

child in a children's home in Belfast so that she can come out to Canada and join her husband and four children. I ask of the Minister of Immigration: It is too late yet to deal with this McConachie case and admit the woman and her child? In view of public opinion, in view of the way in which this case has been commented upon, I feel he will have the unanimous endorsement of the people of Canada if he sends for that woman and her infant to come here. As I said once before in this house, it seems inhuman and ungrateful treatment to accord to a British soldier who was willing to sacrifice his all in the struggle for freedom and democracy.

I have among others a letter from a Presbyterian minister who was for eighteen years doing welfare work, particularly settlement work, and he expresses the desire that the McConachie family be reunited. Might I draw to the attention of the minister a letter from the Canadian prisoners welfare association of Montreal. That association is willing now to place a bond in the hands of the minister guaranteeing that this child will never become a charge upon the government or the people of Canada. Now will the minister bring back the child? This matter has been dealt with thoroughly. The Minister of Health (Mr. King) contributed his quota to the debate and he was answered very effectively by the hon. member for North Simcoe (Mr. Boys) who dealt with the matter from the legal standpoint. I ask the Minister of Immigration once more—and that is all I intend to say on this matter—in view of the fact that 140 similar cases have been allowed to enter this country on permit, will he not grant the same conditions to the McConachie child?

The cordage industry of Dartmouth has already been touched on by the hon. member for Westmorland (Mr. Price), but I should like to say a few words in connection with it because it is in my constituency. This company have been struggling along for some years, but in the last few years, because of lack of tariff protection they have found it practically impossible to survive. This whole matter has been fully explained to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Robb) and the tariff board have all the data in connection with the industry. At the present time manilla rope up to one and one-half inch in circumference is admitted free when for use in the fisheries, under customs tariff item 682, and rope over this size, regardless of whether it is for the fisheries or not, is dutiable at 20 per cent

[Mr. Quinn.]

British preference, 22½ per cent intermediate tariff, and 25 per cent general tariff under item 548. The budget proposals, however for some reason carry a new item, 539:

Cordage, exceeding one inch in circumference, wholly of vegetable fibres, n.o.p.

This is dutiable at the rate of 20 per cent British preference, 22½ per cent intermediate, and 25 per cent general tariff. At first glance it would appear that the minister intended to give this poor down trodden industry half a loaf at least, by reducing the free size to one inch, but on examining the customs tariff I discover a joker. On page 514 of Hansard of February 16, the Minister of Finance gave a list of tariff items that were cancelled by the revision of the tariff, and I find that item 682 is not listed among those cancelled, so in reality the free rope continues and the new item 539 is only for us to look at through rose-coloured glasses, something not unusual under the present budget. Why this was done we, of course, can hardly expect a reason, but if it was not the intention of the government to do anything for this industry, why do they not come out and say they have no intention of helping one of the oldest Canadian industries, one of the last industries in the maritime provinces, instead of letting them slowly but surely bleed to death? This industry in Dartmouth alone has about five hundred people depending upon it, and if the industry is allowed to go to ruin, what are the heads of these families to do? Most of them have spent their whole life in it and they cannot now go out and seek employment elsewhere in Canada. The younger employees can, of course, follow the crowd and go across the line to the United States. The cordage industry is contributing more than its share and this government will do a great justice to the maritime provinces by keeping the industry going. With the amount of fishing that is carried on it is essential that an industry of this kind should be kept in operation, if only for emergency purposes. Where would this country be in case of war if industries such as this are allowed to go to the wall, as they certainly will do with these continual tariff changes that are not even made from a practical standpoint?

While the hon. member for Westmorland (Mr. Price) was speaking, the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Ralston) interjected a question and the hon. member, could not hear him. The minister asked the hon. member for Westmorland if he was agreeable to imposing a duty on fishermen's rope. The minister well knows that the maritime members were in caucus when delegations from Halifax and Dartmouth boards of trade were here and the