

same kind. I had a letter the other day from a friend of mine who was going through the States from Ontario to Vancouver, and they charged 2 per cent discount on a Canadian bank note which he tendered in payment of Pullman car accommodation going out of Chicago. That is an outrage especially on the part of a company like the Pullman which does such a large business in this country and receives so much consideration from us. Of course it is only reasonable that we should accept American currency and bills, and I would not like to see that stopped, but there ought to be some reciprocity in a matter of that kind. It is a personal every-day matter which affects us all; and certainly when our bills are refused, particularly by a company like the Pullman, that gives a shock to our national pride, and we should try to find some way of avoiding it. I think the minister might have taken up that question in discussing reciprocity.

Mr. FIELDING. We had a good many things to think of in Washington, and that particular one did not occupy our attention. I quite agree with my hon. friend that a company like the Pullman company, which does such a profitable business in Canada, ought not to refuse Canadian money at par. One can make allowance when a small business establishment does that, but in the case of a great corporation there can be no excuse. I shall take the matter up and am glad that my hon. friend drew my attention to it.

Mr. BARKER. I heard the other day that a Canadian travelling in the United States offered a \$20 Bank of Montreal bill, and it was refused, but when he offered a \$20 bill of the Dominion Bank it was accepted.

Mr. FIELDING. That shows the value of a name.

Mr. JAMESON. Have any steps been taken to export Newfoundland 20 cent pieces? In the maritime provinces we have a good many in circulation, and they are a source of great inconvenience, especially to a good housewife when she finds she is short in change because one of these 20 cent pieces had been given to her for a 25 cent piece. Some of our boards of trade some time ago passed strong resolutions with regard to this.

Mr. FIELDING. Undoubtedly this currency creates annoyance in the maritime provinces, but I did not think it large enough or broad enough to require us to take special steps to export the silver. There is a common impression that these pieces are Canadian and I have been often asked why we issue them. But on examination, the parties were astonished to find that they were not Canadian but Newfound-

land. Several years ago I communicated with the government of Newfoundland to ascertain whether they might not find it convenient to cease the coining of these 20 cent pieces, but they assured me that it was a very great convenience to them and they were not prepared to act on our suggestion. If the thing became too great a trouble, we would have to consider the question of exporting the coin.

Mr. PERLEY. Are any Canadian 20 cent pieces still out?

Mr. FIELDING. Hardly any. None have been issued in my day at all.

Mr. JAMESON. I think the subject is of sufficient importance to warrant the minister dealing with it. I do not know whether he has ever seen the resolutions of the boards of trade, but at the time there was considerable discussion on the matter.

Mr. FIELDING. There is the barest possibility that our friends in Newfoundland do not quite like to be treated as foreigners in the matter of their coin.

Mr. JAMESON. I quite understand the delicacy of the position.

Mr. DANIEL. Has the minister any idea of the amount of foreign coin exported during the year?

Mr. FIELDING. During the year 1909-10 we exported of this American coin \$918,000. In the year now closing, up to a very recent date, we exported \$1,482,000. The people on the borders are passing backwards and forward all the time, and those from our side going over to the United States are pretty sure to bring back American silver with them. Consequently, there must be a certain amount current. It would seriously embarrass trade if we were to make any legal provision that this money should not pass in Canada, so, we think it better to arrange with the banks that, when they receive it they will not pay it out but will export it, and for this we pay them a small commission.

Mr. DANIEL. Does that apply to silver only or to gold also?

Mr. FIELDING. This applies to silver only; gold would be accepted without question.

Mr. HERRON. Is the percentage paid to the banks sufficiently large to induce them to encourage the importation of American silver into our country?

Mr. FIELDING. It is three-eighths of one per cent, besides we pay the express. I do not think any of the banks would do what my hon. friend (Mr. Herron) suggests.

Post Office Department—Contingencies—Clerical assistance—Further amount required \$3,500.