

EXCHANGE OF NOTES (NOVEMBER 23, 1948) BETWEEN CANADA
AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CONCERNING
THE EXPORT OF POTATOES AND SEED POTATOES FROM
CANADA TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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*The Canadian Ambassador to the United States of America
to the Secretary of State of the United States of America*

WASHINGTON, D.C., NOVEMBER 23, 1948.

No. 538

SIR,

I have the honour to refer to the discussions which have taken place between the representatives of the Government of Canada and of the Government of the United States of America regarding the problems which would confront the Government of the United States in the operation of its price support and other programmes for potatoes if the imports of Canadian potatoes, during this current crop year, were to continue to be unrestricted. After careful consideration of the various representations which have been made to the Canadian Government on this subject, the Canadian Government is prepared to:

1. Include Irish potatoes in the list of commodities for which an export permit is required under the provisions of the Export and Import Permits Act.

2. Withhold export permits for the movement of table stock potatoes to the United States proper, excluding Alaska.

3. Issue export permits for the shipment of Canadian certified seed potatoes to the United States, but only under the following circumstances:

(a) Export permits will be issued to Canadian exporters for shipments to specified States in the United States and such permits will only be granted within the structure of a specific schedule. The schedule is designed to direct the shipment of Canadian certified seed potatoes into those States where there is a legitimate demand for certified seed potatoes and only during a short period immediately prior to the normal seeding time. A draft of this schedule is now being jointly prepared by Canadian and United States officials.

(b) Export permits would only be granted to Canadian exporters who could give evidence that they had firm orders from legitimate United States users of Canadian seed potatoes. Canadian exporters would also be required to have included in any contract into which they might enter with a United States seed potato importer a clause in which the importer would give an assurance that the potatoes would not be diverted or reconsigned for table stock purposes.

(c) The Canadian Government would survey the supply of Canadian certified seed potatoes by class and consider the possibility of giving precedence to the export of Foundation and Foundation A classes of certified seed.

(d) The names and addresses of the consignees entered on the export permit would be compiled periodically and this information would be forwarded to the United States Government.