

Excise Tax Act Amendment

under quota restrictions and substantial savings in United States dollars are expected to result from this action.

Then he goes on:

The savings, however, would be considerably reduced if domestic production of the same type of articles were to expand to fill the gap in the supply, since this would involve further substantial imports of parts and components.

The amount of United States parts that goes into these goods is perfectly well known. The figures are available. They may not be easy to get, but this was put forward as the main feature of this measure, and surely it is not too much to ask for this information.

Mr. ABBOTT: We can possibly get the amount of radio parts imported and probably automobile parts; but when we get down to which part of an electric toaster is imported, I do not know, even if we had the information, just what practical advantage it would be. However, I shall ask my officials to try to get whatever information can be obtained as to the importation of parts of articles which are subject to this tax. I want to add this, that even if an article does not contain one cent's worth of imported content the chances are that it does contain metal, such as aluminum or copper or something else, which we could export to dollar markets and sell for dollars. In addition, I suggest that the consumption of these articles should be reduced.

Mr. MACDONNELL (Muskoka-Ontario): I want to complete my question.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I want the permission of the committee to do two things. In the first place, has the minister leave to put the proposed amended resolution on *Hansard*?

Some hon. MEMBERS: Agreed.

Mr. ABBOTT: It is as follows:

Resolved, that it is expedient to introduce a measure to amend the Excise Tax Act and to provide:

1. Effective on and after November 18, 1947, an excise tax of 25 per cent is imposed on the following goods:

(a) The following electrical appliances: waffle irons; roasters; kettles; chafing dishes; juice extractors; coffee makers; toasters of all kinds; portable humidifiers; curling irons or tongs, hair dryers; permanent waving machines and spacers or clamps; rods and heaters therefor; razors and shavers; garbage disposal units;

(b) The following electrical appliances when adapted to household use: food or drink mixers; food choppers and grinders; irons and ironers; vacuum cleaners and attachments therefor; floor waxers and polishers;

(c) Electric or gas refrigerators or freezing equipment, and coils, condensing or compressor units, cabinets, boxes, evaporators and expansion valves therefor; all the foregoing when adapted to household or apartment use or when

[Mr. Macdonnell (Muskoka-Ontario).]

for use in places of entertainment, amusement or recreation, including rinks, auditoria, halls and clubs;

(d) Firearms except for military or police purposes;

(e) Outboard motors;

(f) Motorcycles, and all other two- or three-wheeled motor-driven vehicles including motors for attachment to bicycles but not including vehicles specially designed for carrying goods or for use by invalids;

(g) Projectors for slides, films or pictures designed for industrial or professional photographers' use;

(h) Toilet articles of all kinds (including combs, mirrors and brushes other than tooth brushes or shaving brushes the duty paid value or the Canadian manufacturer's selling price of which combs, mirrors and brushes is more than twenty-five cents each) and which items do not already come within any other item in schedule one of the said act.

2. That on and after November 18, 1947, the rate of excise tax on automobiles adapted or adaptable for passenger use with seating capacity for not more than ten persons each, imported into or manufactured or produced in Canada be increased from ten per cent to the following rates, namely, on automobiles valued at \$1,200 or less, 25 per cent; over \$1,200 but not more than \$2,000, 25 per cent on \$1,200 plus 50 per cent on the amount in excess of \$1,200; over \$2,000, 25 per cent on \$1,200 plus 50 per cent on \$800 plus 75 per cent on the amount in excess of \$2,000.

3. That on and after November 18, 1947, the rate of excise tax on phonographs, record playing devices, radio broadcast receiving sets and tubes therefor, be increased from ten per cent to twenty-five per cent.

4. That on and after November 18, 1947, the rate of excise tax on cameras, photographic films and plates, projectors for slides, films or pictures, except those designed exclusively for industrial or professional photographers' use, be increased from ten per cent to twenty-five per cent.

5. That on and after November 18, 1947, electricity and gas used in dwellings be exempt from consumption or sales tax; and

6. That on and after November 18, 1847, the excise tax of one cent per pound on sugar, grape sugar, glucose, sugar syrup, corn syrup, etc., be repealed.

The DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The hon. member for Brant has been trying to get to his feet and I should like to give him that opportunity.

Mr. CHARLTON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister said some time ago that he did not blame retailers for collecting the tax on all inventory stock. Am I to assume from that, that a retailer who had a stock of radios would be able to collect the tax on a radio and stick the tax in his pocket and not send it in to the dominion treasury? By the same token, would a man who had a \$4,000 car in stock on November 16 be able to collect in the same way \$3,000 as a pure profit? Is that right?