

N° 3294.

GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET IRLANDE DU NORD
ET LETTONIE

Echange de notes comportant un
accord commercial. Londres, le
6 juillet 1933.

GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND
AND LATVIA

Exchange of Notes constituting a
Commercial Agreement. London,
July 6, 1933.

No. 3294. — EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE LATVIAN GOVERNMENT CONSTITUTING A COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT. LONDON, JULY 6, 1933.

Texte officiel anglais communiqué par le ministre des Affaires étrangères de Lettonie et le secrétaire d'Etat aux Affaires étrangères de Sa Majesté en Grande-Bretagne. L'enregistrement de cet échange de notes a eu lieu le 9 novembre 1933.

I.

FOREIGN OFFICE.

No. 4989/1/63.

6th July 1933.

SIR,

I have the honour to inform you that His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, being desirous of coming to an agreement with the Latvian Government for the purpose of further facilitating trade between the two countries, are prepared to conclude an agreement in the following terms.

(1) During the currency of the agreement any notification of denunciation given by either contracting party under paragraph 1 of Article 28 of Treaty¹ of Commerce and Navigation signed at London on the 22nd June, 1923, between His Majesty and the President of the Latvian Republic, shall require fifteen months instead of twelve months to take effect.

(2) (a) His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom undertake not to regulate the quantity of the imports into the United Kingdom of bacon and hams, butter or eggs, the produce of Latvia, except in so far as such regulation may be necessary to secure the effective operation of a scheme or schemes for the regulation of the marketing of domestic supplies of these or of related products. In the event of such regulation of imports being introduced in the case of all or any of these products, the following provisions shall have effect in so far as they may be applicable.

(b) His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom will, in any such event, allot to Latvia an equitable share of permitted foreign imports having regard to the proportion of total foreign imports of those products which has been supplied by Latvia in recent years. Allocations to Latvia will be made on the same basis as, and on conditions not less favourable than, allocations to any other foreign country.

¹ Vol. XX, page 395 ; vol. XXVII, page 422 ; et vol. LXXXVIII, page 295, de ce recueil.

¹ TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.N^o 3294. — ÉCHANGE DE NOTES ENTRE LE GOUVERNEMENT DE SA MAJESTÉ DANS LE ROYAUME-UNI ET LE GOUVERNEMENT LETTON COMPORTANT UN ACCORD COMMERCIAL. LONDRES, LE 6 JUILLET 1933.

English official text communicated by the Latvian Minister for Foreign Affairs and by His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in Great Britain. The registration of this Exchange of Notes took place November 9, 1933.

I.

FOREIGN OFFICE.

N^o 4989/1/63.

6 juillet 1933.

MONSIEUR LE MINISTRE,

J'ai l'honneur de vous informer que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté dans le Royaume-Uni, désireux d'arriver à un accord avec le Gouvernement letton en vue de faciliter le commerce entre les deux pays, est disposé à conclure un accord dans les termes suivants :

1^o Pendant la durée de l'accord, toute notification de dénonciation donnée par l'une des Parties contractantes, en vertu du paragraphe 1 de l'article 28 du Traité² de commerce et de navigation, signé à Londres le 22 juin 1923, entre Sa Majesté et le Président de la République de Lettonie, ne prendra effet qu'à l'expiration d'un délai de quinze mois au lieu de douze.

2^o a) Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté dans le Royaume-Uni s'engage à ne pas réglementer la quantité des importations dans le Royaume-Uni de lard et jambon, de beurre ou œufs, produits en Lettonie, sauf dans la mesure où telle réglementation pourrait être nécessaire pour assurer l'application efficace d'un ou plusieurs plans de réglementation de la vente de la production nationale de ces articles ou d'articles qui leur sont apparentés. Au cas où une telle réglementation des importations serait instituée pour l'ensemble ou pour l'un quelconque de ces articles, les dispositions suivantes seront mises en vigueur dans la mesure où elles seront applicables.

b) Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté dans le Royaume-Uni accordera en pareil cas à la Lettonie une part équitable des importations étrangères autorisées, en tenant compte de la proportion que représentent les produits fournis par la Lettonie au cours des dernières années par rapport au total des importations étrangères de ces mêmes produits. Les contingents attribués à la Lettonie le seront sur la même base et à des conditions au moins aussi favorables que les contingents attribués à tout autre pays étranger.

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.

² Vol. XX, page 395 ; Vol. XXVII, page 423 ; and Vol. LXXXVIII, page 295, of this Series.

(c) His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom declare that they will not regulate compulsorily the quantity of imports into the United Kingdom of bacon and hams, or butter or eggs, the produce of Latvia, without first giving the Latvian Government an opportunity of discussing any allocation to Latvia with a view to securing that it is made in accordance with the above assurance.

(d) It is understood that the term "foreign country" in the preceding subparagraph (b) means a country not being part of the British Commonwealth of Nations nor a territory under British protection or suzerainty nor a mandated territory in respect of which the mandate is exercised by the Government of a part of the British Commonwealth of Nations and the term "foreign imports" means imports from a foreign country as so defined.

(3) The Latvian Government, in respect of herrings salted or cured in the United Kingdom and exported therefrom :

(a) Undertake that no duty other or higher than an import duty of 5 lats a barrel shall be levied on the importation of such herrings into Latvia, and declare that the existing 5% *ad valorem* surtax is being abolished, and will not be re-imposed.

(b) Declare that there is at present no tax on purchases of foreign exchange required for the purposes of payment in respect of such herrings, and that they have no intention of recommending the imposition of such a tax. If any such tax is imposed His Majesty's Government shall have the right, notwithstanding the provisions of the fifth paragraph of this note, to give notice to the Latvian Government terminating the agreement immediately.

