

The method of calculating Greek customs duties is complicated, and further details are available from the Foreign Tariffs Section of the Department of Trade and Commerce. Most of the rates in the Greek tariff are specific and are expressed in terms of metallic drachmas per unit of quantity. Duties, however, are payable in paper drachmas. Owing to severe and repeated currency depreciations, the rates of conversion for duty purposes from metallic to paper drachmas, which is performed according to an elaborate formula, have changed from time to time. Conversion is performed by the use of a system established before World War II involving the use of coefficients which differ among the various commodities. These coefficients were bound at Annecy. An additional coefficient, variable from time to time but applicable to all commodities alike, compensates for the further depreciation which has occurred since the war.

The concessions granted by Greece to Canada consist in principle of two things: first, the reduction or binding of a number of rates expressed in metallic drachmas; secondly, an undertaking that the conversion of metallic to paper drachmas for duty purposes shall be performed by an agreed method. This method ensures that any future adjustments in specific duties during the life of the agreement will not be more than proportionate to changes in the value of the paper drachma.

In the case of wheat, for example, the statutory rate of duty has been bound at 6 metallic drachmas per 100 kilograms of 220 pounds. At the rate of conversion which was in use during the Annecy negotiations, this was equivalent to 49 cents a bushel (Canadian funds). On the basis of wheat at \$1.55 per bushel Fort William, this was equivalent to 32% ad valorem. Using the exchange coefficient agreed at Annecy, and before the devaluations of September 1949, the 6 drachma rate would have resulted in a duty of 41 cents per bushel, representing about 20% on values then current. Any adjustment consequent upon the September devaluations should not result in any increase above the last mentioned ad valorem rate. As Greece is far from self-supporting in cereal foodstuffs, it is to be expected that it will always constitute a market for wheat within the limits of its domestic food requirements and purchasing power.

The following list shows reductions in specific rates on a number of items of interest to Canada. The rates are expressed in metallic drachmas, and the figures in brackets show the coefficients which have been bound for each article as indicated above. Conversion from metallic to paper drachmas is to be made by the agreed method at rates which may vary from time to time but will be limited according to the value of the paper drachma.

- Food products derived from meat, n.e.s., from 30 to 25 per 100 K.G. (40)
- Herring, from 6 to 4 per 100 K.G. (11)
- Lobster, shrimp, tuna, and the like, canned, from 20 to 15 per 100 K.G. (36)
- Sardines and similar fish, canned, from 20 to 12 per 100 K.G. (36)
- Wheat flour, from 10.7 to 9 per 100 K.G. (20)
- Whisky, gin, from 140 to 70 per 100 K.G. (40)
- Cocoa in powder etc., from 250 to 100 per 100 K.G. (40)
- Common wooden boards for packing cases, 10 to 7.5 per 100 K.G. (15)
- Plywood of common wood, from 48 per cubic metre to 40 per cubic metre (30)

/Asbestos....