

pliance with conditions.

duty by being capable of devotion to some other use, are in the new tariff subjected to duty ; but it is provided that a refund in the shape of a drawback varying from 50 to 99 per cent shall be paid upon proof that the articles imported have been used for the purpose specified in Schedule B relating to drawbacks for home consumption.

Special duties for dumped goods.

The dumping clause in the Customs Tariff Act of 1904 (4 Edw. VII ch. 11, s. 19), by which extra duties are levied upon articles exported to Canada at a price less than their actual selling price in the home market, is in principle retained, but is in the new act extended to free as well as to dutiable goods. It is further enacted that the special or dumping duty, which previously might not exceed 50 per cent of the ordinary duty, must not in future exceed 15 per cent ad valorem in any case.

Allowance of cash discounts in appraisements for duty.

The Customs Amendment Act, 1907, chapter 10, makes a change in the method of appraisement for duty by sections 3 and 4, which provide that the appraiser or collector in estimating the value of goods for duty may allow a bonâ fide discount for cash not exceeding $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent when such discount has been allowed and deducted by the exporter on his invoice.

New commercial treaty with France.

On September 19 was signed at Paris a new convention respecting the commercial relations between Canada and France, the signatories thereto on behalf of Canada being Sir Francis Bertie, H. M. Ambassador to France, the Hon. W. S. Fielding, Canadian Minister of Finance, and the Hon. L. P. Brodeur, Canadian Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

Commercial treaty of 1893.

The previous commercial treaty with France, dated February 6, 1893, contained inequalities in the treatment of Canadian products which operated unfairly to the restriction of Canadian trade with France, and, through the most favoured nation clause, to the hampering of Canadian trade with other continental states.

Inequalities against Canada.

Under the old treaty France obtained the benefit of the most favoured nation clause whilst Canada did not, except to a limited extent. Therefore, whereas Canada was under obligation to admit French exports at the minimum tariff levied for such exports by any other country, France was entitled to continue in force the treaty tariff although similar goods from other countries might be entering France at lower rates of duty. To obtain the benefit of the minimum tariff under the treaty it was necessary that Canadian goods should be shipped direct to a port in France ; but no reciprocal condition was applicable to French shipments to Canada. Whilst France was at liberty to raise her tariffs at will on goods which under the treaty were given the benefit of her minimum tariff, Canada was bound by the treaty not to raise her tariffs beyond the rates therein specified.

New treaty of 1907.

Recent expansion of our manufacturing industries and of our powers of natural production rendered these inequalities intolerable, and on July 11 Mr. Fielding and Mr. Brodeur arrived in Paris for the purpose of entering into negotiations with the