

The Postmaster General (Mrs. Fairclough),  
 The Minister of Fisheries (Mr. MacLean),  
 The Minister of Labour (Mr. Starr),  
 The Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Monteith),  
 The Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Hamilton),  
 The Minister of Defence Production (Mr. O'Hurley),  
 The Associate Minister of National Defence (Mr. Sévigny),  
 The Minister of Forestry and Minister of National Revenue (Mr. Flemming),  
 The Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources (Mr. Dinsdale),  
 The Secretary of State (Mr. Halpenny)  
 The Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys (Mr. Martineau),  
 The Minister of Citizenship and Immigration (Mr. Bell),  
 The Minister without Portfolio (Senator McCutcheon).  
 The Secretary to the Cabinet (Mr. Bryce),  
 The Assistant Secretaries to the Cabinet (Dr. Hodgson), (Mr. Labarge).

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SURCHARGES ON IMPORTS; FURTHER REVISIONS  
 (Previous reference November 6†)

16. *The Minister of Finance* re-affirmed that he was prepared to recommend a second step toward the removal of surcharges on imports. Canada's foreign exchange reserves had continued to improve, and representations on the surcharges had been received from Canadian producers and consumers as well as from other countries.

Most foods and agricultural and fisheries products should now be freed of surcharges. The exceptions were wines, beers, spirits, cigars and cigarettes and a short list of luxury goods. The loss of revenue would be about \$10 million in a full year, or about \$4 million in this fiscal year.

The surcharges on refrigerators and carpets should be reduced to 10 per cent. The surcharges on certain items of printing machinery and equipment, and on ambulances and hearses, should be removed.

An explanatory memorandum was circulated (Minister's memorandum, Oct. 29 – Cab. Doc. 350-62†).

17. *During the brief discussion* some said that few undertakers in Canada were likely to be in urgent need of hearses, and that the inclusion of this item at this time would invite ridicule.

18. *The Cabinet* agreed with the recommendations of the Minister of Finance that Treasury Board approval be sought, and an order in council be issued,

(a) to remove the import surcharge on all agricultural, fisheries and food products, except those specified in the Minister's memorandum (Cab. Doc. 350-62 of October 29th), and amend tariff item 23a to remove the surcharge on cocoa presscake;

(b) to reduce the surcharge on refrigerators (tariff item 415a) and carpets (tariff item 572) from 15 to 10 per cent; and,

(c) to remove the surcharge on printing machinery and equipment covered by tariff items 412b and 412d.

19. *The Cabinet* also agreed that the surcharge on ambulances and hearses should not be changed at this time.

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