

The reason why grapes should not be allowed to come in at such low rates is that in California, within the past few years, production has been increased to such an extent that the Government, through the Land Board, last year prohibited the growers from allowing the surplus grapes to decay on the vines, and by legislation forced them to sell their crops in some form or other. This surplus was concentrated in grape juice, and was sold wherever it could be sold. This year the United States Government has changed its course, and instead of compelling the growers to sell their grapes it has, through the Land Board, bought thousands of acres of grapes at \$9 a ton, to be left on the vines to rot, in order that the price may be maintained. If the late Government had not changed its policy just before the present Government came into power, we should have suffered by reason of the placing upon our market of grapes that would otherwise have been burned or destroyed. That would have depressed the price of grapes in this country to such an extent that it would not have been profitable to grow them at all. So it seems to me that the ability of the Governor in Council to act promptly in an emergency is of enormous importance, and I am very glad to congratulate the Government and the fruit growers upon the effective redress that they have secured.

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: I move the third reading of this Bill, but in case some honourable members should desire to make further observations to-morrow I would suggest that the third reading be postponed until then.

Hon. Mr. BUREAU: As a matter of procedure, can there be a debate on the third reading if there is no motion to refer the Bill back to Committee with instructions to insert an amendment?

The Hon. the SPEAKER: There can be a debate on the third reading of a Bill as well as on the second reading.

Hon. Mr. BUREAU: Without an amendment?

The Hon. the SPEAKER: Without an amendment.

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: I move that the Bill be placed on the Order Paper for third reading to-morrow.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 3 p.m.

Hon. Mr. SMITH.

## THE SENATE

Friday, September 19, 1930.

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

### CUSTOMS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

#### THIRD READING

Hon. G. D. ROBERTSON moved the third reading of Bill 3, an Act to amend the Customs Act.

Hon. L. C. WEBSTER: Honourable senators, I had not intended to speak on the Bills that we are dealing with at this time, but I feel more or less compelled to offer a few remarks after listening to some of those that have been made here. The arguments that have been put forward here and in another place on the subject of free trade and protection are as old as the Laurentian Hills that look upon the city of Ottawa. My opinions have not been changed by anything that has been said during this session, and I do not expect that anything I say will change the opinions of any honourable senators. The Right Hon. Walter Runciman, who is well known here because of his standing and his views, is one of the prominent men who have been quoted with reference to the advantages of free trade, but one gentleman who seemed to be overlooked was the late Mr. Disraeli, who some time about the middle of the last century stated that protection was both dead and damned.

Right Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: That sounds emphatic.

Hon. Mr. WEBSTER: That statement of his is a matter of history. I should like to draw the attention of honourable senators to the protectionist aspect, especially in relation to conditions now existing. Evidence of one of the most surprising changes that have taken place in modern times in regard to fiscal matters was given at a session of the Trades Union Congress in London. The following statement appears in an article in the Saturday Evening Post:

For years the Trades Union Congress—it corresponds to the American Federation of Labour and is both backbone and cash register of the Labour Party—stood unalterably for the Cobden idea of free trade and especially free food imports. In June the economic committee of the general council of the congress formulated a series of resolutions in connection with the meeting of the Imperial Conference. Much