

Customs tariff—ex 133. Lobsters, fresh, free.

Mr. DUNNING: This is a reduction. The present duties are fifteen per cent under the British, twenty per cent under the intermediate and twenty-five per cent under the general tariff.

Mr. BENNETT: Do we get free entry for lobsters?

Mr. DUNNING: We get free entry for Canadian lobsters.

Mr. BENNETT: What was the rate?

Mr. DUNNING: They are free. We imported from the United States last year fifty pounds of fresh lobsters, valued at \$15, and we exported to the United States 99,000 hundredweight, valued at \$1,629,000.

Mr. BENNETT: Is not this the issue? Why should we have done this if we do not expect the Americans to do some more trading in lobsters in our market? There is no purpose at all.

Mr. DUNNING: The purpose is to ensure the continuance of the free entry of our lobsters into the United States for three years.

Mr. BENNETT: Although they did most of the buying last year. We bought only a trifling quantity from them.

Mr. STEWART: How long have we had the right of free entry into the United States?

Mr. DUNNING: I cannot answer that offhand.

Mr. POULIOT: This is most important, because the United States could get deep sea lobsters from Bermuda and other places. They encourage our trade and they should be given consideration therefor.

Mr. BROOKS: Is it not a fact that very few lobsters are caught in the United States?

Mr. DUNNING: That is right.

Mr. BROOKS: The maritimes and Newfoundland are the main sources of supply. The United States want our lobsters.

Mr. DUNNING: Yes; and if they want free entry, what is the matter?

Mr. BROOKS: They have nothing to enter.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—ex 133. Scallops, fresh but not frozen, free.

Mr. DUNNING: This is a reduction. Scallops are at present dutiable, fifteen per cent under the British preference, twenty per cent under the intermediate and twenty-five per cent under the general tariff. Under schedule II the United States guarantee the free entry of Canadian scallops, fresh but not frozen, the product of Canada. Our exports to the United States last year were 584,000 pounds, valued at \$103,000.

Mr. STEWART: What were our imports of scallops for the same period?

Mr. DUNNING: The imports are not separately recorded; they are included in a bulk item.

Mr. STEWART: From what countries do we get them?

Mr. DUNNING: We do not.

Mr. STEWART: No imports?

Mr. DUNNING: Nothing to speak of.

Item agreed to.

Mr. DUNNING: I think we have made fair progress and I move that the committee rise, report progress and ask leave to sit again.

Mr. BENNETT: Will the minister be prepared to give us evidence of values and information of that kind in connection with the next item?

Mr. DUNNING: I shall try to be as fully prepared as possible.

Progress reported.

On motion of Mr. Mackenzie King the house adjourned at 10.55 p.m.