

Miscellaneous

Among the concessions under this heading are the following: Asbestos brake and clutch lining, from 10% to 8½%; abrasive coated paper and cloth, from 10% to 8½%; glove and garment leather, from 10% to 8½%; manufactures of leather, nspf, from 12½% to 10½%; Boots and shoes, made by welt process, from 40¢ pr. to 34¢ pr; laminated sheets of synthetic resin, from 12½% & 7½¢ lb. to 10½% & 6¼¢ lb.; piano parts, from 20% to 17%; and mud dispersant derived from coniferous bark, from 10% to 8½%.

Europe

Canada concluded new agreements with the following European countries: Austria, Belgium-the Netherlands-Luxembourg, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Norway and Sweden. Extensive tariff concessions had already been obtained from these countries in previous negotiations under the GATT. However, as a result of the latest negotiations, many further concessions of interest to Canadian exporters have been granted by these countries.

While direct negotiations between Canada and European countries were not extensive, Canada will also benefit from concessions which these countries granted to the other European countries participating at this conference including the United Kingdom, and to the United States. Moreover, Canada did not negotiate with Finland, France and Turkey, but some of the concessions which these countries negotiated with others are also of interest to Canada.

In a few cases, the concessions made in European tariffs are reductions in statutory rates of duty which have been temporarily reduced by administrative action. Such concessions ensure that the lower rates resulting from the negotiations will be the maximum applicable rates. It should also be noted that many of the concessions of interest to Canada are on products or in countries where discriminatory restrictions have been removed.

A summary of the more significant European concessions is given below.

Austria

Austria was authorized by the Contracting Parties to the GATT to conduct its negotiations on the basis of a new draft tariff which is awaiting approval by the Austrian Government. While rates of duty previously bound under the GATT continue in force under this new tariff, increased duties are scheduled on many items which are not bound. The negotiations thus offered an opportunity for obtaining reductions from this higher level.

Canada obtained a reduction on whisky, from the draft tariff rate of 3,500 schillings per 100 kilos to a rate of 2,450 schillings per 100 kilos. This reduction brings the bound rate on Canadian whisky to the level of the rate on bourbon whisky which the United States had negotiated with Austria in the course of GATT tariff renegotiations in 1955.

Other Austrian concessions of interest to Canada include a reduction in the duty on sheer nylon dress and lingerie fabrics from 35 per cent with a minimum of 14,000 schillings per 100 kilos to 32 per cent with a minimum of