

have been unable to appraise the importance of the schedules. It is impossible for one to read them and really understand what they mean; but I would call the attention of my honourable friend from Churchill (Hon. Mr. Crerar) to the opening paragraph of the document called the Final Act, in which it is stated at page 6:

Recognizing that their relations in the field of trade and economic endeavour should be conducted with a view to raising standards of living, insuring full employment and a large and steadily growing volume of real income and effective payment, developing the full use of the resources of the world and extending the production and exchange of goods.

It then runs on to the detailed schedules of this agreement. Thus it can be seen that the document is not entirely without a statement of principle. It is for the purpose of bringing these good things about that the negotiators of this agreement propose the practical steps they have outlined in their schedules. The agreements are not so important in themselves as they are in the fact that they constitute a first step. I could write an agreement myself which would be much more satisfactory to me than the one which is now before me; but let us not forget that those who took part in the writing of this agreement had to secure the concurrence of the representatives of seventeen other nations.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: In these agreements the first great step has been taken towards a more enlightened trade policy throughout the world. This will lead to a second step, and by successive steps we may achieve a world in which men may buy and sell with one another, and in that way lay the foundations of permanent peace.

Honourable senators, I am very happy indeed to have the privilege of addressing myself to this measure, and to compliment the leader of the government on his proposal to submit this to a committee where we may gain a better knowledge of the details.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

On motion of Hon. Mr. White, the debate was adjourned.

BUSINESS OF THE SENATE
ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: Honourable senators, you will recall that I originally suggested that this house sit tomorrow, but in deference to the late Senator Bench, whose funeral will be held tomorrow at St. Catharines, I would now move that when this house adjourns it stand adjourned until Monday, the fifteenth day of December at 8 o'clock in the evening.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Would the leader of the government give us some indication of what will be taken up on Monday evening?

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: I should like to present the legislation with regard to The Continuation of Transitional Measures Act, 1947, and the legislation in regard to The Agricultural Products Act; also it is my hope that after this legislation is presented we shall continue with the debate on the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned until Monday, December 15, at 8 p.m.