

with such matters. And Sir Herbert Smith informed me that they had passed a statute to deal with the question of protection to be accorded by invoice to the steel industry. In this regard an inquiry was held and he gave me a copy of the proceedings, with the legislation that followed, whereby a certain measure of protection was given for a period of ten years for the purpose of equalizing the cost of production of steel in India. The evidence indicated that.

Now there is only one question to be considered in connection with this matter. In this country great industries have been established. Whether or not the Canadian people were always right in establishing these industries, this is not the time to inquire. Those industries exist, and hundreds of millions of dollars have been invested in them. To refer to an industry with which there are thousands of your fellow Canadians connected as shareholders, as a special interest, is wholly beside the question. And to bring down calumny and make attacks upon those who head industries does not advance any argument a hairsbreadth. What we have to consider is this question: Shall we retain these industries or shall we not? That is the question. If I had any choice to make, I am not so sure that some of them I would have in this country. But the fact remains that they are here. And the government ask only two things from parliament in connection with these industries. One is that those engaged in these industries shall have, as I have always contended, an equal opportunity with their competitors to develop in this country; and the second is that they shall have that fair competition which is the basis of the success of all effort. In other words, that there shall not be dumped upon the markets of this country goods regardless of cost of production—that there shall be no dumping of the surplus products of other countries upon our own market. And given equal opportunity and fair competition, I deny that any men living can beat in their own work the people who inhabit this country.

The hon. member for North Waterloo (Mr. Euler) very properly indicated the difficulty of ascertaining what constitutes equal opportunity, and I do not believe that this should be left either to conjecture or to caprice. It should not be left to the pressure of political friend nor to the enmity of political foe. On the one hand there are those who see, in the noble toil of men who build up great industries in this country, that manifestation of ambition and courage which provides an incentive to younger men to emulate their

virtues while recognizing their faults. On the other hand, there are those by whom the heads of industry are denounced as a remnant of feudalism, setting up their own courts as "special interests", receiving special treatment. To eliminate all misapprehension, we are calling into being a tribunal whose duty it shall be to determine, upon evidence, facts, not fancies, upon which executive action may be taken to ensure to our fellow Canadians an equal opportunity and fair competition for the development of Canada. For that reason I submit this measure.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the house to adopt the motion?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: On division.

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion agreed to on division and bill read the second time.

Mr. BENNETT: At the next sitting we can go into committee.

The house reverted to government notices of motions.

#### STATUTE OF WESTMINSTER

##### RESOLUTION FOR AN ADDRESS TO HIS MAJESTY REQUESTING THE ENACTMENT OF AN IMPERIAL STATUTE

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister) moved:

Whereas the delegates of His Majesty's governments in the United Kingdom, the Dominion of Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, the Dominion of New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, the Irish Free State and Newfoundland, at Imperial conferences held at Westminster in the years of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-six and one thousand nine hundred and thirty, did make certain declarations and resolutions, which are set forth in the reports of the said conferences;

And whereas, pursuant to certain recommendations set forth in the report of the Imperial conference, held at Westminster in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-six, as modified by agreement made between His Majesty's governments, a conference on the operation of dominion legislation and merchant shipping legislation was held at Westminster, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-nine, and certain declarations, resolutions and recommendations were made, as set forth in the report of that conference;

And whereas, the delegates of His Majesty's governments at the Imperial conference, held at Westminster in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and thirty, passed certain resolutions, set forth in the report of that conference, which read as follows:—

"(i) The conference approves the report of the conference on the operation of dominion legislation (which is to be regarded as forming