

amendment in substance when we reach the Schedule which is just a couple of items down the line.

Mr. Blenkarn: Mr. Chairman, I would perhaps agree with you. I only moved it now because if you look at page 12 of the Schedule it says "Schedule" and then "(Section 14)". Therefore, I felt it might be appropriate to make the amendment now. However, if it is your ruling that it be made when we come to the Schedule, I would certainly be prepared to have the matter stood down until that point. The reason I moved it now is because of the reference to the Section in the Schedule.

The Assistant Deputy Chairman: The first thing we have to do at this time is to realize that the clock has passed six o'clock. Therefore, this committee should rise.

Mr. Skelly: Point of order, Mr. Chairman.

The Assistant Deputy Chairman: The Hon. Member for Comox-Powell River on a point of order.

Mr. Skelly: I wonder whether with unanimous consent of the Members in the House we could extend the time of sitting until such time as this Bill is completely through the House, considering the good faith expressed by all Parties that we want to see this in place.

The Assistant Deputy Chairman: Is there unanimous consent to proceed as the Hon. Member just suggested?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

An Hon. Member: No.

Mr. Pinard: Some one on the Conservative Party side said no, Mr. Chairman. However, we would agree that time be extended until someone calls it six o'clock.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: We can agree with that proposition. Until someone calls it six o'clock, on our part we will continue to consider this matter.

The Assistant Deputy Chairman: We are back on Clause 14. I would just remind the Hon. Member for Mississauga South that Clause 14 which we are now considering would strike out tariff items of a previous Act which we are amending. Therefore he does not have to propose the amendment he wishes at this time. The amendment would be in order only when we reach the Schedule, and we are getting there. First, I will ask, shall Clause 14 carry?

● (1805)

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.
Clause 14 agreed to.

The Assistant Deputy Chairman: Shall Clause 15 carry?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.
Clause 15 agreed to.

The Assistant Deputy Chairman: Shall the Schedule carry?

Customs and Excise

Mr. Blenkarn: Mr. Chairman, you have in your hand an amendment to delete tariff item 44002-1 in the Schedule to the Bill found on page 12. I so move that amendment.

The Assistant Deputy Chairman: The Chair considers the amendment to be allowable.

Mr. MacLaren: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Let me try again. If this amendment were to be adopted, it would have the effect of abolishing tariff category 44002-1. In other words, under the British Preferential Tariff, we would remove the free entry under most favoured nations. We would supposedly remove the 25 per cent general tariff, and we would remove the free entry under the general preferential tariff. However, if we were to do that, then the general tariff category applies, in which case 25 per cent would apply in all four categories. By abolishing 44002-1 we would in effect replace that category with 44000-1, which is a 25 per cent tariff in each of four categories.

I would submit to you that according to Beuchesne 523, 519 and 516, the Opposition cannot amend the Bill in such a way as to place a charge on the public purse.

The Assistant Deputy Chairman: This is certainly a complicated situation. If other members have contributions, the Chair will hear them.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: I have a very short contribution to make.

The Assistant Deputy Chairman: The Chair has ruled, but since then Hon. Members have been commenting on the so-called ruling of the Chair.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: I agree that Your Honour should be as lenient as possible, but I do not know how many times, when we attempt to have a full fledged discussion with respect to procedural matters the Chair says that we cannot question the ruling of the Chair.

I clearly heard you say, Mr. Chairman, that this is an acceptable amendment. That is my brief intervention. I accept you at your word, if that has been your ruling. I appreciate the eminent argument put forward by the Minister of State for Finance (Mr. MacLaren) but it is too late.

Mr. Pinard: You have ruled on an amendment.

The Assistant Deputy Chairman: Are Hon. Members still questioning the ruling? If they do, the Chair will question its own ruling.

Mr. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, when you ruled, you ruled on an amendment that was moved to Clause 14. You never ruled on the amendment that is proposed to the Schedule now. It is a brand new amendment. It is not an amendment on which you have ruled. Therefore, there is no ruling on this amendment. There is an objection that is awaiting your decision.

We have explained why the amendment to the Schedule is not admissible. It is up to you to make a decision, but