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**REGULATION OF IMPORTS
BY EXECUTIVE ACTION**

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES



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UNITED STATES TARIFF COM

REGULATION OF IMPORTS
BY EXECUTIVE ACTION IN COUNTRIES
WITH INDEPENDENT TARIFF
JURISDICTION

With particular reference to developments between
the two World Wars

UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 338
TITLE III, PART II, TARIFF ACT OF 1930

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES



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WASHINGTON, D. C.

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In the preparation of this report the Commission had the services of Harold Van V. Fay, Robert H. Vorfeld, and others of the Commission's staff.

FOREWORD

This report is concerned with countries which have, or had until recent years, the power to fix and alter their import tariffs independently. It is essentially a revised edition of the Tariff Commission's studies issued from time to time under the title "Regulation of Tariffs in Foreign Countries by Administrative Action," the last of which showed the situation as of July 1, 1934. The inclusion of a section on the United States and of summaries on nontariff import restrictions in all countries makes it appropriate to issue this report under a broader title.

The present European war has already brought about in many countries an extraordinary increase in executive tariff powers, and in a number of countries the loss of independent tariff jurisdiction. But the purpose of this report is to show the extent to which countries with independent tariff jurisdiction resorted to executive control of import duties in the period between the two world wars, rather than to describe the situation in 1940. However, most changes in independent countries from August 1939 through 1940 are described, but no attempt is made to follow developments in occupied countries after they lost their independent tariff jurisdiction.

In general this report deals only with the more important powers, not with action taken under them or with detailed powers referring to individual commodities. It is, therefore, not a guide for exporters. The treatment of nontariff import controls is very cursory, and the broad question of punitive measures is entirely omitted.

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