

TREATY SERIES No. 9 (1922).

AGREEMENT

BETWEEN THE

BRITISH AND LITHUANIAN GOVERNMENTS

RESPECTING

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS.

Signed May 6, 1922.

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.



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1922

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Agreement between the British and Lithuanian Governments respecting Commercial Relations.

Signed May 6, 1922.

No. 1.

Mr. Wilton to Lithuanian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Sir,

Riga, May 6, 1922.

It being the desire of our respective Governments to establish close commercial relations between the United Kingdom and Lithuania, I have the honour to inform you that my Government is prepared to undertake, on condition of reciprocity, that Lithuanian nationals and goods the produce or manufacture of Lithuania shall enjoy in the United Kingdom 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 Lithuanian citizens in the United Kingdom, the exercise of commerce, industries and professions, and the payment of taxes.

2. Lithuanian vessels shall enjoy in the ports, rivers and territorial waters of the United Kingdom 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 trade to British vessels.

3. His Britannic Majesty's Government further undertakes, on condition of reciprocity, to accord freedom of transit to persons, goods, vessels, carriages, wagons and mails in transit to or from Lithuania over the United Kingdom, 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 dominions, colonies, possessions or protectorates beyond the seas, unless notice of accession to this arrangement shall have been given on behalf of India or any such dominion, colony, possession or protectorate by His Britannic Majesty's representative in the Baltic States before the expiration of twelve months from this date. Nevertheless goods the produce or manufacture of India or of any of His Britannic Majesty's dominions, colonies, possessions and protectorates will enjoy in Lithuania

complete and unconditional most-favoured-nation treatment, so long as India or such dominion, colony, possession or protectorate accords to goods the produce or manufacture of Lithuania treatment as favourable as that accorded to the produce of the soil or industry of 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 Lithuanian 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 dominions, colonies, possessions and protectorates which may have acceded to this arrangement in virtue of the provisions of paragraph 4, either of our respective Governments shall have the right to terminate it separately on giving three months' notice to that effect.

I have, &c.

E. C. WILTON,

British Commissioner for Lithuania.

No. 2.

Lithuanian Minister for Foreign Affairs to Mr. Wilton,

Sir,

Kovno, May 6, 1922.

It being the desire of our respective Governments to establish close commercial relations between Lithuania and the United Kingdom, 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 United Kingdom shall enjoy in Lithuania 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 British subjects in Lithuania, 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 Lithuania treatment not less favourable than that accorded to Lithuanian vessels or the vessels of the most favoured foreign country, subject, however, to the right of the Lithuanian Government to reserve the coasting and internal trade to Lithuanian vessels

3. The Lithuanian Government further undertakes, on condition of reciprocity, to accord freedom of transit to persons, goods, vessels, carriages, wagons and mails in transit to or from the United Kingdom over Lithuanian territory, including territorial waters, and to treat them at least as favourably as Lithuanian 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 dominions, colonies, possessions or protectorates beyond the seas, unless notice of accession to this arrangement shall have been given on behalf of India or any such dominion, colony, possession or protectorate by His Britannic Majesty's representative in the Baltic States before the expiration of twelve months from this date. Nevertheless, goods the produce or manufacture of India or of any of His Britannic Majesty's dominions, colonies, possessions and protectorates will enjoy in Lithuania complete and unconditional most-favoured-nation treatment, so long as India or such dominion, colony, possession or protectorate accords to goods the produce or manufacture of Lithuania treatment as favourable as that accorded to the produce of the soil or industry of 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 Lithuanian or His Britannic Majesty's Government is, or hereafter may be, a party.

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As regards India and the British dominions, colonies, possessions and protectorates which may have acceded to this arrangement in virtue of the provisions of paragraph 4, either of our respective Governments shall have the right to terminate it separately on giving three months' notice to that effect.

I have, &c.

V. JURGUTIS.