

N° 211.

ALLEMAGNE ET FRANCE

Protocole déterminant les modalités
d'application de l'article 68 du
Traité de Versailles, signé à
Baden-Baden, le 17 novembre
1920.

GERMANY AND FRANCE

Protocol fixing the Methods of Ap-
plication of Article 68 of the
Treaty of Versailles, signed at
Baden-Baden, November 17, 1920.

¹ TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.No. 211. — PROTOCOL² FIXING THE METHODS OF APPLICATION OF ARTICLE 68 OF THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES, SIGNED AT BADEN-BADEN NOVEMBER 17, 1920.

French official text communicated by the German Minister for Foreign Affairs and the "Service français de la Société des Nations." The registration of this Protocol took place on January 9, 1922.

PROTOCOL³.

THE FRENCH AND GERMAN DELEGATES, who were entrusted by their respective Governments with the duty of determining the method of applying Article 68 of the Treaty of Versailles, assembled at Baden-Baden on November 16-17, 1920.

Before the negotiations commenced, the German delegation made the following declaration :

" So far as concerns goods originating in, or coming from, Alsace-Lorraine, which are, by virtue of Article 68 of the Treaty of Peace, exempt from customs duties, the German Government declares itself ready to grant import licenses for all categories of goods the import of which into Germany is prohibited."

The French delegates, for their part, made the following declaration :

" The purpose of the following Convention, which is rendered necessary by the application of Article 68 of the Treaty of Versailles, is to adapt, as far as possible, the provisions of the above-mentioned Article to the domestic regulations at present in force in Germany."

The two delegations then agreed to submit to their Government the Draft Convention which follows :

The French and German Governments have agreed to divide into two categories such goods originating in, or coming from, Alsace-Lorraine as are to be allowed to enter Germany free from all customs dues and as are declared in conformity with the provisions of Article 68 of the Treaty of Versailles, of the French Decree dated January 10, 1920, or of the subsequent Decrees which the French Government has already taken, or will take, in regard to this matter :

- (a) Goods the import of which into Germany is permitted.
- (b) Goods the import of which into Germany is prohibited.

Goods belonging to category (a) shall be admitted into Germany, exempt from all customs dues, upon the mere production of the blue certificate of origin of the pattern attached to the French Decree mentioned above.

Goods belonging to category (b) shall enter into Germany, exempt from all customs dues, upon the presentation of a blue certificate of origin viséd on the back by the German bureau at Kehl.

¹ Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations.

¹ Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations.

² See Volume I, No. 4, page 383 and following of this « Series ».
See also foot-note Vol. II page 60 of this « Series ».

³ This protocol which was approved by the French Government on December 29, 1920, and by the German Government on January 1, 1921, came into force on January 11, 1921.

It is understood that goods originating in, and coming from, Alsace-Lorraine shall in no case be subjected to less favourable treatment than foreign goods originating in other countries or regions.

The bureau at Kehl shall regularly inform the French organisation from which it received the blue certificates and the accompanying vouchers of any modifications which may be made in the classification of goods in categories (a) and (b), so that this organisation shall always have at its disposal a complete list of all goods comprised under these headings.

The visas provided for the goods included in category (b) shall be granted as a matter of routine, and free of cost, at 48 hours' notice. The visas shall be valid for three months, and shall hold good if the goods have passed the German frontier before the expiration of this period.

The visa for the admission into Germany of certain categories of goods to which the present Protocol refers may be refused :

(a) On account of epidemics of epizootic diseases, or contagious diseases of plants, whenever and for as long as such epidemics shall be notified by the competent French authorities.

(b) The French Government shall invite producers and traders of Alsace-Lorraine to offer to the competent German organisations, at an equitable price, the goods which they wish to sell in Germany whenever these goods are the subject of a State monopoly in that country, or whenever their sale is placed under central control by a Government decision. A list of goods at present subject to this special régime is annexed to this Convention. For its part, the German Government shall invite the aforementioned organisations to give serious consideration to these offers and to accept them if the prices demanded are at the normal rates. In case of refusal, the German institutions shall in every case give reasons for their refusal. Disputes as to whether such decisions are justified shall be submitted for consideration to two representatives of the competent French and German administrations. If these bodies cannot agree, the divergencies of opinion which have arisen shall be the subject of discussion between their Governments.

The present Agreement shall come into force on January 11, 1921, for a period of one year. It shall be prolonged automatically without formal renewal for further periods of one year until January 10, 1925, unless it shall have been denounced by one of the contracting Governments before October 10 of the preceding year.

This Agreement shall be submitted for the approval of the two Governments.

Pending this approval, it is agreed that the Agreement concluded at Baden-Baden on May 19, 1920, shall remain in force until January 10, 1921.

Baden-Baden, November 17, 1920.

(Signed) VITROLLES.

(Signed) PRINZ v. HATZFELDT TRACHENBERG.