The underdeveloped countries of the world engaged in this negotiation and in so far as the tariff cuts related to products that they export it was valuable to them. In addition, however, the underdeveloped countries of the world have been making proposals, particularly in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, UNCTAD, for preferential arrangements. These proposals have been under discussion, not in the Kennedy round and not specifically within GATT but within this new organization.

As for the tariffs that apply to American subsidiaries, Canadian tariffs apply generally to all kinds of enterprises whether they are owned in Canada, in the United States or elsewhere. My general assessment of the Kennedy round is that it is of very great net benefit to industry as a whole, although of course there will be particular industries that will be adversely affected. This I have said from time to time, and in due course the government will be bringing forward some suggestions as to how assistance might be given to such industries to enable them to move into areas of industry where opportunities have been enlarged by the Kennedy round.

• (4:20 p.m.)

The hon. member for Okanagan Boundary asked about the fair market value for duty purposes on fruits and vegetables. I would prefer to answer that question when we deal with the budget resolutions where this matter would be more appropriately considered and when I will have with me the Minister of National Revenue who is more concerned with the administration. I am concerned with the law and he is concerned with the administration. As the hon. member knows, both of us are involved in this question and I think it would be more satisfactory if I dealt with it later. However, I have taken note of his remarks.

Mr. Pugh: Mr. Chairman, I should like to ask the minister for some reassurance. Does he think that any changes contemplated will be less beneficial to Canada than is the case under the legislation now in effect? I am referring specifically to fruit and vegetables.

Mr. Sharp: I can only say that in these negotiations we have tried to make everything of more benefit to Canada. But whether everyone in every industry will agree, I am not certain. Certainly the attempt was made to enlarge the opportunities for Canadian industry. I cannot say that everybody will be satisfied. At any rate, the changes being proposed will be before the house very shortly, when there can be a general discussion of this matter.

Mr. Cameron (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Chairman, I wanted to ask the minister a question with regard to the possible effect of the imposition of import quotas by the United States. Would that be a contravention of the Kennedy round agreement? The reason I ask the question is that I have had correspondence with Washington and my correspondent, who has been covering the senate hearings on the first piece of such legislation, reported that while it has been headed off at the pass there is a mass of other bills in the hopper to much the same effect, any one of which might slip through at some time when people are not watching carefully. I wondered whether they could go through and not be in contravention of the Kennedy round agreement.

Mr. Sharp: In general, Mr. Chairman, I should think they would be in contravention of that agreement. If they have not been negotiated with us or other countries concerned, any changes that are made which are not in accordance with our agreements would be in contravention of an undertaking made by the United States. I think that is the general answer I must give. I am hopeful, however, that most of the threats to the Kennedy round, or most of the threats to take action which is contrary to the undertakings of the United States government, will not be realized. The information that we have is that since the United States government has made these agreements it will do everything in its power to see that they are observed.

Item agreed to.

Royal Canadian Mint—

30. Administration, operation and maintenance, $3,100,000.

Mr. Cameron (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Chairman, perhaps before I start to lay out what I presume to be the scope of this vote I should get a ruling from the Chair. The vote concerns the Royal Canadian Mint and thus deals with our currency. Therefore, presumably the protection of the value of our currency is also relevant to this vote. It is on that basis that I should like to proceed to discuss the threats to the value of our currency which have been emerging in recent months and which have caused so much anxiety to the minister and members of the Canadian public. I see the minister