

*Customs Tariff (No. 2)***AFTER RECESS**

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

**GOVERNMENT ORDERS**

[*English*]

**CUSTOMS TARIFF (No. 2)**

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton) that Bill C-195, to amend the Customs Tariff (No. 2), be read the second time and referred to Committee of the Whole.

**Mr. William C. Frank (Middlesex):** Mr. Speaker, when I called it five o'clock this afternoon I had nearly finished what I had planned to say with regard to the drop in the tariff from 17½ per cent to 15 per cent on mobile homes and house trailers manufactured in Canada. Recently another matter has come to my attention on which I would like to speak for a few moments. Instead of criticizing the decrease in the tariff I should like to recommend that an increased tariff be imposed on imported hatching eggs so as to protect the broiler hatcheries in Canada.

The effect of the U.S. embargo recently placed on soybean meal and other products has actually set the price of soybean meal in Canada, which is at present around \$450 a ton. In the United States, as a result of this U.S. embargo the market for soybean meal as of noon today is \$193 a ton. This has put broiler hatcheries in the United States at a great advantage compared with competing broiler hatcheries here in Canada. The broiler breeder, in feeding hens for hatching broiler eggs, has to pay an increased cost on feed per dozen eggs as compared with the commercial egg producer. The broiler breeder flock will need approximately 35 pounds of feed for 100 birds compared to 23 pounds for 100 birds for the laying type breeder.

● (2010)

It can easily be seen that this is quite a large increase in cost. The American counterpart of the broiler breeder flock owner in Canada can buy protein for upwards of \$200 a ton less than the breeder in Canada and so is far more competitive. He can ship eggs to Canada to compete with our hatchery broiler breeders. The actual cost would appear to be 18 cents per dozen eggs cheaper for the American breeder.

This is a situation that deserves immediate attention, at least for a temporary period until the 90 day embargo is lifted in the United States. I hope that the minister will give this matter serious consideration, as I am sure it is worthy of such consideration on a temporary basis. If something is not done the broiler breeders and hatchery men in Canada will be forced to retreat, as it were, and in some cases probably go out of business. Once these businesses are closed up, it is very seldom that they reopen.

I hope the liaison between the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) and the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whelan) is better than it was between the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Gray) and the Minister of Agriculture.

[The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger).]

ture. The Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs was quite willing to give the Consumers' Association of Canada another \$100,000 to supposedly fight marketing boards, and this seems hard to believe. I asked the Minister of Agriculture about this in the House and he said "I am not worried because they will not find anything wrong with marketing boards". In other words, he was saying "What's another \$100,000?" So I hope the liaison is better now than it was then. That \$100,000 could be used to great advantage to promote better rural-urban relations. We are all consumers, whether urban or rural. That is an area which needs some support, and if the Consumers' Association of Canada is to do anything it should try to help the rural and urban people understand each other.

In closing I should like to re-emphasize that the Minister of Finance seriously consider a temporary support program for the hatchery men in Canada.

**Mr. Harry Olausen (Coast Chilcotin):** Mr. Speaker, Canadian trade policy has traditionally been characterized by high tariffs against foreign goods. This policy, the so-called "national policy", was started by the Conservative party after the election in 1878 and has been continued by successive governments of both parties ever since.

The Liberal party has been called the party of low tariffs. However, history does not back up this claim. The Liberals, just as much as the Conservatives, are a party of high tariffs. The New Democratic Party, on the other hand, does not believe that Canada's problems, international or domestic, can be solved by a high tariff policy.

The needs of the Canadian domestic market must be met in as orderly a fashion as possible. The needs of the manufacturers as well as the needs of the consumers cannot be ignored. Therefore, I welcome Bill C-195, to amend the Canadian Customs Tariff, introduced in the House of Commons by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner), not in the sense that it will solve all our economic problems and bring lasting relief to the consumers of this country, but in the sense that it tries to deal with the high cost of goods and the inflationary trend in this country. I hope that the proposed tariff cuts will not be of a temporary nature but that they will be prolonged for as long as it is feasible to do so.

I urge the government to accept the need for reductions in many items that are not included in the present bill. These additional areas should be discussed and implemented through amendments when the bill goes into committee.

One area which I urge the government to consider is the need for reduction not only in manufactured goods but also in raw materials that need to be imported for the manufacture of products in this country. This is essential if the government is interested in creating jobs and lowering prices for consumers. It is central to our party's philosophy that it is essential for us to manufacture and process raw materials in this country. It is essential that the import of raw materials for manufacture must top the list of amendments to the bill if we are to implement a policy that creates more jobs and gives encouragement to many of the country's small manufacturers.