

Customs Tariff

taxation authority only in consultation with the Department of Agriculture and the growers' organizations, as to at what time or in what regions these permissive periods shall extend. They are also in the schedule, and range from six or seven weeks to twenty-six weeks. The minister decides when they shall be applied, whether they shall be split, to what regions they shall apply, or whether they shall apply at all.

Mr. Macdonnell (Greenwood): Then what is the significance of the phrase at the end of the section:

—the number of weeks in the two periods shall not exceed the number specified in that sub-item.

In other words, once he makes a decision are his hands tied? From what has been said by the hon. member for York West it would seem there should be a great deal of flexibility.

Mr. Sinclair: There is that flexibility. For example, the longest period is twenty-six weeks. That can be divided into four weeks for the hothouse period and twenty-two weeks for the field period, but the total of the two must not exceed the period specified in the schedule.

Mr. Macdonnell (Greenwood): Is that by reason of international agreement?

Mr. Sinclair: That is by reason of the Geneva agreement.

Mr. Adamson: Do the Americans grant us that same countervailing clause? Have they a flexible tariff, too?

Mr. Sinclair: The Americans have no periods, I am told, because their nation is in production the year round. They are turning to the same type of specific duties that we now have, in place of the ad valorem duties. If it is of any interest I can put on *Hansard* a table showing United States rates of duty. It is not very long.

Mr. Adamson: I think that would be helpful, because I have had many complaints that our produce has to hurdle a very considerable tariff barrier going into the United States, whereas we try to be flexible and protect both the producer and the consumer.

Mr. Sinclair: This table will serve two purposes. It will show what substantial reductions the Americans have made in the last two years as well. With the consent of the committee I would ask that this table of United States tariffs on similar fruits and vegetables might appear in the record.

The Chairman: Has the hon. gentleman leave of the committee to have this table appear in *Hansard*?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[Mr. Sinclair.]

Mr. Sinclair: The table is as follows:

Goods	United States Tariff	
	United States rate prior to January 1, 1948	United States rate since January 1, 1948
Onions, n.o.p.	2½ cts. per lb.	1½ cts. per lb.
Mushrooms	25 p.c. plus 8 cts. per lb.	25 p.c. plus 5 cts. per lb.
Asparagus	50 p.c.	25 p.c.
Green beans	2 cts. per lb.	2 cts. per lb.
Beets	10 p.c.	10 p.c.
Brussels sprouts	50 p.c.	25 p.c.
Watercress	50 p.c.	25 p.c.
Eggplant	1½ cts. per lb.	1½ cts. per lb.
Cabbage	1½ cts. per lb.	¾ ct. per lb.
Carrots	25 p.c.	12½ p.c.
Cauliflower	25 p.c.	12½ p.c.
		June 5, to Aug. 5. 25 p.c.
		Aug. 6, to June 4. ½ ct. per lb.
Celery	1 ct. per lb. 2 cts. per lb.	April 15 to July 31. 1 ct. per lb.
Cucumber	3 cts. per lb.	Aug. 1, to April 14. ½ ct. per lb.
		July 1, to Aug. 31. 3 cts. per lb.
Lettuce	2 cts. per lb.	Sept. 1, to June 30. 1 ct. per lb.
		June 1, to Oct. 31. 2 cts. per lb.
Green peas	2 cts. per lb.	Nov. 1, to May 31. 1 ct. per lb.
		July 1, to Sept. 30. 2 cts. per lb.
		Oct. 1, to June 30. 12½ p.c.
Radishes	25 p.c.	July 1, to Aug. 31. 25 p.c.
		Sept. 1, to June 30. 25 p.c.
Rhubarb	50 p.c.	1½ cts. per lb.
Spinach	3 cts. per lb.	1½ cts. per lb.
Tomatoes	1½ cts. per lb.	1½ cts. per lb.
Turnips	12½ cts. per 100 lbs.	6¼ cts. per 100 lbs.
Vegetables, n.o.p.	50 p.c.	25 p.c.
Apples	15 cts. per bushel	12½ cts. per bushel
Apricots	½ ct. per lb.	½ ct. per lb.
Blueberries, fresh	1 ct. per lb.	1 ct. per lb.
Blueberries, frozen	17½ p.c.	10 p.c.
Cantaloups	35 p.c.	25 p.c.
		Aug. 1, to Sept. 15. 35 p.c.
		Sept. 16, to July 31. ½ ct. per lb.
Cherries	1 ct. per lb.	¾ ct. per lb.
Cranberries	¾ ct. per lb.	½ ct. per lb.
Peaches	½ ct. per lb.	June 1, to Nov. 30. ¼ ct. per lb.
		Dec. 1, to May 31. ½ ct. per lb.
Pears	½ ct. per lb.	½ ct. per lb.
Plums	½ ct. per lb.	½ ct. per lb.
Prunes	½ ct. per lb.	½ ct. per lb.
Raspberries	¾ ct. per lb.	½ ct. per lb.
		July 1, to Aug. 31. ¾ ct. per lb.
		Sept. 1, to June 30. ½ ct. per lb.
Strawberries	¾ ct. per lb.	June 15, to Sept. 15. ¾ cts. per lb.
		Sept. 16, to June 14. 17½ p.c.
Fruits, n.o.p.	35 p.c.	