

were in good financial condition till about 1929 or 1930, after which time, largely for patriotic reasons and because of loyalty to their employees and a desire to maintain their organizations, they continued to carry on, although they might not have done so if they had followed sound business principles. By carrying on they gave employment to many people who otherwise would have been listed among the unemployed. The result to-day is that in many cases the financial condition of these manufacturers is not, I am sorry to say, all that could be desired.

This treaty, as I have said, reduces the duty on furniture from 45 per cent to 27½ per cent. I have here some figures which show the value of furniture imported from the United States during the first two months of the years 1935 and 1936. In January and February of 1935 the value of the total imports of furniture manufactured from wood amounted to \$38,663; in 1936 it amounted to \$90,515. There is also a quantity of metal furniture imported. In January and February of 1935 the value of metal furniture imported from the United States amounted to \$23,794; in the same months of 1936 it amounted to \$40,412. The total value of furniture, both wood and metal, imported from the United States during January and February of 1935 was \$62,457, whereas during the two corresponding months of 1936 it amounted to \$130,927—an increase of \$68,470. This is not a large amount, but the furniture manufacturers say that just now the Americans are only sending in samples, and that the country is being overrun by American travellers and a very great increase of American furniture may be expected. I mention this in the hope that when the Government brings down its budget there may be some change in the duty. I ask the honourable gentleman who leads this House (Hon. Mr. Dandurand) to take note of this matter, and to bring it to the attention of the Government, for I should be very pleased to see the furniture manufacturers of this country placed in a better position than they occupy at the present time.

Hon. F. B. BLACK: Honourable senators, I should like to make some comment on this trade agreement. It is not particularly critical, but still I think it has some relation to the community from which I come. I do not wish to proceed at this hour, however, and would therefore move the adjournment of the debate.

The motion was agreed to, and the debate was adjourned.

The Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 3 p.m.

Hon. Mr. DONNELLY.

THE SENATE

Thursday, March 26, 1936.

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

TORONTO HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS BILL

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Right Hon. GEORGE P. GRAHAM presented the report of the Standing Committee on Railways, Telegraphs and Harbours on Bill 12, an Act respecting the Toronto Harbour Commissioners, and moved concurrence therein.

He said: Honourable members, I might explain that the amendment is merely a change in phraseology to accomplish more clearly the purpose of the Bill.

The motion was agreed to.

BRITISH COLUMBIA SALMON HATCHERIES

INQUIRY

On the notice of discussion and inquiry by Hon. Mr. Taylor:

That he will call attention to a report in the British Columbia Press that "advice has been received from Ottawa by Major J. A. Motherwell, Chief Supervisor of Fisheries for British Columbia, that the salmon hatcheries are to be closed as soon as they are emptied of their contents this spring," and will inquire:

1. Is this intended as permanent or indefinite closing, or is it merely temporary?
2. How many hatcheries are included in this advice, and what is their ordinary capacity for hatching eggs?
3. Has the Biological Board made any recommendation in this matter? (b) If so, by what members and to what effect?
4. How many employees will be displaced by such closing? How many temporary and how many permanent?
5. If any are entitled to superannuation because of retirement, how many? And what will be the superannuation allowance?
6. What, if any, effect will this closing have upon the Sockeye Treaty at present awaiting action by the Senate at Washington?

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I have an answer for the honourable gentleman. It is as follows:

1. The closing of the sockeye salmon hatcheries is of a permanent nature.
2. The annual average quantity of eggs handled in all these hatcheries during the past four years was 78,000,000. Nine sockeye salmon hatcheries are included.