

tariff has been extended; and from and after the publication of such order in council in *The Canada Gazette* the British preferential tariff shall apply to goods the produce or manufacture of such territory, subject to the provisions of this act.

(f) Withdraw the benefit of the British preferential tariff from any territory administered under a mandate of the League of Nations which has received said benefit; and from and after the publication of such order in *The Canada Gazette*, the general tariff or the intermediate tariff, as mentioned in the said order, shall apply to goods the produce or manufacture of such territory subject to the provisions of this act.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Would the minister be kind enough to tell us to what countries he proposes by order in council to extend the preference, and from what countries he intends by order in council to take the preference?

Mr. ROBB: This is done at the request of the Prime Minister of New Zealand. Under the League of Nations treaty, Samoa is now under the mandate of New Zealand. That is the only country at the moment to which this applies.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: That would have to do with the first question. That would allow the British Preference to be extended to Samoa, as that country is under the mandate of New Zealand with whom we have this reciprocal arrangement. So we may look upon the resolution as extending the preference to Samoa?

Mr. ROBB: Yes.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: What trade has the minister in view in connection with Samoa?

Mr. ROBB: While this is granted at the request of New Zealand, I imagine the trade will not be very great. There will be a trade in fruits, or cocoa which we may import from there, and some of our products now going to New Zealand will be admitted into Samoa at the New Zealand preference rates. There are no countries from which the preference will be withdrawn at the moment; we have simply taken authority to withdraw.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: We may take it then that the produce of Samoa is similar to that of the West Indies?

Mr. ROBB: It might be.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Well, is it? I think this House should have some idea as to what extension of trade we are going to get and on what articles.

Mr. ROBB: It is a fair assumption to say that they are similar to the West Indies or the Fiji Islands.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: We have no preference with the Fiji Islands, but we have with the West Indies. What does Samoa export, for example, and what does she import?

Mr. ROBB: They will export coconuts, cocoas, some fruit. And they buy our canned fish. They do not buy Canadian butter; they buy the products that usually go to a tropical country. The hon. gentleman is in error regarding Fiji. We have a preferential tariff with Fiji.

Mr. STEVENS: The Fiji preference is a subject I have been very much interested in for a long time. Has an arrangement been recently consummated with Fiji which has been under contemplation for quite a time, including the question of adequate transportation?

Mr. ROBB: I think they have the benefit of the Canadian British preference, and we have whatever preference the Fiji islands give. My hon. friend will be interested in transportation to and from Fiji. The treasurer of the colonial government of Fiji is now in Ottawa, and has been for some days, negotiating with some transportation companies for a better service as between Fiji islands and the Pacific coast and Canada, and, he tells me, with some hope of success.

Mr. STEVENS: I am delighted to hear it, and I hope the government will facilitate matters to its utmost, because a very excellent trade with Fiji may be developed. What is required is an improvement in transportation. I understand however, that the preference arrangement, so far as duties are concerned, is the previous or the old arrangement, not the new arrangement.

Mr. ROBB: No.

Mr. BAXTER: Is this power of extension and withdrawal under the Customs Act exercised by the minister or by the government by order in council?

Mr. ROBB: Under section 4 of the Customs tariff it is by order in council. The whole government must take the responsibility for it.

Mr. BAXTER: It is not intended to put it on the basis of something else we have had this session, namely the dumping clause. Why should this matter require action by the whole government, and why should the dumping clause be put in the hands of a single minister?

Mr. ROBB: The clause has been many years in our customs tariff.