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Letter From Francis Mairs Huntington-Wilson to Jonkheer J. Loudon, May 28, 1909

Francis Mairs Huntington-Wilson

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Personal.

May 28, 1909.

Dear Mr. Minister:

At the moment I was going to write you your note was placed in my hands.

After our conversation yesterday I happened to catch the Secretary for a few moments before he took his train. After telling him what you had said it became quite plain that the attitude I had taken on the subject of the agreements was entirely coincident with his own. He said that in his previous conversation with you he had been alluding to the original Payne draft bill, but had no idea of conveying to you any impression of an expression of opinion by him that the thirtieth of April, 1910, was fixed as the ultimate date of termination of the commercial agreement with your country.

Your note contains one hypothetical question which it is easy to answer in the affirmative - i.e., if the law provides for termination April 30th, then that will be the date. However, until final action by Congress upon the new tariff and customs administrative laws this Department cannot venture to add

anything to the statements made in the letter of April 30th wherein you were given formal notice of the intention to terminate the agreement and wherein it was added that further communication would be made as soon as practicable. Such further communication not being yet practicable I am sorry to find myself unable to give you any definite or helpful suggestions.

With many kind regards, I remain, my dear Mr.

Londen,

Very sincerely yours,

Martinus J. Londen

Jenkleer J. Londen,

etc., etc., etc.,

Legation of The Netherlands,