

Customs Tariff

Mr. Benidickson: Yes.

Item agreed to.

Items 462i, 463b, 482 and 482a agreed to.

Customs tariff—504a. Ponderosa pine lumber (*pinus ponderosa*), California sugarpine lumber (*pinus Lambertiana*) and California redwood lumber (*sequoia semper virens*), not further manufactured than planed, dressed or jointed: British preferential tariff, free; most-favoured-nation tariff, free; general tariff, free.

Mr. Peters: Would the minister care to explain the thinking of the tariff board on this item and the other items connected with the lumber industry, particularly the pine industry, and if any consideration has been given to protection, particularly of white pine. The industry is facing very serious problems because of the imports of competing white pine from the United States. Markets are being lost as a result by the Canadian industry.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): This item was not the subject of an inquiry by the tariff board. It resulted from an appeal to the tariff board as I outlined in my budget speech. The result was that the tariff board ruled that lumber which had been dressed, such as shiplap, did not qualify for entry at the lower rate. This gave a good deal of concern to the lumber producers of British Columbia because the United States tariff item read to the same effect. They were concerned that if the ruling of the Canadian tariff board on this item stood, the United States might choose to apply it against imports from Canada, and at the urgent request of the British Columbia lumber industry we have here undertaken what is in effect a clarification to restore the law to the effect it was always understood to have.

This actually reverses the ruling of the tariff board and in effect reduces the Canadian tariff, but it has been done for the purpose of maintaining uniformity with the United States tariff in order that Canadians may still have the benefit of access to the United States market for Canadian lumber at the lower rate.

Mr. Pickersgill: The minister will be delighted to hear that this is one thing which he has done with which I completely agree.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): I am quite overwhelmed, and I thank my hon. friend most humbly.

Mr. Broome: In this regard I would like to say that the British Columbia lumber manufacturers' association were very greatly concerned about the matter and the action of the minister has the most wholehearted approval of the British Columbia lumber industry.

[Mr. Fleming (Eglinton).]

Item agreed to.

Items 505, 505a, 505b, 505c, 505d and 595a agreed to.

Customs tariff—597d. Musical instruments, namely: autoharps, clavichords, harpsichords, *harps*; *bass violas*, *violas*, *violins*, *violin cellos*; *strings for the foregoing*; recorders, xylophones; *bassoons*, *clarinets*, *English horns*; *fifes*, *flutes*, *oboes*, *piccolos*, *saxophones*: British preferential tariff, free; most-favoured-nation tariff, free; general tariff, 30 per cent.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): There is an amendment to 597d, consisting simply of the addition of the words, "parts of the foregoing", and I would like to ask my colleague the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources to move it.

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle): I so move.

Amendment agreed to.

Item as amended agreed to.

Items 691, 695d, 696a, 696c, 703a, 703b, 703c, 791, 901 and 902 agreed to.

Customs tariff—907. Foamed and expanded synthetic resins, in logs, blocks or boards, or in flakes, granules or powder: British preferential tariff, 15 per cent; most-favoured-nation tariff, 20 per cent; general tariff, 25 per cent.

Customs tariff—914. Foamed and expanded cellulose plastics in blocks or boards, granules or powder: British preferential tariff, 15 per cent; most-favoured-nation tariff, 20 per cent; general tariff, 25 per cent.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): There is an amendment with respect to items 907 and 914, which I would like to ask my colleague to move.

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle) moved:

That resolution No. 8 of the budget resolutions relating to the Customs Tariff be amended by deleting therefrom items 907 and 914 and by substituting therefor the following:

"Customs tariff—907. Foamed and expanded synthetic resins, in logs, sheets, blocks or boards, or in flakes, granules or powder: British preferential tariff, 15 per cent; most-favoured-nation tariff, 20 per cent; general tariff, 25 per cent.

Customs tariff—914. Foamed and expanded cellulose plastics in sheets, blocks or boards, granules or powder: British preferential tariff, 15 per cent; most-favoured-nation tariff, 20 per cent; general tariff, 25 per cent."

Amendments agreed to.

Mr. Benidickson: Mr. Chairman, these are very substantial increases, as hon. members will see. I am not too well informed as to where these particular products, namely resins, eventually arrive in industry or in respect to consumer utilization, but I believe they do become very important items in consumer spending on insulation and such things. I am well aware that a few years ago there was a reference to the tariff board with respect to the general situation respecting resins and cellulose plastics, and as a