

cautions to safeguard their home markets against a deluge of foreign goods, in order that their demobilized soldiers and war workers could secure employment in their own countries.

In the United Kingdom import embargoes that had been in effect during the war were continued and increased, with the result that manufactured goods from other countries were practically barred out of the United Kingdom. Later, this system was relaxed in respect to the products of the British Overseas Dominions entering the United Kingdom; and, recently, the majority of the remaining restrictions were removed. The United Kingdom, notwithstanding statements to the contrary, is not a free trade country. She now applies various protective duties, and has a measure before Parliament designed to prevent dumping, arising from exchange depreciation or other causes. During his budget speech in the House of Commons on April 15th, last, the Honorable Austen Chamberlain, Chancellor of the Exchequer, stated that the United Kingdom had raised during the year ending March 31st, 1920, the sum of £149,360,000 from customs duties imposed on goods imported into the United Kingdom. That is, every resident of the United Kingdom paid a customs tariff tax on the average of about \$16 last year. In Canada last year the average per capita tariff tax, including the war tariff, now removed, was about \$23, or, without the war tariff, about \$19.50. Yet, some people describe Great Britain as a free trade country and Canada as a high tariff country.

The business men of Great Britain realized early in the war that steps must be taken upon the cessation of hostilities, to protect British industries. Attention is drawn to a document entitled "Report of a Sub-Committee of the Advisory Committee to the Board of Trade on Commercial Intelligence with Respect to Measures for Securing the Position, after the war, of certain Branches of British Industry."

The Sub-Committee reported on the 11th of January, 1916, and the report was presented to both houses of Parliament:

The following were the branches of industry to which inquiries were directed: paper manufacture, the printing trade (including color printing), the stationery trade, the jewellers' and silversmiths' trade, cutlery, fancy leather goods, glassware, including table glass, laboratory ware and glass bottles, china and earthenware, toys, electrical apparatus, brush trade and hardware.

In Section 48 of the Committee's report, the following statement appears: "Practically all the representative firms and associations consulted by us asked for a measure of protection." The schedules in the report show that the measure of protection requested ranged from 10 to 33 per cent.

Early in 1916, the Government of Great Britain, which was a Liberal Government under the Premiership of Mr.

Asquith, appointed, through the Board of Trade, the following Committees:

1. Departmental Committee, to consider the position of Iron and Steel Trades, after the war;
2. Departmental Committee, to consider the position of the Electrical Trades, after the war;
3. Departmental Committee, to consider the position of the Engineering Trades, after the war;
4. Departmental Committee, to consider the position of the Textile Trades, after the war;

These Committees were non-political and were composed chiefly of practical business men. The reports of all four Committees were presented to the Imperial Parliament in 1918 and recommend a fair measure of protection for all the industries concerned.

In July of this year, the Executive Committee of the Tariff Reform League of Great Britain adopted a definite tariff programme which it is preparing to advocate among the British electors. They propose that Great Britain impose a tariff of 5 per cent. ad valorem on imports into the United Kingdom from countries which are members of the British Empire; 10 per cent. on imports from countries which are allies of the British Empire, and 20 per cent. on imports from all other foreign countries which compete with British products.

In other leading European countries protective tariffs were considerably increased since the war. France increased her tariff rates during the past year on most goods by amounts varying from ten to three hundred per cent.; and as late as April 28th, 1920, she announced a new and extensive list of prohibited imports.

Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Spain, Roumania, and the Balkan States, have made general increases in their tariffs. Recent despatches show that still higher protection is being provided in most of these countries, and especially in France, Italy and Spain. Japan has now in operation a high protective tariff.

In South America, all countries have tariffs designed not only for the purpose of producing revenue but also to provide for a reasonable measure of protection for home industry. The average rate of duty on all importations, both free and dutiable, for these countries, for 1913, the latest year for which statistics are obtainable, follow:—

| Countries. | Average ad valorem duty on Imports, per cent. |
|----------------------|---|
| Argentina | 20.8 |
| Bolivia | 17.1 |
| Brazil | 35.9 |
| Chile | 19.9 |
| Ecuador | 36.6 |
| Paraguay | 31.1 |
| Peru | 21.9 |
| Uruguay (1912) | 36.2 |
| Venezuela | 46.7 |

An instance of the trend in these countries appears in the following extract from the report of the Chilean Tariff Commission, viz:—

"The tariff policy of Chile is avowedly protective. In presenting the first draft of the law the tariff commission