

because this government has so inflated the price of it. They would like to can produce but they cannot get the lids, and that is because this government has not put on a protective tariff. Canning lids are produced in the United States and not in Canada. This government killed the market in Canada for canning lids. All we get from this government is garbage answers. They have not solved the problem, they do not intend to solve the problem, and they do not care about the householder or the wife of the producer.

Mr. Anderson: Why don't you talk to the manufacturers and find out why they are not making them in Canada?

Mr. Brisco: I see the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Anderson) is an expert on the subject. Perhaps he would like to speak.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): If I could find a lid, I would know where to put it.

Mr. Brisco: Mr. Speaker, it is obvious that the natives are restless and cannot stand the truth. I should like to move on to another matter of concern to me and high schools in my riding. This is the matter of the tariff on musical instruments. It has not been dealt with in the bill. I would like to have seen it dealt with in this bill. I hope it will be dealt with in the future. With respect to musical instruments in the Rossland-Trail area repairs have to be performed in Vancouver, Calgary or Regina. If they are carried out in Spokane, Washington, 125 miles away, a prohibitive barrier is placed upon the cost of these repairs. All we are trying to do is repair musical instruments belonging to high school bands. However, the minister in his wisdom feels the repairs should be done in Regina or Vancouver. I do not think he has ever studied geography. He seems to feel those two cities are closer to Rossland, Trail or Castlegar than they are to Spokane.

● (1730)

An hon. Member: What needs to be repaired, a G-string?

Mr. Brisco: The hon. member for Waterloo-Cambridge (Mr. Saltsman) spoke on agricultural equipment. He made a lot of sense. However, he made a sweeping remark to the effect that all agricultural equipment comes in duty free. That really is not correct. I know of a farmer who wished to bring in a grain-box for his truck. Because it did not have and did not operate on an auger, it was a different type of mechanical device, the tariff item was exceedingly heavy. This man was denied the opportunity of bringing it in. Nothing like it was manufactured in Canada, but the imposition was there.

There has been talk about farm machinery manufactured outside Canada. It is very disturbing that farmers must experience delays of months with regard to farm machinery. In fact in the Creston area farm equipment orders have been delayed 14 to 16 months. What happens to those who experience such delays? They become frustrated over the failure of companies to deliver their goods. They turn to foreign markets and foreign manufacturers. There must be many Yugoslav tractors in Kootenay West and other parts of Canada. Japanese tractors are a better

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price, are produced in a hurry, are shipped to Canada and delivered promptly. As a prime agricultural nation surely Canada can do better than that.

Finally, I suggest that the taxpayers of Canada deserve better treatment from the government with regard to the problem of canning lids. Instead of all the smart remarks and wisecracks from the government side, it is time they provided the Canadian people with an answer.

I can assure hon. members that Canadian housewives are not content to spend money on Mason jars and lids. There are thousands of Mason jars with lids in the supermarkets. The housewife does not want the jars. She has a room full of them. She wants the lids. Why doesn't somebody on the government side listen to the housewives and give them some assurance instead of lip service and double-talk?

Mr. G. H. Whittaker (Okanagan Boundary): Mr. Speaker, I do not want to take too much time to speak on this customs tariff bill, C-67. I rise mainly because the last time we had a customs tariff bill before us in committee of the whole I drew the minister's attention to an error with regard to the bag size for farm sprays. That was in committee of the whole where we are supposed to ask questions. That is why I again raise the matter at this time.

I agree with what the hon. member for Kootenay West (Mr. Brisco) has said with regard to canning lids. I would also like to speak briefly on that because of the interjection by the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Anderson). He may be interested in some of the reasons why there is an acute shortage of canning lids in western Canada. In addition, there is a shortage in eastern Canada for the first time this year. I checked in Ottawa on three occasions. I was not able to find many of these lids. The screw-type caps and jars with lids are available. However, that is not what the housewives in western Canada want. They already have a supply of jars. They want the snap-on lids for them.

For many years the western Canadian market has been served by two manufacturers in the United States. When there was a tinplate shortage they did not ship any lids to Canada. This is the kind of situation we get into when we rely on foreign manufacturers. We have to be ready to respond to their whims. In addition to the tinplate shortage there was an increased demand in the United States. The acute shortage in western Canada developed as a result of this.

There are two very good manufacturers in eastern Canada, Anchor Cap and Bernardin. They have been unable to ship to western Canada because they have not been able to compete price-wise. The situation is not too different from the meat pie business. You cannot find a meat pie manufacturer in western Canada. They cannot compete. Let's hope there is not a meat shortage in the United States because we will not be able to get any meat pies in western Canada.

When the shortage developed, the eastern Canadian manufacturers were not geared to handle the extra market. They did not have the manufacturing lines or the tinplate. Two years ago they were on a quota basis of the three year average of their production in eastern Canada. They did not have any quota for western Canada. They