

doubt, but at all events it is a fact that tractors up to a certain price have been put on the free list. But there is something more important than that. Was there such an agreement as is mentioned by the Toronto News which, after stating that there was this agreement to have no tariff changes during the war, says:

No room for doubt was left upon this issue.—

Mr. SPEAKER: I hope the right hon. gentleman will not proceed too far with his argument on the tariff unless he does it by way of analogy, because he is now quite far afield from the subject of his motion.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: I will not go very far afield. I will just conclude this quotation and then I am done. I am asking for information on a subject connected with what I am reading; that is all. The Toronto News says:

No room for doubt was left upon this issue. Independent agricultural candidates in prairie constituencies signed an undertaking to this effect before they obtained the government endorsement.

Is it or is it not a fact, that some of my old friends whom I see on the other side of the House signed such an agreement as is mentioned here? Did they agree, before they got their endorsement, that there should be no tariff changes during the war? If so, Mr. Dunning ought to be advised, because he evidently wants to have not only tractors but all agricultural implements put on the free list. He wants to have cheap production; we all want that; and it will strike everybody that if we are to have cheaper production one of the best things we can do is to have cheaper implements. Now, Mr. Speaker, I bow to your ruling.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: I think it was hardly worth while to interrupt my right hon. friend, because it was perfectly evident that in the course of his discussion of Motion No. 13 he had unfortunately picked up his notes on No. 16, and so he went on to discuss farm tractors on a motion concerning a military convention with the United States. His observations with regard to farm tractors do not seem to be very closely relevant to the question of the Military Convention, and I shall merely say a few words about the convention itself. My right hon. friend's time-worn joke about having "no trade or truck with the Yankees" has done service on a great many occasions. It must be tired by this time, and my right hon. friend might give it a rest for a while. As far as the military con-

[Sir Wilfrid Laurier.]

vention is concerned, it has been entered into, but I do not think it can be laid on the Table until it is ratified. It is very much along the line which is to be adopted in the convention between Great Britain and the United States, if I understand it aright. In fact, the convention between the United States and Canada was the first one agreed to, and it will probably form the basis of the conventions which will be entered into between the United States and Great Britain, and between the United States and other European nations. There is no objection to the motion, but I do not think the document can be brought down until it has been ratified.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: By the Senate?

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: Yes, and by the British Government.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: I understand.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: It will have to be ratified by both Governments.

Motion agreed to.

WAR MISSION AT WASHINGTON.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier moved:

For a copy of the Orders in Council creating the War Mission at Washington, appointments to the same, with instructions as to the extent of its powers and scope of its work.

He said: May I ask my right hon. friend if he can tell me from memory the names of the members of the war mission?

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: Mr. Lloyd Harris, Mr. Ross McMaster, Mr. A. H. Scott, Montreal, and Mr. Frank Rolph, Toronto. Mr. Lloyd Harris is the Chairman, and the Orders in Council have already been brought down.

Motion agreed to.

UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR RETURN.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER:

For a copy of all Orders in Council creating the War Trade Board, appointments to the same, instructions, and reports from the Board to this date.

ADMISSION FREE OF DUTY OF FARM TRACTORS AND OTHER IMPLEMENTS.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER moved:

For a copy of all Orders in Council, reports and correspondence with respect to the admission free of duty of farm tractors and other agricultural implements.