

the tariff and he will do so in the future; he will raise his price by 60 cents per hundred pounds, and the cost to the Canadian consumer will be increased by that much. I should like to know who are the manufacturers of laundry soap in Canada, where the stock of the companies is held, the number of employees and the wages paid.

Mr. STEVENS: I shall not attempt to answer that question because the information is not and could not be expected to be available. We have lowered the tariff, as far as British imports are concerned, from 65 to 50 cents per hundred pounds. The importation of this class of soap is not extensive as compared with the present production in Canada, but it is anticipated that there will be increased importations of British soap. The same thing applies to the next item, which covers castile soap, in which case we have taken off one cent per pound and allowed it to come in free from Great Britain. In both instances it is a lowering of the tariff.

Mr. YOUNG: My hon. friend is not going to give the information for which I asked, but I think I have a little of it. Canadian manufacturers of laundry soap are branches of English firms.

Some hon. MEMBERS: No.

Mr. YOUNG: Where is Sunlight soap manufactured?

An hon. MEMBER: One or two may be.

Mr. YOUNG: They are branches of English firms. This increase in the duty under the general rate is not going to benefit the British manufacturer in his home factory. It is going to affect the profits he makes in his Canadian factory, and that will be done at the expense of the Canadian consumer. The minister says he is not in a position to give us the information asked for in regard to Canadian production, but when we know that our soap is going to cost so much more, we have a right to know how much more will be paid to Canadian workmen in the form of wages. I would ask that the item stand.

The CHAIRMAN: Shall the item carry?

Some hon. MEMBERS: Carried.

Mr. YOUNG: Stand.

The CHAIRMAN: Carried.

Customs tariff—230. Castile soap, the weight of the cartons and wrappings to be included in the weight for duty, per pound: British preferential tariff, free; intermediate tariff, two cents; general tariff, two cents.

Item agreed to.

53719—763

Customs tariff—229. Soap, common or laundry, per one hundred pounds: British preferential tariff, 50 cents; intermediate tariff, \$1.50; general tariff, \$1.50.

Mr. YOUNG: Is item 229 carried?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

Mr. YOUNG: Who carried it?

The CHAIRMAN: The committee did.

Mr. YOUNG: No, they did not.

The CHAIRMAN: I asked: Shall the item carry? and nobody objected, so it is carried.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): On a point of order, I think we had better understand this situation clearly, otherwise we shall not make as much progress as we have been making. In regard to the item of common or laundry soap, the hon. member for Weyburn distinctly said that he wished it to stand. While some hon. members said "carried," the question was never properly put to the committee, and if, sir, you insist on forcing this to a vote tonight, we are prepared to have a vote.

The CHAIRMAN: There was no question before the committee. After the hon. member for Weyburn asked that the item stand, I asked: Shall the item carry? and nobody spoke, so I called out "carried."

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): May I point out that in regard to a previous item the Minister of Finance very courteously stood it over in order to get some further information. I suggest that the Minister of Trade and Commerce might very well do the same in this case. We are quite interested in knowing who the producers of soap are in this dominion.

Mr. STEVENS: There is not the slightest objection on my part or on that of any other member of the government to giving all the information possible, but I submit to my hon. friend and other hon. gentlemen opposite: Is it quite reasonable to expect that a minister could come here with all the information he might be called upon to give?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): No. Let the item stand.

Mr. STEVENS: I do not wish to delay the committee, but let me deal with the question asked by the hon. member for Weyburn. He asks: Who are the soap manufacturers in Canada? I suppose we all know pretty well, generally speaking, who they are: Lever Brothers; Proctor and Gamble; the old Royal Crown out on the coast, which firm is now, I think, absorbed by Lever Brothers; Pugsley,