

allowed to enter the United States under the terms of the new trade agreement exhausted for the first three months of 1939? I should also like to ask if the shipments from Mexico help to make up this quota allowance.

Hon. J. G. GARDINER (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first question is, yes. The quota ran out towards the end of the month. I believe the statement is somewhat as follows:

United States cattle imports, 700 pounds and over, for the month of January, 1939

	Number	Percentage
Canada	30,246	55 per cent
Mexico	24,769	45 per cent
Total	55,015	

It has been the practice of the United States government to give notice of the running out of the quota a few days before the end of the quota is reached. The quota in this instance was 60,000. This notice was given when the number stood at 55,015. But a settlement on the basis of the reduced tariff is made as cattle go in, from that time on, until the number reaches the 60,000 mark. The quota will divide somewhat in the proportions of 55 per cent and 45 per cent.

I might add that there is a provision in the agreement whereby, if quotas work out as this one apparently has, through consultation with the United States government, an arrangement may be made with regard to it in order to make it work as it was intended to work. Officials of the Department of Trade and Commerce and of the Department of Agriculture have already been in Washington, and I believe I can go so far as to say that satisfactory arrangements are in process of being made. An announcement will be made shortly with regard to the whole matter.

Mr. SENN: Was it the intention that Canada should enjoy the whole 60,000 per quarter, or otherwise?

Mr. GARDINER: No. Under the old agreement, the one which existed before, provision was made whereby the quota would be for all the cattle imported into the United States. In practice it worked out that the cattle came from Mexico and Canada, and exactly the same terms are in the present agreement. In this particular year the cattle which were prepared to be sent across the line immediately the agreement came into effect were apparently considerably greater in number in Mexico than in previous years.

[Mr. Senn.]

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

AMENDMENTS TO BROADEN SCOPE AND CLARIFY CERTAIN FEATURES OF THE ACT

Hon. C. G. POWER (Minister of Pensions and National Health) moved the second reading of Bill No. 13, to amend the Food and Drugs Act.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and the house went into committee thereon, Mr. Sanderson in the chair.

On section 1—"Drug."

Mr. STEVENS: Would the minister give a sort of general résumé of the act, so that as we proceed we may understand the object of the bill?

Mr. POWER: I shall be pleased to do so. In the bill it is proposed to broaden the scope of the Food and Drugs Act. As will be seen in the first section of the bill, the meaning of the word "drug" is enlarged. It is to take in such things as surgical materials, including sutures and bandages sold as sterile, thereby giving some control by the department of the sale of articles of this description which are sometimes found to be non-sterile and therefore dangerous. It is intended also to give control over diagnostic extracts used in detecting food allergy and introduced into the body through abrasions made in the skin. It will affect glandular extracts administered to produce effects upon the body, even when no diseased condition exists, and will apply to household chemicals, including disinfectants such as javelle water, chloride of lime and cockroach powders. To improve the statutory means for protecting the purchasing consumer against injury to health and against deception in food and drug products, authority is sought to deal in greater detail with matters such as packaging and labelling, advertising, adulteration and the use of dangerous materials. It is sought to obtain some control over cosmetics, which have not hitherto been under the control of any department. Certain matters pertaining to imports and exports are also dealt with, in recognition of international trade practice.

If my hon. friend wishes I could perhaps indicate to him some of the deleterious materials which are to be found in cosmetics. Cosmetics comprise creams, depilatories, shaving creams, hair dyes, eyelash and eyebrow dyes, eye preparations, nail preparations, rouges, et cetera. All these have been known to contain substances which are injurious; some have actually caused blindness. Creams

may contain harmful or irritating substances such as mercury or carbolic acid. Depilatory creams may also contain sulphides causing skin burns and rashes. Shaving creams are also marketed as depilatories and for softening the beard, and shaving creams sometimes contain injurious substances. Hair dyes are known to contain lead, arsenic, mercury or other injurious substances. I have a long list of substances which might be introduced into cosmetics and cause injury.

I can assure the committee that there is no intention to deprive the fair sex of their inherent right to use any artificial expedient to enhance their natural beauty, but it is intended that they should get a fair break when they purchase articles of that kind, so that at least they may do so with the assurance that some protection is afforded them against illness or injury.

Mr. BARBER: I think the minister will agree that his department has had the full cooperation of the pharmacists throughout this country in regard to legislation which has been brought down in previous years. I believe that this measure also, the greater part of it, will receive the cooperation of that profession. There is a certain section, of which I suggest there might be some amendment to remove possible hardship or misunderstanding as far as the profession is concerned. But I shall reserve my remarks on that until we come to the section.

Mr. MARTIN: This may not be the right time—perhaps I should have done it earlier—to suggest to the minister that this bill should be referred to the banking and commerce committee in order that opportunity to be heard may be afforded to parties who approve the general purport of the bill but would like to offer suggestions based upon their experience in the trade. In my own constituency there is a large company interested in the manufacture of many of the commodities affected by the proposed legislation. While it is their feeling that generally the bill is to be commended, there are some particulars in which their experience and assistance might be of value. If the minister and the committee should not agree with the suggestion that the bill be referred to a standing committee of the house, I shall have at a later stage in the proceedings certain amendments to suggest. But I rise at this time mainly to ask the minister for an opportunity of having this matter referred to the standing committee on banking and commerce—

Mr. WOODSWORTH: Why banking and commerce?

Mr. MARTIN: Well, any committee of the house which might have some concern with it—if not banking and commerce, perhaps public accounts, or a special committee.

Mr. POWER: I think I can say frankly that so far as the principle of this bill is concerned we have had the support of the manufacturers of preparations and of the Canadian Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association, which includes them all. But on certain sections of the bill I have had representations which indicate the opinion that the powers sought to be obtained from parliament to make regulations is perhaps too arbitrary. I have no objection to making the greatest possible effort to meet those objections. I propose to introduce an amendment to section 5, subsection (k), which is the one to which objection was taken. We shall come to that subsection in a minute, but perhaps I may have permission to say that under section 5 power is given to the department to make regulations prohibiting the sale or defining the conditions of sale of any substance as a food or drug, or to restrict in like manner its use as an ingredient. It was represented to me, and I think very properly, that this power of regulation would be excessive, and I have been asked to specify that the substances to be covered by these regulations should be qualified by some such word as "deleterious," or their "indiscriminate use" possibly dangerous to the public or prejudicial to health. I think we can work out an amendment along those lines which, if it is not entirely satisfactory to everyone concerned, will at least meet the wishes of this committee.

In reply to my hon. friend who asked that the bill go to a committee, I am at a loss to know to which of the standing committees it could be referred. I doubt whether it would properly come under the jurisdiction of the committee on banking and commerce. With regard to setting up a special committee, it seems to me the committees of the house will be pretty busy this year with others matters, and it would not be desirable to set up a special committee for the purpose of dealing with one or two subsections of a bill which, however important it may be, can hardly be said to be important enough to keep hon. members away from the sittings of the house. Personally I have no objection to its going to a special committee, but I should like to have an expression of opinion from hon. members as to whether they consider it should be

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