

vent which I am compelled to immediately leave on an extended ocean voyage.

Under these circumstances, conscious of the disability under which my colleagues have laboured owing to my long absence from departmental work, the indefinite time of my possible return, and the necessity of permitting my successor to assume the duties of the department at an early date in preparation for the next session of parliament, deeply as I regret the decision, I must perforce again respectfully request your acceptance of my resignation of the portfolio of Public Works.

May I once more reiterate my great appreciation of your own and my colleagues' kindness during the time that I have been a member of your government, and again express my sincere good wishes for your personal and political welfare.

I remain, my dear Sir Wilfrid,
Faithfully yours,
(Sgd.) C. S. HYMAN.

The Rt. Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Ottawa.

To this letter I replied as follows:—

Grand Hotel Royal, Milan, June 12, 1907.

My dear Hyman,—I am at this moment in receipt of your letter of May 22, tendering me again your resignation as Minister of Public Works.

I feel that under the circumstances detailed in your letter that there is nothing for me to do now but to comply with your request. The reasons which you set forth admit of no other course.

Immediately on my return to Ottawa, about July 20, I will see that the matter be made official.

With the sincere hope that you will be able, at no distant date, to recover your usual state of health, believe me as ever, my dear Hyman,

Yours very sincerely,
(Sgd.) WILFRID LAURIER.

The Honourable Chas. S. Hyman,
Oakland, California, U.S.A.

When I returned to Ottawa on the 22nd of July, His Excellency the Governor General was in the maritime provinces. Immediately on his return I communicated to him the fact of Hon. Mr. Hyman's resignation. His Excellency was pleased to accept it, and Mr. Hyman's successor was appointed and sworn in on August 29. On that date, Mr. Hyman's connection with the department ceased, and he was paid up to that date at the rate of \$7,000 per annum; no expenses.

NORTH ATLANTIC TRADING COMPANY.

Mr. FOSTER asked:

1. What amount of money has been paid to the North Atlantic Trading Company from the beginning of its service up to June 30, 1906?

2. What amount, if any, has been paid since?

3. Are there any claims still outstanding? If so, to what amount?

Hon. FRANK OLIVER (Minister of the Interior):

1. \$306,011.02.

2. \$61,234.83.

3. No.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER

THE ROSS RIFLE.

Mr. FOSTER asked:

1. What are dates of the orders given for the manufacture of Ross rifles for the government, the number ordered, and the number delivered in each case; and the dates of delivery?

2. What payments have been made on each order, and the dates of the same?

3. What is the total number delivered to date and the total payments made?

4. What number is yet to be delivered on each order?

5. On what certification, and by whom given, were the several payments made?

6. Has any interest been charged by the government on advances made to the Ross Rifle Company?

7. Do the advances cover anything except money actually expended by the contractor upon the rifles or parts or fixtures thereof? If so, what?

Hon. Sir FREDERICK BORDEN (Minister of Militia and Defence):

1. (a) Dates of orders, number ordered, and number delivered, as follows:

| Order. | No. delivered on order. |
|--|-------------------------|
| Mar. 27, 1902, for delivery calendar year, 1903..... | 12,000 12,000 |
| Nov. 22, 1904, for delivery before July 1, 1905..... | 12,000 12,000 |
| Nov. 22, 1904, for delivery before Jan. 1, 1906..... | 8,000 8,000 |
| For delivery calendar year 1906..... | 10,000 500* |
| Sept. 24, 1906, for delivery calendar year 1907..... | 10,000 * |
| | <hr/> |
| | 52,000 32,000 |
| | <hr/> |
| Balance to be delivered..... | 19,500 |

* Time for delivery of balance extended by order in council of July 27, 1907, to January 1, 1908.

* Time for delivery of whole order extended by order in council of July 27, 1907, to June 1, 1908.

(b) The dates of the deliveries as follows:

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| August, 1905..... | 1,000 |
| October, "..... | 3,000 |
| December, "..... | 2,000 |
| February, 1906..... | 1,000 |
| March, "..... | 1,000 |
| April, "..... | 2,000 |
| May, "..... | 1,000 |
| June, "..... | 2,000 |
| July, "..... | 2,000 |
| August, "..... | 1,000 |
| September, "..... | 1,000 |
| October, "..... | 2,000 |
| November, "..... | 1,000 |
| December, "..... | 2,000 |
| January, 1907..... | 2,000 |
| February, "..... | 1,000 |
| April, "..... | 2,000 |
| June, "..... | 1,000 |
| August, "..... | 500 |
| September, "..... | 1,300 |
| October, "..... | 2,100 |
| November, "..... | 600 |

32,500