

Mr. BLAIN. I find on page 115 of the hon. minister's report that the importation of branded or ranch horses, mules and asses, other than those which are gentle and broken to harness and saddle, is prohibited. Under the proposed agreement these will come in absolutely free.

Mr. FISHER. They are prohibited because of the impossibility to test them with mallein, and we do not allow any horse to come in from the United States without the mallein test.

Mr. BLAIN. How will it be in the future?

Mr. FISHER. Any animals that are prohibited now because we cannot subject them to the mallein test will be prohibited in the future under our quarantine regulations.

Mr. BLAIN. But under the pact they are to be admitted absolutely free. Will the hon. gentleman's regulations hold good against that pact.

Mr. FISHER. I think so.

Mr. BLAIN. Therefore, no matter what the agreement says, these horses will not be permitted to come into Canada. I am very glad to hear that.

Mr. CAMPBELL. What is the mallein test for?

Mr. FISHER. To see whether the horse is afflicted with glanders.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Why cannot branded or unbroken horses be tested? I will guarantee to test 50 per day for the minister.

Mr. FISHER. Will the hon. gentleman come in and work for us?

Mr. CAMPBELL. If the salary is good enough.

Mr. TAYLOR (Leeds). I would suggest that during recess the minister should consult the Department of Justice and ascertain whether the statement he makes is correct or not. Under the proposed agreement these animals are to be allowed in free, but the minister says their entry may be prohibited under his quarantine regulations.

Mr. FISHER. I would be very glad to consult the Department of Justice, but I am afraid I could hardly do it, between now and eight o'clock.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Are we to understand that, under this quarantine regulation, branded or ranch horses are not to be permitted into Canada.

Mr. FISHER. The hon. member for Leeds says I have to get the opinion of the Department of Justice on that point, but in my judgment the proposed agreement

Mr. FISHER.

cannot interfere with quarantine regulations.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Are we to understand that quarantine regulations may be put into force which will render the reciprocal arrangement impracticable.

Mr. FISHER. Quarantine regulations are just as useful and as capable of being enforced under the proposed agreement as at present. Of course I shall have to get the opinion of the Department of Justice on any particular point that may come up, and will be careful to do so; but I have always understood that matters of public health and quarantine are not affected by any trade agreement.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Then the regulations could be so worded as to practically include those cattle.

Mr. FISHER. That would be an unfair and unreasonable action. I would not undertake to use the quarantine for that purpose.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Under the pact it is agreed that no regulation shall be made or maintained which unreasonably hampers a more liberal exchange of commodities. That refers to the free interchange of horses.

Mr. FISHER. I think my hon. friend will see that that refers to customs regulations, not to quarantine regulations. It has particular reference to an old complaint we had against the United States when former arrangements were made and customs duties imposed by which, while the contents of cans were allowed in free, the cans themselves were charged duty.

Mr. MILLER. Is not the British embargo a similar case? Great Britain does not impose duties on live cattle entering that country, but under the embargo, live cattle are prevented from entering.

Mr. BLAIN. They have no agreement to let them in free.

At six o'clock, committee took recess.

#### After Recess.

Committee resumed at eight o'clock.

Mr. LENNOX. At six o'clock we were discussing the question of quarantine, and the effect upon our quarantine system of the proposed reciprocity agreement. The hon. member for Grey instanced the fact that the British government were able to enforce the embargo against our cattle notwithstanding the fact that it is a free trade country, and I think as a rule where countries are on equal terms, that either could enforce its quarantine regulations. But in this case we are making a specific bargain with the United States after we