



PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA - CANADA

NO. 50

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 1955

Instruments ratifying the Canada-Spain Trade Agreement were exchanged in Ottawa today by the Spanish Ambassador, His Excellency Mariano de Yturralde y Orbegoso, and the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. L.B. Pearson.

The Agreement, which was signed last year in Madrid and ratified a few weeks ago, provides for the exchange of most-favoured-nation treatment with respect to customs duties and related matters. Both countries have undertaken not to impose discriminatory import or exchange restrictions, except for balance-of-payments reasons. Any such restrictions must not discriminate between dollar countries.

As part of the agreement the Spanish Government has undertaken to make available import licences and dollar exchange for minimum annual imports from dollar countries of two thousand metric tons of dried salted codfish. This arrangement will improve and stabilize sales in Canada's traditional market in Spain.

Among the tariff concessions accorded Spain by Canada is the binding of free entry of olives which were formerly subject to a duty of $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent ad valorem. Canada has also agreed to reduce the duty on dutiable olive oil from $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to 5 per cent to eliminate the one cent per pound duty on almonds, and the duty on paprika. These tariff concessions, with the exception of the free rate on paprika, became effective July 1 of last year. The new rate on paprika became effective on June 14, 1955.
