

THE OPEN DOOR AND
THE MANDATES SYSTEM

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A Study of Economic Equality before
and since the establishment of
the Mandates System

BY

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AND
C . J . G .

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AUTHOR'S PREFACE

THIS book is an attempt to trace the evolution of the principle of economic equality—commonly called the Open Door—with special reference to its applications to dependencies. It is an historical and descriptive account, based on a broad comparison between the old method and the new, now made possible by the administrative machinery established in the last decade at Geneva.

The Open Door, in American minds at least, recalls, first of all, the Hay doctrine as applied to China. This treatise, however, examines the subject only as it relates to dependencies, colonies or protectorates on the one hand, and mandated territories on the other. It has not seemed advisable to consider in this treatise its special application to China.

Colonial history has been referred to only to the extent necessary to furnish an idea from whence the newer doctrine has sprung. The Mandates System, which has introduced a new method in Open Door administration, is examined rather less as a legal instrument than as a practical device for giving effect to an economic principle in particular situations.

The juridical aspects of this system have received in recent years more attention from scholars than any other. While this phase of the problem is fundamental to any study of the system, it appears that the experience of the Mandates Commission has now covered a sufficient period to enable researches to be made on particular developments in its work, of which Open Door policy and procedure is one of the most important. In this respect new methods of control are being evolved which give to old economic problems a somewhat new character. The precedents established in mandatory administration and supervision of backward territories are creating a new body of "international mandatory law" which can only be more fully examined in the future. This treatise attempts merely to note the beginnings of this development.

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CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
AUTHOR'S PREFACE	5
FOREWORD BY WILLIAM E. RAPPARD	10
I. COLONIAL TARIFF POLICIES PRIOR TO THE BERLIN ACT OF 1885	15
Statement of the problem—Exclusion policies of early trade relations—Colonial rivalry left England in control—Absolute prohibitions relaxed by commercial treaties—Differential tariffs modified by free trade movement—Free trade and anti-colonialism urged by Cobden—France regains a second colonial empire—French assimilation policy relaxed in favour of moderate preferences—Return to assimilation after 1873—Dutch colonial empire and her preferential policy—Assimilation policy of Portugal—Spain loses most of her empire and assimilates the remainder—Britain first to adopt Open Door policy.	
II. THE OPEN DOOR UNDER NEO-MERCANTILISM FROM 1880 TO THE PEACE CONFERENCE: THE CONGO FREE-STATE	31
Causes and results of neo-mercantilism—Decline of liberal colonial trade policies—Revival of colonialism and the partition of Africa—Steps leading to the Congo Free-State—The Berlin Act of 1885—The Open Door applies to Central Africa—The nullification of the Open Door provisions of the Berlin Act—Closed Door protested—Leopoldian regime ends with formation of Belgian Congo in 1908—The Open Door in the Belgian Congo.	
III. THE OPEN DOOR UNDER NEO-MERCANTILISM FROM 1880 TO THE PEACE CONFERENCE (<i>continued</i>): GERMANY; THE BRITISH EMPIRE	54
Beginning of German colonial movement—Acquisition of colonies after 1884 in protest to the Closed Door—Diplomatic guardianship fails to work—The pressure of population—The adoption of the Open Door policy in the colonies—The German Open Door	

THE OPEN DOOR AND THE MANDATES SYSTEM

CHAPTER

PAGE

policy in practice—No evidence of violations—Re-appearance of protection and preferences within the British Empire—Canada adopts preferences in 1897—Other Dominions follow—The argument for preferences in Britain—War policy—Britain adopts preferences in 1919—The Peace Conference considers Open Door policy at the same time—Summary.

✓ IV. THE OPEN DOOR AT THE PEACE CONFERENCE

85

Wilson's Fifth Point—The Smuts plan and the introduction of the mandates idea—Open Door urged by Wilson—Allies all in weak position to urge the Open Door—The contentions of the British Dominions—The Allied secret agreements—The Compromise resolution of Lloyd George—The understanding about mandates—Exploitation overshadows "sacred trust"—Japan and Belgium want the Open Door—Article 22 adopted and the three classes of mandates accepted—Wilson wins on the mandate principle but compromises on the Open Door.

V. IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 22: THE MACHINERY AND FUNCTIONING OF THE MANDATES SYSTEM

106

The territories mandated—Selecting the mandatories—Drafting the mandates—Terms of the mandates—Variations in Open Door obligations—The Permanent Mandates Commission—Constitution of the Commission—The expert and non-national character of the Commission—The addition of a German member—The procedure followed in its meetings—The Questionnaire—Difficulties in petitions—Inquiries on the spot—Effectiveness of the Commission—Relation to Council and Assembly.

VI. THE UNITED STATES, THE OPEN DOOR, AND THE MANDATES SYSTEM

131

The State Department and the Open Door—The rights of the United States in regard to mandated territories—The separate treaties with the Mandatories—The doubtful validity of the "C" mandates—The Colby-Curzon correspondence—The San Remo Petroleum agreement vexes the United States—The Oil

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER		PAGE
	Companies themselves reach an agreement—The formation of the Turkish Petroleum Company—Influence of oil at Lausanne Conference of 1922—Mosul the prize in high politics—The oil war gives way to an oil peace pact—The oil consortium as a practical Open Door policy.	
VII.	THE MANDATES SYSTEM IN PRACTICE IN RESPECT OF THE OPEN DOOR: CUSTOMS, LOANS	154
	Economic Equality as understood by the Mandates Commission—Developing a new code of mandatory law—Types of Open Door questions coming before the Commission—Customs and the Open Door—The formation of Customs Unions—Troublesome customs formalities protested by Commission—Evident discrimination noted in Syria—Loans to mandated territories—Hesitation due to uncertain status—Annexation opposed vigorously by the Commission—Taking security or mortgage on public works—Investments in mandated territories as secure as elsewhere—The purchase clause condition on loans or guarantees—The East Africa loan—Exceptions clause in the "B" mandates—Progress made by the Commission in respect to loans.	
VIII.	THE MANDATES SYSTEM IN PRACTICE IN RESPECT OF THE OPEN DOOR: POSTAL RATES; CONCESSIONS	178
	Differential postal rates and economic equality—Difference of opinion in the Commission—Information sought from Mandatories—Principle involved is of importance—Variations in terms of mandates on concessions—Inherent difficulties in administering the Open Door on concessions—Exceptions clause again—Forestry concessions—Dead Sea salts concession—Extension of the Anglo-Persian Oil concession—Commission seems cautious in dealing with concessions.	
IX.	CONCLUSION	193
	BIBLIOGRAPHY	200
	APPENDICES	207
	INDEX	233
		9