United States Export Subsidy on Oranges: Complaint withdrawn

At the Eighth Session in October 1953 Italy alleged that the granting by the United States of subsidies on exports of oranges to certain countries, in particular European countries, had a serious effect on her export trade.

The delegation of South Africa also claimed that there were difficulties in marketing South African oranges in Europe owing to the effect of the United States subsidy, and the United Kingdom delegation referred to the interest of certain dependent countries in the matter. The United States maintained that the difficulties complained of were not the result of the United States export subsidy.

It was stated at the end of the Ninth Session that the matter was being taken up in Washington, and the delegations affected by the subsidy reserved the right to place the matter on the Tenth Session agenda if no satisfactory solution was reached in the meantime.

Early in the current Session, the delegate of Italy, Mr. T. Notarangeli, said that as a result of bilateral consultations with the United States, his Government wished to withdraw the item. Mr. J.J. Pansegrouw, South Africa, agreed that the item should be deleted on the understanding that his Government reserved its position to take up the matter again if it should find it necessary to do so.

Ambassador J.C.H. Bonbright, Chairman of the United States delegation, said that extensive consultations had been held on a bilateral basis between the United States and Italy and the Union of South Africa. He was glad to state that these talks had been productive. The United States appreciated the removal of this item from the agenda. In this connection Mr. Bonbright pointed out that from 1 November 1955 the United States export payment on oranges is reduced from 75 cents a box to 50 cents a box.