

if not the whole of it, is of a type easily identified as for the use of amateurs only. It could not and would not be used for commercial purposes. Commercial men would not attempt to bring it in and sell it for commercial use. I think that is correct. If the minister would refer the matter to the tariff board all that information could be obtained. It would not do any Canadian manufacturer any harm because the stuff is not being made in Canada, nor would it hurt the British people because they do not make that type of manufacture. If the minister would be kind enough to consider it and possibly submit it to the tariff board I think he would find that there is a good deal in the contention that I am making.

Mr. RHODES: Without going into the merits of the case presented by my hon. friend from Comox-Alberni (Mr. Neill) may I point out to him that the item to which he refers is a conference item and is included in the British agreement. That provides for an irreducible margin of protection and it would not therefore be competent to disturb the item during the life of the agreement unless it were by consent of Great Britain. So the matter cannot be inquired into by the tariff board so long as the British agreement applies.

Mr. NEILL: But it might be found on investigation that the Britisher was not selling anything anyhow, and that he would not object to a change.

Mr. RHODES: I would have no objection, I might say to my hon. friend, in fact I should be very pleased, to bring the matter to the attention of the British authorities, and if it happens that they consent to an inquiry with respect to this item, well and good.

Mr. NEILL: I would undertake perhaps to get a short brief on the subject from some of the amateur associations.

Mr. ELLIOTT: I did not catch the amount of the duty collected under the British preference on this item last year.

Mr. RHODES: For 1934 our imports from the United Kingdom totalled \$22,793.

Mr. ELLIOTT: That is the total imports?

Mr. RHODES: Total imports from the United Kingdom.

Mr. ELLIOTT: And the tax would amount to ten per cent of that?

Mr. RHODES: Yes, \$2,279.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—451, agreed to.

[Mr. Neill.]

Customs tariff—451e. Slide or hookless fasteners: British preferential tariff, 30 per cent; intermediate tariff, 37½ per cent; general tariff, 40 per cent.

Mr. RHODES: I have an amendment here, Mr. Chairman, it merely adds the words "zipper fasteners." That term has now become generic and represents a class that is recognized and well defined.

Mr. GUTHRIE: I move accordingly, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. RALSTON: This is an increase in tariff recommended by the tariff board, is it not?

Mr. RHODES: That is right.

Mr. RALSTON: And it applies to what we all know as zipper fasteners?

Mr. RHODES: Yes.

Mr. RALSTON: Which are now manufactured in Canada?

Mr. RHODES: Yes.

Mr. RALSTON: Can the minister give us an idea of the amount manufactured in Canada, in dollars?

Mr. RHODES: The figures I have are for the year 1932, but I should be glad to give the figures for subsequent years to the committee. The total value of fasteners manufactured in Canada in that year was \$483,600. Then, in addition, the manufacture of buckles amounted to \$34,000.

Mr. RALSTON: That is the item on which the ten per cent increase is made?

Mr. RHODES: And the imports for that year amounted to \$246,720.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): About one-half of the amount manufactured?

Mr. RHODES: Yes.

Mr. SANDERSON: Can the minister say where these fasteners are manufactured in Canada?

Mr. RHODES: By two firms in Montreal and one in Hamilton; I think they are incorporated companies.

Mr. RALSTON: How many people are employed?

Mr. RHODES: I have not those figures here but I shall be glad to get them for they are all in the possession of the board.

Mr. RALSTON: Would the minister get the total amount, in dollars, of the manufactures in Canada and the total amount of imports for 1933 and 1934; also the total