

Canada-U.S. Trade Agreement

Mr. STEWART: Would the Minister of National Revenue be good enough to table to-morrow a copy of any ministerial orders or directions which may have been given since this government took office, with respect to valuations for duty purposes?

Mr. ILSLEY: If I furnished them to my right hon. friend would that not be just as good? There is however no objection to tabling them.

Mr. BENNETT: I think the rules require that when a minister reads a document it should be tabled.

Mr. ILSLEY: I shall see that the hon. member gets them in one way or another.

Sub-item (d) agreed to.

Customs tariff—92. Fruits, fresh, in their natural state:

(e) Pears, 15 per cent.

Mr. DUNNING: The United States duty is one-half cent per pound now and was one-half cent per pound prior to 1930.

Mr. STEWART: Were there importations of pears from the United States?

Mr. DUNNING: Importations of pears from the United States in 1935 amounted to 13,432,000 pounds, valued at \$412,000.

Mr. BENNETT: And I suppose the exports were nil?

Mr. DUNNING: They are not separately reported, but would be part of the large item of \$150,000.

Mr. BENNETT: What is the spread in the special duty rate?

Mr. DUNNING: One and a quarter cents prior—

Mr. BENNETT: No, no; the special duty, not the tariff.

Mr. DUNNING: It was one and a quarter cents prior to the coming into force of the agreement, and the maximum now will be one cent.

Sub-item (e) agreed to.

Customs tariff—92. Fruits, fresh, in their natural state:

(f) Plums or prunes, 15 per cent.

Mr. DUNNING: The duty entering the United States is one-half cent to-day and was one-half cent prior to 1930. Imports of plums or prunes from the United States in 1935 amounted to 4,783,000 pounds, valued at \$156,000.

Mr. BENNETT: What was the special duty valuation?

[Mr. Dunning.]

Mr. DUNNING: The same as in the previous item. One and a quarter cents could be added to the invoiced value prior to the coming into force of the agreement; now one cent is the maximum.

Mr. TUSTIN: Has the minister separate information as to what was exported to the United States?

Mr. DUNNING: I have no separate record. Sub-item (f) agreed to.

Customs tariff—92. Fruits, fresh, in their natural state:

(g) Strawberries, 15 per cent.

Mr. DUNNING: The United States duty was a cent and a quarter per pound, but a concession of three-quarters of a cent per pound on Canadian strawberries entering the United States is effected by the agreement. The rate was 1½ cents per pound under both the recent American tariffs, but it is reduced, as against Canadian strawberries, to three-quarters of one cent.

Mr. BENNETT: What were our exports last year?

Mr. DUNNING: We exported 180,000 pounds, valued at \$20,000, all to the United States.

Mr. STIRLING: And what were the imports?

Mr. DUNNING: Strawberries, raspberries, loganberries and edible berries, n.o.p. are all lumped together in the import statistics, and the total amount from the United States was 6,042,000 pounds, valued at \$422,000; that is, of all these berries. With respect to the valuation, two cents was effective prior to the agreement; it will now be a maximum of one and three-fifths cents.

Mr. TAYLOR (Nanaimo): Can the minister tell me what protection will be given dried loganberries? The agreement now entered into appears to affect the price at which loganberries are valued for duty purposes.

Mr. BENNETT: All these items deal with fresh fruits.

Mr. TAYLOR (Nanaimo): But I am pointing out that the agreement affects the price for duty purposes of all fruits.

Mr. DUNNING: Dried loganberries are not in this schedule to the agreement and hence are not really properly before the committee, but I can give the information. The present tariff on dried fruits, including the article to which my hon. friend refers, is free under the British preference, 22½ per cent under the in-