

of Sir Charles Tupper may be realized under the present government, and that the thousands of disappointed gold-seekers returning from the Klondike (for all will not find fortune there) may people Manitoba and our North-west Territories. While it is desirable that the government should interest themselves in our young provinces, it is also well that they should think of redressing the wrongs from which the older provinces suffer as well as the younger provinces. One grievance from which our population has suffered will disappear by the repeal of the present Dominion Franchise Act. A part from the exorbitant cost of preparing the electoral lists, I am personally aware of the trouble, the injustices and the inconveniences to which the people of the Dominion have been subjected in the application of that law, and I shall be happy to see and to vote for its repeal. With great pleasure I second the motion which the hon. gentleman from Queen's has submitted for your consideration.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—I should like to call the attention of the leader of the house to the promise that he made at the opening of the session when I asked the question whether the terms of the contract for the Yukon Railway would be laid upon the table before the discussion upon the address took place. I understood the hon. gentleman to say at that time that the contract would be laid upon the table prior to this discussion, and I find that it has not been done.

Hon. Mr. MILLS—I did not tell the hon. gentleman that the contract would be laid upon the table. I said I would lay it upon the table if possible. I did not find it possible to do so. I should have been very glad indeed to have met the desire of my hon. friend, but I have found it impossible to do so up to this evening.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—I must confess I am not disappointed, and under the circumstances I move the adjournment of the debate.

The motion was agreed to.

DELAYED RETURNS.

Hon. Mr. MILLS moved that the House do now adjourn.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—Before the House adjourns I should like to call the attention of the Secretary of State to the promise that he made before the close of the last session of parliament. I think there can be no mistake this time as to the actual promise which was then made. He will remember that I moved for a certain return on the 9th April. On the 5th May I called the attention of the House to the fact that it had not yet been laid upon the table. On the 7th I asked if there was any information as to when the return would be submitted, and on the 7th June I again asked when the return would be laid before us, and the Secretary of State made the following statement :

I had a letter from one of the ministers saying that it appeared to be quite impossible to bring it down in any reasonable time. A large amount of the information is not in the department at all. The proceedings before the commissioners have not in many instances been terminated, and the names of the witnesses are not within the knowledge of the departments and the names of the attorneys who may be retained by the parties charged is not within our knowledge. There is a vast amount of information which we cannot get.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—I shall be satisfied if we can get it by the opening of the next session, provided the hon. gentleman will add to the return the number of dismissals and the reasons and the commissions appointed since the date of the address for which I moved and up to the date at which the return is presented to this House which would make it complete.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—Yes.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—Is that the understanding ?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—Yes.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—That you will bring it down the first day of next session.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I hope so.

May I ask the hon. gentleman whether he is prepared after seven or eight months cogitation over this matter to comply with the promise that he made in reference to information which we desire as contained in the address for which I asked ?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—The hon. gentleman is quite right in stating I hoped to be able to bring down the return by the first of the session. It is one of those returns that has been growing steadily.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—I am very sorry to hear that.