

Mr. OAKLEY: What we have attempted to do is to list the countries alphabetically. We tabulated the average hourly wage rate for each of those countries. We have set a limit within which these customs rates may operate. Between any two countries the rate will be the same; that is, between each of them, though it will be different between the same countries and another pair or another one country.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: Taking Japan as an illustration, the rate of tariff required in Canada in relation to Japan might be different from the rate that the United States would impose against Japan.

Mr. OAKLEY: That is right, but against all the products that we might buy from Japan the rate would be the same, because we assume that their labour costs are the same no matter what industry is involved. That is what we are concerned about.

Hon. Mr. EULER: You would have to make individual agreements with various countries?

Mr. OAKLEY: I do not think we would have to make agreements. If this is acceptable—and it is only workable if it is acceptable—and the countries agree that this is a fair standard and agree to take their places in their order of sequence where they come on the table according to their wage scale, and if every country, according to its place on the table, is allotted its proper rate, you see how simple it would be.

Hon. Mr. EULER: What I am getting at is how are you going to have all these countries get together in the first instance? Will they all sit around a table and come to some decision as to tabling what the individual countries are to do, or would you proceed by, say, Canada getting together with Japan? The two countries would consider their different wage rates and decide on what basis they should proceed, having regard to the wages and labour costs. Then if Canada wanted to she could make a similar arrangement with another country. Is it to be done in that way or in one great big job?

Mr. OAKLEY: My hope would be to do it in one big job. If we can all agree on the principle involved and agree that it is fair to all countries, then it is not a question of negotiations between, say, Japan and Canada for a rate, and so on.

Hon. Mr. EULER: Who would do it?

Mr. OAKLEY: You have them tabulated and it is worked out by agreement; that is to say, by collective agreement, and it is just a matter then for the statisticians.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: May I ask whether there has been any discussion about this with other countries? Is your organization purely Canadian?

Mr. OAKLEY: We are purely a Canadian organization. As we say in our brief, we are national in our membership and we are international in our outlook.

We have not collaborated with any other country to try and develop our ideas. We have simply tried to work out something that we hope is constructive and to overcome the trading difficulties over the years.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: I suggest that it would be interesting to take up the matter with other countries.

Mr. OAKLEY: As Mr. Corlett said in introducing me, I am a member of the Canadian Council of the International Chamber of Commerce. The International Chamber of Commerce will consider—and I will not say whether it will approve or not—this program. At any rate, we are submitting it to it. However, it has not as yet got that acceptance.

The CHAIRMAN: Honourable members, it is 1 o'clock, and if there are any more questions, please be as brief as you can, otherwise we will adjourn.