

Mr. Stick: Who said that?

Mr. Macdonnell (Greenwood): I am not going to mention the name, which is well known. My hon. friend will have to take my word for it that this gentleman is quite a well-known Republican. That is what he said and there are many indications to bear it out. As a matter of fact the minister has told us the difficulty they are having in getting the United States to carry out some of the undertakings made at Torquay and elsewhere. When we come to question time I hope we will be able to learn a good deal about the aftermath of Torquay, Annecy and Geneva because that is most important.

At the present time the signs are not all favourable. There is a considerable emergence of applications for tariff increases. I have a list here covering the applications pending right now, some of them not so important but others rather important. They cover chinaware, motorcycles, tobacco pipes and bowls, bicycle parts and so on. Those are not basic things, but nevertheless they indicate what is in the air. The minister is really like a bull on the stock market. He thinks everything is going to go on in the same pleasant way and we will not have to take into account the possibilities of changes.

Mr. Ferrie: As long as he manages things, it will be all right.

Mr. Macdonnell (Greenwood): That is all right. I suppose what hon. members here would like us to do is to take the advice given by one hon. member the other day, that we should get down on our knees and thank God for the Prime Minister.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

An hon. Member: Say that again.

Mr. Macdonnell (Greenwood): So far as I can see, every member on the government side applauded. That indicates that it is unanimous. I do not raise any question about that. I suppose we do not need to go down on our knees in thankfulness for the Minister of Trade and Commerce, but we should offer some appropriate sign of obeisance.

Mr. Ferrie: There is no better in the world.

Mr. Macdonnell (Greenwood): This hero worship is a grand thing, but it must become rather tiresome occasionally to the objects of it. On the whole, I think that is a competition we cannot very well enter into because hon. members opposite would leave us far behind.

I should like to refer to what the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggart said this afternoon. It seemed to me that he talked in a most sensible way. I do not always agree with

him in connection with economic things, and I was not in favour of his bulk buying passages, but nevertheless when he spoke about eggs in one basket and trying to look at the question in the broad, I think he was very sensible indeed.

Of course it is true that our home market is much more important than it was years ago. To a certain extent that takes care of our home production to a greater degree than before. Nevertheless, as I said before, there are enough farmers in this house to know that when we are told that everything is for the best in the best of all possible worlds they are not sure that that applies to them. It would be a very sorry substitute, it would be a bad exchange if we had to give up a lot of farmers living on the soil and able to sell their products profitably for the oil rigs that are coming in and spending United States money in Canada. Of course we are all in favour of that, but we are in danger of looking at these dazzling figures which are given us of the money we have, the gold we have and the United States exchange and all that kind of thing. That does not mean much to the man on the land who is not able to sell his goods.

Therefore, as I said at the beginning: I hope from now on the minister will perhaps realize that at any rate we are grown up and take us into his confidence.

Item agreed to.

443. Trade commissioner service, including payment of compensation to trade commissioners for damage to and loss of furniture and effects, under terms and conditions approved by the governor in council, \$2,329,134.

Mr. Charlton: I notice in the particulars on page 487 the second highest payment is in connection with Caracas. Could the minister explain that?

Mr. Howe: Caracas has the highest cost of living in the world and it is necessary to pay our trade commissioners substantial living allowances to bring them into the same position they would be in if they lived in Canada. I might explain that the salaries of trade commissioners are based on living conditions in Canada, and if living conditions in any country are higher than in Canada compensation is paid accordingly.

Mr. Macdonnell (Greenwood): Does that mean it is entirely done through the medium of salary or that it is done through an adjusted expense allowance?

Mr. Howe: The salaries of the trade commissioners are the same no matter where the commissioner is located. If he is located in Canada or anywhere else in the world he gets the same salary, but over