

and cream separators. The principal articles to be placed in schedule B included meat, flour and agricultural machinery and implements as defined, the rates of duty upon these articles to be common to both countries. In schedules C and D were to be placed at reduced rates of duty a number of articles imported respectively by the United States from Canada and by Canada from the United States, the latter schedule including coal. Paper and pulpwood were to be admitted free reciprocally provided that no export charges were imposed thereon in Canada whether by provincial or federal authority.

Resolutions approving of these proposals were submitted to the House of Commons by Mr. Fielding on January 26, and debates ensued which lasted for almost the entire remainder of the session.

On February 22 the House of Commons, on the motion of Mr. F.D.Monk, adopted unanimously the following as an amendment to the motion for going into Committee of Ways and Means on the reciprocity resolutions :

But, before resuming the discussion of the terms of the agreement concluded between the Government of Canada and the President of the United States, and with a view to dispel the feeling of unrest created in Canada by comments made in both countries as to the political consequence of the agreement, the House wishes to affirm emphatically its determination to preserve intact the bonds which unite Canada to the British Empire, and the full liberty of Canada to control her fiscal policy and internal autonomy.

A Bill to give effect to the agreement on the part of the United States was introduced into the United States Congress on January 29. It passed the House of Representatives by 221 votes to 93 on February 14. On April 4 a newly elected Congress met in extraordinary session to consider the agreement, and on April 21 the Bill relating to it passed the House of Representatives by 267 votes to 89. On July 22 the Bill passed the United States Senate by 53 votes to 27, and it was enacted that its provisions should become operative as soon as the necessary counterpart legislation had been passed by the Parliament of the Dominion of Canada.

Discussion of the reciprocity proposals was resumed in the House of Commons directly Parliament reassembled on July 18 after the coronation adjournment. No progress was made however towards their adoption, and on July 29 the Government decided to recommend the dissolution of Parliament and to submit their proposals for commercial reciprocity with the United States to the judgment of the Canadian people at a general election, the date of which was fixed for September 21.

The General Election of September 21 resulted in the defeat of the Government and in the consequent rejection of the proposals for commercial reciprocity with the United States. On October 6 Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the other members of his Administration formally resigned office.