

**SPEECH OF
Honorable J. P. B. CASGRAIN,
On Importation of Thoroughbred Mares and Stallions**

OTTAWA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH, 1914.

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN inquired: That he will call the attention of the Government to some unsatisfactory features regarding the regulations for the importation, duty free, of thoroughbred mares and stallions, and will inquire whether it is the intention of the Government to remedy these conditions should they exist?

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN—With the permission of the House I should like to bring before some objectors the present conditions regarding duty-free importation of thoroughbred mares and stallions. I may say that this is a question which is altogether free from any political significance, and no political party could take exception to it. If there is any grievance existing, or if there is anything amiss, both parties are equally responsible, because the conditions complained of have been in existence for a long time. The contentions of some who are aggrieved are:

1. That the Government does not enforce the customs law as to free import for breeding purposes.
2. That the Government delegates this enforcement to the National Record Committee, which is not responsible to the public or elected by it, and having interests not always the same as those of other importers.
3. This committee declines to use certain powers, thereby depriving importers of part of their rights, in being a private body under legal duty to perform any function, there are no legal means to compel it to act.

That is the reason why I am now presenting the subject to you.
4. Briefly, the customs law gives us entry, duty free, for breeding stock, leaving the Governor in Council to make the necessary regulations. The Governor in Council allows free entry, if the animal is registered in the Canadian Register, or in a foreign record recognized as reliable by the National Record Committee. But here is the kernel of the whole thing: The National Record Committee will not declare that the English, the American, the Australian, or the French Stud Book are recognized as reliable. It will not pronounce as a public body could be compelled, to that these books are, or are not, reliable. Animals entered in these books are, however, in practice eligible for entry in the Canadian Register kept by the committee; in fact they are the foundation books for the committee's work.

5. The committee thus takes away from the importer of an animal registered in the English or American Stud Book, etc., one method of free entry. It imposes on him no alternative but to submit to entry in the Canadian Register as a condition precedent to free entry—a condition not authorized by the customs law and not in the Council. Also, it gets into its own hands a power to obstruct the importer, for it can make entry into the Canadian Register easy or hard, slow or otherwise, or refuse it altogether.
6. To have one's case considered by the committee one must be the owner of the animal tendered for free entry. That is to say you must have paid with your money and have purchased the animal abroad and have so far committed yourself to difficulties before knowing whether the committee will allow you to get out of them.

7. Amongst the terms it imposes at present are the producing of written transfers of the animal from the original breeder through every owner down to the importer. Such documents are not usual in transactions relating to thoroughbred horses, are in many cases not procurable, and sometimes only procurable at a cost for them. The mere demand for them in many cases would prevent the purchase of a desirable animal because foreign buyers do not carry such documents and the seller never has them.
8. A Canadian buyer competing with foreign buyers, therefore, labors under several disadvantages:

(a) There is the certainty of delay while discussing with the committee; (b) There is the possibility of being unable to procure the documents required; (c) There is the possibility of being unable to satisfy the committee; (d) Whilst the duty free entry question is thus held up the animal has to be bonded or put up another way.
9. The result is that an animal undoubtedly registered in the English or the American Stud Book and perhaps perfectly well known on the race track as a performer, cannot always be imported duty free into the country. The trouble and annoyance are so great as to discourage individual importers. To most of them means that they are prohibitory. The story of those who have been through them tends to deter others from attempting to import. This, no doubt, is the underlying object.

10. The Canadian buyer with a limited sum to spend cannot buy as good an animal as his foreign competitor, because the former Government publishes a list of the books record in which carries with it duty free entry, while our own delegates this duty to what is essentially a private and non-responsible body.
Whether it be legal for the Government to leave to a committee of dealers in any particular trade the power to affect their competitors' imports may be doubted. The point to be noted at the moment is that by acts of omission rather than commission, firstly of the Government, and secondly of the National Record Committee, some importers suffer through the illegality, if there be one, and are so exposed without having any legal remedy short of interference by Parliament.

The article of the tariff dealing with duty free entry for breeding purposes leaves to the Government by Order in Council to give effect to the provision. The Government purports to do this by saying that free entry shall be granted to animals owned by the importer who are registered in Canada (a) if the animal is registered in the Canadian Register for the breed, or (b) in any record kept abroad and recognized as reliable by the National Record Committee.

