 10 per cent. Rolled iron or steel sheets, or plates, sheared or unheared, and skip iron or steel, sheared or rolled in grooves, N. O. P.; B. pref., \$4.25 per ton; inter., \$6 per ton; gen., \$7 per ton.

The changes may be summarized as follows: 1. Plates 30 inches wide and over and not less than 14 inches wide, which were formerly dutiable at 10 per cent., are now dutiable as to use, are continued dutiable at that rate for the manufacturers of boilers, and the preferential rate is reduced from 6.23 to 5 per cent.

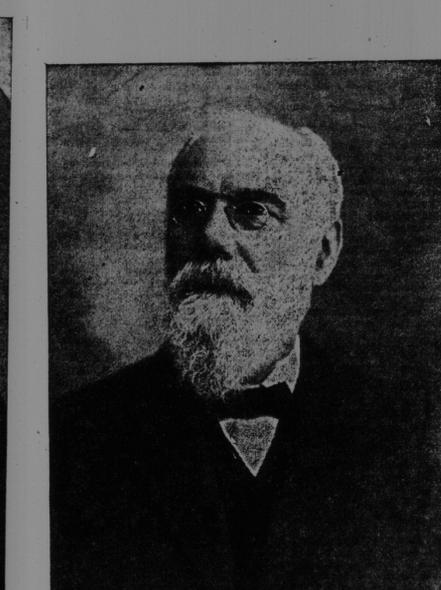
2. A new item is created at 10 per cent. general and 5 per cent. preferential for plates not less than 48 inches wide and exceeding one-half inch thick. 3. The extent of the preference on plates N. O. P. has been increased from \$2.33 1.3 per ton to \$2.75 per ton. Preferential rate kept at 20 per cent.

The bounty on rolled plates is to be abolished in consideration of the changes in duties. Rolled iron or steel bars, hoops, bands, scroll or strip, sheet or plate of any size, thickness or width, galvanized or coated with any material or not, and cast steel, when of greater value than three and a half cents per pound N. O. P.; New tariff rates: British preference, free; intermediate, 5 per cent.; general, 5 per cent. Old tariff rates, item 208—British preference, 3.13 per cent.; general, 5 per cent. The price limit in the old tariff item was 21.2 cents per pound and it has been increased to 31.2 cents per pound.

On steel rail, the preferential rate is reduced slightly from \$4.62 3 per ton to \$4.50 per ton; the general tariff rate being maintained at \$7 per ton. Railway fish-plates and tie-plates: Preferential rate decreased from \$5.33 1.3 per ton to \$5 per ton; general rate continued at \$8 per ton. Switches, frogs, inter-connections, crossings and sections for railways: General rate increased from 30 per cent. to 32.12 per cent. Preferential rate kept at 20 per cent. Cast iron pipe: Preferential rate increased from \$5.23 to \$5 per ton; general rate increased from 88 per cent. to 87 per cent. Boiler tubes were formerly dutiable at 5 per cent. general and 3.14 per cent. preferential. They are made free from Great Britain and the 5 per cent. general tariff rate is continued.

Seamless steel tubing, valued at not less than three and one-half cents per pound; rolled or drawn square tubing of iron or steel adapted for use in the manufacture of agricultural implements; British preference, free; intermediate, 5 per cent.; general, 5 per cent. This is a new item to cover mechanical tubing formerly rated from 5 per cent. to 35 per cent. not made in Canada which is used principally for manufacturing purposes. The item also applies to square drawn tubing used by agricultural implement manufacturers formerly dutiable at 87 per ton.

Wrought iron or steel tubing. The rates formerly were: Over 2 inches, preference, 10 per cent.; general, 15 per cent.; two inches and less, preference, 23.13 per cent.; general, 35 per cent. The diameter and rates are changed as follows: Over 4 inches, British preference, 10 per cent.; intermediate, 12.12 per cent.; general, 15 per cent.; four inches and less, British preference, 20 per cent.; intermediate, 30 per cent.; general, 35 per cent. Such tubing up to four inches is now made in Canada.



HON. WM. PATTERSON, Minister of Customs.

