

ing not more than four oz., and when in bottles and flasks containing more than four oz., \$2.40 per gallon and 40 per cent, instead of \$2.25 per gallon and 40 per cent as at present.

Nitrous ether, sweet spirits of nitre and aromatic spirits of ammonia, \$2.40 per gallon and 30 per cent, instead of \$2.25 per gallon and 30 per cent, as at present.

Vermouth containing not more than 30 per cent, and ginger wine containing not more than 26 per cent of proof spirits, 90 cents per gallon, instead of 80 cents per gallon, and if containing more than these percentages, \$2.40 per gallon, instead of \$2.25.

Medicines or medicated wines containing not more than 40 per cent of proof spirits, \$1.50 per gallon.

Mr. FOSTER. Is that a new item ?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. Yes.

Wines of all kinds except sparkling wines &c., remain the same as at present.

Champagne and wines generally remain unchanged.

Mr. FOSTER. Tax the poor man's whisky.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. My hon. friend's sympathy for the poor man on account of his whisky is, of course, exceedingly interesting. The next section relates to animals, agricultural and animal products. This class of products are imported largely from the United States, and we think that pending negotiations for freer trade relations with that country, we should leave these items largely unchanged. There are, however, a few exceptions to that.

In the case of corn, we place it on the free list, except for the purpose of distillers.

Flour is reduced from 75 cents to 60 cents per barrel, and wheat from 15 cents per bushel to 12 cents per bushel.

Corn meal, 25 cents per barrel instead of 40 cents. We propose to abolish the regulation which permits the grinding of corn in bond for so-called human food. That system has been the cause of very considerable complaint. It has been represented to us that it is almost impossible for gentlemen engaged in the milling industry to subscribe to the affidavit which they are required to take in order to obtain the necessary rebate. By the law as they now stand, they are supposed to pay duty on the corn, and then, upon evidence, or upon affidavit, that they ground the corn for use as human food, they are entitled to have a rebate of 99 per cent of their duty. It is alleged that when a miller has sold corn for human food, he is not in a position to follow it through the country and guarantee that it is always used for human food. The same thing has occurred with regard to seed corn. Seed corn was admitted free, and it is alleged that that privilege has also been abused. We simplify the matter by putting corn on the

free list except in the case of corn for the purpose of distillation which, under regulations to be made by the Government, is still to pay the same duty of 7½ cents. There is also one other item in that large class to which I ought to refer. At present the duty on uncleaned rice is three-tenths of a cent per pound, and 1¼ cents per pound on cleaned rice. It is the duty on the cleaned rice which affects the price in Canada ; our people do not eat uncleaned rice. We make no change in the duty on the cleaned rice, but we do make a change in the duty on the raw material. We say that instead of receiving the raw material at three-tenths of a cent, they should pay ¾ of a cent. The fact is that while the duty on cleaned rice remains the same, although the price will not be increased to the consumer, the manufacturer will have to pay a larger price for his raw material, and that increase will go into the public treasury.

Mr. FOSTER. But you do not cheapen the food.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. Well, we cheapen a good many things in this tariff, but we have to have a little regard for the revenue in order to meet the obligations of my predecessor. We pass on to the class of articles known as fish and fish products ; and as these remain substantially the same, I will not detain the House by reading them.

Illuminating oil, brings us to the item of coal oil. There is no item in the tariff which has been more discussed in the House. I think there is a very strong desire in the House to have a very considerable reduction made in this item, and it has been our desire to grant a reduction. We are free to say that in view of the representations made that we are not disposed, or do not feel warranted in going in that direction so far as we would like to do. We reduce the duty on coal oil one cent. Crude petroleum for fuel which is now 3 cents will be 2½ cents. Barrels containing petroleum remain at the same rate 20 per cent. We propose to make another change, which is especially sought by the trade, and that is to abolish the restrictions that now exist in regard to sale from tank vessels. If the trade desire to use tank vessels, there is no reason why dealers should not be permitted to do so. Lubricating oils remain unchanged, at 20 per cent. Olive oil, now 30 per cent, is reduced to 20 per cent.

In regard to bituminous coal, we do not propose at this stage of the tariff measure to make any reductions in the duties on coal. Reference was made some time ago in this House to certain observations I made in Montreal in replying to a deputation representing the coal interest. It was regarded by many hon. members in this House sitting opposite as an exceptional course to adopt that I should, in anticipation of the Budget, make a statement on