

*Customs Tariff*

I point out that we must have a rate in the schedule, notwithstanding the fact that we have an agreement with the United States covering the item.

Mr. BENNETT: Was it a bound item?

Mr. DUNNING: In the agreement it is a bound item for three years, but at the end of three years if we fall back on the intermediate tariff it should be 22½ per cent, in the judgment of those who have studied the matter.

Mr. BENNETT: So far as I can see, at 22½ per cent the item would not affect any country at all, because it is an intermediate tariff.

Mr. DUNNING: In a practical way that is correct.

Mr. STIRLING: Will the 20 per cent appear in the office consolidation and receive a number? How will the customs officers know about it?

Mr. DUNNING: As a matter of information, the departmental officials advise me they are endeavouring to work out an office consolidation of the tariff which in the nature of things would involve five instead of three columns, brought about because of the necessity on the part of the public of knowing tariff rates under the French treaty, the United States treaty and others.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—505a. Hardwood flooring, tongued and/or grooved, or jointed viz.:—beech, birch, maple and oak: British preferential tariff, 17½ per cent; intermediate tariff, 22½ per cent; general tariff, 25 per cent.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—522. Rovings, yarns and warps wholly of cotton, not more advanced than singles, n.o.p.: British preferential tariff, 12½ per cent; intermediate tariff, 15 per cent; general tariff, 22½ per cent; and per pound: intermediate tariff, 3½ cents; general tariff, 4 cents.

Mr. BENNETT: Did the tariff board report on the item?

Mr. DUNNING: Yes, I would suggest that any discussion might be had on items 522 to 529a, because they are the subject of the tariff board report mentioned by the leader of the opposition, to which I made reference in the budget speech.

Mr. BENNETT: It was a long hearing in which representatives from Great Britain appeared before the board.

Mr. DUNNING: The hearing stretched over two years.

[Mr. Dunning.]

Mr. BENNETT: Yes, I knew it was more than a year, but I did not know it was quite that long. Am I right in assuming that the report of the board has been adopted in every particular in these several items we are now considering? If not, in what particulars has there been a change? And am I right in assuming that the reason for the change has been that the British preferential tariff is no longer on the basis of a specific rate?

Mr. DUNNING: The right hon. gentleman is correct in that understanding, and correct also with regard to the report of the tariff board down as far as item 529a. The tariff commissioner advises me that 522c and 529 are exceptions to the remark I made a moment ago, but they are necessarily subject to the considerations which influenced the tariff board in their report on these other items, and are directly related. That is the situation as far down as item 529a.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—522c. Rovings, yarns and warps wholly of cotton, including threads, cords and twines generally used for sewing, stitching, packaging and other purposes, n.o.p.; cotton yarns, wholly or partially covered with metallic strip, generally known as tinsel thread: British preferential tariff, 15 per cent; intermediate tariff, 22½ per cent and 3½ cents per pound; general tariff, 25 per cent and 4 cents per pound.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—523. Woven fabrics, wholly of cotton, not bleached, mercerized nor coloured, n.o.p., and seamless cotton bags: British preferential tariff, 15 per cent; intermediate tariff, 20 per cent and 3½ cents per pound; general tariff, 25 per cent and 4 cents per pound.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—523a. Woven fabrics, wholly of cotton, bleached or mercerized, not coloured, n.o.p.: British preferential tariff, 20 per cent; intermediate tariff, 22½ per cent and 3½ cents per pound; general tariff, 27½ per cent and 4 cents per pound.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—523b. Woven fabrics, wholly of cotton, printed, dyed or coloured, n.o.p.: British preferential tariff, 22½ per cent; intermediate tariff, 27½ per cent and 3½ cents per pound; general tariff, 32½ per cent and 4 cents per pound.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—529. Embroideries, lace, nets, nettings, bobinet, n.o.p., fringes and tassels, wholly of cotton: British preferential tariff, 20 per cent; intermediate tariff, 27½ per cent and 3½ cents per pound; general tariff, 30 per cent and 4 cents per pound.

Item agreed to.