

Ways and Means—Customs Tariff

sider the resolution submitted to it some few weeks ago in relation to pensions for the blind.

Mr. F. W. TURNBULL (Regina): The meeting of the committee on industrial and international relations was announced two or three days ago in the votes and proceedings. It has been called for Tuesday, June 4.

OFFICIAL RECEIVERS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. L. BEAUBIEN (Provencher): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Rhodes). Has the department issued instructions to the official receivers under the Farmers' Creditors Arrangement Act to go about the country holding meetings and speaking to the farmers in regard to the debt adjustment act?

Hon. E. N. RHODES (Minister of Finance): I am aware of no such specific instructions, but I will make inquiry and advise my hon. friend at the next sitting.

WAYS AND MEANS

CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT

The house in committee of ways and means, Mr. Morand in the chair.

Hon. E. N. RHODES (Minister of Finance): Mr. Chairman, if it is agreeable I should like to proceed with the tariff items contained in the tariff schedule as it appears in votes and proceedings of March 22. We will begin with item No. 28.

Customs tariff—28. Coffee, green, imported direct from the country of growth and production, or purchased in bond in the United Kingdom, per pound: British preferential tariff, free; intermediate tariff, 3 cents; general tariff, 3 cents.

Provided, that coffee, green, shall be entitled to entry under the British preferential tariff upon evidence satisfactory to the minister that such coffee has been produced wholly in the British dominions, colonies or possessions, and not otherwise.

Mr. YOUNG: What is the change?

Mr. RHODES: The only change is to make the provision with respect to empire content in coffee the same as it has been for years with respect to tea.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—28a, agreed to.

Customs tariff—39, agreed to.

Mr. RHODES: I have an amendment to move with respect to which references have been made from time to time, and which comes as a result of findings of the tariff board. My colleague will move the following:

[Mr. Heaps.]

I beg to move that schedule A to the customs tariff, as amended by resolution No. 5 of March 22, 1935, be further amended by inserting therein the following item, enumeration and rates of duty:

39d—Rosin sizing: British preferential tariff, 5 per cent; intermediate tariff, 7½ per cent; general tariff, 10 per cent.

This is to preserve the status quo with respect to this commodity, in the event of action being taken.

Mr. SUTHERLAND: I move accordingly.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—65a, agreed to.

Mr. RHODES: Before proceeding with item 99c I wish to move an additional item 66a, as a result of a finding of the tariff board, reference No. 13, with respect to biscuits. I shall file the report when the committee rises. Meantime it is available to any hon. member. My amendment is:

I beg to move that schedule A to the customs tariff, as amended by resolution No. 5 of March 22, 1935, be further amended by inserting therein the following item, enumeration and rates of duty:

66a—Biscuits, sweetened or unsweetened, valued at not less than 20 cents per pound wholesale f.o.b. any port in the United Kingdom, said value to be based on the net weight and to include the value of the usual retail package: British preferential tariff, free; intermediate tariff, 30 per cent; general tariff, 30 per cent.

The only change is that the British preferential rate which hitherto stood at 20 per cent is now made free.

Mr. SUTHERLAND: I move accordingly.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—99c, agreed to.

Customs tariff—101b. Oranges, the produce of Palestine (when imported direct from the country of growth and production or from a country entitled to the benefits of the British preferential tariff) during the months of January, February, March and April: general tariff, free.

Mr. LUCAS: Would the minister please explain why this is included. It is free under all categories?

Mr. RHODES: The change is for this reason. Hitherto oranges from Palestine had to come direct. This amendment will permit them to come via all British ports. As a matter of fact they are trans-shipped to London, and this will permit them to maintain their position, although they come via London rather than by direct shipment.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—156. Ethyl alcohol, or the substance commonly known as alcohol, hydrated oxide of ethyl or spirits of wine, n.o.p.; gin