

department that gave the greatest scope to a man with a heap of energy was the Trade and Commerce Department in a young country which is really just beginning its development. However, I will refrain from making any comments until the Supplementary Estimates come down, as I understand my hon. friend has almost induced his colleagues to let him have a vote in the Supplementaries for this purpose. I must say that notwithstanding all the theories that have been spun to-night, and I do not say it disrespectfully in connection with what has been said or thought by any of you as to trade within the scope and the lines of a preferential tariff, when the department or the members of any convention, get down to the real question, they will discover that the representatives of Canada, and rightly so, will insist upon the position that they will not give up any of their rights to manage their own affairs as they see fit even though that view may not harmonize with somebody else's idea. Generally speaking, the theory is good, that when you come to take up some measure which is new, you will not allow the people of any other country, even a country in the British Empire, to control the conditions under which you manage your affairs, but these conditions will be controlled by Canada as they have been in the past. However, this is a large subject, and I am afraid I might make a speech if I continued along that line. I will keep my remarks until the supplementary estimates are up.

Mr. F. N. McCREA (Sherbrooke): Mr. Speaker, there is a matter that I think my hon. friend the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Sir George Foster) might deal with, and perhaps he could do so much more easily than he could deal with the question of navies and shipbuilding to-night. Canada produces a small quantity of hemlock tan bark, but, she produces more than can be used here. There has been an embargo placed upon the export of that commodity under an Order in Council which was passed about a year ago but which was only put into effect about a month ago. Whilst there is not a very great quantity produced, there is more than there is sale for in Canada.

In the part of the country I come from, there has been business for more than fifty years in the shipping of bark to the United States. But this embargo was put into force about a month ago and the export of the stuff is held up.

[Mr. Graham.]

And there is no sale for it in Canada. I think that the Order in Council must have been put in force without consideration, because I cannot see any good purpose that is going to be served by prohibiting the export of tan bark. It cannot be shipped to Europe in the form of bark. At one time, in the province of Quebec, there were quite a few extracting works which reduced the bark to a liquid form so that it could be shipped anywhere without great expense for freight. But these works have disappeared, as also have many of the tanneries that formerly used bark. Consequently there is only a small quantity used in Canada. Unless the embargo is removed the stuff will waste, for it is not an article that will keep for any great length of time. I think that probably this matter is under the charge of the Minister of Customs, but I should fancy that the Minister of Trade and Commerce, who is interested in doing everything necessary and possible for facilitating the handling of the Canadian products, would also be interested. I trust the hon. minister (Sir George Foster) will give it his attention and will try, if possible to remove this embargo. Of course, if there is any good reason why it should not be removed, we will have to put up with it. If the Government can have it removed, it will be of benefit to us, and will hurt nobody.

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: Have any representations been made to the Customs Department or to my department on the subject?

Mr. McCREA: Yes, to the Customs.

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: I have not heard of it. I will make a note of the matter.

Mr. McCREA: I have a letter from Mr. McDougald, who says that the embargo has been put on and could not be removed. I do not think he has considered the matter very carefully.

SUPPLY.

The House in Committee of Supply, Mr. Rhodes in the Chair.

Trade and Commerce—Trade commissioners and commercial agents, including expenses in connection with negotiations of treaty or in extension of commercial relations; miscellaneous advertising and printing, or other expenditure connected with the extension of Canadian trade, \$150,000.

Mr. GRAHAM: I presume that when the supplementary estimates are under con-