

be lower or higher as the case might demand and in fixing it at 20 per cent, having regard to the legislation of other nations, we thought we were fixing it substantially on the low side.

Mr. OLIVER: I do not wish to delay at all in the matter, but when my hon. friend was reading the laws of other countries, it seemed to me that the attitude of the other countries was more in line with what I have considered the true theory than what my hon. friend proposes. Germany may charge a surtax of fifty per cent of the existing tariff. That is distinctly a war measure. It is intended to hurt, to be effective, and it is only to be continued long enough to produce whatever result is hoped to be produced by it. On the other hand, my hon. friend proposes here a system under the suspicious name of a retaliatory tariff which may simply impose a burden on the Canadian people. I would not like to see this legislation pass without calling attention to the possible effect of it.

Mr. WHITE: I think that my hon. friend and I would agree that any measure of this kind should be invoked only as a matter of the most urgent national necessity. I entirely agree with my hon. friend that legislation of this kind is retaliatory and that sometimes the invoking of it would do more harm than good. As far as the intention goes, although, of course, the statute speaks for itself, we should hesitate under any circumstances to invoke legislation of this kind unless an absolute necessity exists for it in the national interest of Canada. In fixing it at 20 per cent it was my desire to fix it at a reasonable amount, not to fix it at a high amount but rather at a low amount. It is true, as my hon. friend has pointed out, that it is possible under this legislation that the surtax would be higher than under the customs tariff of 1907, but at the same time it is also possible that it would be lower and it was my intention to make it sufficiently flexible that it might be lower if the Government desired at any time to invoke it.

Resolution agreed to.

2. Resolved, that the customs tariff, 1907, be amended by authorizing the Governor in Council when satisfied that rolled iron or steel angles, beams, channel and other rolled shapes or sections, or iron or steel weighing one hundred and twenty pounds and less per lineal yard, are manufactured in substantial quantities in Canada from steel made in Canada to direct that there be substituted for tariff

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item 379 in schedule A to the customs tariff, 1907, the following:

Rolled iron or steel angles, beams, channels, and other rolled shapes or sections, of iron or steel, not punched, drilled or further manufactured than rolled, weighing over one hundred and twenty pounds per lineal yard, n.o.p., not being square, flat, oval or round shapes, and not being railway bars or rails per ton—British preferential, \$2; intermediate, \$3; general, \$3.

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: Would the minister tell us what was the quantity in tons and the value of the importations of articles of this kind last year?

Mr. WHITE: Fortunately I am able to give that information to my hon. friend although I did not expect it would be asked for. The imports during 1912 and 1913 were as follows:

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
1912 . . . . .	2,957,541 cwt.	\$3,625,107
1913 . . . . .	4,013,570 "	5,319,456

Mr. OLIVER: What are the present duties?

Mr. WHITE: Under the present tariff these products, which are called merchant mill products, up to 35 lb. per lineal yard, have a duty of \$7 per ton against them. Products that are over 35 lb. per lineal yard have a duty, under the general tariff, of \$3 per ton. I am extending the 35 lb. per lineal yard up to 120 lb. per lineal yard. At the time the Customs Tariff of 1907 was enacted merchant mill products up to 35 lb. per lineal yard were produced in Canada but merchant mill products of a heavier character were not produced in Canada. In some mills to-day structural steel beams, channels and other rolled shapes heavier than 36 lb. per lineal yard and up to 50 or 60 lb. per lineal yard are being produced but no change has taken place in the tariff. It was represented to us by the Algoma Steel Company, and by other steel companies, that if legislation should be introduced, to be brought into effect by Order in Council, so that the company would have an assurance that in future it would be brought into effect, they could get the capital requisite to increase their plants and establish merchant mills which would manufacture products up to 120 lb. per lineal yard; that is to say, the larger structural steel required for buildings, bridges and many other manufactures. The Government, therefore, is asking Parliament to enact legislation which is to be brought into effect under Order in Council when the Governor in Council is satisfied that the products in question are being manufactured in substantial quantities in Canada from steel made in Canada. There is a precedent for this under the