

Mr. LANDERKIN. Where is this manufactured ?

Mr. FOSTER. In Montreal and Toronto.

Mr. MULOCK. Will the hon. gentleman say why that lower duty is only for the benefit of the manufacturer of rubber goods ?

Mr. FOSTER. It is not for the benefit of him alone. It is for the benefit of the consumer as well, because his goods are made cheaper.

Mr. MULOCK. The first person who imports is the manufacturer of rubber goods. He may ultimately sell to the consumer; but he alone can take advantage of this clause, and I want to know why ?

Mr. FOSTER. Because he wants the material for the purpose of his manufacture.

Mr. MULOCK. Why limit it to him ?

Mr. FOSTER. It is not limited to him. It is open to any one who chooses to make the goods.

Mr. MULOCK. What was the duty on raw material before ?

Mr. FOSTER. It would be 25 per cent for uncoloured, 30 per cent for coloured. It is now reduced to 12½ per cent.

Mr. MULOCK. That is a compensation to the manufacturer of rubber goods for the reduction of his duty ?

Mr. FOSTER. Yes. The manufacture of rubber goods in Canada has made wonderful progress in the last five or six years. The larger proportion of what may be called common rubber goods are now made in the Dominion, and the quality is constantly improving. The manufacture of the finer grades of light rubber goods, such as mackintoshes, which are made of either two light pieces of cloth with rubber filling between, or else simply of rubbered cloth, has been started, and has met with some success, and bids fair to become an established industry in the country; but when we reduce the duty on the manufactured article, we gave the manufacturer so small a margin that it was impossible for him to go on. These goods that we are allowing to come in at 12½ per cent are not made in this country, and so the duty does not interfere with any manufacturing industry in the country.

Mr. MULOCK. Why do you not encourage them by giving them a high duty ?

Mr. FOSTER. They will come up to that by and by.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. As the infant grows he will want more pap.

Mr. FOSTER. Yes, an increase of food is the rule.

Mr. DAVIES (P.E.I.) And as it contributes more, it will get more in proportion to its contributions.

Mr. McMULLEN. What prevents the manufacturer from bringing this material in for other purposes ?

Mr. FOSTER. Regulations will be framed by the Governor in Council to prevent any being imported surreptitiously to be used for purposes not contemplated. That can be easily arranged.

Mr. McMULLEN. I can understand that it can be arranged, but if a man who uses it for manufacturing waterproofs, chose to import it at 12½ per cent and sell it for other purposes, while others had to pay a higher duty, he might make a good thing out of it.

Mr. FOSTER. The strictest regulations will be made to prevent that.

Mr. MULOCK. I suppose all these Orders in Council will be of a general character, and not made for particular persons ?

Mr. FOSTER. They will be for manufacturers of rubber goods as a class.

Item agreed to.

Bullion, gold and silver, in bars, blocks or lingots, and bullion fringe, free.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. What particular reason is there for admitting bullion fringe free ? That is an article that might very properly pay duty.

Mr. FOSTER. Just at present I cannot give the reason, except that it is in the old tariff.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. You had better strike it out. It is simply an article of luxury, and, without good reason to the contrary, should contribute most assuredly, as well as surgical dressing, for example.

Mr. FOSTER. I shall take a note of the objection.

Coffee, green, except as hereinbefore provided.

Mr. FOSTER. I move to strike that out, because it has been dealt with already.

Mr. MULOCK. I have received a communication from a dealer in tea, calling attention to a regulation of the department requiring importers to produce certificates from the customs authorities in England. Those certificates cost five shillings apiece to the importer, and this gentleman says it is likely to be a very serious tax, because they do not import in very large quantities at a time. Is it necessary there should be a certificate ?

Mr. FOSTER. There must be some satisfactory proof of the fulfilment of the conditions mentioned in the item dealing with this matter, in order that the importer may get the benefit of the clause.

Mr. MULOCK. That tax will apply to the coffee as well as to the tea. A certificate will be required from the country from which it was imported at first, and