

BROADCASTING LICENCES

On the orders of the day:

Hon. ERNEST LAPOINTE (Quebec East): May I ask the Solicitor General, the Acting Minister of Marine, whether it is true that new licences for broadcasting stations have been issued recently.

Hon. MAURICE DUPRE (Solicitor General): I do not think any have been issued since the commission was appointed.

TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN
CANADA AND THE UNITED
KINGDOM

The house resumed from Monday, November 14, consideration in committee of Bill No. 8, respecting a certain trade agreement between His Majesty's government in Canada and His Majesty's government in the United Kingdom—Mr. Bennett.—Mr. LaVergne in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN: We are on article 6. Shall this article carry?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I presume that now that the government has tabled the report of the pig commission in the United Kingdom we shall be in a position to get a summary of it today. Of course, it does not remain long on the table before it goes into the usual channels of distribution. Sooner or later it will be available to the house. Could we get a summary today from the minister?

Mr. STEVENS: I would point out again to the committee that as far as the government is concerned we are most anxious to give the fullest possible information. I have before me a brief summary of this report but it must be remembered that until this report has been given effect to by legislation of the British parliament, discussion, other than the perusal of an interesting document, cannot have any effect upon the acceptance or otherwise of the agreement. I think that fact should be borne in mind, otherwise we are liable to get into a long discussion in connection with the views of the British pig products commission without adding anything to the usefulness of the debate. I again assure the committee that as far as I am concerned and I am sure as far as the government as a whole is concerned, we are most anxious to give the fullest possible information compatible with the reasonably expeditious passing of the business before the committee. There has not been time to study the very voluminous report of this commis-

[Mr Dupré]

sion, but after glancing through it I believe the following points might be of interest to the committee.

First, that although Great Britain consumes sixty per cent of the world's exports of pig products, the industry in that country is poorly organized and has at least fifteen important weaknesses.

Second, the bacon supplies must be stabilized and imports restricted. The sale of pigs under an annual contract system between pig raisers and the curers, together with the application of a quota system on imports, are recommended.

Third, the curers receive spasmodic instead of regular supplies due to the allocation of a large amount of pig production to the pork market. I might say that this report differentiates very clearly between bacon hog production and pig products or ordinary pork production. Segregation of the bacon and the pork requirements is recommended, the former to be carefully controlled by contracts and import quotas, the latter to be left unregulated.

Fourth, the cost of production of bacon in Great Britain is much too high owing to inefficiencies in the industry. I want to make it clear that these are the views of the commission; I am offering no opinion.

Fifth, research in connection with pig offal and other by-products is to be undertaken.

Sixth, a well organized markets intelligence service responsible to the development board is to be inaugurated.

Seventh, a pigs marketing board and bacon marketing board responsible to the pig industry development board are recommended for the rationalization of the industry and a quota advisory committee to determine requirements of bacon in Great Britain.

Very roughly stated, these are the matters dealt with in the report. There are certain statistics given but I think they really repeat what were given yesterday. However, for the information of the committee and its guidance and enlightenment, I shall give the percentages of total imports from different countries. The report gives the following percentages for the period January to August, 1932:

	Per cent
Denmark..	64
Poland..	9.8
Netherlands..	5.9
United States..	4.5
Sweden..	3.7
Lithuania..	4.2
Irish Free State..	1.4
Canada..	3
Other countries..	3.5