Crucible cast steel wire, which was formerly free, is made dutiable, under general and intermediate at 5 per cent., and kept free under preferential. Such wire must not be less than 6 cents a pound. The general rate of 24 cent per pound and 25 cent under general and intermediate tariffs, and free from Great Britain. The general rate is continued. For preferential the specific rate of 3.4 cent per pound is fixed but the ad valorem is reduced from 16.23 per cent. to 10 per cent.

Agate, granite or enamelled iron or steel ware. New tariff rates—British preference, 22.12 per cent.; intermediate, 21.2 per cent.; general, 35 per cent. Old tariff, item provided for agate, granite or enamelled iron or steel hollow ware at 25 per cent. general and 23.13 per cent. preferential, and under item 308 of the old tariff provision was for enamelled iron or steel ware, other than hollow ware, at 20 per cent. general and 20 per cent. preferential. In agate, granite and enamelled ware, it is difficult to decide between what is hollow ware and what is not. The new item makes all such ware, hollow or not, dutiable at the same rate.

Trawls, trawling spooms, fly books, sinkers, awlives, sportsmen's fishing bait, and fishing hooks, N. O. P.; General tariff rate is increased from 30 to 35 per cent., and preferential from 20 per cent. to 22.12 per cent.

The rates on stereotypes, electrotype and typographic accessories, also, are reduced from 14 cent per square inch to 1.8 cent per square inch, and brass and copper shells not for advertising are treated in the same way.

Such matrices and copper shells now made in Canada are dutiable at 1.8 cent per square inch, were formerly dutiable at 11.2 cent per square inch.

Type-casting and type-setting machines adapted for use in printing offices, and typewriters. New tariff rates: British preference, 12.12 per cent.; intermediate, 17.12 per cent.; general, 20 per cent. This is a new item intended to cover linotype machines which are made in Canada in sufficient quantities to meet the demand. They were formerly dutiable at 10 per cent. as "printing machines," or type-casting machines under old tariff 313.

Rolled iron or steel bars, hoops, bands, scroll or strip, sheet or plate of any size, thickness or width, galvanized or coated with any material or not, and cast steel, when of greater value than three and a half cents per pound N. O. P.; New tariff rates: British preference, free; intermediate, 5 per cent.; general, 5 per cent. Old tariff rates, item 208—British preference, 3.13 per cent.; general, 5 per cent. The price limit in the old tariff item was 21.2 cents per pound and it has been increased to 31.2 cents per pound.

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Seamless steel tubing, valued at not less than three and one-half cents per pound; rolled or drawn square tubing of iron or steel adapted for use in the manufacture of agricultural implements; British preference, free; intermediate, 5 per cent.; general, 5 per cent. This is a new item to cover mechanical tubing formerly rated from 5 per cent. to 35 per cent. not made in Canada which is used principally for manufacturing purposes. The item also applies to square drawn tubing used by agricultural implement manufacturers formerly dutiable at 87 per ton.

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Crucible cast steel wire, which was formerly free, is made dutiable, under general and intermediate at 5 per cent., and kept free under preferential. Such wire must not be less than 6 cents a pound. The general rate of 24 cent per pound and 25 cent under general and intermediate tariffs, and free from Great Britain. The general rate is continued. For preferential the specific rate of 3.4 cent per pound is fixed but the ad valorem is reduced from 16.23 per cent. to 10 per cent.

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TENDERS FOR LUMBER LAND

Tenders will be received at the office of Hazen & Raymond, Barristers, St. John, up to the fifteenth day of December next for the purchase of lots of land situated in the Parish of St. Martin's, formerly belonging to the late Francis J. Johnson, and now owned by Mrs. Elizabeth Jane Verrier. The property contains one hundred acres more or less and was originally granted to James Kent described as in the fourth tract and distinguished by the numbers 14 and 15. The land is well wooded and is valuable for agricultural purposes. The lowest of any tender not necessarily accepted. For further particulars apply to Hazen & Raymond, Barristers, St. John.

\$10 REWARD

Ten dollars will be paid for information which will lead to the conviction of any person destroying the signs posted for-bidding shooting on land owned or leased by me throughout New Brunswick. Signed E. W. Deeks

E. W. Deeks

Item and the following rate is imposed thereon: British preference, 12.12 per cent.; intermediate, 17.12 per cent.; general, 20 per cent.

