

Mr. RHODES: I want to move an amendment, substituting the following:

Customs tariff—1021. Round rolled wire rods in the coil, of iron or steel, not over .375 inch in diameter: when imported under the British preferential tariff and used in the manufacture of galvanized iron or steel wire, curved or not, .144, .104, or .092 inch in diameter, with tolerance not to exceed .004 inch, but not when such wire is for use in telegraph or telephone lines: drawback, 99 per cent.

Mr. RALSTON: What is the change?

Mr. RHODES: It provides a drawback of 99 per cent under the British preference in connection with that class of wire which, it will be observed, has been made free for use in making barbed wire, under item 402c of the schedule.

Mr. RALSTON: What is the difference between this and the present item 1021?

Mr. RHODES: This is restricted to the British preference.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): The drawback?

Mr. RHODES: Yes.

Mr. CANTLEY: What is the purpose of changing the sizes?

Mr. RHODES: We have taken the exact sizes and gauges that have been in the tariff item for some five or six years. They have not been changed by me in anything I have done.

Mr. CANTLEY: They have been changed, and I think it is very confusing. The British wire gauges have been the same for over a century, and I do not see any reason for changing the description now. I do not know how you are going to measure it.

Mr. RHODES: I would be the last person in the world to attempt to discuss this matter with my hon. friend from Pictou, who has forgotten probably more than I will ever know about it, but I am only saying that I have kept the sizes as I found them.

Mr. CANTLEY: I think you had better revert to the original practice.

Mr. RALSTON: It seems to me that the effect of the amendment is really to put a duty on foreign rods of this kind. As I understand it the drawback of 99 per cent applied to all countries, Great Britain, the United States and every other country. Now it is being provided that the drawback shall only apply to Great Britain, and therefore the duty against these other countries goes on automatically. Is that not so?

Mr. RHODES: Except that they can get, and this item is designed to see that they do get, their wire from British sources under the British preference, or in Canada.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): This is an increase against foreign imports, then.

Mr. RHODES: If they want to import from foreign countries it is an increase.

Mr. RALSTON: Then it is not giving Great Britain a preference by reducing the duty; it is granting the preference by putting back the duty against other countries.

Mr. RHODES: In a sense.

Amendment agreed to.

Items as amended agreed to.

Customs tariff—1024. Rolled round wire rods in the coil of iron or steel, not over .375 inch in diameter, when used in the manufacture of iron or steel, coated with zinc or spelter, curved or not, in coils, not more than .144 inch and not less than .080 inch in diameter, with tolerance not to exceed .004 inch when such wire is used by manufacturers of barbed fencing wire or of wire fencing for use exclusively in the manufacture of barbed fencing wire or of wire fencing, in their own factories: drawback, 99 per cent.

Mr. RHODES: I have an amendment to move to this item, which I am advised is purely a question of verbiage, in order to make this item conform to item 1021. The amendment reads:

Rolled round wire rods in the coil, of iron or steel, not over .375 inch in diameter, when imported under the British preferential tariff and used in the manufacture of wire of iron or steel, coated with zinc or spelter, curved or not, in coils, not more than .144 inch and not less than .080 inch in diameter, with tolerance not to exceed .004 inch, when such wire is used by manufacturers of barbed fencing wire or of wire fencing for use exclusively in the manufacture of barbed fencing wire or of wire fencing, in their own factories: drawback, 99 per cent.

Provided that drawback payable under this item is in lieu of drawback payable under any other item.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): Just what does that mean?

Mr. RHODES: It means they may take the drawback under one item or the other, but not under both.

Amendment agreed to.

Item as amended agreed to.

Customs tariff—1039 agreed to.

Customs tariff—1044. Fire brick: when used by manufacturers of iron or steel in the construction or repair of a blast furnace, open hearth furnace or rolling mill furnace: drawback, 99 per cent.