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TREATY SERIES No. 53 (1925)

NOTES

EXCHANGED BETWEEN THE

UNITED KINGDOM AND BULGARIA

PROVIDING FOR THE

Provisional Regulation of Commercial Relations
between the two Countries

Sofia, November 12, 1925

PRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS TO PARLIAMENT BY COMMAND OF HIS MAJESTY

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**Notes exchanged between the United Kingdom and
Bulgaria providing for the Provisional Regulation of
Commercial Relations between the two Countries.**

Sofia, November 12, 1925.

No. 1.

*His Britannic Majesty's Minister at Sofia to the Bulgarian
Minister for Foreign Affairs.*

*British Legation, Sofia,
November 12, 1925.*

M. le Ministre,

It being the desire of our respective Governments to make provision for the commercial relations between His Britannic Majesty's territories and Bulgaria, pending the conclusion of a treaty of commerce and navigation, I have the honour to inform you that my Government is prepared to undertake on condition of reciprocity that Bulgarian subjects, and goods the produce or manufacture of Bulgaria, shall enjoy in the territories of His Britannic Majesty treatment which, subject to the special reservations referred to in paragraph 5 of this Note, shall be at least as favourable in all respects as that accorded to the nationals of, and goods the produce or manufacture of, the most-favoured foreign country. This treatment shall be accorded in all matters of commerce and navigation and as regards importation, exportation and transit, and in general in all that concerns customs duties and formalities and commercial operations, the establishment of Bulgarian subjects in the territories of His Britannic Majesty, the exercise of commerce, industries and professions and the payment of taxes.

2. Bulgarian vessels shall enjoy in the ports, rivers and territorial waters of the territories of His Britannic Majesty treatment not less favourable than that accorded to British vessels or the vessels of the most-favoured foreign country, subject, however, to the right of His Britannic Majesty's Government to reserve the coasting and internal trade to British vessels.

3. His Britannic Majesty's Government further undertake on condition of reciprocity to accord freedom of transit to persons, goods, vessels, carriages, wagons and mails in transit to or from Bulgaria over British territory, including territorial waters, and to treat them at least as favourably as British persons, goods, vessels, carriages, wagons and mails respectively, or those of any other more favoured nationality, origin, importation or ownership as regards facilities, charges, restrictions and all other matters.

4. The foregoing stipulations will not be applicable to India or to any of His Britannic Majesty's self-governing Dominions, Colonies, Possessions or Protectorates, or to any territory in respect of which a mandate on behalf of the League of Nations has been accepted by His Britannic Majesty, unless notice of accession to this arrangement shall have been given on behalf of India or any such Dominion,

Colony, Possession, Protectorate or Mandated Territory by His Britannic Majesty's representative at Sofia. Nevertheless, goods the produce or manufacture of India or of any of His Britannic Majesty's self-governing Dominions, Colonies, Possessions and Protectorates, or of any territory in respect of which a mandate on behalf of the League of Nations has been accepted by His Britannic Majesty, will enjoy in Bulgaria complete and unconditional most-favoured-nation treatment so long as India or such self-governing Dominion, Colony, Possession, Protectorate or Mandated Territory accords to goods the produce or manufacture of Bulgaria treatment as favourable as that accorded to goods produced or manufactured in any other foreign country.

5. It is understood that nothing in this Agreement shall be held to confer any right or impose any obligation upon either party which might be in conflict with any general international convention to which the Bulgarian or His Britannic Majesty's Government is, or hereafter may be, a party.

6. Effect will be given immediately to the undertaking contained in this Note, and will continue to be so given until the conclusion of a definitive Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the two countries, subject, however, to the right of either party at any time to give notice to the other to terminate the arrangement, which shall then remain in force until the expiration of three months from the date on which such notice is given.

As regards India and the British self-governing Dominions, Colonies, Possessions, Protectorates and Mandated Territories which may have acceded to this arrangement in virtue of the provisions of paragraph 4, it may be terminated separately at any time on three months' notice to that effect being given either by or to His Britannic Majesty's representative at Sofia.

I avail, &c.
WILLIAM ERSKINE.

No. 2.

The Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs to His Britannic Majesty's Minister at Sofia.

Sir, *Sofia, November 12, 1925.*

IT being the desire of our respective Governments to make provision for the commercial relations between Bulgaria and His Britannic Majesty's territories, pending the conclusion of a treaty of commerce and navigation, I have the honour to inform you that my Government is prepared to undertake on condition of reciprocity that British subjects and goods the produce or manufacture of the territories of His Britannic Majesty shall enjoy in Bulgaria treatment which, subject to the special reservations referred to in paragraph 5 of this Note, shall be at least as favourable in all respects as that accorded to the nationals of, and goods the produce or manufacture of, the most favoured foreign country. This treatment shall be accorded in all matters of commerce and navigation and as regards importation, exportation and transit, and in general in all that concerns customs duties and formalities and commercial operations, the estab-

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lishment of British subjects in Bulgaria, the exercise of commerce, industries and professions and the payment of taxes.

2. British vessels shall enjoy in the ports, rivers and territorial waters of Bulgaria treatment not less favourable than that accorded to Bulgarian vessels or the vessels of the most favoured foreign country, subject, however, to the right of the Bulgarian Government to reserve the coasting and internal trade to Bulgarian vessels.

3. The Bulgarian Government further undertake on condition of reciprocity to accord freedom of transit to persons, goods, vessels, carriages, wagons and mails in transit to or from the territories of His Britannic Majesty over Bulgarian territory, including territorial waters, and to treat them at least as favourably as Bulgarian persons, goods, vessels, carriages, wagons and mails respectively, or those of any other more favoured nationality, origin, importation or ownership as regards facilities, charges, restrictions and all other matters.

4. The foregoing stipulations will not be applicable to India or to any of His Britannic Majesty's self-governing Dominions, Colonies, Possessions or Protectorates, or to any territory in respect of which a mandate on behalf of the League of Nations has been accepted by His Britannic Majesty, unless notice of accession to this arrangement shall have been given on behalf of India or any such Dominion, Colony, Possession, Protectorate or Mandated Territory by His Britannic Majesty's representative at Sofia. Nevertheless, goods the produce or manufacture of India or any of His Britannic Majesty's self-governing Dominions, Colonies, Possessions and Protectorates, or of any territory in respect of which a mandate on behalf of the League of Nations has been accepted by His Britannic Majesty, will enjoy in Bulgaria complete and unconditional most-favoured-nation treatment so long as India or such self-governing Dominion, Colony, Possession, Protectorate or Mandated Territory accords to goods the produce or manufacture of Bulgaria treatment as favourable as that accorded to goods produced or manufactured in any other foreign country.

5. It is understood that nothing in this agreement shall be held to confer any right or impose any obligation upon either party which might be in conflict with any general international convention to which the Bulgarian or His Britannic Majesty's Government is, or hereafter may be, a party.

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As regards India and the British self-governing Dominions, Colonies, Possessions, Protectorates and Mandated Territories which may have acceded to this arrangement in virtue of the provisions of paragraph 4, it may be terminated separately at any time on three months' notice to that effect being given either by or to His Britannic Majesty's representative at Sofia.

I avail, &c.

CH. KALFOFF.