Ways and Means-Customs Tariff

Mr. FORKE: It has to do with mowing machines and harvesters.

Mr. STEVENS: Is this the point where we should discuss this item 445, dealing with mowing machines, harvesters, binders and so on?

Mr. ROBB: Perhaps we could discuss that item when we come to the duties on those implements. These are just items that are being struck out.

The CHAIRMAN: We are striking out these different items, we have not come to the duty items yet. Shall the item carry?

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: I do not think we can get along as quickly as that because the minister cannot replace these items without making considerable change. We are entitled to know what is being dropped and the reason why.

Mr. ROBB: The present item reads:

Mowing machines, harvesters, self-binding or without binders, binding attachments, reapers and complete parts thereof—

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: What were the old rates?

Mr. ROBB: The old rates were $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, 10 per cent and 10 per cent. It is now proposed that the rates shall be: Free, 6 per cent, 6 per cent. The estimated reduction in revenue is \$21,863.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: What was the actual amount collected last year, or do the figures just given represent the amount actually collected?

Mr. ROBB: The estimated reduction in revenue is \$21,863.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Can the hon. gentleman tell me what was collected under the British preference last year of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent?

Mr. ROBB: No I have not that information separately.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Surely my hon. friend can tell us whether anything was collected or not?

Mr. ROBB: We will look it up. However, I admit at once, if it will lessen my hon. friend's anxiety, that there was a very small amount collected under the British preference.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: My present anxiety is to find out what the truth is, what the real purpose is, that is all.

Mr. ROBB: There was nothing collected under the British preference. [Sir Henry Drayton.] Sir HENRY DRAYTON: I see, so we have nothing whatever collected under the British preference under item 445. Now, under the intermediate tariff what was collected?

Mr. ROBB: Nothing under the intermediate tariff.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: So the whole amount was collected under the general tariff item?

Mr. ROBB: The general tariff.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: What countries would that refer to besides the United States if any?

Mr. ROBB: I think the United States would be the only country.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Yes, that is the fact. So that all the imports under tariff item 445 came from the United States? Now, what was the total amount collected under the general tariff under this item?

Mr. ROBB: We have estimated \$21,863 as the reduction of revenue.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Well, perhaps that will do. That is the loss of revenue?

Mr. ROBB: Mowing machines, \$23,123.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: We have had two figures given. My hon. friend said first \$21,863 and now he says \$23,123.

Mr. ROBB: Mowing machines from the United States, duty collected, \$2,405.49.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: On what?

Mr. ROBB: On mowing machines. Then on the harvesters and selfbinders from the United States the duty collected was \$25,-714.03. On binding attachments from the United States the duty collected was \$1,799.50, and on reapers the duty collected was \$222.20.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Is that all?

Mr. ROBB: Yes.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: What is the total result?

Mr. ROBB: I have not added it up.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Figuring roughly and quickly, I make it \$30,141.22. On what basis is the loss calculated?

Mr. ROBB: The difference between ten per cent and six per cent.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: How would that work out if these figures are right?

Mr. ROBB: Perhaps I did not give my hon. friend the revenue loss on parts.

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