

Powers of the Governor in Council.—The Governor in Council may make reductions of duties on goods imported into Canada from countries granting reductions on Canadian products.

The Governor in Council is given power to prohibit the importation of any goods exported directly or indirectly from any country not a contracting party to the Treaty of Versailles executed at Paris, France, on June 28, 1919.

In the event of producers of goods taking advantage of any duty under the provisions of the Customs Tariff, the Governor in Council is empowered to reduce or remove such duty and, where a producer violates the provisions of sec. 17, to impose upon all his products an Excise duty equivalent to the amount of Customs duty which would be paid by such goods if imported under the provisions of the General Tariff. These provisions, however, do not apply to agricultural products.

Combinations.—Whenever it is deemed in the public interest to inquire into any combination alleged to exist detrimental to consumers, the Governor in Council may commission or empower any judge of the Supreme Court or of the Exchequer Court of Canada, or of any superior court or county court in Canada, to hold an inquiry in a summary way and to report to the Governor in Council whether such combination exists, the judge being empowered to compel attendance of witnesses, examine them under oath, and require production of books and papers, etc., and, upon the judge reporting the existence of such a combination, the Governor in Council is given authority to admit the article concerned free of duty, or so reduce the duty thereon as to give the public the benefit of reasonable competition if it appears that the disadvantage to the consumer is facilitated by the duties of Customs imposed on a like article.

Section 2.—The Commercial Intelligence Service.¹

The Commercial Intelligence Service, maintained by the Department of Trade and Commerce, is designed to further the interests of Canadian trade in other parts of the Empire and in foreign countries. To this end there are established throughout the world offices administered by Trade Commissioners. These Trade Commissioners make periodical reports upon trade and financial conditions, variations in markets and the current demand or opportunities for Canadian products. They also secure and forward to the Department in Ottawa specific inquiries for Canadian goods and in general exert their best efforts for the development and expansion of overseas markets.

Organization at Ottawa.—Besides the overseas organization of the Commercial Intelligence Service, there is a headquarters staff at Ottawa. This is presided over by a Director, who is the head of the Service and administers and unifies the work assigned to the various Trade Commissioners. Assisting the Director are the following divisions: Trade Inquiries—where trade reports and information on foreign markets are filed in order to answer foreign and Canadian trade inquiries; Editorial—where the Commercial Intelligence Journal is compiled; Foreign Tariffs—where all the latest tariff data are kept and tariff inquiries answered; and the division handling the Directory of Canadian Exporters—where Canadian exporters are listed, with their agents abroad, commodities handled, ratings, cables and codes used, etc., and where the Foreign Importers' Directory is kept up to date by periodical reports from the Canadian Trade Commissioners.

¹ Revised by L. D. Wilgress, Director, Commercial Intelligence Service, Department of Trade and Commerce.