

reduce it to the same amount as the tax on cheques and provide a maximum amount of \$1, the same as cheques. At the present time there is no maximum. The money which he would lose by taking the tax off these notes he could easily raise by putting a tax on coupons when they are cashed at the bank. If cream cheques must bear a stamp when they are presented to a bank for payment I do not see why coupons should not also bear that tax. The minister might also consider the question of taking the tax off renewals although I may admit there might be some difficulty in administering that. I want to impress upon the minister that this tax is working a very great hardship. Not only farmers but retail merchants are complaining about this tax, and I think complaining with a great deal of justification.

Just a word before I sit down in reference to the statement made by one of the hon. members for Toronto in regard to farmers not paying income tax. The situation is simply this: If the farmers owe income tax and are not paying it the fault is with the Income Tax department. They should collect it. That is what they are here for. So far as I am concerned I would be glad to see every man who is liable for income tax compelled to pay it.

Mr. WARNER: Before we get too far away from the point under discussion I want to add a few words to what the minister has said. I want to point out to him that eastern Canada is an older settled country and it does not need these daily small payments so badly as the people do in the west. I want to point out to him that the people who are running the new system get a better quality of butter by accommodating the farmers with daily payments, and that it would be a backward step to revert to the system of payment every two weeks or every month. They really and sincerely feel that it would be a backward step. They went ahead with this system and they put their butter on the world's market independent of other Canadian butter, and they brought the price and the prominence of the western butter to the attention of the consumers in the world's market in a way which had never been done until they worked out this system. They feel they have a good system and do not want to change it, and that is why I am presenting their case to the minister. Why make them change this system and go back to a system they have already discarded, when the government will not be able to get the revenue out of it, simply because they cannot afford to

pay and will have to change their system, rather than accept the five dollars instead of the ten dollars.

Mr. ROBB: I want to repeat again that the government wish to encourage the dairy industry. I did not make this change without some consideration, or without having received some representations. Two gentlemen called at my office. I thought they represented the men who were complaining about this. I would not like to give their names. I thought they knew what they were talking about. They pleaded for ten dollars, but I said no, we could not lose that much money. They said finally before leaving, "Can you not make it five dollars?" As a concession to them, I am making it five dollars, but I am making it a little wider and I think the House should let it pass.

Mr. WARNER: I want the minister to understand that I am not refusing the five dollars, but I desired to point out to him the way the creamery men felt on account of the fact that they would have to change their system. Although the minister does make it five dollars instead of ten, they feel it is a backward step. I am willing to accept it and under the circumstances I have already done so, but not without feeling that it should be ten dollars instead of five.

Mr. SPENCE: The minister has been good enough to explain the law in regard to putting stamps on cheques and the penalties. Will he be good enough to explain the law in regard to putting stamps on receipts. That is something nobody seems to understand. I am in a business where we have to issue two or three hundred receipts a week. Nobody seems to know whether we should put the stamps on monthly or weekly accounts if not paid in full.

Mr. ROBB: Receipts up to ten dollars are exempt.

Mr. SPENCE: I understand that. But suppose you send out an account for fifty dollars and the man is only able to pay ten, do you require to put a stamp on that?

Mr. ROBB: I should think so, but I will look into it.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: May I call the attention of the minister to a departmental ruling of the Customs department, file LB-1841, under which a merchant sending out a statement must put a stamp on it. It is complained of by a number of merchants in my own constituency because it involves in reality a duplication of taxes. I should like