

the Government have come to the conclusion that it will not be wise or prudent to resist this demand at the present time, in the interest of the development of that large part of the country's resources, and it is proposed to allow mining machinery of a class and kind which is not made in Canada at the time of the importation, to be imported into this country free for the period of three years and no longer. That will have a double effect. It will give to those persons who are investing their money in the development of our mining interests the freest market for the purchase of the best possible machinery they can get—a market, the freedom of which is only limited by the fact that the machinery they may require is made in Canada; and no person, I apprehend, is so unpatriotic as to wish a provision to be inserted which would allow him to buy machinery outside of Canada when it could be made in Canada by industries which have been fostered and brought into their present state, by the operation of the tariff which we have enacted and maintained. It will have this other effect. By the free introduction of mining machinery such as is not made in Canada, and by the impetus which will be given to mining after the period of experimenting is over, and after the richness and paying qualities of these resources are demonstrated, there will be a continued and progressive development of that industry; and after the period of three years that development will naturally add to the demand for the production of this machinery in Canada, which will, consequently, promote and encourage its manufacture after that period. There has been another subject brought to the attention of the Government, that is, the building of iron ships in this country. It may be an open question whether or not the wooden ship has seen its flay. I do not believe myself that the wooden ship, so far as the smaller kinds of coasting vessels are concerned, has at all seen its best days. I do not think any person who sits at these boards will see the time when the good, trim, staunch coasting vessels of our Maritime Provinces will be superseded by iron or steel or any other material. But the whole trend of development to-day goes upon the line of building steel and iron vessels for quick transit and for large carrying capacity between foreign and distant countries. We have this anomaly in this country, that an iron or steel vessel can be built in Great Britain on the Clyde, and can be brought into this country and put on our lake, river or sea routes free of duty entirely, if she is registered in England, while people interested in the building of similar vessels in Canada who import the steel and iron machinery and parts which are necessary for building them here, and which cannot be made in this country, are met by heavy duties; and so the industry is handicapped. It has, therefore, been determined, for the encouragement of this industry which has already planted itself in our country and which is promising to develop with very great vigor, to assist it in the following way: by allowing all steel and iron parts, which are used in the manufacture of iron or steel vessels, to come in free, so long as they are not made in Canada; and that designation at the present time will take in a very large proportion of the heavy iron and steel work which enters into the construction of these vessels. The Minister of Customs has asked me not to

Mr. FOSTER.

forget another point, and for the benefit of hon. gentlemen who have been urging the matter for some time, I will mention it. It is this: that among the other numerous articles which have been placed on the free list in these resolutions is that of corn of the kinds used for seed to be grown for ensilage purposes, and thereby we remove one of the great standing grievances, from the standpoint of hon. gentlemen opposite of which the farmers have to complain. With this brief and incomplete introduction I beg leave now to move that this House resolves itself into a Committee of Ways and Means on the following Resolutions:—

1. Resolved, That it is expedient to amend the Act 49 Victoria, chapter 33—Revised Statutes—intituled: "An Act respecting the Duties of Customs," as follows:—

1. By repealing section one of said Act, and substituting the following in lieu thereof:—

In this Act, or in any other Act relating to the Customs, unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) The expression or contraction "*ad val.*" represents and has the meaning of the words "*ad valorem.*"

(b) The initials N.E.S. represent and have the meaning of the words "not elsewhere specified."

(c) The initials N.O.P. represent and have the meaning of the words "not otherwise provided for."

(d) The initials F.O.B. represent and have the meaning of the words "free on board."

(e) The expression "gallon" means an Imperial gallon.

(f) The expression "ton" means two thousand pounds avoirdupois.

(g) The expressions "proof" or "proof spirits," when applied to wines or spirits of any kind, mean spirits of the strength of proof as ascertained by Sykes' Hydrometer.

(h) The expression "gauge," when applied to metal sheets or plates or to wire, means the thickness as determined by Stubbs' Standard Gauge.

(i) The expression "in diameter," when applied to tubing, means the actual inside diameter measurement.

(j) The expressions "sheet" or "sheets" when applied to metals mean sheets or plates of not exceeding three-sixteenths of an inch in thickness.

(k) The expressions "plate" or "plates" when applied to metals mean plates or sheets more than three-sixteenths of an inch in thickness.

2. By enacting that the interpretation clauses comprised in section 2 of the "Customs Act," 49 Victoria, chapter 32—(Revised Statutes)—as amended, shall, until the context otherwise requires, apply to, and form a part of this Act; and that any power conferred upon the Governor in Council by the said "Customs Act" to transfer dutiable goods to the list of goods which may be imported free of duty shall not be by this Act abrogated or impaired.

3. By repealing sub-section 1 of section 5 of said Act, and substituting the following in lieu thereof:

The importation of any goods enumerated in Schedule "D" is hereby prohibited, and any such goods, if imported, shall thereby become forfeited to the Crown, and shall be forthwith destroyed,—and any person importing any such goods shall in each case incur a penalty of two hundred dollars.

4. By enacting that all medicinal or toilet preparations imported for completing the manufacture thereof, or for the manufacture of any other article by the addition of any ingredient or ingredients, or by mixing such preparations, or by putting up or labelling the same alone, or with other articles or compounds, under any proprietary or trade name, shall be, irrespective of cost, valued for duty and duty paid thereon at the ordinary market value, in the country from whence imported, of the completed preparation, when put up and labelled under such proprietary or trade name, less the actual cost of labor and material used or expended in Canada in completing the manufacture thereof, or of putting up or of labelling the same.

5. By enacting that regulations respecting the manner in which molasses and syrups shall be sampled and tested for the purpose of determining the classes to which they shall belong with reference to the duty chargeable thereon shall be made by the Minister of Customs, and the instruments and appliances necessary for such determination shall be designated by him and supplied to such officers as shall be by him charged with the duty of sampling and