(c) Undertake that applications for foreign exchange in respect of purchases of such herrings shall be granted in full with as little delay as possible. It is recognised that in the event of applications for an abnormal amount of exchange being made at any one time, it may be necessary to release the exchange required gradually.

(d) Undertake that licences shall be issued during the year ending the 30th June, 1934, permitting the importation into Latvia of such herrings for the purpose of consumption in the country up to a quantity not less than 10,000 metric tons, being approximately 75% of the quantity imported for that purpose in 1931.

(4) Both Governments undertake to keep in view the balance of trade between the United Kingdom and Latvia, and the Latvian Government recognise that it is in the interest of both countries that the present disparity in that balance should be readjusted as far as possible by the increase of the sales in Latvia of goods the produce or manufacture of the United Kingdom.

(5) This agreement shall come into operation as from the 15th July, 1933. The undertakings on either side set out in the preceding paragraphs shall remain in force for one year from that date, except where the contrary is expressly stated, and the currency of the agreement shall be deemed to be the said period of one year.

2. If the Latvian Government are prepared to accept these proposals, this note and a reply from you notifying their acceptance will constitute an agreement between the two Governments accordingly.

I have the honour to be, with high consideration, Sir, Your obedient Servant.

For the Secretary of State :
(Signed) F. ASHTON-GWATKIN.

Monsieur Charles Louis Seya,
etc., etc., etc.

II.

LATVIAN LEGATION.

No. S. 610.39/2988.

LONDON, 6th July 1933.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's Note of even date No. N. 4989/1/63, regarding the importation of herrings into Latvia, and which reads as follows :

(1) During the currency of the agreement any notification of denunciation given by either contracting party under paragraph 1 of Article 28 of Treaty of Commerce and Navigation signed at London on the 22nd June, 1923, between His Majesty and the President of the Latvian Republic, shall require fifteen months instead of twelve months to take effect.

(2) (a) His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom undertake not to regulate the quantity of the imports into the United Kingdom of bacon and hams, butter or eggs, the produce of Latvia, except in so far as such regulation may be necessary to secure the effective operation of a scheme or schemes for the regulation of the marketing of domestic supplies of these or of related products. In the event of such regulation of imports being introduced in the case of all or any of these products, the following provisions shall have effect in so far as they may be applicable.

(b) His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom will, in any such event, allot to Latvia an equitable share of permitted foreign imports having regard to the proportion of total foreign imports of those products which has been supplied by Latvia in recent years. Allocations to Latvia will be made on the same basis as, and on conditions not less favourable than, allocations to any other foreign country.

(c) His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom declare that they will not regulate compulsorily the quantity of imports into the United Kingdom of bacon and hams, or butter or eggs, the produce of Latvia, without first giving the Latvian Government an opportunity of discussing any allocation to Latvia with a view to securing that it is made in accordance with the above assurance.

(d) It is understood that the term "foreign country" in the preceding subparagraph (b) means a country not being part of the British Commonwealth of Nations nor a territory under British protection or suzerainty nor a mandated territory in respect of which the mandate is exercised by the Government of a part of the British Commonwealth of Nations, and the term "foreign imports" means imports from a foreign country as so defined.

(3) The Latvian Government, in respect of herrings salted or cured in the United Kingdom and exported therefrom :

(a) Undertake that no duty other or higher than an import duty of 5 lats a barrel shall be levied on the importation of such herrings into Latvia, and declare that the existing 5% ad valorem surtax is being abolished, and will not be re-imposed.

(b) Declare that there is at present no tax on purchases of foreign exchange required for the purposes of payment in respect of such herrings, and that they have no intention of recommending the imposition of such a tax. If any such tax is imposed His Majesty's Government shall have the right, notwithstanding the provisions of the fifth paragraph of this note, to give notice to the Latvian Government terminating the agreement immediately.

(c) Undertake that applications for foreign exchange in respect of purchases of such herrings shall be granted in full with as little delay as possible. It is recognised

that in the event of applications for an abnormal amount of exchange being made at any one time, it may be necessary to release the exchange required gradually.

(d) Undertake that licences shall be issued during the year ending the 30th June, 1934, permitting the importation into Latvia of such herrings for the purpose of consumption in the country up to a quantity not less than 10,000 metric tons, being approximately 75 % of the quantity imported for that purpose in 1931.

(4) Both Governments undertake to keep in view the balance of trade between the United Kingdom and Latvia, and the Latvian Government recognise that it is in the interest of both countries that the present disparity in that balance should be readjusted as far as possible by the increase of the sales in Latvia of goods the produce or manufacture of the United Kingdom.

(5) This agreement shall come into operation as from the 15th July, 1933. The undertakings on either side set out in the preceding paragraphs shall remain in force for one year from that date, except where the contrary is expressly stated, and the currency of the agreement shall be deemed to be the said period of one year.

The Latvian Government being desirous of fostering the trade of Latvia with the United Kingdom, has instructed me to accept these proposals, and consequently an agreement between the two Governments is deemed as being concluded on the terms set forth in the above-mentioned note.

I have the honour to be, with the highest consideration, Sir, Your most obedient, humble Servant,

(Signed) Ch. L. SEYA,
Chargé d'Affaires ad. int.

The Right Honourable
Sir John Simon, G.C.S.I., K.C.V.O., M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

Pour copie certifiée conforme :

Le Secrétaire général,
Munters.

Riga, le 3 novembre 1933.