

Lead and Zinc Exports

Hon. Stuart S. Garson (Minister of Justice): If the hon. member is referring to the Newfoundland publication which he brought me alleging the facts which he has just stated, and which he left with me to have investigated, I may tell him that up until the present time we have been unable to find any foundation for the news item in question.

CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT**MEASURE PROVIDING FOR ORGANIZATION AND SUPERVISION OF ASSOCIATIONS**

Hon. Stuart S. Garson (for the Minister of Finance) moved that the house go into committee to consider Bill No. 338, respecting co-operative credit associations.

Motion agreed to and the house went into committee, Mr. Beaudoin in the chair.

The Chairman: May I point out that this bill has been carefully considered in the standing committee on banking and commerce and reported to this house with amendments.

Sections 1 to 4 inclusive agreed to.

On section 5—*Matters to be declared in special act.*

Mr. Browne (St. John's West): Will the minister state whether any organizations, apart from those which will be created by the special act, are contemplated as joining the national association at the present time?

Mr. Garson: I am afraid I cannot hear my hon. friend's voice. Perhaps he could speak a little bit more loudly.

Mr. Browne (St. John's West): Are there any other co-operative societies concerned here, except what would be in the nature of a national association of credit societies, which will be created by a special act of parliament? This legislation will enable the government to provide for supervision of a national co-operative credit association?

Mr. Garson: Yes. This act will authorize the bringing into being by a special act of parliament of what my hon. friend referred to as a national organization. This act will authorize the supervising and inspection of that national organization and of the provincial centrals which are members of that national organization.

Section agreed to.

Sections 6 and 7 agreed to.

On section 8—*Objects and powers.*

The Chairman: There is an amendment to this clause. The amendment is to the 34th line which reads "to borrow or raise

money from its members or from"; these are the amending words, "an association of which it is a member or from". Then the section carries on as it is now.

Amendment agreed to.

The Chairman: Shall the clause as amended carry?

Section as amended agreed to.

Sections 9 to 85 inclusive agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill reported, read the third time and passed.

SUPPLY

Hon. Alphonse Fournier (Minister of Public Works) moved that the house go into committee of supply.

LEAD AND ZINC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES

Mr. J. A. Byrne (Kootenay East): Mr. Speaker, I rise at this time to bring before the house a matter over which I am greatly concerned. On March 31 I asked a question of the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Howe) with regard to a serious situation arising out of the threat of an increased tariff on lead and zinc entering the United States. At that time, as reported at page 3449 of *Hansard*, the minister stated:

While Canada would protest any legislation which would tend to bar our metals from the United States market, I do not think that any such action can be expected.

Since that time reports indicate that certain bills now before the United States congress are receiving some measure of support. Four bills in all have been introduced. These are H.R. 4294, introduced by Representative Simpson; H.R. 4320, introduced by Representative Dawson; H.R. 4462, introduced by Representative Stringfellow; and S. 1562, introduced by Senator Dworshak. All these bills propose to introduce a sliding scale formula under which the rates of duty are to increase to high levels as the domestic price of lead or zinc in the United States falls below a given figure. The basic price mentioned in each of the bills is approximately 15½ cents per pound. The idea is that as long as the price remains at or above this figure, the present duties will apply. If, however, prices fall below 15½ cents per pound in the United States, the normal duty would be increased by additional duties which are spelled out in some detail. As the price continues to decrease below 15½ cents, the additional duties become larger and larger.

It is evidently provided in all these bills that these duties shall not subsequently be reduced by trade negotiations with other