

*New Zealand Trade Agreement Act*

remarks. I hope Your Honour will let your eyes glide softly past the clock for that length of time, with the hope that we can complete this debate.

I agree with the hon. member for Edmonton West (Mr. Lambert) about the reference to committee. The one occasion the Committee on External Affairs delved into economic matters—and I have a great deal of respect for the deliberations of that committee—was an unmitigated disaster. The committee left its natural field and got into matters of United States nationalism. I hope the committee keeps away from this situation in the present case.

As the only member of this House who was born in New Zealand, perhaps I will be permitted to say a word or two on this subject. Having been nourished for the first few years of my life on New Zealand agricultural products, I hope I am a good illustration of their benefits—the mildness and moderation which they engender in the people of New Zealand. To some extent I agree with the hon. member for Crowfoot (Mr. Horner). There are problems in respect of which we must be careful. We must bring these to the attention of the authorities.

I was at a meeting of farmers in the Peace River country some two months ago. Several hundred farmers met to view, with great indignation, the agricultural policies of this government, particularly the unfortunate Farm Products Marketing Act. During the course of that meeting I rediscovered that a fledgling sheep industry was being developed in the north. I conclude what I have to say by placing on the record one paragraph from a letter I received, which I think will indicate my concern with the situation and will draw it to the attention of the authorities. This letter is from the president of the South Peace Sheep Breeders Association. In part it reads:

• (10:00 p.m.)

One concern we have is the importation of lamb from Australia and New Zealand. These countries have built their whole economy around sheep and the environment allows them to raise these sheep in a very economical manner. These importations present the people in the Peace River country who are struggling to develop a new industry with a very difficult competition. This is particularly true if importations are allowed in at the time of our heavy marketing, and we feel that strict import regulations are needed.

I must point out that this is not prohibition but regulation.

We would therefore ask the federal government to conduct a full investigation into the effect imported lamb has on the price of domestic lamb. In this regard we would draw to your attention these specific questions. Why is there an 8 per cent spread between imported lamb and Canadian lamb, the imported being the higher priced product? At times the price spread between Edmonton and Toronto markets appears excessive. We have noted differences as much as 16 cents a pound, and we would like some explanation.

Quite obviously, this bill provides the machinery to do this. I take this opportunity to bring the matter to the attention of the authorities and hope that the bill will now pass and be sent to the committee proposed by the hon. member for Edmonton West.

[Mr. Baldwin.]

**Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of National Revenue):** Mr. Speaker, we have given consideration to the very constructive suggestion of the hon. member for Edmonton West (Mr. Lambert) and are prepared to accept the suggestion to change the order of reference of this bill from the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence to the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs. I can say from my own experience, having had the honour of piloting the anti-dumping bill through the House and through the finance committee that the members of that committee from all parties are equipped to deal with the matter now before the House. Therefore, I move, seconded by the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Basford):

That the motion be amended to change the reference of the bill from the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence Committee to the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel):** Order. It is the practice of the House to have a written motion. However, with the unanimous consent of the House I think the Chair can change the motion which is before us so that the motion will read that the bill be referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs, rather than to the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence. Is it agreed?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel):** Is the House ready for the question?

**Some hon. Members:** Question.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs.

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## BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

**Mr. Baldwin:** Mr. Speaker, may I be permitted to ask the Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council whether the government intends to bring in any legislation to assist the economic situation, or are we to follow the rather pedestrian list which we have?

**Mr. Jerome:** Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend well knows, the order which has been set for legislation this week. Following the measure just passed will be Bill C-192, the young offenders bill, followed by Bill C-185, in respect of the Crop Insurance Act, followed by Bill C-187, respecting minerals in the Yukon Territory, followed by Bill C-193, to amend the Northern Canada Power Commission Act. I do not suppose it is appropriate to make lengthy comment on whether that list of legislation satisfies my friend with regard to the importance of the items therein contained.

**Mr. Basford:** He should read the editorial in the newspaper.