Business of the House BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT UNTIL THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27

Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, yesterday I indicated in reply to an observation from the other side of the house that if it should prove necessary for hon. members to return after Christmas to complete the business of the session I would give notice today that the government would move to apply closure in respect of the second reading of Bill No. 36. That statement was made on the assumption that both yesterday and today would have been taken up with the debate on second reading of that bill, and it would have been made rather clear that repetitious debate might go on indefinitely under the ordinary rules. As a matter of fact the bill was not debated yesterday, and the government wishes it to be abundantly clear that no member is to be deprived of his right to make his position quite clear on that bill. I will therefore not give any such notice today, and I hope that the progress that may be made under the ordinary rules will be such that it will not be appropriate to give that notice at any time.

With respect to the notice of motion that has been on the order paper, that was not put on in any arbitrary spirit but merely because I felt that, if it should become clear that we could not finish the business of the house before Christmas, hon. members would wish to have at least a long week end for Christmas, and that would require a derogation from the orders that have been made. When notices of motion are called, if it were satisfactory to the house, I would ask to have this motion stand until some time later today so that we could see then whether or not it will be appropriate to have it discussed. If, on the other hand, members prefer to have it dealt with immediately, I would of course move it in its regular order. But if it could stand until some time later today, it may be that we shall then see what would best suit the convenience of hon. members, because it is not the wish of the government to be arbitrary in this respect.

On the order:

Government notice of motion—The Prime Minister—Resolved, that notwithstanding any other previous order of this house, when this house adjourns on Friday, December 21, 1951, unless it be otherwise ordered at that time, it stand adjourned until Thursday, December 27, 1951, at eleven o'clock a.m.

Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister): Stand until later this day, if that is agreeable.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[Mr. St. Laurent.]

TRADE

DUMPING OF TEXTILES ON CANADIAN MARKET

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. A. Charlton (Brant-Wentworth): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce. Is the minister aware that nylons and textiles are being dumped on the Canadian market to the detriment of thousands of Canadian workers? Are any effective measures being taken to relieve this serious unemployment situation.

Right Hon. C. D. Howe (Minister of Trade and Commerce): If it is true, Mr. Speaker, that textiles are being dumped, the recourse is to the Department of National Revenue who have remedial legislation for that situation. Of course, it has to be proven that dumping is taking place. It is not a matter for the Department of Trade and Commerce, but whoever feels injured should take up the matter with the Department of National Revenue.

Mr. Charlton: May I ask the Minister of National Revenue if he has had any representations on this subject?

Hon. J. J. McCann (Minister of National Revenue): I think there is a misconception in the minds of a great number of members of parliament, and the public, as to what constitutes dumping according to the law. Dumping occurs when goods from a foreign country are imported into this country at a price lower than that at which they are sold to the jobber, wholesaler or consumer in the country of origin. This is a matter which is under careful consideration every day, and the record shows that we have not evidence that dumping is actually taking place with regard to textiles.

There has been some dumping, and when it has occurred the dumping duty has been applied. This means that the invoice has been raised to a price comparable to that at which the goods are sold in the country of origin and both tariff and sales taxes are applied upon that new invoice price. As I have said, the situation is carefully reviewed continuously, and if there are occasions on which the dumping duty can be rightfully applied it will be and has been applied.

FISHERIES

STORMS IN NOVA SCOTIA—DAMAGE TO FISHER-MEN'S EQUIPMENT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. T. A. M. Kirk (Digby-Yarmouth): Is the parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Fisheries aware of the loss and damage