The preferential rate on silk, linen and cotton clothing, corsets, handkerchiefs, fringes, cords, laces, N. O. P. braids, elastic, embroideries, N. O. P. Cuffs and shams and nettings have been increased from 23.12 to 25 per cent., silk in the form of shawls, the manufacture of woven fabrics is free. On elastic webbing, which was dutiable under the old tariff at 20 per cent., but that is applicable only to such webbing for use in the manufacture of suspenders.

Elastic webbing over one and one-quarter inches wide is made dutiable at British preference, 12.12 per cent.; intermediate, 17.12 per cent.; general, 23 per cent. Under the old tariff it was dutiable at 20 per cent. less 15 cent. under the preferential tariff without qualification as to width.

The rate of 20 per cent. under the general tariff on cotton waste for weaving machinery and on bar iron under the preferential tariff without qualification as to width, is continued. The preferential rate on cuttings of cotton was 32.23 per cent. No change in general tariff rates.

Such articles which were formerly dutiable at 25 per cent. but made by the seamster were 23.13 per cent. preferential and 35 per cent. general.

Hemp, dressed, has been added to hemp "undressed" in free list. Linen yarn for manufacture of articles such as added to free list.

Under the old tariff articles entering into the cost of binder twine were entitled to free entry. It has been provided that right to free entry of such articles at the time of importation is confined to manufacturers who manufacture binder twine only. The manufacturers who make cordage as well as binder twine will get a drawback of the duty paid on articles entering into the cost of binder twine.

Woolen goods, as well as binder twine, will get a drawback of the duty paid on articles entering into the cost of binder twine. The following changes have been made on the free list and it is provided that it shall be imported direct by vessel from the country of production of from any British country. Such molasses may test up to 55 degrees by the polariscope. This is to cover fancy molasses from Barbados. As respects molasses not the produce of any British country entitled to the preference, the rates of duty have been changed as follows: Formerly molasses 40 degrees and over, paid 1.34 cents per gallon and for each degree below 40 and not less than 35 an additional duty of 1 cent per gallon. Molasses below 35 degrees was dutiable at 34 cents a pound. The new tariff provides that such non-British molasses not less than 30 and not more than 55 degrees shall pay 3 cents per gallon general and 2.13 cents per gallon intermediate.

Cotton, woolen and other similar manufactures. The rates on cotton fabrics have not been changed to any appreciable extent. They are: Grey cotton, unbleached, N. O. P.—British preference, 15 per cent.; general, 25 per cent. Printed, dyed or colored, N. O. P.—British preference, 20 per cent.; intermediate, 30 per cent.; general, 35 per cent. Cotton duck for belting or hose, which was free, is made dutiable with other duck weighing over 8 ounces per square yard under the general and an increase of 1.23 per cent. under the preferential on printed, dyed or colored fabric, N. O. P. These rates are also made applicable to similar fabrics of linen. It is considered advisable to have common rates on cotton and linen fabrics as these articles are so interwoven that it is impossible to distinguish between them.

All such linen fabrics were formerly dutiable at 25 per cent. under the general tariff and 16.23 per cent. under the preferential tariff. Cotton duck for belting or hose, which was free, is made dutiable with other duck weighing over 8 ounces per square yard under the general and an increase of 1.23 per cent. under the preferential on white fabrics, a decrease of 2.12 per cent. under the general and an increase of 1.23 per cent. under the preferential on printed, dyed or colored fabric, N. O. P. These rates are also made applicable to similar fabrics of linen. It is considered advisable to have common rates on cotton and linen fabrics as these articles are so interwoven that it is impossible to distinguish between them.

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The rates under the general and preferential tariffs have been increased 2 per cent. on paper, unbound or on sheets, and on freight rates for railways, and telegraph rates. The new and old tariff are as follows: New tariff rates—B. pref., 13.13 per cent.; intermediate, 22.12 per cent.; general, 25 per cent. Old tariff rates—B. pref., 11.2 per cent.; intermediate, 20 per cent.; general, 23 per cent. This item covers books, printed or otherwise, N. O. P. The former rate was 10 per cent. under the general tariff, and 0.23 per cent. under the preferential tariff. No change has been made in the general tariff rate, but the preferential rate has been reduced to 5 per cent. A very important change has been made in connection with this item. Under the old tariff free entry was allowed of books not printed or reprinted in Canada and used (Continued on page 8, first column.)