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The Stenographic Report of Proceedings of the House of Representatives in the 65th Session of the Imperial Diet No. 21.

March 10th (Saturday),
1934 (Showa 9).

The Session opened at 01:14 p.m.

(Mr. TAKAHASHI, Korekiyo, the Minister of State, goes on the platform).

Minister of State TAKAHASHI, Korekiyo: I will give an explanation of the Adjustment of Trade and Protection of Commerce Bill which has just been introduced for discussion. Recently there is no sincerity for international cooperation in world commerce, and there is a marked tendency among the respective countries to adopt selfish policies. Especially the tendency, spurred by extremely active advance of Japanese commodities in the markets abroad, has become more conspicuous. This situation is that those countries are gradually increasing which attempt to build a wall against our export trade through such methods like restricting their import from Japan. In view of such a situation, it may, when we think of the future become necessary for our country to take such steps, depending on what measures the various countries will adopt hereafter,

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like regulating trade in conformity with such measures and thereby strike for the balance of international incomings and outgoings; or like increasing or decreasing the import duty or prohibiting and controlling the import and export to protect our commerce. Such measures must be put into effect according to circumstances. Therefore it is the intention of the Government today to establish beforehand a system for the above, and thereby prepare for the future. Of course we have no intention to assume an attitude of voluntarily disturbing the international relations, but it is our hope rather that such an occasion will not occur which will necessitate the application of this Law. In view of the current situation, I think it is unavoidable for us to make arrangements of this degree as a temporary measure. This is the outline of the reason why the Government has proposed this Bill. I hope you would kindly approve it immediately after due deliberation.