The provision sounds both fair and wise but falls short of what is desirable, first in that there is no authoritative publication of a list of foreign records recognized as reliable by the Government, secondly that the National Record Committee will not declare that there is a Canadian record for the breed, and lastly in that being a private body there are no legal means of compelling them to announce publicly and definitely on the reliability or otherwise of any foreign record even in the case of

recognized by the United States Government and recognized by other governments all over the world.

There are Canadian records for nearly all the more prominent breeds of cattle and horses. The foreign records recognized as reliable by the United States Government are broadly speaking the very books which form the foundation of the Canadian records, and by retaining a list of records to certify publicly that they are recognized as reliable by the National Record Committee, the Canadian importer is placed in a very different position from the American competitor.

Hon. Mr. CLOLAN—I would like to ask the hon. gentleman one question. He is asking that the stud books of the United States be recognized in Canada. Will the United States or do the United States recognize Canadian stud books to the same amount and degree as the United States recognize American stud books in a few minutes. The American can import duty free an animal registered in such reliable foreign record as of right. The Canadian can only do so if the animal is recorded in the Canadian Register. This is the second salient difference between the method adopted in the two countries. Pedigree books, as we know, is imported for two very different purposes and by two classes of persons interested in different ways. Those who care to inquire into the pedigree of their animals, and those who purpose the duty free entry provision was most intended to help and what interest is in fact most advantaged by the system in vogue. Better beef cattle and horses are wanted, not in the show rings, but on the farms. The show ring is the place where what the farmer wants is advertised, and one of the main reasons why people would support a system by which direct import by him of stock he needs to a cross with and improve his half-bred herd is that he can get the stock which what stock is available through importation by others is likely to be either higher in price or poorer in quality than it need be if full effect were given to law.

No one would grudge free import to the country nor object to Government keeping their stud and herd books for their own use, and for the purpose of directing the people who subscribe to the proposition that having these things they should by their produce show that they were breeding as good stock for the price that they could import duty free. If they cannot show this, surely no one would support a protective system for their benefit for the effect would be to keep the animal in the country and to cross with half-bred herds—and they are the main support of the whole agricultural industry—would get worse animals for their purposes and pay a higher price.

In the most important breeds, should an intending importer apply to the National Record Committee for a record in the Canadian Register, he will be told by the committee that it is not, and he will be invited to register in the Canadian book for these breeds a record inaugurated and directed by a group of persons already engaged in breeding or importing that class of stock, a book kept by the National Record Committee under their direction, in which body they have been registered.

Bearing in mind that the intending importer's free entry is thus made to depend on the discretion of a body of men resident in Canada, (b) on his owning the animal and (c) on his being able to get the National Record Committee to record it before he gets his free entry, it is not surprising that to delay, defeat or obstruct him in his endeavor to obtain it.

Amongst the first requirements of the National Record Committee are that transfers of the animal from the breeder up to the importer must be furnished, that is that a title from hand to hand must be obtained in writing. This is limited to transfers of the animal from the breeder to the committee to be necessary for the purpose of identifying the animal. Now for the primary purpose of crossing on half-bred stock, if the animal is not recorded in the Canadian Register, the importer will be unable to get the animal into the country. That legal title is never better nor worse because of the chain of documents. Moreover no such chain of documents covers the real points at which the animal is transferred to the importer. The testimony of those who saw the dam bred to the sire or the animal born is not always available. In many breeds the young are reared and placed with foster mothers. The identity can only be traced by the testimony of those who were on the spot and saw them bred. The Canadian Government publishes a list of the books record in which carries with it duty free entry, while our own delegates this duty to what is essentially a private and non-responsible body.

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In the most important breeds, should an intending importer apply to the National Record Committee for a record in the Canadian Register, he will be told by the committee that it is not, and he will be invited to register in the Canadian book for these breeds a record inaugurated and directed by a group of persons already engaged in breeding or importing that class of stock, a book kept by the National Record Committee under their direction, in which body they have been registered.

Bearing in mind that the intending importer's free entry is thus made to depend on the discretion of a body of men resident in Canada, (b) on his owning the animal and (c) on his being able to get the National Record Committee to record it before he gets his free entry, it is not surprising that to delay, defeat or obstruct him in his endeavor to obtain it.

Amongst the first requirements of the National Record Committee are that transfers of the animal from the breeder up to the importer must be furnished, that is that a title from hand to hand must be obtained in writing. This is limited to transfers of the animal from the breeder to the committee to be necessary for the purpose of identifying the animal. Now for the primary purpose of crossing on half-bred stock, if the animal is not recorded in the Canadian Register, the importer will be unable to get the animal into the country. That legal title is never better nor worse because of the chain of documents. Moreover no such chain of documents covers the real points at which the animal is transferred to the importer. The testimony of those who saw the dam bred to the sire or the animal born is not always available. In many breeds the young are reared and placed with foster mothers. The identity can only be traced by the testimony of those who were on the spot and saw them bred. The Canadian Government publishes a list of the books record in which carries with it duty free entry, while our own delegates this duty to what is essentially a private and non-responsible body.

