

Hon. Mr. McKEEN: Does that mean that if we have certain raw materials that are needed by our secondary industries we could be forced to remove an embargo against the export of those materials to other countries? For instance, it is quite conceivable that outside interests might come in and buy up most of the raw materials needed by our pulp mills in British Columbia, and if those materials could be exported the pulp mills would be put out of business. Would the Geneva agreement make it impossible for the government to impose an embargo on exports of that kind?

Mr. DEUTSCH: After this transitional period is over we would not be permitted to continue export controls or prohibitions, just as we would not be permitted to prohibit imports except under specified circumstances.

Hon. Mr. McKEEN: I understand it with respect to imports in the natural course of trade, but I don't see why other countries should have any rights over our raw materials.

Mr. DEUTSCH: I believe you are referring to the controls on the export of pulpwood.

Hon. Mr. McKEEN: And on lumber, which is also used.

Hon. Mr. MACLENNAN: You are only giving an example.

Hon. Mr. McKEEN: But that was done long before the war.

Mr. DEUTSCH: That is true, but in so far as those controls are imposed by the provinces, the federal government has made no undertaking which would force the provinces to change their practice. In other words, the provinces have been imposing their controls, and because of the fact that the pulpwood is cut on Crown property there is nothing in these agreements which would interfere with the provinces carrying out whatever natural resources policy they wish to have.

Hon. Mr. PIRIE: But that has only to do with Crown land and does not affect private land.

Mr. DEUTSCH: That is true. Also, in so far as the federal government is concerned it could not put on prohibitions.

Hon. Mr. McKEEN: But the federal government sold Crown lands, advertising that it had exportable timber. Of course during the war it could not be exported for war purposes, but the sales were advertised on that basis. Now the war has been over some time and they still enforce those controls, which I think is rather a discrimination against the buyer who bought on the assumption that he could export that material. While I am not in favour of any export of raw material of which we ourselves are in short supply, when we have the supply I do not think an embargo like that should be carried out, especially when the land was bought on a contract that it had exportable timber.

Hon. A. L. BEAUBIEN: Do I understand that if Canada at some time became in short supply, for instance with respect to meat, that under the Geneva Agreements we cannot put on prohibitions?

Mr. DEUTSCH: Let me try to make the point clear. We have a temporary period after the war which is commonly referred to as the transitional period, during which time—

Hon. A. L. BEAUBIEN: May I ask if there is a time limit to that period?

Mr. DEUTSCH: Yes, there is a limit.

Hon. A. L. BEAUBIEN: What is the time limit?

Mr. DEUTSCH: 1951. —during which time we can adjust our wartime controls to a normal situation, and during that period we may continue some of the trade controls we had on during the war. After that time limit expired we would no longer be permitted to put on prohibitions either of an export or an import nature. There are a few exceptions to that, under the normal