

tinplate, paper and paper products (including newsprint), cement, concrete reinforcing rods, and wheat flour. Including other import commodities which are not reserved for them, it is estimated that state enterprises handle as much as 80 percent of the total import trade.

Ireland

Approximately 90 percent of Ireland's dollar imports is now free of import restrictions. An extensive list of raw materials and foodstuffs comprising a large percentage of Irish imports may be imported freely from the dollar area and all other areas without regard to exchange control restrictions. All other dollar goods may be imported up to a limit in value of \$14,000 for any one item in any 12-month period. Exchange permits are generally issued freely for goods in excess of this amount when such products are not available from domestic sources. About 16 industrial items require licensing, including electric light bulbs, motorcars, trucks, tires and tubes, and wearing apparel. Most grains and flours are also under licensing control. Many meat and poultry products may not be imported for hygienic reasons. There is no import discrimination except in the case of apples, tomatoes, seed wheat, and private motor cars of a cost, insurance, and freight value of not less than £1,300. The United Kingdom receives preferential treatment with respect to apples, tomatoes, and seed wheat. Imports of large motorcars are admitted free of quantitative restrictions from the United Kingdom and Canada, but are subject to global quotas when imported from other countries.

Israel

Israel requires an import license for all imports. The license is automatically granted for an estimated 60 percent of Israel's total imports, while the remaining 40 percent are licensed at the discretion of the licensing authorities based on such factors as the needs of importers, prices and quality, availability from local or alternative sources. Part of Israel's imports are linked to bilateral arrangements, which are restrictive with respect to specific imports such as sugar and certain types of lumber and wood.

Israeli restrictions on imports were eased in 1961 to free certain imports from quantitative limitations, including tobacco pipes, electric dishwashers and driers, and wax paper, but heavy levies have been imposed on these items to discourage imports. Also, quota limitations were removed from books, periodicals, and newspapers, but importers must finance these imports with freely acquired currency at a higher rate of exchange than the official rate.

The recent trend in Israel's import restrictions is toward higher purchase taxes, and surcharges rather than licensing controls. In some cases Israel has fostered domestic industry adjusting tariff rates commensurate with the domestic industry's ability to produce for local consumption. Most of Israel's restrictive trade measures have an across-the-board effect and do not discriminate against the United States.

Italy

Italy is no longer entitled under the rules of GATT and the IMF to apply import restrictions for balance-of-payments reasons and has made considerable progress in dismantling remaining controls.

At present, Italy maintains five separate systems of import restrictions: table A, applicable to dollar-area countries, including the United States; table B, applicable to former OEEC countries and a number of other countries; table C, applicable to the Sino-Soviet bloc and a few other countries; an individual list for Japan; and an individual list for Yugoslavia.

At the start of 1961, only 264 of the 6,785 statistical classifications in the Italian tariff remained under licensing restriction to the dollar area. In June, a liberalization move was made, mainly in agriculture products, reducing this number to 209. Thus, the percentage of classifications free from control is close to 97 percent at the present time.

Of these 209 classifications still restricted to the United States, almost half are agricultural products, including poultry, dairy products, honey, raisins, cereals and flour, lard, linseed and soya oil, sugar, vegetable juices, and some fruit