

and this surtax has remained in force until the present year. Lately however representations have been made to the Canadian Government by German Imperial consuls at Montreal as to the desirableness of a better understanding, and the contention that the products of Germany should receive in Canada the same treatment as the products of the United Kingdom was abandoned. Meanwhile the Franco-Canadian convention went into operation and Germany became desirous of being admitted to its benefits upon the same terms as France. Informal negotiations resulted therefore in a provisional agreement, dated February 15 1910, under which on or after March 1 1910 Germany conceded the conventional tariff rates of duty upon Canadian imports and Canada removed the surtax from German imports. It was further agreed that the question of a general convention between the two countries should be deferred for consideration at some mutually convenient time.

As the result of correspondence between the Minister of Finance and other consular representatives in Canada Orders of Council were passed on June 7 by which the benefit of the Canadian intermediate tariff was extended to specified goods, the produce or manufacture of Belgium, Holland and Italy. Under a provisional agreement dated June 6 1910, and pending the permanent regulation of commercial relations, Italy admits certain Canadian goods at the conventional rates in return for the benefit of the Canadian intermediate tariff extended to Italian imports. In all these cases it is a condition that goods must be conveyed without transshipment from ports of the respective countries or from a port of a British country into a sea or river port of Canada.

The enactment of the United States Tariff on August 5 1909, by which the President of the United States was empowered to grant the benefits of the minimum tariff to the products of such countries as did not unduly discriminate in their tariff treatment against United States products, raised the question whether the Franco-Canadian treaty, the benefits of which were automatically extended under most favoured nation clauses in certain treaties to various foreign nations among which the United States was not included, did not effect such a discrimination. As the outcome of negotiations conducted during March at Ottawa, Albany and Washington, Canada agreed to apply the intermediate tariff instead of the general tariff to the United States imports of thirteen named articles, thus extending to the United States the same benefits in respect of those articles as are accorded to France under the Franco-Canadian treaty. This agreement was carried into effect on the part of Canada by an act of the Dominion Parliament to amend the Customs Tariff, 1907, chapter 16, assented to on May 4, and on the part of the United States by a proclamation of the President admitting Canadian products to the benefits of the minimum tariff.

Agreements
with Belgium,
Holland and
Italy.

United States