

Mr. RHODES: That question ought properly to be directed to my colleague, the Minister of National Revenue.

Mr. YOUNG: He is in his seat. He can answer.

Mr. RHODES: I do not see what bearing it has upon the case in point.

Mr. YOUNG: It has a tremendous bearing. Perhaps the Minister of National Revenue will answer.

Mr. RYCKMAN: It is quite correct as the hon. member for Weyburn says: the value of the pound is taken at \$4.86 $\frac{3}{4}$. That was the value of the pound when the dollar was related to it and when the tariff was put on.

Mr. YOUNG: That brings us then to this position, that for the first time in the history of Canada the trade returns, official figures, published by the government, with respect to our trade with other countries, are not to be relied on. They report that we have a trade of so many thousands or millions with other countries, and now on the minister's own confession we find that these figures are not reliable and that the \$9,774 worth of this commodity which we are supposed to have bought from Great Britain is really only \$6,636 worth.

Mr. RHODES: My answer to that would be that it shows that we have all the more opportunity for doing trade with Great Britain.

Mr. YOUNG: It means this, that my hon. friends opposite have been more successful than they have themselves boasted in shutting off trade with this country. It means that Canada's trade has been stifled to a much greater extent than even my hon. friends claim. It also means that our trade statistics are no longer reliable.

Mr. RYCKMAN: It is unfair to say that. Everyone knows that in the present fluctuating state of the pound its value for duty purposes is \$4.86 $\frac{3}{4}$. My hon. friend is ready at arithmetic and he can easily figure it out for himself. His suggestion that the trade returns give a false impression is unworthy of the hon. gentleman.

Mr. YOUNG: If it is true that \$9,774 is equal to \$6,636, then I am wrong; but if \$6,636 is less than \$9,774, I say that the returns are false.

Mr. RHODES: My hon. friend is entirely overlooking the fact that the actual number of pounds is given in the figures here. My hon. friend, of course, can make any argument

he likes on that, but it is quite improper for him to say that the figures are not correct. It may be that his argument is sound with respect to the value, but that is another matter entirely.

Mr. YOUNG: When we get the annual returns of Canada's trade the amount is given in dollars and cents, and the figures are not reliable according to the minister's own admission.

Mr. RHODES: It is quoted in both pounds and dollars and cents.

Mr. YOUNG: The total figures are not quoted in both pounds and dollars. They are quoted in dollars. When the conference was in session and the British delegates were figuring on the possibilities of trade in cocoa butter, for instance, with Canada, were they told that these importation figures were not reliable, that \$9,774 was really not the true figure?

Mr. RYCKMAN: They did not have to be told; they knew it.

Mr. YOUNG: I think it is a pretty serious state of affairs when we can no longer turn to our own official trade returns to find out the truth about what we want to know. Now my hon. friend says that we take from Holland \$618,000 worth. We are increasing the rate from two to three cents a pound under the intermediate and general tariffs. I presume the object is to divert trade from the Netherlands, because the big importation is from the Netherlands, the imports from the United States amounting to only \$14,000 and from Brazil to \$11,000. We have been told frequently that the object in raising these duties is to hit back at those who have been raising their tariffs against us. I want to ask the minister now, what tariffs has the Netherlands been raising against us?

Mr. RHODES: Obviously, Mr. Chairman, I would not come armed with statistics to answer questions of that character. There has been no raising of tariffs by the Netherlands against us, so far as I know, and even if there had been, that would be a matter for the Netherlands. I am sure that my hon. friend will still adhere to his position that the Netherlands is perfectly free to make its own tariffs to suit its own purposes. It is not so long since I heard the argument extremely well made, if not by the hon. member for Weyburn by hon. members who sit around him, that the British delegates at the conference were shrewd enough at making bargains to take us into their camp. I can assure my hon. friend that they were