

*Canada-U.S. Trade Agreement*

Hon. CHARLES A. DUNNING (Minister of Finance): I assume it was a question which was made an order for return?

Mr. DOUGLAS: Yes.

Mr. DUNNING: I do not know what the present position is, but I shall be glad to check up on it.

## WAYS AND MEANS

## CANADA-UNITED STATES TRADE AGREEMENT

The house in committee of ways and means, Mr. Sanderson in the chair.

Customs tariff—54a. Indian corn, not including Indian corn for purposes of distillation, when imported or taken out of warehouse by manufacturers of starch or of cereal products for human consumption, for use exclusively in the manufacture of starch or such cereal products, in their own factories, under regulations prescribed by the minister: free.

Mr. BENNETT: I understand there is no change in this item; it merely makes it bound?

Mr. DUNNING: Yes, merely binding free entry.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—55. Indian corn, n.o.p., per bushel, 20 cents.

Mr. DUNNING: This is binding the intermediate.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—57. Oatmeal and rolled oats, per one hundred pounds, 50 cents.

Mr. DUNNING: The effect of this item of course is to bind the intermediate rate of fifty cents per one hundred pounds during the life of the agreement.

Mr. BENNETT: I should like to know what is the rate of duty on oatmeal and rolled oats entering the United States under the existing Hawley-Smoot tariff, and what it was under the Fordney-McCumber tariff.

Mr. DUNNING: Under the existing tariff, which is the only one I have before me, it is 80 cents per one hundred pounds.

Mr. BENNETT: In view of the references that have constantly been made to 1929 figures it is obvious that we want the 1929 tariff rate. In the figures that have been given recently statements have been made as to the amount of business with the United States in 1929, that is before the Hawley-Smoot tariff, which is the tariff at present in force. We had long lists of figures given with respect to trade in 1929, in which year the Fordney-McCumber tariff had not been re-

[Mr. Douglas.]

pealed. My desire is to see what relation these new rates have to the rates that prevailed in the United States prior to 1930 and in 1935.

Mr. DUNNING: I am sorry the information is not here, but I will send for it and see that it is available.

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin): What was our duty against oatmeal before, 80 cents?

Mr. DUNNING: Yes—free, 50 and 80.

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin): It is reduced from 80 to 30?

Mr. DUNNING: This is binding the intermediate, which is 50 cents.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—71a. Timothy seed, per pound, one cent.

Mr. BENNETT: This, I understand, is a reduction by fifty per cent on timothy seed coming from the United States?

Mr. DUNNING: A reduction from two cents to one cent a pound.

Mr. BENNETT: What was the United States tariff rate on that in 1929 and 1935?

Mr. DUNNING: As I have said, I cannot answer with respect to 1929. But the United States tariff has been reduced to one cent, so that with respect to timothy seed the tariff is now the same going either way, from Canada and from the United States.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—ex 73. Broom corn seed, when in packages weighing more than one pound each, free.

Item agreed to.

Customs tariff—ex 74. Parsley seed, non-germinating, when in packages weighing more than one pound each, imported for use exclusively in manufacturing or blending operations, 10 per cent.

Mr. BENNETT: The questions that I think we should like to have answered in respect to all these items are very few. We cannot modify this agreement; that is obvious. Nothing we can do will change any item in the schedule. That is of course a matter of policy, and the government's majority ensures that will be so. We must therefore content ourselves with asking, so that there shall be a record of it, what concessions have been granted with respect to existing rates, and we desire to test the extent to which reciprocal arrangements have been made by knowing what the tariff rate in the United