

No. 1151

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**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN  
AND NORTHERN IRELAND  
and  
IRELAND**

**Trade Agreement (with annex). Signed at Dublin, on  
31 July 1948**

*Official text: English.*

*Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on  
10 April 1951.*

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**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE  
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD  
et  
IRLANDE**

**Accord commercial (avec annexe). Signé à Dublin, le  
31 juillet 1948**

*Texte officiel anglais.*

*Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le  
10 avril 1951.*

No. 1151. TRADE AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF IRELAND. SIGNED AT DUBLIN, ON 31 JULY 1948

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The Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of Eire, desiring to increase trade between their respective countries to their mutual advantage, have agreed as follows :

*Article I*

Having regard to the wish of the Government of the United Kingdom to obtain increased quantities of cattle, eggs and potatoes and to resume as soon as possible the traditional imports from Eire of bacon, butter, fat sheep and lambs and other agricultural products, and to the desire of the Government of Eire to increase Eire's exports and to provide increased supplies of food-stuffs to the United Kingdom :

1. The Government of Eire undertake to use their best endeavours to increase exports of agricultural products to the United Kingdom.
2. The arrangements set out in the Annex to this Agreement shall govern, during the period from the 1st July, 1948, to the 30th June, 1952, the quantities and prices of the agricultural products therein specified to be supplied by Eire to the United Kingdom.

*Article II*

For the purpose of safeguarding Eire's external financial position and of achieving and maintaining stable equilibrium in its balance of payments, the Government of Eire, as and when they may deem it expedient, will prepare lists of those goods imported from the United Kingdom to which Article 5 of the Trade Agreement signed between the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of Eire on the 25th April, 1938,<sup>2</sup> applies and the importation of which they may desire to restrict. The Government of the United Kingdom will forthwith consider such lists and agree with the Government of Eire as to the content thereof. The Government of Eire shall thereupon, notwith-

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 12 August 1948, the date mutually agreed between the two Governments, in accordance with article VII.

→ <sup>2</sup> United Kingdom : Cmd. 5728.

standing the provisions of the aforesaid Article, be entitled to impose on the import of the goods in question such quantitative restrictions or import duties as they think fit and as may be agreed between the two Governments.

Provided that, except as may otherwise be agreed, in each case in which action is taken by the Government of Eire to impose restrictions on the import of such goods in accordance with the foregoing provisions corresponding action is taken in respect of like goods imported into Eire from any other country.

### *Article III*

Notwithstanding anything in Article 5 of the Trade Agreement of 1938, but without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph (3) of Article 11 of the said Agreement, the Government of Eire shall be entitled to impose import duties on goods produced or manufactured in the United Kingdom of the classes or kinds enumerated in Part I of Schedule II of that Agreement.

Provided that the value of the imports from the United Kingdom in 1939 of the goods on which such duties are imposed shall not have exceeded 40 per cent. of the aggregate value of imports from that source in the same year of the goods enumerated in Part I of the said Schedule.

### *Article IV*

1. Article 1 (2) and Article 2 (2) of the Trade Agreement of 1938 are hereby deleted.

Provided that, if the rates of duty on eggs, poultry or butter of non-Commonwealth origin imported into the United Kingdom should at any time be raised above their present levels, any consequential duty imposed on similar products of Eire origin in order to comply with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade<sup>1</sup> shall be such as to maintain the margin of preference which they previously enjoyed.

2. Article 1 of the Trade Agreement of 1938 shall be read subject to the following :

“ The Government of Eire contend that under Article 1 (1) of the Trade Agreement of 1938 the Government of the United Kingdom have undertaken to admit without quantitative restriction the goods to which the Article applies, which contention is not accepted by the Government of the United Kingdom : nevertheless and without prejudice to the respec-

<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 55, p. 194.

tive views of the two Governments with regard to the interpretation of this Article the Government of the United Kingdom undertake to review forthwith and from time to time the quantitative restrictions imposed on the importation into the United Kingdom of goods grown, produced or manufactured in, and consigned from, Eire (and not normally subject to bulk purchase by or on behalf of the Government of the United Kingdom) with a view to facilitating so far as possible their importation from Eire and subject to the need to safeguard the external financial position of the United Kingdom and to achieve and maintain stable equilibrium in its balance of payments."

#### *Article V*

The Government of the United Kingdom undertake that where goods, the growth, produce or manufacture of Eire, are dutiable at preferential rates of duty, they will not vary the existing preferential treatment of these goods in such a way as to put any class of goods, the growth, produce or manufacture of Eire, at a disadvantage in relation to goods of that class from other sources enjoying preferential treatment.

#### *Article VI*

[ 1. The following paragraph shall be inserted after paragraph (2) of Article 8 of the Trade Agreement of 1938 :

" The review provided for in this Article shall be carried out in such order of priority as may be agreed in consultation between the two Governments."

[ 2. Article 12 of the said Agreement is hereby deleted.

[ 3. There shall be added to Article 16 of the said Agreement the following paragraph :

" The Government of the United Kingdom undertake to make available in the year 1949 not less than 1,570,000 tons of coal, domestic coke and manufactured fuel. As regards future years, the Government of the United Kingdom undertake to make every effort to meet any demand in excess of this quantity."

[ 4. Article 17 (3) of the said Agreement shall be amended to read as follows :

" (3) The Government of Eire undertake that completely assembled private motor vehicles of a c.i.f. value of £1,300 or more, manufactured in the United Kingdom shall enjoy entry into Eire free of quantitative restrictions, and that the rate of customs duty to be charged on such

vehicles shall not exceed 22.2/9th%. If, owing to a rise or fall in prices, either Government consider that the intention of this part of the Agreement is not being fulfilled, there shall be immediate consultation between the two Governments with a view to revision upwards or downwards of this value limit."

