

The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore: It is moved by the Honourable Senator MacEachen, seconded by the Honourable Senator Frith, that the debate on the motion be adjourned until the next sitting of the Senate. Is it your pleasure, honourable senators, to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Some Hon. Senators: No.

Senator Frith: Do you want a vote or do you want it on division?

Senator Flynn: I do not want to add to your stupidity.

Senator Frith: You are an expert in that from long years of experience.

On motion of Senator MacEachen, debate adjourned, on division.

CUSTOMS TARIFF

BILL TO AMEND—SECOND READING

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the motion of the Honourable Senator Kelly, seconded by the Honourable Senator MacDonald (*Halifax*), for the second reading of the Bill C-71, intituled: "An Act to amend the Customs Tariff".—(*Honourable Senator Hicks*).

Hon. Henry D. Hicks: Honourable senators, I refrained from continuing the debate on this motion for second reading of Bill C-71 yesterday because I wanted to study a little more carefully the remarks Senator Kelly made in moving second reading of the bill. I have now done that and I may say that I think he has covered the ground extremely well. I have one objection, to which I shall refer in a moment, but, generally speaking, his exposition of the nature and intent of this legislation satisfies me entirely.

I must admit that I am a little surprised at some of the specific examples he gave about goods that are not made in Canada. I wonder how important the provision of aluminum drop-centre livestock trailers is, but I have no objection to their being exempted from the customs tariff.

I am also surprised that he referred to industrial workers using welders' helmets and face shields, as well as industrial face shields. It will be assured that the cost of such important protective equipment is kept to a minimum through the duty free entry of all these pieces of safety equipment.

All those interested in encouraging safety participation of their sons and daughters on the football field will welcome the proposal to provide duty free entry of football helmets, face masks and shoulder pads. I cannot understand why our Canadian manufacturers have not moved into the field of providing these articles of equipment. With our great expertise in protecting our hockey players, it seems to me it would be a very simple matter for us to move into similar protective equipment for football players. If they are not made in Canada, again, I see no reason why we should object to their coming into Canada duty free.

I note with interest and, I think, with approval that Canadians will now be able to import duty and tax free goods up to \$100 any number of times during the year instead of once each quarter of the year, provided they have been out of the country for 48 hours.

I said that I had one reservation about the bill and about Senator Kelly's exposition. I would refer honourable senators to the paragraph on page 1300 of *Debates of the Senate* which states:

Furthermore, authority previously delegated to the Minister of National Revenue will now be delegated to the deputy minister of that department which will enable him to impose or remove seasonal tariff rates on certain horticultural products as Canadian production comes on line or ceases.

This I most thoroughly disagree with. We should have left this responsibility with the minister and not with the deputy minister.

The minister is accountable to Parliament. If the minister wants to rely very heavily on the advice of his deputy minister, that is his own business and he may do so. But if he has to account for it to Parliament, he cannot then say that he did not participate in the decision but that his deputy minister did. I think that it is a mistake to have devolved that responsibility formally in this legislation on the deputy minister rather than on the minister.

Honourable senators, these are rather minor observations or criticisms, if such they are, of the legislation. I think that it deserves to be supported, although I seriously wanted to record my objections to Parliament's delegating legislative responsibility to a deputy minister rather than to the minister responsible for that department. I propose to vote for the bill nevertheless.

Motion agreed to and bill read second time.

The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the third time?

On motion of Senator Phillips, bill placed on the Orders of the Day for third reading at the next sitting of the Senate.

● (1450)

STRATEGIC DEFENSE INITIATIVE

GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE—ORDER STANDS

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the inquiry of Honourable Senator Gigantès calling the attention of the Senate to the Strategic Defense Initiative.—(*Honourable Senator Bosa*).

Hon. Peter Bosa: Honourable senators, I do not intend to speak on this order today, but if any other senator wishes to do so, I would be pleased to yield the floor.

Order stands.