

British interests benefiting from the preference, His Majesty's government is unreservedly concurring in their return to the free list.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—208v. Butyl alcohol, until October 15, 1934: British preferential tariff, free; intermediate tariff, free; general tariff, free.

Mr. RHODES: This is a new item and it is being placed on the free list. It was previously dutiable at free, 25 and 25. This is a conference item but Great Britain has concurred in the temporary free listing because of the fact that for five or six months in the immediate future she may have difficulty in supplying the demands of Canadian and domestic consumers.

Mr. EULER: Is it made in Canada?

Mr. RHODES: No.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—208w. Theobromine, crude, and dimethyl, sulphate: British preferential tariff, free; intermediate tariff, free; general tariff, free.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—210d. Sodium, sulphate of, crude, or salt cake, per pound: British preferential tariff, $\frac{1}{2}$ cent; intermediate tariff, $\frac{3}{8}$ cent; general tariff $\frac{3}{8}$ cent.

Mr. RALSTON: Has some body of manufacturers or producers made representations with regard to the large number of chemical items; who initiated these changes, generally speaking?

Mr. RHODES: My hon. friend is not referring to this item alone?

Mr. RALSTON: No.

Mr. RHODES: Representations have been received from fifteen or twenty large consumers of these commodities throughout Canada. I have not the individual names before me.

Mr. RALSTON: It was not an association of some sort?

Mr. RHODES: No, they were individuals.

Mr. BOTHWELL: What is the reason for the reduction in this particular item? Has this matter been before the tariff board?

Mr. RHODES: This change arises in consequence of a report of the tariff board which was tabled in the house some considerable time ago.

Mr. BOTHWELL: I have been asked to make a protest on this item and I shall give it to the minister in the words in which it was

passed on to me. This letter was written from Moose Jaw and it has reference to the Natural Sodium Products Company at Dunkirk. The author of the letter is interested in this company and he says:

The company with which I am connected, the Natural Sodium Products, and which operates a plant near Dunkirk, south of Moose Jaw, carried on for many years and spent some hundreds of thousands of dollars before it got on a basis of profitable operation. At present the business is doing very well, and is giving employment to a lot of people in an area where employment is very much needed.

And again:

It seems to me that if there is an industry in Canada that deserves the benefit of a tariff, it is this industry. It is only just nicely getting on its feet, and the freight rate is a great handicap to it. The purchase of the commodity by the Canadian manufacturers of paper in Canada means not only business for these small industries in the west, the development of the resource, but it means business for the Canadian railways, and one would gather that the railways are in need of all the business they can get, and surely if we are to have a tariff, this industry is deserving of the benefit of that tariff. As I have said, it is possibly the only industry of any account in Saskatchewan that derives any benefit from it, and one would think under the conditions that prevail, that industry in this province would get fair treatment and not be singled out to be discriminated against in Canada's tariff policy.

And again:

I can assure you it is being carried on on a very small margin at the present time; in view of the freight rate, a very small reduction in the protection afforded to it is simply going to necessitate the closing down of these plants in Saskatchewan, or the weaker of them in any event.

I do not know whether these protests have been made to the minister, but if they have not been made to him I assume they have been made to the tariff board. I think it would be enlightening if the minister could give us the information which was given to the tariff board in connection with this item.

Mr. RHODES: The company referred to by my hon. friend was represented at the hearing before the tariff board and made very complete representations. As to his inquiry as to whether protests have been made to me, I may say that none have been received. He will bear in mind that if protests should be made, they would be made as a result of the findings of the tariff board because the proposals we now make are in exact conformity with those findings. These findings are as follows:

The Bathurst Pulp and Paper Company, the applicant, as a consequence of being located at Tidewater, can secure its salt cake requirements