

view which we intend to press upon the British Government. The question, as my hon. friend from Toronto knows, is not one of a very wide import. It is important as it affects an important class, but it is more important to that class than to the people generally. But the questions involved are of a character to have given this Government and preceding Governments the greatest amount of anxiety; and so far it has not been possible to find any satisfactory arrangement. The first arrangement we have been able to find which will give satisfaction is this Hall Caine arrangement; and I repeat that the Department of Justice is of opinion that the legislation introduced by Lord Herschell will not prevent the carrying into effect of that arrangement and we intend to press it upon the British authorities.

Mr. ROSS ROBERTSON. I would like to ask to be permitted to say a word in answer to the Prime Minister when he says that this is not an important matter.

The PRIME MINISTER. No, I did not say that. I said it was important to one class of the community, the publishers. But my hon. friend (Mr. Ross Robertson) will agree with me that the general public do not take the same interest in it as the publishers do. This is a question upon which we have not been able to enlist very strongly the sympathy of public opinion.

THE DUTY ON RUBBER GOODS.

Mr. OSLER. Before you leave the Chair, Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring before the Government a matter which has caused grave injustice to a large industrial enterprise in this country, an injustice which the Government could at once remedy, and which, I think, they are bound, in common honesty, to remedy without hesitation and without delay. When the tariff was brought down, item 214, the duty on rubber boots and shoes, rubber belting, rubber cement, was reduced to 25 per cent. That was agreed to by the House. But when the tariff came to be printed, by an error, the duty was placed at 20 per cent and not at 25 per cent. The attention of the Minister was drawn to this, but, so far, nothing has been done to correct this clerical error, which has resulted in very serious inconvenience and loss to a large manufacturing industry in this country. I think the Government need only have their attention called to this matter to remedy it at once. I do not think that it is a state of things that should be allowed to stand for one day after the Government's attention has been called to it. I am sorry to say that the Minister of Customs' attention was called to the matter last year and also this year as early as April; but, so far, he has neglected or refused to take any action. In common honesty and fairness, I think, the Govern-

ment should at once correct that clerical error.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE (Mr. Fielding). I will take a note of what the hon. gentleman (Mr. Osler) has said. The matter, he said, was mentioned to the Minister of Customs. I am not in a position to make a further statement than to say that what the hon. gentleman has said will receive the best consideration.

MILITARY CAMP IN BEAUHARNOIS.

Mr. BERGERON. I desire to put a question to my hon. friend, the Minister of Militia and Defence. Some of his friends are circulating in my county the statement that the camp was to be held at Beauharnois this summer, and with this everybody seems to be well satisfied. They say they have an intimation from the Minister of Militia and Defence that the camp would be held there if it were not on account of me. I desire to ask the hon. gentleman if it was his intention to hold camp there, and tell him that I should be very glad if he would do so.

The MINISTER OF MILITIA AND DEFENCE. I can assure my hon. friend (Mr. Bergeron) that no representation of the kind attributed to me has been made by me. I am not able to say positively where the camp is to be held. But I am under the impression that some arrangement was made some time ago with St. Johns by which the Government is under some obligation to hold the annual camp there, where it has been held for the last two or three years. There is not the slightest truth in the statement that my hon. friend had in any way interfered with the camp being held at Beauharnois.

Motion agreed to, and the House again resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Supreme Court of Canada—For the purchase of law books and works of reference for the Supreme Court Library.... \$4,000

Mr. FOSTER. Why this increase of \$1,000?

The SOLICITOR GENERAL. This sum is placed at the disposal of the judges of the Supreme Court for the purchase of law books, and it has been found necessary to increase the vote for that purpose. I do not think any of those who are familiar with the Supreme Court library will find that \$1,000 additional would be wasted. It is simply to improve the library.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). I may say to the hon. the Solicitor General that in the Supreme Court library I think there are some uncompleted sets of American reports, they have been completed up to a certain date, and then have been discontinued for