

would be established as the general rule and that farmers' and labourers' families would be deprived of that essential commodity.

With respect to commodities which are under the control of a foreign government, I wish to quote Mr. M. W. Mackenzie, deputy minister of trade and commerce, at page 204 of the report of the standing committee on banking and commerce:

Now the next point I wish to deal with has to do with the question that has been raised by several people, as to why it was not possible to enumerate in the law the items that we had under export control. There was one very good example of that last year, steel. Steel appeared to be coming into fairly good supply and export control was withdrawn. Then, as you will remember, there were a number of upsets in the American situation which in turn created an extraordinary demand on Canadian supplies, and without export control tremendous quantities of steel would have moved to the United States. Now, that is a situation that arose entirely outside of Canada, but it is illustrative of the sort of thing that happens and can happen so long as Canadian prices are below world prices and so long as there are over-all world shortages. When a particular demand is created in other quarters it can very readily result in an instantaneous demand on Canadian supplies. It is so developed that export control on steel items had to be reinstated in order to protect the domestic supply.

And further:

As far as imports are concerned, it became necessary during the war to impose import control for a variety of reasons. One of the reasons was that the united nations got together and agreed on an allocation of foodstuffs that were in short supply. Oils and fats is a very good example of that. Canada is far from being self-sufficient in edible oils and fats.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. The hon. member has not the right to refer to what is going on in a committee before it has reported to the house.

Mr. MARQUIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker; I bow to your ruling. In the case of commodities under the control of a foreign government, import control must be maintained in order to be sure that we shall get our supply and that a fair distribution may be made among the people. Otherwise the biggest and most aggressive users of some commodities would take the amount available to Canada.

I have here, Mr. Speaker, order No. 711 on maximum prices for goods and services. May I put on the record some of the articles greatly needed by farmers and labourers. In schedule A, part I, under group A, foods, there are listed wheat flour, yeast, bread, processed cereals, prepared flour mixes for pastries, biscuits, rice other than wild rice, pot and pearl barley, shelled corn, dried peas, soy beans, starch, sugar, molasses, corn syrup,

[Mr. Marquis.]

honey, tea, coffee, malt, black pepper, butter, cheddar cheese, concentrated milk products of all kinds, salt. These commodities are greatly needed by farmers and labourers, and if there are no ceiling prices, the prices of these commodities will increase to such an extent that the farmers will be required to pay a very large amount of money for them or go without. Later on in the schedule, there are also mentioned corn, peas, tomatoes, canned soups, pork and beans, jellies, marmalades.

In group C, textiles and clothing, there are listed men's, youths' and boys' garments; men's, youths' and boys' furnishings such as collars, shirts, underwear, pyjamas; women's, misses', girls', children's and infants' garments. I need not enumerate all these articles. Then there are textile products as follows: bath mats, bedspreads, blankets, curtains, dish cloths, dish towels, napkins, pillow cases, sheets, table cloths, towels, window blinds and so on.

In group D, household equipment and supplies, there are soap, household heating equipment and fittings; household water heating equipment and fittings and accessories therefor.

In part II, agricultural machinery, implements, equipment and supplies, there are hand garden planter, corn planter, grain and fertilizer drill, seed box for one-way disc or tiller, manure loader, horse or tractor drawn garden planter, bean drill, grain drill, lime or fertilizer sower, manure spreader; ploughs; tillage implements and cultivators as follows: horse-drawn disc harrow, horse-drawn scuffer, hand cultivator and weeder, tool frames, land rollers, combination planter and cultivator, horse hoe; haying machinery as follows: mowers, sweep rake, hay loader, hay stacker and so on. These articles are used by the farmers. They must pay for them. What would be the result, when they are in such great need of these articles, if the farmers are required to pay fifty, one hundred or two hundred per cent more than they pay today? Those are articles, the price of which must be protected by this house and by this parliament for the benefit of the farmers in my constituency and in the country at large. In the list also are mentioned fertilizers of all kinds. Now is the time for the farmers to buy fertilizers, and they need them in order to grow their crops, in order to bring in a large and rich production during the current year. If there is no ceiling price on those products or on those commodities, the farmers will be in the position of paying a very high price, and probably they will not be able to pay it.