

Customs Tariff

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): I believe there are other matters being debated at the moment and I will recognize the hon. members when we come to deal with them.

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, on the same point of order, virtually, because there happens to be a coincidence here. I am sure it is more than coincidental. In the coming into force of this particular agreement between New Zealand and Canada, in article 13, there is a requirement that "the agreement shall enter into force on a date to be agreed in an exchange of notes between the contracting parties and shall thereupon supersede—" etc.

It so happens that by the bill before us we are told that the old New Zealand trade agreement is repealed, two of them, and that this act now before us, Bill C-90, shall be deemed to have come into force on November 13, 1981. I am wondering whether the exchange of notes between Canada and New Zealand stipulated that the agreement would come into force on November 13, 1981, and whether that just happened to coincide with the day after the presentation of the budget. I think that it would be useful to have the exchange of notes as well as the agreement.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): The Chair has some difficulty. Hon. members will have noticed that I was out of the chamber for a moment. On my return I got the impression that the hon. member for Edmonton West (Mr. Lambert) had proposed a motion, but I am not sure that he did. I understood that the issue under consideration by the hon. member for Edmonton West was the possibility that the agreement with New Zealand might be appended to today's *Hansard*. At this point I am not entirely clear whether the hon. member for Esquimalt-Saanich (Mr. Munro) is raising a point of order.

It does not sound to the Chair like a point of order, because it simply seeks to determine whether or not the hon. Minister of State for Finance (Mr. Bussières) might add even further information.

The Chair will be pleased to assist the House in whatever way the House wishes. We are running out of direction. Is there some hon. member who would care to enter the debate, or move the House in a particular direction, or raise a point of order that seeks a decision by the Chair? I recognize the hon. member for Esquimalt-Saanich.

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Edmonton West moved that the trade agreement be appended to today's *Hansard*. My suggestion, in amplification of that, was that the exchange of notes between Canada and New Zealand, bringing this particular agreement into force, should also be appended, because of the coincidence, the apparent coincidence between the coming into force of this agreement and the provisions of the bill before us.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Shall I recognize the hon. Minister of State for Finance?

[Translation]

Mr. Bussières: Mr. Speaker, I am afraid that some people are tripping over flowers in the carpet, as Xavier used to say. The government was asked to table a document, namely, a trade agreement between Canada and another country. This document is a public document which everybody knew about, and which has been tabled. Anybody who wants a copy of it can obtain one. This is a public and not a secret document. I am afraid that someone is tripping over flowers in the carpet and that we would be wasting the Canadian taxpayers' money if we had it printed as an annex to today's *Debates*. I do not understand at all the meaning of this discussion which has nothing to do either with points of order or information, because this is all public information.

[English]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Does the hon. member for Mississauga South (Mr. Blenkarn) wish to speak on the same point of order?

The Chair would like to determine whether or not there is a motion in front of the House. That would help.

Does the hon. member for Edmonton West put a motion that the trade agreement with New Zealand be appended to today's *Hansard*?

• (1730)

Mr. Lambert: That is correct, Mr. Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): The hon. member for Edmonton West is entitled to move that motion, duly seconded by the hon. member for Esquimalt-Saanich (Mr. Munro).

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Now I recognize the hon. member for Mississauga South (Mr. Blenkarn) on a point of order.

Mr. Blenkarn: Mr. Speaker, I will speak on the motion at the same time. I asked the Minister of State for Finance before why he does not file the whole trade agreement, but he has not yet answered. If this is the whole agreement then why are we dealing with amendments to tariffs in favour of New Zealand? The bill declares that they are part of the agreement, but somewhere along the line we were not given the entire story. I am speaking to the motion, Mr. Speaker. The Minister of State volunteered to supply an agreement, but he has not supplied the whole agreement. There is nothing in the agreement with respect to the reduction of Canadian tariffs, and there is nothing in it with respect to the reduction of New Zealand tariffs. Yet, the bill deals with a reduction of tariffs or a change of tariffs. Where is the agreement? Will the minister of state tell us?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): I see the hon. member for Bow River (Mr. Taylor) seeking the floor. Is it to comment further on the same point of order?

Mr. Taylor: No, Mr. Speaker; I am rising on the motion.