Whether it be legal for the Government to leave to a committee of dealers in any particular trade the power to affect their competitors' imports may be doubted. The point to be noted at the moment is that by acts of omission rather than commission, firstly of the Government, and secondly of the National Record Committee, some importers suffer through the illegality, if there be one, and are so exposed without having any legal remedy short of interference by Parliament.

The article of the tariff dealing with duty free entry for breeding purposes leaves to the Government by Order in Council to give effect to the provision. The Government purports to do this by saying that free entry shall be granted to animals owned by the importer who are registered in Canada (a) if the animal is registered in the Canadian Register for the breed, or (b) in any record kept abroad and recognized as reliable by the National Record Committee.

The provision sounds both fair and wise but falls short of what is desirable, first in that there is no authoritative publication of a list of foreign records recognized as reliable by the Government, secondly that the National Record Committee will not declare that there is a Canadian record for the breed, and lastly in that being a private body there are no legal means of compelling them to announce publicly and definitely on the reliability or otherwise of any foreign record even in the case of

TRUST IN THE DIVINE BEING

Man's Faith Not Shaken By What Seems to be Unnecessary Evil or Inexplicable Cruelty

"Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him."—Job, xiii, 15.

The trust in God possessed by the average man is a strange and wonderful thing. To regard this trust as a religious sentiment is almost impossible as to think of the moon as made of green cheese. Most people trust in God only in the sense that they believe that the Divine Being is pledged to protect them personally from disaster and to dedicate His providence to the one end of their individual happiness. They have faith in the sense that they believe that God will answer their prayers, satisfy their fancies and give success to their endeavors. His thoughts shall be their thoughts and His ways their ways. God, in other words, is at their disposal; their trust in Him is akin to their trust in some old servant who in a lifetime of devotion has never disobeyed a command or disregarded a petition.

What such trust in God really amounts to is shown by the action of these same people when God seems to fail them. A prayer is unanswered, a desire thwarted.

A Fond Ambition Defeated!
A ship sinks, a business enterprise crashes to ruin, a child dies! Instantly then does the erstwhile worshipper turn on the Deity as a hungry dog might turn on a master who had struck him. He clamors that the trust in God, like a trust in an insolvent bank, has been betrayed. He ridicules the idea that God is merciful or just. He even goes so far on occasion to assert that there is no God, and points to his tragedy as a proof that the world is only a vast machine which fascinates man for a little time, only to catch and crush him ruthlessly in the end. Convinced that the universe, with its infinitudes of space and its eternalities of time, was created only to serve the petty caprices of his pitifully insignificant life; and made now to see, by sad experience, that it is moving to

some larger purpose than any which he can conceive, he rebels, like a spoiled child who whimpers because he cannot have the moon for his plaything, and takes refuge in the vaunting of his denial.

Very different from all this is that true trust in God which has ever been the strength of prophets, the stay of martyrs, the glory of saints, the quiet virtue of good men and pure women. The real believer in Divine Providence never asks that his prayers be answered, his ventures prospered or his heart protected from the wounds of death. Trust in God involves, to his mind, the belief that behind the stupendous processes of natural life there is

A Divine Wisdom
so deeply grounded upon reality that no human mind can comprehend its precepts and a divine love so boundless in its compassion that no human heart can measure its scope. He concedes the knowledge of the divine mind to be "too wonderful" for his understanding. "It is high, I cannot attain unto it," he says. "I have prepared for the awful, the mysterious, and even to him the terrible. Nothing in the universal process can disturb or confound him. If a thing appears to be evil in his wisdom which is at fault. If an event seems to be cruel it is his love which is blind!"

He looks upon the chances and changes of human experience even as he gazes at night upon the movements of the heavenly spheres; he would think as little of questioning the beneficence of the one as of the other. Come sorrow or joy, failure or success, death or life—it is all the same. He trusts in God, and therefore he trusts life, which is simply the thing that God is doing. "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him!" Yes, it is only when God seems to slay me that I can trust in Him, for trust begins only when knowledge fails; just as the stars shine only when the sun is gone!—Rev. John Hayes Holmes.

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