MARKS OF ORIGIN

First Report
of Changes in Legislation, Rules and Regulations
under the Recommendation of 21 November 1958

The Recommendation on marks of origin adopted by the CONTRACTING PARTIES on 21 November 1958 (Basic Instruments and Selected Documents, Seventh Supplement, pp. 30 and 117, and GATT publication of January 1959) requests trading nations to conform in their application of marking requirements to the various standard rules laid down in that recommendation. Contracting parties are invited by the recommendation to report all changes in their legislation, rules and regulations concerning marks of origin not later than 1 September of each year. The following notifications have been received from governments concerning the changes which have occurred before 1 September 1959.

Finland introduced by decree of 28 June 1958 new provisions; the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland brought into effect the Merchandise Marks Amendment Act 1959 on 14 August 1959, and Sweden notified the abolition of the Royal Decree of 15 December 1933. The relevant extracts of the provisions or notifications transmitted have been published in addenda 17, 18 and 19 of document L/478 respectively, thus bringing up to date the information concerning the provisions applied by contracting parties regarding the requirements of marks of origin. Attention is drawn to an index by countries of the provisions, etc., reproduced in document L/478, which has been prepared for the convenience of the reader and which has been added to addendum 19 of this document.

Czechoslovakia, France and the United States reported that no changes occurred compared with the situation described in the relevant addenda to L/478.

Denmark, stating also that no change occurred, mentioned however that a committee of exports was established, which during its considerations will inter alia review the prevailing provisions concerning marks of origin in the light of the recommendation of the contracting parties.
The United Kingdom, which too confirmed that no changes occurred in the basic provisions, advised that several Orders in Council have been made under Section 2 of the Merchandise Marks Act 1926. These Orders affect the application of marking requirements relating to pottery, wire goods, tiles and bricks, garments of woven cloth, and oil burning appliances.¹

¹ Copies of these Orders are on file at the GATT secretariat.