

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, Senator McLean has been very kind in yielding his place, and I think we ought to allow him to go on.

Hon. Mr. McLEAN: I think we have covered the west coast salmon industry.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: You have not found a solution.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL: There is a very simple solution, and that is for the canners to pay a price equal to what they pay in the United States.

Hon. Mr. McKEEN: They could not sell their products.

Hon. Mr. McLEAN: There are one or two items which affect the east coast for which I can see a very much larger market in the United States. I notice that a duty is still left of the item called kippered snacks. Kippered snacks is the poor man's food, used for the lunch pail, very considerably, in the United States and Canada, and there was a considerable market in the United States during the war. Of course, other countries have been cut off. That is an item which the United States, to my knowledge, has never put up, has never manufactured. I think there is every reason why the duty should be reduced. It is the poor man's food, and it is not manufactured in the United States. They want to get their cost of living down, and yet at this time the minute it reaches the border there is 12½ per cent slammed on it, and then the 8 per cent sales tax. I do not know why the sales tax is put on, because they do not manufacture this article in the United States, and there is nobody to protect. So I think all the arguments are in favour of getting that duty cut in two. If that were done there would be a large market in the United States for that item.

Mr. KEMP: Would you like me to deal with kippered snacks while you are on that point?

Hon. Mr. McLEAN: No. I think you might take notes and answer later. The next item I would like to refer to is clams. There is a shortage of clams in the eastern States, so they come over to Canada buying what they call shucked clams. They take the raw material over the border, and, very ingeniously, it goes into the United States free. I do not think they have conserved their beds in the eastern States the way we have in Eastern Canada. It was just a case of taking the clams from the beds, shucking them, and wasting the juice, which we know is nearly as valuable as the clams, and taking them over there free. When we come to put the clams in the cans to preserve a certain amount of juice, there is a 35 per cent duty. Years ago it used to be free, but in one of these new tariffs they have slammed on 35 per cent on clam juice, which in fact is used in hospitals because doctors say it is full of vitamins, of iodine and mineral matter. When the clams are shucked the juice is wasted. We refine the juice. I feel that a very considerable market could be built up for clam juice in the United States. As I say, they have a 35 per cent duty on clam juice. Whom they are protecting I don't know, because there is a big shortage of clam juice over there.

The next item which is important business in the East is sardines. We have, of course, in Eastern Canada the largest factories in the business. The duty was cut, according to the last figures, 25 per cent, on sardines coming into Canada.

Mr. McKINNON: Our duty. Not quite. Do you wish me to answer you as you go along?

Hon. Mr. McLEAN: Perhaps under the French treaty there was 10 per cent off.

Mr. McKINNON: The exact duties that on the type of sardine that you are interested in and talking about—

Hon. Mr. McLEAN: The 8 or under.

Mr. McKINNON: The 8 ounces or under, the duty was 1.6 cents under the French treaty, and it is reduced to 1.5 cents under this treaty.