

Mr. DUNNING: I certainly repudiate, Mr. Chairman, any suggestion that any member of the government conspired to get this utterance from Mr. Burrows. I am assuming that the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association consists of growers of fruit.

Mr. McGREGOR: Mr. Burrows is not speaking for the fruit growers, and furthermore—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

The CHAIRMAN: Order. The hon. member is out of order. The Minister of Finance has the floor.

Mr. DUNNING: I know of nothing either to the detriment of Mr. Burrows or to his credit, but a man who is secretary-treasurer of the Canadian Horticultural Council presumably must have the confidence of the growers. At least I remember, back in the days when I formerly occupied this position, the growers very frequently waited upon me headed by Mr. Burrows. If Mr. Burrows does not have the confidence of the growers, I am quite sure they are capable of dealing with him. I do not think we should make personal attacks upon individuals who have an official standing with associations of the industries concerned.

Mr. BENNETT: The hon. gentleman has not been in the house the last five years to hear the opposition talk about Mr. Burrows.

Mr. McGREGOR: How much does the government pay Mr. Burrows?

Mr. DUNNING: I do not know; I do not pay him anything.

Mr. McGREGOR: I am asking how much the government pays.

Mr. DUNNING: The hon. gentleman has a copy of the estimates in his desk and if he will refer to it he will find that a grant is given to the Canadian Horticultural Council, of which Mr. Burrows is secretary. This grant is the same as has been paid for years.

Mr. LENNARD: With all due respect to Mr. Burrows, I cannot see how a man can serve the commission men and the growers of this country at the same time.

Mr. STIRLING: This gentleman is not here and I think it is only fair to give one or two facts with regard to the Canadian Horticultural Council. The minister will remember that this council was brought into being, during the régime of the hon. member for Melville (Mr. Motherwell) when he was Minister of Agriculture, in order that the government of the day should have available

[Mr. McGregor.]

information which would be collected from all parts of Canada in connection with the matters in which the council was interested. It was intended also to provide a channel through which information could pass from the government to these industries. The name of the secretary-treasurer has been mentioned this afternoon. He is employed by the council, not by the government. For excellent reasons, in years past as in this year, the government has contributed to the funds of this council. The council obtains other revenue from different associations throughout Canada. In the statement of Mr. Burrows which the minister has just read, I am of the opinion that he is voicing the considered opinion of those interests which combined together made up the horticultural council. I think I can confirm the statement which has been read, that if the government proposes to continue to use the dumping clause, the producers of Canada will know they have a measure of protection under which they can attempt to carry on. The future will prove whether or not the tariff is sufficient for the purpose.

Mr. DUNNING: That is a very fair statement.

Mr. CLARK (Essex): I want to endorse the remarks of the hon. member for Yale (Mr. Stirling). I think the whole situation depends upon the application of these dumping duties. There has been some controversy over the secretary-treasurer of the horticultural council, but as far as I know he is handling his job in the best way it can be handled under the circumstances.

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin): Are we to understand that there will be an application of the dumping duty?

Mr. SPENCE: They will not tell you anything.

Mr. DUNNING: You can be assured of the exercise of the best judgment of the government from time to time.

Mr. ROWE (Dufferin): We know that, although we may be doubtful of it at times. The hon. member for Parkdale (Mr. Spence) has almost pleaded with the minister to tell him at what time he will apply the seasonal tariffs. Another hon. member has said that it all depends upon the time that these tariffs are applied. I recall how vigorously hon. gentlemen on the government side opposed, when they were in opposition, the principles now being applied, and they went around the country promising their abolition.

Mr. EULER: Not on natural products.