

of the blame should be placed on the farmer. The quality of bacon is decided to a greater extent in the farm barnyard than in the abattoir. So far as shipping it out of Canada is concerned, I think in all fairness to the abattoirs we must realize that there is a demand in Canada for good quality bacon, and there are many members of this house, including the Minister of Finance (Mr. Dunning)—who will no doubt have quite an appetite to-morrow after all the hard work he is doing to-day in this house—who would be very much disappointed if they found on their breakfast table to-morrow morning only the type of bacon, what is called rattlesnake pork, that comes in from the United States.

Mr. DUNNING: I like my breakfast bacon very much.

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin): Certainly, and thousands and thousands more Canadians want their breakfast bacon to be of high quality. Schneiders of Waterloo have a plant that has been producing high class bacon for years, and you cannot expect the packers at Toronto and other points in this country to send their best bacon out of Canada and retain only their coarser qualities to compete with Schneiders and other high class producers in this country.

Mr. MacRAE: Does the hon. member think it is good policy for Canada to send out poor quality bacon?

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin): No, I quite agree that we should send more of the good quality, but there is a constant demand in Canada for high class bacon. We consume in Canada from ninety-five to ninety-seven per cent of our pork and pork products. We have been struggling for many years to get a more balanced production, to produce more bacon and other finished products, using more of our own grain rather than having it left in the elevators, and it is bad business to encourage the importation of this product when we could be using wheat as feed and in that way get rid of some of our unsold grain. The principle is absolutely unsound and very dangerous.

Mr. DUNNING: Might I just point out that in this item there is not a hog, not a bit of pork, nor any cattle, with the single exception that sausage comes into it.

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin): Where do you get the sausage?

Mr. DUNNING: I think, Mr. Chairman, that we might now pass this item and have the different subjects come up for discussion on the proper items.

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin): As long as you have sausage in there, you have them all.

Mr. STEVENS: Mr. Chairman, I realize that you are right and that most of this discussion is out of order. It is not my intention to violate your ruling; I simply wish to say that when the agriculture estimates are up it is my purpose to discuss this question of export bacon and the price of hogs, the part that is played therein by the packers, both in Canada and the United States, and other matters pertaining thereto. It would be entirely out of order, of course, for me to do so on this item.

In order to justify my position on this item I would call the attention of the committee to the fact that it provides that meats, prepared or preserved, other than canned, n.o.p., shall carry a duty of three cents per pound under the intermediate tariff, which is the tariff applied to the United States under this agreement. The reason I am prepared to support this item is simply that I think three cents is a sufficient duty, but it would be unfair to myself and others who might hold similar views to allow the impression to go abroad that I am entirely in favour of a very low rate of duty on imports of meats of all kinds. This, however, is not the proper item under which to discuss that, and I am simply serving notice to the committee that by acquiescing in this item I am not expressing approval of many of the views that have been expressed here to-day.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—ex 47. Soya beans, n.o.p., free.

Mr. BENNETT: Would the minister explain why this item is made free?

Mr. DUNNING: Our imports of soya beans are not separately recorded. The only provision in our tariff at present is item 663. Prior to the coming into force of the treaty, soya beans could be imported free when imported for use in the manufacture of cattle feeds and fertilizers. The statistics of imports under this item cover a number of commodities and do not segregate soya beans. There is a limited production in Canada, particularly in southwestern Ontario, but so far the record of this crop in this country has not been an extremely encouraging one. In at least two or three recent years the crop has been disappointingly small with extremely high prices, the latter being in part a reflection of conditions prevailing south of the line, where demand has outstripped supply. The great natural source