

Mr. RALSTON: Is that the big item?

Mr. RHODES: The value is not segregated; it is between hats, hoods and shapes. I am informed however that the item, though a large one, is not by any means the largest.

Mr. RALSTON: The intermediate applies to France only?

Mr. RHODES: No; France and Italy both have the intermediate.

Mr. RALSTON: I have no desire to have the item held. With regard to the other items, there is no disposition on this side to hold it up if my hon. friend is willing to go ahead with the resolutions as printed.

Item agreed to.

2. Resolved, that the aforesaid section 4 be further amended by adding thereto the following subsection:

(4)A. For the purposes of this act, the Netherlands Indies, Surinam and Curacao shall be regarded as comprising one country with the Netherlands.

Resolution agreed to.

3. Resolved, that the aforesaid customs tariff be further amended by deleting from section 11 thereof the words "reductions on Canadian products" and by substituting in lieu thereof the word "concessions."

Mr. RHODES: This widens the item; there must be a real concession. It means some quid pro quo.

Mr. RALSTON: But it need not necessarily be in the present.

Mr. RHODES: That is going pretty far. I would defer to my hon. friend in the interpretation of a legal phrase but that is going rather far.

Resolution agreed to.

4. Resolved, that the aforesaid customs tariff be further amended by adding thereto the following section, as section 18 thereof:—

(18) In the event of any duty imposed under this act upon spirituous or alcoholic liquors having been reduced, if it is made to appear to the governor in council that in any province the prices of such goods to the consumer have not been reduced to, or are not being maintained at, levels which will give the consumer the full benefit of any such reduction, the governor in council may order that such reduction shall be no longer in effect and, upon publication of such order in the Canada Gazette, the full rates of duty theretofore payable on such goods shall again be in force and effect.

Mr. RALSTON: Is that with regard to a particular province?

Mr. RHODES: It is to be hoped that we shall not have to use the authority, but it is designed to prevent the provinces from

taking advantage of the reduction which was made for the purpose of attempting to make a contribution towards obviating, at least in part, the illicit sale of liquor. It was meant to hold this authority to prevent the provinces from evading that intention. I do not think they will evade it in view of this provision.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): Has the minister looked into the constitutionality of this action?

Mr. RHODES: I have not made specific inquiry but I have not had occasion to call it in question. I do not think there is any constitutional difficulty; the question of duty is solely within the purview of the dominion parliament.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): But you do not mean to say that because one province is a sinner you will make all the others suffer.

Mr. RHODES: The constitutional question does not arise at all, but the practical effect will be that the other provinces will be brought into line.

Resolution agreed to.

Mr. RHODES: I would ask that the amendment to No. 1 stand. The suggested amendment came from the Department of External Affairs and it would not be courteous not to confer with them before agreeing either to drop it or to insist on going on with it. For that reason I would ask that it stand.

Mr. RALSTON: Does the minister intend to go on to-night after nine o'clock?

Mr. RHODES: I do not think I can stand it, but I shall see.

At six o'clock the Speaker resumed the chair and the house took recess.

### After Recess

The house resumed at eight o'clock.

### PRIVATE BILLS

#### SECOND READINGS

Bill No. 76, for the relief of Nora Ellen Moore McCabe.—Mr. Bell (St. Antoine).

Bill No. 77, for the relief of Hildur Emilia Hill Soucy.—Mr. Bell (St. Antoine).

Bill No. 78, for the relief of Ethel Ellis Callow Randles.—Mr. Bell (St. Antoine).