

Mr. RHODES: It meets the situation with which my hon. friend is familiar, that of the Clayburn brick.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): I want to thank the minister.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): This is an important item particularly for the mining industry. I was rather pleased to note that brick was coming in free from England, but I am bound to say that I think this amendment will put a stop to the importation of that brick. The minister says there is one industry in Canada but that it is not manufacturing brick used for lining purposes. He will find the very same objection will be raised despite the fact that the British exporter has raised no objection, as the minister says. Personally I never could understand why the freight rate from Great Britain to Canada and across Canada to the place of use was not sufficient protection for an industry.

Mr. RHODES: My hon. friend will bear in mind that prior to the amended item the brick he has in mind was subjected to a duty of ten per cent under the British preference, and they are now made free. I think the fears of my hon. friend are not well founded. I have some little knowledge of the metallurgical industry, and the type of fire brick used in the lining of furnaces for melting such commodities as copper, nickel and other metals has to stand a very intense degree of heat and it requires a class of brick which is not made in Canada. That brick will now come in duty free. It is essentially a product peculiar to Scotland, but the amendment including the words "of a class or kind not made in Canada" will protect brick which is manufactured in Canada for use in certain industries where the qualities of the brick required are not of the type to which I have referred. It will be a distinct concession to the metallurgical industry which uses this type of Scotch brick, and on the other hand it will permit those Canadian industries which produce in Canada brick which is suitable for purposes other than those for which the Scotch type of brick is used to continue to hold their market.

Mr. RALSTON: If it had not been for the tinplate case I would not have thought very much of this phrase "of a class or kind not made in Canada," but this phrase as a result of and arising out of that tinplate case was so construed as to make it a delusion and a snare to those who are looking for reductions in tariffs. When you find a clause like this invoked to impose the higher rate

because say five per cent of the total consumption in Canada happens to be manufactured in Canada, making it permissible by reason of this clause to impose a duty on the other ninety or ninety-five per cent, then it seems to me that we have a right to be concerned about the insertion of a clause like that in a tariff item. I accept my hon. friend's assurance to the full in this particular case. There is an industry I understand in Canada which does make a substantial amount of fire brick. But that phrase, "of a class or kind not made in Canada" does not give nearly the assurance it used to before the tinplate case came up. I think possibly the department—it is not my hon. friend's department but the Department of National Revenue—may have learned a lesson and may have realized from that case that they cannot make rulings of that kind unless a large percentage of the product is manufactured in Canada, but I would want to be assured of that before I gave very enthusiastic support to the insertion of a rider of this kind.

Mr. RHODES: Mr. Chairman, I am advised by the technical officers of the department that this brick is of a type which is very easily identified. For example, they have a silicon brick, a black magnesite brick, a carbide brick, and so forth, all of which types are well defined and well known and easily identified and cannot possibly be confused with clay brick. Furthermore I am informed that by far the larger part of the brick used in the metallurgical industry is of this type, which will now come in duty free, and that the clay brick which we are protecting represents I believe something like ten per cent of the total quantity of brick used in the metallurgical industry of Canada. For these reasons I say with all deference that I feel quite sure the fears of my hon. friend from Shelburne-Yarmouth (Mr. Ralston) and of my hon. friend from West Edmonton (Mr. Stewart) will be found to be not well founded.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): I do not like that phrase, "of a class or kind not made in Canada."

Mr. REID: The minister must admit that bricks are coming in under the name of fire brick, and that the Clayburn brick is identical in appearance, shape and name with the Scotch brick from Glenboig.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—326, agreed to.

Customs tariff—326b, agreed to.