

### **Dumping Charges Against Oils Not Proven at Hearing**

**R**EPRESENTATIVES of domestic producers were not able to substantiate charges of dumping against exporters who are supplying the United States with animal, vegetable and marine oils in a hearing recently before F. X. A. Eble, Commissioner of Customs. The hearing was actually the beginning of a campaign for additional tariff protection to be asked at the lame duck session of Congress this month.

Practically every animal, vegetable and marine oil was attacked, but those coming from countries with depreciated currency were given most consideration. Spokesmen were Chester Gray, of the American Farm Bureau Federation; Charles W. Holman, of the Co-operative Milk Producers Federation, and A. M. Loomis, representing various dairy, flax and cottonseed interests.

Direct competition with linseed oil was laid to imports of linseed, soybean and perilla oil, while soap oils were said to compete with foots

and low grades of domestic oils. No direct competition with edible oils was charged, but it was declared that the present low price of butter is mainly due to the importation of ingredients for oleomargarin. What was said to be almost complete interchangeability of the oils was described as potential, if not actual, competition of all imported oils with domestic dairy and cotton interests.

Commissioner Eble said he doubted very much if the anti-dumping law could be construed to cover injury to a domestic industry caused by imports of a substitute product, and he pointed out that there is no evidence that selling price of the oils in this country is below that of the country of origin, and that therefore there probably is no violation of the anti-dumping law.

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United States exports of the three medicinal oils—castor oil, cod-liver oil and white mineral oil, advanced 13 per cent in volume in the first six months of 1932, as compared with the corresponding period of 1931.