

Supply—Finance

toward bringing it to an end. I am not suggesting that it can be done the day after tomorrow, but apparently we are being met with an attitude of splendid negation which is not going to get us anywhere.

Mr. Abbott: I have no intention of influencing the sale of futures by the foreign exchange control board by making a prophecy in this house.

Mr. Harkness: When measures were brought in in 1947 to conserve the amount of gold and American exchange two lists were issued, one of prohibited articles which could not be imported from the United States and the other of articles which could be imported only under quota. Those lists have been successively cut down since that time. As I remember, most of the articles were taken off the prohibited list and many were taken off the quota list in April of this year.

Mr. Abbott: Some to be effective on July 1, but announced in April.

Mr. Harkness: The announcement was made in April that most of the remaining articles were to be taken off the prohibited and quota lists. Could the minister tell us what articles still remain on those lists?

Mr. Abbott: I am sorry I have not that information here. As my hon. friend will recall, those quotas and prohibitions are not under the Foreign Exchange Control Act, they are under the Emergency Exchange Conservation Act. I must confess that I did not come prepared with that data because the foreign exchange control board does not administer that act. I can get the information very quickly for my hon. friend and send it to him, possibly tomorrow morning. The information has been published in the *Canada Gazette*.

Mr. Harkness: The minister will correct me if I am wrong in saying that the number of articles left on the prohibited list is very small.

Mr. Abbott: Speaking from memory, I think there are no longer any articles on the purely prohibited list, unless it is crime comics and that sort of thing. I have no details here of the articles on what we call schedule II or the quota list, but I will get it for my hon. friend.

Mr. Harkness: I should like to draw to the attention of the minister a matter about which I have written several times. Parking meters were on the prohibited list and I was under the impression they were the only article still left on that list. It may be that they are on the quota list now. Electric

phonographs, or juke boxes as they are commonly called, have been taken off the list as of July 1. It does not seem reasonable when you are dealing with coin-operated machines that you should keep on the prohibited or quota list parking meters which are required by a large number of municipalities and cities. A number of these municipalities want particular types of machines which are not manufactured in Canada. I understand there are two kinds of machines manufactured in Canada but they do not have the automatic coin counting devices possessed by certain machines manufactured in the United States which certain municipalities want to get. As I understand, these machines will still continue under quota whereas juke boxes are being removed from the quota list in spite of the fact that a juke box costs anywhere from \$500 to \$2,000 and a parking meter only costs from \$25 to \$60. Can the minister give any explanation why this situation exists, and say whether it is going to continue? Perhaps parking meters are going to be taken off the list.

Mr. Abbott: I am not prepared to give very much information about the specific details today. As I have said, we have been following a progressive policy of relaxing import restrictions and quotas as rapidly as we felt was justified by the improvement in our exchange reserve. We have usually made rearrangements once a year. As was pointed out, we announced quite substantial relaxations early this year, some of them to be effective as of the first of July. I will take note of the special case of parking meters. I have listened to my hon. friend, and I will inform myself about it. I cannot give him the answer this afternoon but I will write to him about it.

Mr. McLure: I received word today that a municipality wants to buy a certain type of road machinery not manufactured in Canada. I understand they have to secure a permit from the department to import such a machine from the United States.

Mr. Abbott: That comes under the Department of Trade and Commerce.

Mr. McLure: I understand the only objection raised is because of the exchange situation. I thought that might come under the minister.

Mr. Abbott: No. These items of capital machinery and equipment come under schedule III of the Emergency Exchange Conservation Act which is administered by my colleague, the Minister of Trade and Commerce. I am sure he will be able to answer my hon. friend's question, but I am afraid I cannot.