ARGENTINE REPUBLIC AND ECONOMIC UNION OF BELGIUM AND LUXEMBURG

Exchange of Notes constituting a Provisional Commercial Agreement. Buenos Aires, January 16th, 1934.
1 Traduction. — Translation.


I.

Buenos Aires, January 16th, 1934.

Monsieur le Ministre,

With reference to the conversations which I had the honour to have with Your Excellency, I am glad to inform you that, pending the coming into force of a final treaty of commerce and navigation, as to the terms of which it is prepared to enter upon the first negotiations immediately after the signing of the present Agreement, the Belgian Government, acting both for itself and on behalf of the Luxemburg Government in pursuance of existing Agreements, is willing to regulate commercial relations between the Argentine Republic and the Belgo-Luxemburg Economic Union by means of a provisional Commercial Agreement, to read as follows:

(a) The High Contracting Parties undertake to grant each other unconditional and unlimited most-favoured-nation treatment in all matters concerning Customs dues and all accessory duties, the method of collecting such duties, and all rules, formalities applicable or charges leviable in respect of Customs clearance transactions;

(b) Consequently, natural or manufactured products originating in the territory of either of the High Contracting Parties may in no case be subjected, in the above-mentioned respects, to any duties, taxes or charges other or higher, or to any rules or formalities other or more burdensome, than those to which products of the same nature originating in any third country are or may hereafter be subject;

(c) Similarly, natural or manufactured products exported from the territory of either of the High Contracting Parties to the territory of the other Party shall in no case be subjected, in the same respects, to any duties, taxes or charges other or higher, or to any rules or formalities more burdensome, than those to which the same products exported to the territory of any other country are or may hereafter be subjected;

(d) All advantages, favours, privileges and immunities which have been or may in future be granted by either of the two Contracting Parties in the above-mentioned connection to natural or manufactured products originating in any other country or sent to the territory of any other country shall be extended, immediately and without compensation, to products of the same kind originating in the territory of the other Contracting Party or sent to the territory of that Party;

(e) The following shall, however, be excluded from the undertakings mentioned in the present Article: any favours granted now or in the future to neighbouring States for the purpose of facilitating frontier traffic, and those arising out of a Customs Union already concluded by either of the High Contracting Parties;

1 Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations, à titre d'information.

1 Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations, for information.
The High Contracting Parties also agree that the provisions of (a), (b), (c) and (d) are not applicable to internal taxes levied in either of the Contracting States on the sale and exchange of goods or other intrinsically movable property (transfer tax, invoice tax, luxury tax, turnover tax and other similar taxes);

(f) If one of the Parties has put into force or hereafter imposes in its territory any restrictions on the payment of goods imported by its nationals, any favour which it grants in this connection to any third country shall be extended, immediately and unconditionally, to the other Party;

(g) The present Agreement shall be ratified as soon as possible in accordance with the constitutional procedure laid down; it shall provisionally come into force immediately as from the date of signature, and shall remain valid until the coming into force, as between the two High Contracting Parties, of a final treaty of commerce and navigation.

It is understood, however, that each of the two Parties shall have the right to denounce the present Agreement, which shall remain in force until the expiry of three months from the date of its denunciation.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) Ketels.

To His Excellency
Dr. Carlos Saavedra Lamas,
Minister for Foreign Relations
and Public Worship.

II.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS
AND PUBLIC WORSHIP.

Buenos Aires, January 16th, 1934.

Monsieur le Ministre,

With reference to the conversations which I had the honour to have with Your Excellency and to your note of to-day's date, the text of which is given below, I am glad to inform you that, pending the coming into force of a final treaty of commerce and navigation, as to the terms of which the Belgian Government declares its readiness to enter upon the first negotiations immediately after the signing of the present Agreement, the Argentine Government is willing to regulate the commercial relations between the Argentine Republic and the Belgo-Luxemburg Economic Union by means of a provisional Commercial Agreement, the provisions of which are as follows:

(a) The High Contracting Parties undertake to grant each other unconditional and unlimited most-favoured-nation treatment in all matters concerning Customs dues and all accessory duties, the method of collecting such duties, and all rules, formalities applicable or charges leviable in respect of Customs clearance transactions;

(b) Consequently, natural or manufactured products originating in the territory of either of the High Contracting Parties may in no case be subjected, in the above-mentioned respects, to any duties, taxes or charges other or higher, or to any rules or formalities other or more burdensome, than those to which products of the same nature originating in any third country are or may hereafter be subjected;

(c) Similarly, natural or manufactured products exported from the territory of either of the High Contracting Parties to the territory of the other Party shall in no case be subjected, in the same respects, to any duties, taxes or charges other or higher, or to any rules or formalities more burdensome, than those to which the same products exported to the territory of any other country are or may hereafter be subjected;

(d) All advantages, favours, privileges and immunities which have been or may in future be granted by either of the two Contracting Parties in the above-mentioned connection to natural or manufactured products originating in any other country or sent
to the territory of any other country shall be extended, immediately and without compensation, to products of the same kind originating in the territory of the other Contracting Party or sent to the territory of that Party;

(e) The following shall, however, be excluded from the undertakings mentioned in the present Article: any favours granted now or in the future to neighbouring States for the purpose of facilitating frontier traffic, and those arising out of a Customs Union already concluded by either of the High Contracting Parties;

The High Contracting Parties also agree that the provisions of (a), (b), (c) and (d) are not applicable to internal taxes levied in either of the Contracting States on the sale and exchange of goods or other intrinsically movable property (transfer tax, invoice tax, luxury tax, turnover tax and other similar taxes);

(f) If one of the Parties has put into force or hereafter imposes in its territory any restrictions on the payment of goods imported by its nationals, any favour which it grants in this connection to any third country shall be extended, immediately and unconditionally, to the other Party;

(g) The present Agreement shall be ratified as soon as possible in accordance with the constitutional procedure laid down; it shall provisionally come into force immediately from the date of signature, and shall remain valid until the coming into force, as between the two High Contracting Parties, of a final treaty of commerce and navigation.

It is understood, however, that each of the two Parties shall have the right to denounce the present Agreement, which shall remain in force until the expiry of three months from the date of its denunciation.

I have the honour to be, etc.  
(Signed) Carlos Saavedra Lamas.

Monsieur Henri Ketels,
Envoy Extraordinary and
Minister Plenipotentiary
of Belgium.