

of Commerce urges the Government to do everything possible to bring about the removal of restrictive barriers to international trade and to discourage the practice of state trading.

The Chamber urges continued governmental and private efforts to promote a return of multilateral trade among nations, to allow a free flow of capital throughout the world, and to work towards the free convertibility of currencies.

The Chamber recognizes that if Canada is to enjoy a thriving and expanding export trade she must import goods and services from the countries to which she exports and, therefore, urges that every facility be extended by the Government to maintain a free flow of commerce in both directions. While the flow of imports into Canada has reached substantial proportions during the past years, from both the dollar and the sterling areas, the Chamber is concerned with the increasing tariff, currency and quantitative restrictions imposed against Canadian goods to the point where a wide range of Canadian commodities at the present time is not admitted entry to many countries.

Canada and the Sterling Area

The Chamber believes that Commonwealth business relations can best be promoted by working towards the objectives of multilateral trade, the free flow of capital and the convertibility of currencies among the respective members of the Commonwealth.

It is with particular regret that the Chamber notes the continued existence of trade, currency and quantitative restrictions which limit Canada's trade with the sterling area. It strongly urges that all possible ways and means be explored by all members of the Commonwealth to ease these restrictions to the minimum consistent with the dollar difficulties still faced by the United Kingdom and the sterling area.

The Chamber is gratified to note that the governments of the Commonwealth are convening an economic conference in November 1952 at which time it is understood that the foregoing problems will be investigated. It urges that the Canadian Government take all possible steps to encourage a freer exchange of goods between Canada and the sterling area.

Further comments on the policy of Canada and the United States follow, but Mr. Henderson pretty well covers that in his brief. This policy which I have just highlighted is the background against which the committee's brief is being presented to you gentlemen today.

It is now my pleasure to introduce to you the members of the Chamber's delegation: Mr. A. M. Henderson, Chairman of the Foreign Trade Committee of the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Henderson will present the brief and act as the chief witness. Mr. G. K. Blair, of the Massey-Harris Company. Mr. Morgan Reid, Assistant Vice-President of Simpson-Sears. Mr. W. J. Sheridan, Secretary of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. E. J. Little, Secretary of the Foreign Trade Committee.

After Mr. Henderson has presented his brief, if there are any questions you wish to direct to him he will, I am sure, be pleased as best he can to answer them. With your permission, sir, I would like to call upon Mr. Blair, Mr. Reid and Mr. Sheridan to assist him.

The CHAIRMAN: Certainly.

Mr. WOOD: Thank you, very much.

Hon. Mr. EULER: May we ask this witness any questions?

The CHAIRMAN: Perhaps we had better hear the brief first.

Mr. WOOD: We will be pleased to do whatever you say.