

WORLD'S TRADE TARIFFS TO CHANGE

Radical Revision Will Occur as Result of the War— Canada Making a Move

What will belligerent and neutral countries do with their tariffs and commercial treaties after the war? This question was discussed last year by the cabinet ministers, manufacturers, consumers and business men generally of all the great manufacturing and trading countries. Before the war, the nations of Europe that are now fighting were commercially interconnected by an intricate system of general and conventional tariffs that had been adjusted by years of diplomacy—concessions here and concessions there, arranged with this country and that country in return for reciprocal favors (or supposed favors) and then automatically obtained by still other countries through the working of "most favored nation" clauses in general treaties.

Germany and Russia had a commercial treaty, generally regarded as the most elaborately developed thing of the kind. The war broke the treaties between hostile countries and nearly all the nations found it necessary to put surcharges, etc., on existing tariffs with others still friendly, in order to raise needed revenue. Now it is recognized that when the war ends international interests and necessities will make certain the building up of an entirely new tariff situation in Europe.

Canada Making Moves.

The opening of important foreign trade markets under conditions in which discriminating tariffs are bound to play an important part after the war makes it necessary for Canada to watch closely every tariff move in other countries. The Canadian Manufacturers' Association has already intimated that it proposes to advise, through its Export Association, the department of trade and commerce, Ottawa, as to what points should be kept in view and impress upon the Imperial Government the interests of the Canadian manufacturing industry in all cases where new tariff arrangements are being made.

What the nations of Europe and Japan are going to do with their tariffs is of great importance to Canada in view of our expanding export trade. As pointed out by the National City Bank, of New York, nobody knows what the new tariff lines will be, for the reason that upon the situation regarding two important matters at the end of the military hostilities everything depends. The military strength of the combatants, when they come to negotiate peace, and the apparent purpose and ability of certain nations to wage an immediate, sharp trade campaign with plenty of goods to sell at attractive prices will decide what the commercial treaties and the advantages the nations give each other in import schedules will be. In Germany, the business interests expect that with a triumph of German arms the Government will not only force from the defeated Allies an enormous indemnity, but will see to it that no "economic alliance" that can injure German trade is possible. If she is in a position to do so, Germany will obtain commercial treaties with all such as she obtained from Russia in 1905, with brusque persuasion. But Britishers do not doubt their own ultimate success in this war.

Treatment of Germany.

On the other hand, those who are in a position to see the development of disposition among the Allies on this subject say that Germany's military and economic position when she seeks peace will make a great difference in the foreign commercial policies of all the nations. The threats of an "economic alliance" that will isolate Germany for all time have generally given way to a cooler judgment in England, in Russia, and in France. The leaders who will probably have most to do with forming the new trade arrangements, in Russia and in France, make the intelligent admission that their country's industries will handicap themselves greatly if certain lines of commercial intercourse between them and Germany are not resumed after the war. At the same time Germany seems likely to get the least favorable tariff treatment.

British Empire Tariffs.

That the countries of the British Empire may arrange a scientific reciprocal tariff seems to be a general opinion. In this connection, Mr. C. Hamilton Wickes, British Trade Commissioner in Canada, pointed out in an address in

London last year that it is possible to show clearly and distinctly what the effect which the framing of certain of the overseas empires tariffs must be in respect to British and to foreign manufacturers. Great Britain, he said, had an enormous list of articles on which preference is granted by Canada. But so far as concerns something like \$110,000,000 worth of goods where Great Britain is entitled to a preference, it is in respect of articles which Great Britain cannot supply, and is never likely to be able to supply. In other words, preference had been granted, but to a large extent it was really in regard to commodities where it would not be any advantage to Great Britain if British goods had been admitted free.

On another page is printed an article which shows in concise form Canada's tariff relations and agreements with other countries.

BERLIN TO OPEN CLEARING HOUSE

A bank clearing house has been established at Berlin, Ontario, and will open on Monday next, January 3rd. The following are the officers: Messrs. G. M. Wedd, manager, Canadian Bank of Commerce, chairman; G. H. Montgomery, manager, Bank of Nova Scotia, vice-chairman; E. W. Lamprey, manager, Bank of Toronto, secretary-treasurer.

CANADIAN CATTLE EXPORTS

Of the live cattle exported from Canada during the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1915, 183,652 head went to the United States and 2,251 to other countries. For the year ended March 31st, 1914, the number exported was 219,397, of which 206,446 head went to the United States. For the year ended March 31st, 1913, the figures were 44,296, of which 28,268 went to the United States.

The following statistics show the value of exports of live cattle from Canada for the fiscal years named (ended March 31st) and where they were sent:—

Fiscal years.	United States.	England.	Other countries.	Total.
1900	\$1,401,137	\$ 7,579,080	\$100,559	\$ 9,080,776
1901	891,340	8,028,476	144,746	9,064,562
1902	787,864	9,742,738	133,217	10,663,819
1903	292,288	10,842,438	207,906	11,342,632
1904	119,942	10,046,651	258,078	10,424,671
1905	152,084	11,047,167	161,718	11,360,969
1906	206,102	11,045,463	405,264	11,656,829
1907	478,765	10,200,137	253,637	10,932,539
1908	585,790	8,584,806	130,588	9,301,184
1909	543,456	10,115,793	113,117	10,771,366
1910	642,674	9,979,918	169,564	10,792,156
1911	465,079	7,942,144	130,250	8,537,473
1912	615,399	3,343,625	139,155	4,098,179
1913	1,116,923	913,954	206,258	2,237,153
1914	7,043,086	697,807	165,901	7,906,794

The increase noted in 1913 and 1914 to the United States was occasioned by the removal of duty on cattle entering that country.

Mr. T. K. Gray, of the head office staff of the Standard Trusts Company, has been appointed manager of the company's Vancouver branch in succession to Mr. J. G. Forrester.

Mr. A. A. Cole, mining engineer of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway, estimates the gold production in Northern Ontario last year at \$8,295,000 and the silver production at \$10,750,000.

Sir William Price, president of the Quebec harbor commission, has notified Hon. Sir Sam Hughes, minister of militia, that he is ready to recruit a regiment in Quebec and district, providing the minister of militia accepts the offer, the regiment to be composed of both French and English-speaking Canadians.

Lieut. W. Hespeler Jackson, of the 14th Royal Montreal Regiment, who has latterly been connected with Brig.-General John W. Carson's staff in London, has returned to Montreal to assume the managership of the Crown Trust Company, during the absence of Major Irving P. Rexford, who is going overseas with the Grenadier Guards, under Major-General Frank Meighen.