

CANADA

House of Commons Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT

Tuesday, March 30, 1926

The House met at three o'clock.

MARITIME RIGHTS COMMISSION
—PERSONNEL

On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. MURRAY MacLAREN (St. John-Albert): I draw the attention of the Prime Minister to the following report from Ottawa in the press of Saturday, 27th March:

It was learned here to-day on the highest authority that the personnel of the commission to investigate conditions in the Maritime provinces would be as follows:

Mr. FORKE: Speak louder please.

Mr. MacLAREN: I continue quoting:

Sir Andrew Rae Duncan, Kent, England.

Dr. McGill, of Winnipeg.

Judge W. B. Wallace, of Halifax.

Hon. W. E. Foster, of Saint John.

Can the Prime Minister confirm this report given to the public?

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): There has been no order in council passed appointing a commission. I do not know from what source the information has come, but I can assure my hon. friend that up to the present time no appointments have been made.

AUSTRALIAN BUTTER—DUMPING
CLAUSE

On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. DONALD SUTHERLAND (South Oxford): Yesterday I put an inquiry to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Robb) with regard to the duty on dairy products now being imported into this country, particularly from Australia. I pointed out that the minister had stated on the 25th of February that butter imported into Canada from Australia will be subject to the provisions of the dumping clause. The minister said on that occasion:

The official in my department holds that there will be a dumping duty of approximately fifteen per cent on any butter that enjoys that privilege.

I desire to point out that upwards of one million pounds of butter have been imported from Australia during March of this year, and

I should like to ask what duty is being collected on these imports. I understand from the Department of Customs that it is the duty of one cent per pound provided for in the trade treaty which has been and is being collected.

Hon. J. A. ROBB (Minister of Finance): If my hon. friend will place his question on the order paper I will give him a correct answer.

Mr. SUTHERLAND (South Oxford): I put a question yesterday and received a reply that was no answer at all. The reply was that the information asked for would be given in answer to a question placed on the order paper by the hon. member for East Lambton (Mr. Armstrong) and it is not there.

SOLDIER SETTLEMENT ACT, 1919,
AMENDMENT

The House resumed, from March 25, consideration in committee of the resolution to amend the Soldier Settlement Act, 1919—Hon. Mr. Stewart—Mr. Duff in the chair:

Mr. HANNESSON: When this matter was last before the House I felt that I ought to say something on it. The question is one of some importance and urgency, particularly in the west, and I trust that we shall consider it from the point of view of doing justice to the returned men, and not from any political or self-seeking standpoint. You will remember, Sir, that when demobilization took place the government of Canada was faced with a very serious problem. During the war there was a tremendous expansion of industrial development in Canada, and when the hundreds and thousands of men at the front were being returned to this country the government was faced with the problem not only of keeping in employment those who already had occupations, but of absorbing into our civil life all those who were coming back from the front. It was generally thought that the best way to meet this problem in the case of the returned soldiers was to place as many of them as possible on farms. That view was strengthened by the general policy that all parties had adopted to further agricultural development. The motives which