

Mr. STEVENS: Then the right hon. gentleman said—he did not use this language himself, but he quoted an article, apparently with approval, in which it was indicated that Canada had done nothing in return for the concessions granted.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: No, there was no reference in anything I read about Canada's part in it.

Mr. STEVENS: Then I misunderstood the article quoted from Sir Arthur Salter. He may not have used the word "Canada," but he did state that the colonies received nothing in return.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I do not think so.

Mr. STEVENS: However, be that as it may, the fact is that in schedule F there is a list of items particularly requested by the colonies, of immediate and direct practical interest to them. I shall not read them in detail, I only draw the attention of the committee to schedule F. This was an arrangement that was made between the British authorities with advisers of the colonies present, and the matter was most cordially discussed, and has been cheerfully accepted by the colonies, and the concessions granted have been given as I have indicated.

In addition to what I have said in regard to schedule F, many of the items in schedule E are of distinct advantage to the colonies, and Canada extends to the colonies the British preference, extends to them certain special concessions, and we receive from the colonies in return the concessions indicated in schedule D. That I think is all that it is necessary to say at the moment in reply to the right hon. gentleman's observations.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: The paragraph which my hon. friend had in mind, I think, is this, from Sir Arthur Salter's article:

The colonial empire is likely, then, to enjoy—or to suffer—the consequences of the Ottawa decisions. But it cannot, I think, be denied, that their interests received a very subordinate consideration. We find no proposals for specific preferences for characteristic products of the colonial empire, such as rubber.

I think that what my hon. friend has just said about all that has been done being done simply at the instance of the advisors of the colonial empire rather than at that of representatives from their legislatures, with whatever limited powers they may have, bears out the truth of what Sir Arthur Salter says.

[Mr. Lapointe.]

Mr. STEVENS: There were members of their legislatures here. Furthermore, schedule F contains a list of items of peculiar interest to the colonies.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Were there any official delegates from the British colonies or protectorates at the conference?

Mr. STEVENS: If the right hon. gentleman refers to members of governments, I am not aware of any.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I mean official delegates.

Mr. STEVENS: Not in the sense my right hon. friend has in mind. There was the Secretary of State for the Colonies, with Sir Edward Davson and some others representing the colonies.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): They are all shown in the official list as advisers to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Mr. STEVENS: Sir Edward Davson represented the West Indies at the last imperial conference in London.

Mr. DONNELLY: I am sorry that the Minister of Agriculture is not here, seeing that we are dealing with the marketing of agricultural products. I have known for some time that the marketing of wheat and grain has been under the Department of Trade and Commerce, but it is news to me that the marketing of all agricultural products should be under that department. I always thought that the Department of Agriculture in Ottawa had to do with the marketing of agricultural products, while the provincial departments of agriculture were concerned with production. Now the Minister of Trade and Commerce has taken charge of it all and we are inclined to ask, Why a Minister of Agriculture at all in these times? The Minister of Agriculture says himself that his presence is important. I notice a clipping in the Ottawa Journal in which there is a report of a speech made by the minister in Kansas City. The dispatch is dated November 13. The report reads:

Hon. Robert Weir, Canadian Minister of Agriculture, told a luncheon gathering at the American Royal Livestock and Horse Show here Saturday that "agriculture is one of the most important considerations in the trade plan we are formulating."

The minister was one of a number of agricultural authorities of other nations to address the luncheon and he spoke very briefly. In complimenting those responsible for conduct of the show, he said:

"I believe I need only remind you of the importance of my presence at the parliament