



Treaty Series No. 13 (1934)

Exchange of Notes

between His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom
and the French Government
respecting

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS

London, May 8, 1934

*Presented by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs
to Parliament by Command of His Majesty*

LONDON

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EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT
IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT
RESPECTING COMMERCIAL RELATIONS.

London, May 8, 1934.

No. 1.

Sir John Simon to M. Corbin.

Your Excellency,

Foreign Office, May 8, 1934.

WITH reference to your Excellency's note of the 11th February last, in which on behalf of the Government of the French Republic you gave notice of termination in respect of the Convention of Commerce and Navigation signed at Paris on the 28th February, 1882, and of the convention signed at London on the 26th January, 1826, which notices take effect on the 12th May, 1934, I have the honour to inform you that with a view to avoid the position which would arise if these conventions lapsed before the completion of the negotiations for the conclusion of a new commercial treaty, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland propose that the operation of the convention of the 28th February, 1882, should be prolonged temporarily—subject to certain conditions.

2. I have accordingly the honour to propose to you that, pending the conclusion and coming into force of a regular commercial treaty, the Commercial Convention of the 28th February, 1882, shall, notwithstanding the notice of termination already given, continue in operation, except as regards articles 7, 8 and 9, which shall be allowed to lapse on the 12th May, and subject to the understanding that nothing in the convention shall be invoked by either Government in the matter of quantitative restrictions on the importation of goods from one country into the other, nor in that of the method of application of these restrictions.

3. I request that you will inform me whether the Government of the French Republic are willing to accept this proposal, in which case the present note and your reply will be regarded as constituting an agreement to the above effect, which shall terminate fourteen days after the receipt of notice to this effect given on behalf of either Government.

I have, &c.
JOHN SIMON.

No. 2.

M. Corbin to Sir John Simon.

Ambassade de France,

M. le Secrétaire d'État, *Londres, le 8 mai 1934.*

A LA suite de la décision prise par mon Gouvernement de dénoncer, à partir du 12 mai 1934, la Convention de Commerce et de Navigation signée à Paris le 28 février 1882, ainsi que l'Accord signé à Londres le 26 janvier 1826, votre Excellence a bien voulu proposer, par sa lettre du 8 de ce mois, de maintenir provisoirement en vigueur jusqu'à la conclusion d'un nouvel accord commercial les dispositions de la convention du 28 février 1882 aux conditions suivantes : les articles 7, 8 et 9 de la convention de 1882 deviendront caducs à partir du 12 mai et les deux parties renonceront à se prévaloir des dispositions de cette convention pour s'élever contre toutes restrictions quantitatives d'importations d'un pays dans l'autre, de même que contre toute procédure afférente à l'application de ces restrictions.

J'ai l'honneur de faire savoir à votre Excellence que le Gouvernement de la République accueille volontiers cette proposition et qu'il maintiendra provisoirement en vigueur, aux conditions indiquées et en attendant la conclusion d'un accord d'établissement commercial définitif, les dispositions de la convention de 1882.

La lettre de votre Excellence en date de ce jour et la présente réponse seront considérées comme constituant un accord des deux Gouvernements à cet effet, accord qui prendra fin quatorze jours après sa dénonciation par l'un ou l'autre des Gouvernements intéressés.

Veuillez agréer, &c.

A. C. CORBIN.

(Translation.)

French Embassy,

M. le Secrétaire d'État, *London, May 8, 1934.*

FOLLOWING the decision taken by my Government to denounce as from the 12th May, 1934, the Convention of Commerce and Navigation signed at Paris on the 28th February, 1882, as well as the agreement signed at London on the 26th January, 1826, your Excellency has been so good as to propose, in your note of the 8th instant, that pending the conclusion of a new commercial agreement the provisions of the convention of the 28th February, 1882, shall remain provisionally in force on the following conditions : Articles 7, 8 and 9 of the convention of 1882 shall lapse as from the 12th May, and the two parties shall undertake not to invoke the provisions of that convention against any quantitative restrictions on imports from one country into the other or against the method of application of these restrictions.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the Government of the Republic welcome this proposal, and that they will maintain provisionally in force the terms of the 1882 Convention, on the conditions stated and pending the conclusion of a definitive commercial agreement.

Your Excellency's note of to-day and this reply shall be considered as constituting an agreement to this effect between the two Governments, which agreement shall terminate fourteen days after denunciation by one or other of the Governments concerned.

I have, &c.

A. C. CORBIN.