

had not been received from the Pig Commission and it was still uncertain whether or not this quantitative restriction would be imposed against the dominions as well as foreign countries, that we did not want to be left in an uncertain position as to the nature of the quota we might be given, especially if it were to be based upon the exports we had made to the United Kingdom during the previous few months. Therefore we felt it was an advantage to have them agree to at least a minimum quantity of bacon and hams which we could export to the United Kingdom market.

Mr. YOUNG: This is a maximum.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): A minimum.

Mr. YOUNG: No, a maximum.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): We are assured of free entry to the extent of 280,000,000 pounds per annum. The fundamental idea running through the report—I have not had time to read it carefully—is that there will be a quantitative restriction against bacon coming into the United Kingdom market from foreign countries. It is hoped that this restriction will be of such an extent as to raise prices in order to make it profitable for those engaged in the pig industry in the United Kingdom. We will have full advantage of the rise in price which it is hoped will accrue.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I think the suggestion is to raise it from 60 shillings per long hundred to 80 shillings.

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): Yes.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: That is an increase of only 25 per cent, which would be equivalent to raising the price of live hogs from three to four cents per pound. That will not be very effective.

Mr. ELLIOTT: I understood the Minister of Trade and Commerce to say that up to this maximum of 2,500,000 hundredweight, hogs from Canada would be admitted into the United Kingdom market on the same terms as hogs raised in the United Kingdom. Is there anything anywhere in the agreement to provide for that?

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): The agreement states that pig products up to 280,000,000 pounds will be allowed free entry.

Mr. BROWN: Is there any suggestion in the report that they might put a tariff on foreign hogs?

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): Before the commission went into session a suggestion was made by certain associations in the old land that

a tariff should be put on against even the dominions, the pig producers of the United Kingdom to have preference over all. However, tariffs are not recommended in this report.

Mr. ELLIOTT: Is there any recommendation in the report against that and in favour of the admission of hogs from other British dominions upon the same terms as hogs produced in the United Kingdom?

Mr. WEIR (Melfort): My impression of the recommendation is that a quantitative restriction is suggested for pig products from foreign countries. Of course, by this agreement, Canada obtains free entry up to 280,000,000 pounds.

Mr. ELLIOTT: I cannot find in the article where an undertaking is given that they will introduce legislation implementing the suggestion—that is all it is—contained in this article.

Mr. STEVENS: I think the article is very clear and explicit in that respect. It reads:

His Majesty's government in the United Kingdom declare that it is their intention to arrange as soon as possible after receiving the report of the commission now sitting on the reorganization of the pig industry in the United Kingdom, for the quantitative regulation of the supplies of bacon and hams coming on to the United Kingdom market and undertake that in any legislation which they may submit to parliament for regulating the supplies of bacon and hams from all sources into the United Kingdom, provision will be made for free entry of Canadian bacon and hams of good quality up to a maximum of 2,500,000 hundredweight per annum.

I think that is a clear and explicit designation of their intention. My hon. friend suggests that we have no specific undertaking or contract on the part of the British government that they will carry out this intention, but I submit to him and to the committee that I do not question for one moment the good faith of the British government in this regard. I have just as much confidence that they will carry out their intentions as if they were tied up with the most explicit contract or obligation. It is impossible to imagine that the British government will do other than what they declare here to be their intention to do, to take steps as soon as this report is received to introduce legislation.

Mr. ELLIOTT: No, they do not.

Mr. STEVENS: Oh yes, they do. May I read it again:

His Majesty's government in the United Kingdom declare that it is their intention to