

The Budget—Mr. Hanson (York-Sunbury)

the fiscal year ended March 31, 1922, when the tariff was 30 francs per 100 kilograms, decreased to \$250 for the fiscal year 1926-27 under the tariff of 125 francs. Since then there has been practically no trade.

Upper Leather

The duty on upper leather entering Belgium was increased on April 11, 1921, from 15 francs per 100 kilograms to 60 francs, i.e. from 50 cents to \$2.04 per 100 pounds at the current rate of exchange. The rate in Belgian money was further increased on November 10, 1924, to 90 francs per 100 kilograms (\$1.89 per 100 pounds at current exchange), and again on June 28, 1926, to 120 francs per 100 kilograms (\$1.51 per 100 pounds).

Therefore I think we may well conclude that the record itself is positive evidence that the position and charge of hon gentlemen opposite are wholly unfounded. What was the policy of this government? Having corrected the situation so far as Canadian industry and labour were concerned, that is to say, in order to give an equal opportunity to Canadians in our own industries, this government decided and has always had in view certain major considerations. We are a debtor nation, and it has always been recognized by everyone, by any right thinking man in this country, especially by the Conservative party, that after first making reasonable provision for Canadian industry and labour, we should endeavour by every legitimate means to extend our foreign trade. The two are not incompatible. To this end the government devoted its energy, and I venture to say that in four years it has made more beneficial trade treaties than the former government did in nine years. This is the record and it speaks for itself:

Country	Date	Terms of Agreement
Australia.. . . .	July 8, 1931.. . . .	Each country accords the other reduced rates on schedules of goods, and otherwise (with a few exceptions in Australia) exchange their British preferential tariffs with each other. In force from August 3, 1931.
Brazil.. . . .	December 4, 1931.. . . .	By exchange of notes Canada grants her intermediate tariff in return for most-favoured-nation treatment in Brazil. Except for this agreement, Canada would be under new Brazilian tariff schedule adopted December 11, 1931, one-quarter higher than minimum tariff.
New Zealand.. . . .	April 23, 1932.. . . .	Exchanges specific preferences on scheduled goods and otherwise concedes British preferential tariffs reciprocally. Made for one year from date of going into force, May 24, 1932, but since prolonged and now in force until May 24, 1935.
United Kingdom.. . . .	August 20, 1932.. . . .	Various new concessions on both sides, increasing preferences formerly granted without written trade agreement. Also extends the preferential system between Canada and the colonial empire.

[Mr. R. B. Hanson.]

We have made eleven trade treaties in that time with the following countries,

A comprehensive preferential agreement with the United Kingdom embracing within its terms the colonial empire as well.

A new and enlarged agreement with Australia.

For the first time, formal agreements with New Zealand, South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, and the Irish Free State.

A trade treaty of broad scope with France, which for the first time, is mutually binding and mutually satisfactory, in place of one which involved the granting of fixed rates by Canada without corresponding obligations by France and which did not give us the French minimum tariff on all our leading exports to that country.

A commercial arrangement securing most favoured nation treatment from Germany, a country with which our trade relations had long been unsatisfactory.

An arrangement securing most favoured nation treatment from Austria.

An arrangement whereby we obtained most favoured nation treatment from Brazil.

A comprehensive agreement with Poland now ready for signature.

Nor is that all. The government—this so-called “high tariff” government—is negotiating for a trade agreement with the United States; it is negotiating not only with those countries I have mentioned but with two other of the principal and important European countries as well, and also two other countries. No other government in the world, not excepting the government of England, strives more continuously or more effectively to clear the channels of trade.

This is a brief resume of the Canadian trade agreements since August 7, 1930, in the order of their dates, as follows: