

BRITISH DUTIES ON COPPER

On the orders of the day:

Mr. CHARLES B. HOWARD (Sherbrooke): May I ask the Minister of Trade and Commerce whether in view of the action of the House of Lords in connection with the preference and the fact that one of the largest copper producing mines happens to be in his constituency, he will give that matter his personal attention?

Hon. H. H. STEVENS (Minister of Trade and Commerce): I shall be very glad to.

CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF BILL NO. 8

The house resumed from Tuesday, November 15, consideration in committee of Bill No. 8, respecting a certain trade agreement between His Majesty's government in Canada and His Majesty's government in the United Kingdom—Mr. Bennett.—Mr. Hanson (York-Sunbury) in the chair.

Customs tariff—240. Ultramarine blue, dry or in pulp; whitening or whitening; paris white and gilders' whitening; blanc fixé; satin white: British preferential tariff, free; intermediate tariff, 10 per cent; general tariff, 10 per cent.

Mr. SPENCER: We cannot hear what is taking place.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Hanson, York-Sunbury): We are on schedule E, item 240. Carried.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): The minister is ready with his figures.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Hanson, York-Sunbury): I have declared it carried. Nobody appeared to have anything to say.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): I do not believe this committee is properly constituted yet. I beg to move that the committee be empowered to revert back to the item just declared carried.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Hanson, York-Sunbury): Very well, we shall do that.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): In connection with these items I wish the minister to give information in the courteous manner he gave it yesterday.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Hanson, York-Sunbury): No member rose in his place when the item was called.

Mr. EULER: Oh well, do not be arbitrary.

Mr. LAPOINTE: Hon. members opposite are too noisy.

[Mr. Stevens.]

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Hanson, York-Sunbury): We are all too noisy.

Mr. RHODES: The imports last year were valued at \$205,000. Of that amount \$104,000 came from the United Kingdom, and \$72,000 from the United States.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—241. Litharge, other than for battery purposes: British preferential tariff, free; intermediate tariff, 15 per cent; general tariff, 15 per cent.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): I should like to have the same information in connection with this item.

Mr. DONNELLY: I cannot understand why this item appears in the schedule.

Mr. RHODES: The imports last year were valued at \$136,000. Of that amount \$64,000 worth came from the United Kingdom and \$72,000 from the United States.

Mr. YOUNG: Was there any home production?

Mr. DONNELLY: If the duty has not been changed, why does it appear in the schedule?

Mr. RHODES: Mr. Chairman, I think at times some confusion occurs, because some items appear in the votes and proceedings of October 12, which do not appear in the schedule to this bill. I believe there are some forty in number, and no doubt my hon. friend is confused.

Mr. YOUNG: Can the minister give us the figures to show Canadian production of this article?

Mr. RHODES: This is part only of a total production in Canada of red lead and litharge which amounted in all to \$623,000.

Mr. TOTZKE: Did we export any of this?

Mr. RHODES: The exports under this item are not classified, so I am sorry to say I cannot give that information.

Mr. YOUNG: This item shows an increase in the intermediate and general rates, the British preferential rate remaining as it was before. I presume this was done in the interests of some Canadian industry. What industry was it?

Mr. RHODES: No; this change was not effected at the request of a Canadian industry. It was requested by Great Britain, and was one of the terms to which we agree in the exchange of agreements.

Item agreed to.