

the French treaty is to be ratified. Then if the French treaty is to be ratified, I imagine that the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Customs have made up their minds as to the probable incidence of the United States tariff upon Canada. Have they made up their minds? Do they know how that will affect the commerce of Canada? My right hon. friend, in his happy go lucky way, stated that he had read it and he could not see any discrimination in it. Will my right hon. friend say that he has that from conversation with people in authority in the United States who had given him to understand that it is not meant to discriminate against Canada provided that Canada's operations go on as they are now, plus the addition of the French treaty? I do not think he will. In fact, it is impossible to tell.

But when you look at the spirit of that legislation in so far as it has been actually declared, what do we find? You take printing paper, you take pulp wood, and what is the design as actually carried out in the enactments of that treaty in force to-day? The design was that that it would discriminate against Canada with reference to chemical pulp and mechanically ground pulp and printing paper. And so you have the enactment, and you must read the spirit and intent therein; you have the enactment that on print paper, in the first place, there is a duty according to value of so much per pound. When it is worth 2½ cents and less, the duty is 3 and 1-16th cents per pound; when it is 2½ to 2½ cents, the duty is 3 and 1-10th cents per pound, and so on graded up. That is the minimum duty with reference to any country which puts a restriction of any kind on the exportation of wood out of which the pulp for paper is made. And what country is aimed at, and what country is meant? Canada, and Canada alone. The discrimination is that 1-10th of a cent per pound is added in the case of that country, and to that is also added the amount of the export duty, if any export duty is put upon pulpwood. Now that reads the intention of Congress into the actual item in the tariff.

There is no contingency about it. And how about wood pulp? Wood pulp in the general tariff is free, wood pulp against a country which has any restriction on the exportation of pulp wood into the United States is placed at 1-12th of a cent per pound. To what country is that directed? To the Dominion of Canada. But in addition to that, there is to be added the export duty on the pulp wood, or the equivalent of that export duty, whatever it may be. So here are two actually finished sections of the United States tariff, and their plain intent is to influence if possible Canadian legislation,

Mr. FOSTER.

and certainly to influence Canadian commerce.

What else has been actually placed in the tariff? If you look at page 80, section 2, you will find a general section. Now what is that general section? Not that something may come into force on the 31st day of March, but that on the 31st day of March, whenever it does come, and the very moment it comes, 25 per cent extra is added to every article which is imported from Canada into the United States. Now that is an actuality which, on the 31st of March, according to the enactment of the United States Senate and House of Representatives and President, will take place. So Canada will wake up on the 31st day of March and find that 25 per cent is added to the general, or as it is afterwards called, the minimum tariff. As the section reads, I believe it is open to the interpretation that the 25 per cent is not only to be added to the dutiable articles that are imported from Canada, but that 25 per cent is placed upon every article in the free list, because it says upon all articles that are imported into the United States. Now I am not going to be dogmatic or certain about it, but it reads that way, and in talking it over with an eminent United States politician not a fortnight ago, he told me that his reading of it was that it did refer to both, to the non-dutiable and to the dutiable list.

Now why or when will that be taken off? There is a power to release it. Mind you, Mr. Speaker, it goes on automatically and certainly on the 31st day of March, but there is a power to release it. Sometimes it is said that that power is the President. In one way it is the President, and in another way it is not the President. The President of the United States, according to their legislation, has not the power to make a decision of himself, a decision which is personal or of his own pleasure. It does not depend in that way upon the President of the United States. The President of the United States comes to his decision on facts which are furnished him by an expert commission which is already appointed, and which has to work out the case in every one of these different countries. Now that is a very different thing. One may say that President Taft is well disposed to this country. I believe that, I hope he is. But it does not make a fig's difference whether President Taft is well disposed or not. His commission is already appointed, and if it reports that Canada does discriminate in any way by tariff duty, by regulation, by charge, by expense added in any way, these constitutes the facts. The facts are presented to the President, and all that the President can do is to issue or not issue his proclamation according as those facts are represented. These facts will be looked into, marshalled,