### Article VII

This Agreement shall come into force on a date to be mutually agreed between the two Governments.

Thereafter the Trade Agreement of the 25th April, 1938, shall operate with the additions and modifications and provisions made by this Agreement and subject to the provisions of Article 18, for a period of four years from the date of signature of this Agreement. Unless notice of termination shall have been given by either Government to the other six months before the expiry of that period, it shall remain in force until the expiry of six months from the date on which notice of termination is given.

This Agreement shall terminate with the Trade Agreement of the 25th April, 1938.

SIGNED at Dublin this 31st day of July, 1948.

For the Government of the United Kingdom :  
(Signed) Clement Richard ATTLEE

For the Government of Eire :  
(Signed) John A. COSTELLO

### ANNEX

#### A.—Cattle

(1) The general objective of both Governments will be to restore to the pre-war numbers, as soon as possible, the exports of fat and store cattle to the United Kingdom.

(2) Both Governments intend that at least 75 per cent. of the total numbers of cattle so exported in each year shall consist of store cattle.

(3) The rate of delivery of fat cattle shall, if necessary, be adjusted according to the facilities for handling and slaughtering in Great Britain.

(4) The arrangements covering the delivery to and landing at the ports and taking over by the Government of the United Kingdom of fat cattle from Eire shall be the subject of consultation between the two Governments.

(5) The Government of Eire undertake that they will limit their exports of live cattle to countries other than the United Kingdom to 50,000 head in the 1948 season and to a number in subsequent seasons which shall not exceed 10 per cent. of their total exports of live cattle to all countries. They further undertake that in the 1948 season 20 per cent. and in each subsequent season 25 per cent. of their total exports to all countries other than the United Kingdom shall consist of second class cattle.

(6) The Government of the United Kingdom undertake that they will not introduce any excessive increase in the existing difference of 5s. per live cwt. between the prices paid by them for cattle bred in the United Kingdom and those paid for cattle from Eire fattened for a minimum of two months in the United Kingdom.

(7) The Government of the United Kingdom undertake to arrange to pay prices for fat cattle imported from Eire equivalent to those paid for store cattle bred in Eire after a minimum of two months fattening in the United Kingdom, subject to appropriate adjustment in respect of marketing costs. The seasonal schedule of prices will be drawn up in consultation between the two Governments.

(8) Provided that if increased numbers of fat and store cattle do not become available in the proportions set out in paragraph (2) in due course then the provisions of paragraph (7) above will be subject to review by both Governments.

#### B.—*Carcase Meat*

(1) The Government of the United Kingdom undertake to accept imports of carcass beef at a rate of not more than 200 tons per week with an overriding annual limit of 4,000 tons.

(2) The existing difference of 1½d. per lb. shall be maintained between the prices paid by the Government of the United Kingdom for imports from Eire of carcass beef and for the carcasses of fat cattle imported alive from Eire and slaughtered in the United Kingdom provided that this difference shall be subject to revision if actual costings so warrant.

#### C.—*Canned Meat*

(1) Notwithstanding that the Government of the United Kingdom would wish to import from Eire all classes of cattle either on the hoof or in carcass form rather than in the form of canned meat, nevertheless they undertake to import from Eire up to 10,000 tons of canned stewed steak in the twelve months ending the 30th June, 1949, at the present price of 15s. 6d. per dozen 1 lb. tins ex quay Great Britain.

(2) The quantities and prices of exports of canned meat from Eire to the United Kingdom in subsequent years will be the subject of discussion between representatives of the two Governments.

#### D.—Poultry

(1) The Government of the United Kingdom express their desire to see the quantity of poultry imported into the United Kingdom from Eire increased from the 7,000 tons expected in 1948 to at least 10,000 tons per annum.

(2) The Government of the United Kingdom undertake that, so long as price control remains on dead poultry, including turkeys, the maximum selling prices in the United Kingdom for such poultry imported from Eire will continue to be the same as for home produced.

#### E.—Eggs

The Government of the United Kingdom undertake to import from Eire the minimum quantities which have already been agreed for the three years from the 1st February, 1948, and undertake also to import any additional quantities which may be exported from Eire.

#### F.—Bacon

The Government of the United Kingdom undertake to import bacon from Eire at the annual pre-war rate of 27,000 tons, or more if it is available, at a price of 225s. per cwt. f.o.b. until the 30th September, 1949. Subsequent prices shall be fixed by negotiation between representatives of the two countries.

#### G.—Butter

The Government of the United Kingdom undertake to import butter from Eire at the annual pre-war rate of 20,000 tons, or more if available, at a price to be fixed by negotiation between the two countries as soon as the possibility of exports arises.

#### H.—Fat Sheep and Lambs

(1) The Government of the United Kingdom undertakes to import fat sheep and lambs from Eire at the annual pre-war rate of 400,000 head, or more if available.

(2) Prices will be discussed between the two Governments as soon as the possibility of exports arises, but the Government of the United Kingdom undertake to pay fair prices related to the prices for fat sheep and lambs bred in the United Kingdom.

#### I.—Potatoes

Prices and quantities of potatoes that the Government of Eire will undertake to supply and the Government of the United Kingdom will undertake to accept shall be the subject of early negotiations between representatives of the two Governments.

(Initialled) C. R. A.

(Initialled) J. A. C.