

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Customs Tariff

raise. Would he mind indicating what the "some other occasion" is, under which we can raise these matters?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): If the hon. member will speak to me privately I shall be glad to discuss with him the matters he wishes to raise and indicate to him where I think they may be raised in the course of the business during the remainder of this session. Usually the estimates are the proper place to bring up such matters.

Item agreed to.

Items 538b, 538c, 538d, 538e, 538g, 538h, 538i, 538j, 538k, 538m, 538n, 538p and 90e agreed to.

Customs tariff—124b. Squid, octopus and cuttlefish: British preferential tariff, free; most favoured nation tariff, free; general tariff, free.

Mr. Benidickson: This item relates to the importation of squid, octopus and cuttlefish. What does that mean in volume?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): The imports of squid, octopus and cuttlefish, which are used as bait by commercial fishermen on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, amount to about 2 million pounds annually.

Item agreed to.

Items 180a, 399d, 403, 409e and 437b agreed to.

Customs tariff—438f. Parts, n.o.p., electro-plated or not, whether finished or not, for automobiles, motor vehicles, electric trackless trolley buses, firefighting vehicles, ambulances and hearses, or chassis enumerated in tariff items 424 and 438a, including engines, but not including ball or roller bearings, wireless receiving sets, die castings of zinc, electric storage batteries, parts of wood, tires and tubes or parts of which the component material of chief value is rubber: British preferential tariff, free; most favoured nation tariff, 25 per cent; general tariff, 35 per cent.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Has the minister any comment to make on item 438f or 438g, which of course affect a number of important parts that go to make up an automobile?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): In so far as item 438f is concerned the comment can be brief, because the only change in that item is the number. The previous number was 438f(1).

In so far as 438g is concerned, the purpose of the amendment involved here is to ensure that only brake linings and clutch facings are subject to the rates formerly applied under item 438f. The rates are as indicated there, free or 15 per cent British preferential, depending upon whether the linings are made wholly or in part from crude asbestos of British commonwealth origin or foreign asbestos, and 25 per cent under the most favoured nation tariff.

Item agreed to.

[**Mr. Winch.**]

Customs tariff—237a. Deuterium oxide or heavy water; uranium in the form of pigs, ingots, billets or bars: British preferential tariff, free; most favoured nation tariff, free; general tariff, 25 per cent; on and after July 1, 1962: British preferential tariff, free; most favoured nation tariff, 15 per cent; general tariff, 25 per cent.

Mr. Winch: May I ask the minister to explain item 237a. I understood that Canada was a big producer of heavy water. We have a lot of uranium. We have heard a lot about it. I wonder if we do, at any time, import heavy water and, since we are a uranium producer, I am wondering why there is any question of importation in connection with this matter.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): Mr. Chairman, I gave an explanation of this item in committee of ways and means on June 8, which the hon. member will find at page 4689 of *Hansard*, second column.

Mr. Benidickson: This is a rather important item in view of the industrial reverses of recent months. Perhaps the minister would condescend to put it on *Hansard* here for the benefit of those who do not read *Hansard* consecutively.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): On that occasion I gave all the information that is available on the item. It was a full statement. All I would be doing now would be simply repeating word for word the self-same explanation.

Mr. Benidickson: The minister has done that on other occasions.

Mr. Winch: May I say that I am afraid we cannot always be in the House of Commons. We may be in a committee or in another place. This is exactly what happens.

Mr. Pearson: Is it anticipated that under this item there will be any imports of uranium in that form? Has there been any importation of uranium in the past? If there has been none and none is anticipated, then why this item?

Mr. Winch: And heavy water too.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): The imports that we have had were as I pointed out on June 8. If I remember rightly I think it was the Leader of the Opposition who asked the question. Yes; as reported at page 4689 of *Hansard* he asked me to explain the changes, and at the conclusion of the statement I said:

In 1959 imports of heavy water amounted to \$2,700,000. There were no imports of uranium metal.

Mr. Winch: May I ask the reason for the imports of heavy water? I seem to remember that in British Columbia during the last war a great many millions of dollars were spent