

there are really only four days of each week—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday—during which the attendance is satisfactory, and that on the remaining days the attendance is very small indeed. Heretofore the overhead has continued throughout the week. We were given to understand that a gentleman in the other House who is in a position of authority and has had experience is of the opinion that a competent staff could be engaged to serve during the four busy days, that a much smaller staff could be secured for the remainder of the week, and that in this way the overhead could be materially reduced.

These are the principal grounds upon which those who took the matter into consideration arrived at the conclusion, with the concurrence of the Speakers of both Houses, and the Prime Minister, that we should revert to the old order.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

The sitting of the Senate was resumed.

#### CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL

##### FIRST READING

Bill 4, an Act to amend the Customs Tariff.

—Hon. Mr. Robertson.

##### SECOND READING

Hon. G. D. ROBERTSON moved the second reading of the Bill.

He said: Honourable senators, in moving the second reading of this Bill, may I make a brief statement concerning its intent? I presume the Senate will not care to discuss it at great length at this time.

This proposed legislation has been introduced by the Government because of its desire to extend protection to Canadian industry, particularly with a view to creating employment for Canadian workmen at this time, when many of our people are in need of work. It is thought that if the millions of dollars' worth of machinery and equipment that are standing idle at present could be put into use there would be an acceleration of industrial activities, and the Government considers that efforts should be made to this end. The Government, therefore, has submitted to Parliament a number of proposed changes in this tariff. These have been approved in another place and are now before this House for consideration and approval. The Government wishes to make possible the opening of factories now closed, and thereby to help in the creation of work for many of our unemployed.

Hon. Mr. TANNER.

Competent and reliable opinion as expressed in another place is to the effect that in a few months, if the proposals embodied in this measure are adopted, there probably will be at least 25,000 workmen added to the staffs of Canadian factories. It is highly desirable in the present circumstances to bring about such a result.

It is not intended that the present tariff revision should be considered as by any means complete or conclusive, for it is expected that further changes will be submitted to Parliament at the next regular session. The Bill now before us affects certain basic industries which it was felt should be dealt with at this special session; and it was partly for the purpose of amending the tariff in respect of these industries that this session was called.

Hon. R. DANDURAND: Honourable senators, during the passage through this Chamber last week of the Customs Act Amendment Bill, commonly known as the Anti-Dumping Bill, there was considerable discussion on the principle of the proposed legislation which is now before us, and I see no reason for repeating what has been said from this side of the House. We have affirmed our belief that the remedy that is proposed in this Bill will not effect the hoped-for cure. We have observed that even the high tariff of the United States has not prevented industrial depression in that country. As was pointed out by a number of honourable members, the present industrial depression is world-wide. My right honourable friend on my left (Right Hon. Mr. Graham) expressed the opinion held on this side of the House when he said that the remedy for the poor times in this country was an increase in the purchasing power of the people. We hope that the Economic Conference to be held in London at the beginning of October will result in the obtaining of wider markets for Canada, with the consequent restoration of prosperity to our citizens. We on this side of the House fear that a higher tariff will bring about an increase in the cost of living, and we believe that the country cannot bear the resulting burden unless Canadian producers, by securing access to wider markets within the British Empire, are able to sell their surplus goods at fair prices.

Until last year Canada was a prosperous country and the envy of the world. When we compared the advances made in this country with those of other countries after the war, we were justified in feeling proud of our national progress. That progress has been affected by conditions over which our Government had no control. We hope that better conditions will be brought about within the