

Rhodesia were made subject to import licence on May 3, 1941. Many were allowed from the sterling area under open general licence, and some from all countries, but since Oct. 24, 1941, except for about a dozen items, imports from Canada required individual licences.

India.—The Government of India, on May 20, 1940, subjected goods under 68 tariff items to the requirement of licence from an Import Trade Controller. Most of these were admitted under open general licence from Empire sources. Import control was extended from time to time. As consolidated on Aug. 23, 1941, restricted or prohibited lists of goods comprised 247 items. Restriction of imports from United Kingdom and other sterling areas was practically removed by issue of open general licences and in the same way relaxed to some extent for imports from Canada.

Colonial Empire.—A circular of June 5, 1941, sent from the Secretary of State for the Colonies at London to Colonial Governments urged greater curtailment of imports, particularly goods of non-essential nature. An effort made at a British West Indian conference held in August, 1941, to bring the import licensing policy of the different islands into uniformity was followed by various import control orders which contained more specific lists of the articles considered unessential imports.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Some South American countries, through foreign-exchange control, accord preferred treatment in providing means of payment for classes of goods which the country regards as most needed importations. Imports from sterling countries and from neighbouring States are favoured under Argentine exchange regulations. Articles regarded as 'primary essentials' from Canada and the United States may be paid for at as low a rate as 3.73 Argentine pesos to the U.S. dollar. For 'secondary essentials' and some goods limited to quotas, the exchange rate is about 4.23 pesos. Automobiles, farm implements and a few other articles, are in an import category conditional on the corresponding export of Argentine products to North America, payment being allowed on the basis of about 4.50 pesos to the dollar. For many articles exchange is auctioned and costs about 4.95 pesos to the dollar. Some goods are in a prohibited category. The Chilean Exchange Control Commission on May 26, 1941, authorized importation of a list of essential goods at the exchange rate of 25 pesos to the dollar, compared with the normal rate of 31 pesos. A Colombian decree of Apr. 8, 1940, provides an "official" or comparatively low rate of exchange when the goods are considered to be of primary necessity. Three other classes of merchandise are graded in order of essentiality and exchange to pay for them is issued at varying premiums over the official rate. Venezuela, on Mar. 29, 1941, established two groups of commodities for which exchange to import was fixed at a 'controlled' or favourable rate, and a third group at a 'free' rate, which cost 12 p.c. more. Under exchange control, as re-introduced into Ecuador on June 3, 1940, an import permit was issued relative to each importer's capital and previous volume of trade and on July 17, 1941, it was announced that permits would be restricted to indispensable articles such as flour, lard, newsprint, motor-trucks, cement, drugs and some other staple goods. Monthly exchange quotas are allotted in Uruguay to individual countries, the amount depending on respective Uruguayan exports. In Brazil, import control has not been stringent on account of an ample supply of foreign exchange. Mexico and Peru have not adopted any exchange-control measures.