

far-reaching authority in connection with the tariff and trade policies of Canada.

I submit, Mr. Speaker, one further point. I have said that I did not suggest and, I am not suggesting now, that it is to be a partisan board in the sense that it is to do the political behests of the government that happens to be in office, but I am trying to emphasize that it will be a board of the cast of mind which my hon. friends opposite have. One may speak of men of the greatest honesty and of the highest degree of non-partisanship in the world, and yet recognize that those men have their own particular viewpoint, their own particular outlook on life. Let me give an illustration. My right hon. friend the Prime Minister will remember the late Lord Haldane, who frequently presided over the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council when questions concerning the effect of the British North America Act were being considered. Lawyers came to know that Lord Haldane had a cast of mind which looked always—and I say it with the greatest respect and the greatest deference—from the point of view of the provinces rather than of the dominion; he felt that was the position from which constitutional questions ought to be approached. Only the other day I saw in a magazine an article giving an analysis of the outlook of the learned judges composing the Supreme court of the United States, and pointing out certain members of that distinguished court who could be expected to look at questions from what might be called the liberal as distinguished from the conservative view point—using those terms without reference to political parties, of course—I do not care how detached a judicial personage, or any other individual may be, he does have a certain cast of mind, a certain outlook. It is a certain high tariff cast of mind, a certain high tariff outlook which this bill, unless amended, will fasten upon us for a period of ten years.

It is because of that particular feature that I so strenuously oppose the bill; and I heartily support the amendment. I would expect of course that a board of this kind would have the confidence of the government. I think it should have the confidence of the government. The board is really the servant of the government. It is for the purpose, whatever government may be in office, of making findings in respect of these important matters of tariff, and it stands to reason that it must have the confidence of the government. In turn, the government must have the confidence of the board. Just as this house represent the views of the people of Canada, as expressed at the polls, so I say

[Mr. Ralston.]

the proposed tariff board, which is for the purpose of expressing tariff views and assisting the government in relation thereto, should reflect the tariff outlook of the government in power. I repeat, the only way in which that can be done is that my right hon. friend should make the tenure of the members of the board coterminous with the tenure of the administration which they advise, and then permit the succeeding administration, which may represent an entirely different point of view on the part of the people to select its own set of tariff advisers.

So I submit, Mr. Speaker, that the point made in the amendment is the all important point. Not that there are not other matters which are not important. For instance the proposal that a member of the board shall not be eligible to be a candidate for election to the House of Commons until after the expiration of two years from the date when he ceased to be a member of the board is a most unusual and absolutely unheard of provision in a Canadian statute, but I pass that over. I know it will be in vain, but I urge on my right hon. friend as strongly as I can that this board should be made simply the servant of the government of the day for the purpose of collecting and summarizing evidence and making reports thereon on which such government may base their tariff legislation, leaving succeeding governments free to appoint their advisers with an outlook in keeping with the views of the country as expressed at the polls.

The house divided on the amendment (Mr. Ilsley) which was negatived on the following division:

## YEAS

Messrs:

Ahearn,	Mackenzie
Beaubien,	(Vancouver Centre),
Blair,	MacLean,
Bouchard,	McKenzie
Buckley,	(Assiniboia),
Butcher,	McMillan
Casgrain,	(Huron South),
Cayley,	McPhee,
Denis,	Mercier (Laurier-
Deslauriers,	(Outremont),
Desrochers,	Motherwell,
Donnelly,	Munn,
Dumaine,	Parent,
Factor,	Perras,
Ferland,	Ralston,
Fiset, Sir Eugène,	Rinfret,
Fontaine,	Roberge,
Fraser (Northumber-	St.-Père,
land O.),	Sanderson,
Girouard,	Stewart
Hall,	(Edmonton West),
Hanbury,	Taylor,
Heaps,	Thauvette,
Heenan,	Veniot,
King, Mackenzie,	Weir (Macdonald),
Lapointe,	Woodsworth,
	Young.—47.