

or iron, or some such material product. The hon. gentleman must have some definite object in his mind, and I would suggest that he could best attain that object by so framing his resolution as to include it definitely, instead of requiring the return of an immense mass of matter that would simply be useless to him, and that would involve a large amount of labour in its preparation. If he would amend the present resolution by putting the word 'railway' before the word 'corporations,' and say 'now incorporated or being operated in Canada,' he could later introduce another resolution covering the additional ground that he has in his mind.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN (Halifax). Possibly the motion as framed does not strictly cover what the hon. gentleman wishes to get at. The words 'charter of the Dominion government' might be restricted to companies formed under the Joint Stock Companies Act, and might not include corporations created by special Act of this parliament.

The MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS. It would include both, would it not?

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). A charter of the Dominion government would hardly include a company chartered by special Act of this parliament. I mention this, because I thought it possible that the hon. gentleman might desire to include such corporations.

Mr. SMITH (Vancouver). I will make the necessary amendments to the resolution.

The MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS. Let it stand.

Motion allowed to stand.

MOTION AGREED TO WITHOUT DISCUSSION.

Return showing:—

1. The dates of the erection of the Dominion grain elevators at St. John, N.B., and at Halifax, and the cost of each.

2. The amount of grain handled during each year since said elevators were built, giving the amount of each kind of grain handled by each elevator each year, and how much of each kind of grain was received at each elevator each year for export and exported.

3. The number of officials employed at each elevator each year and their salaries.

4. All other expenses paid each year on account of each of the said elevators.

5. The gross cash receipts at each of the said elevators during each year since they have been built.—(Mr. Wilson.)

ADJOURNMENT—HARBOUR AT MIDLAND.

The PRIME MINISTER (Rt. Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier) moved the adjournment of the House.

Mr. W. H. BENNETT (East Simcoe). Before the House adjourns, I would like to

ask the First Minister to allow me to make an explanation in reference to an item that appeared in the *Montreal Gazette* this morning. Under the heading 'The Harbour at Midland' there is a statement made that a deputation waited yesterday upon the Minister of Public Works (Hon. Mr. Tarte), and the writer uses these words:

The representation is that by increasing the present depth of water twenty feet, the grain shipments can be doubled. . . . Many heavy steamships now unloading at Buffalo could and would come to Midland, were there sufficient depth of water.

I wish to take the earliest opportunity of correcting that statement. If such a statement were made to the minister it is entirely incorrect, because there is already at that port considerably over twenty feet of water, and vessels carrying over a quarter of a million bushels of grain are to be seen there at all times. I can only assume that the gentleman who sent the despatch was wrongly informed. I hope the information that was given to the Minister of Public Works as to the requirements of that harbour was more correct than the information given the gentleman who sent this despatch.

THE BUDGET SPEECH.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN (Halifax). Before the motion to adjourn passes, I wish to say to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Fielding), that we would like to have as much notice as possible of the day on which he will deliver his budget speech. I do not suggest that the date be fixed now, I merely mention that we would like to have as much notice as possible.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE (Hon. W. S. Fielding). The usual course is to give several days' notice, and I will endeavour to follow that.

Motion agreed to, and House adjourned at 4.45 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THURSDAY, February 14, 1901.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

QUESTIONS.

STRATFORD P. O. CARETAKER.

Mr. MacLAREN (Perth) asked:

1. Are the government aware that the caretaker of the Stratford post office has been recently dismissed?
2. What was the cause of his dismissal?
3. Has an investigation been held?
4. Has his successor been appointed?