

and I shall take up the list where my hon. friend left off.

In item 420, of the old tariff which relates to binder twine I have an announcement to make which, I am sure, will be received with satisfaction by the House. We propose that binder twine, which is now 12½ per cent shall be immediately reduced to 10 per cent.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Oh, oh.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. My hon. friends had better not laugh too quickly; he laughs best who laughs last. The duty on binder twine is reduced from 12½ per cent to 10 per cent at once, and dating from the 1st of January, 1898, binder twine shall be on the free list, and all the articles entering into the manufacture of binder twine shall also be placed on the free list for the purposes of manufacturing.

I come now to the items of sugars, syrups, and molasses, and in that connection I may associate tea. In dealing with a large class of the items to which I referred in a general way, I made no mention of tea. There is a 10 per cent discrimination in tea with regard to importations not being direct. That 10 per cent remains. I know there has been a popular idea that the Government would have to impose a duty on tea. Well, I have the pleasure of announcing that we do not propose to do so.

With regard to sugar, I find also that the same general idea prevails in the minds of certain people, who know all about the Government's policy, that there was to be a high duty on sugar. The duty on raw sugar now, used for refining purposes, is ½ cent per pound, and on the refined it is \$1.14 per 100 pounds, the difference being 64 cents per 100 pounds. We propose that the duty on raw sugar shall remain as it is to-day because the revenue is derived from raw sugar. That means that we shall get the same amount of revenue. But the price to the consumer is regulated by the duty on the refined article, and that is to-day \$1.14 for 100 pounds. We propose to reduce that \$1 per 100 pounds, so that the duty shall hereafter stand at 50 cents per 100 pounds for the raw sugar and 50 cents additional for the protection, if you care to use that word, to the refiner, as against 64 cents in the present tariff. By this step we do not take a dollar from the public revenue, but we give to the people cheaper sugar to the extent of \$400,000 per annum. The duty on glucose or grape sugar, item 393 of the old tariff, is now 1¼ cents per pound. Representations were made to us that satisfied us that that duty was an excessive one. We propose to reduce the duty on glucose to ¾ cents per pound. It may be mentioned that the manufacturer of glucose will get some compensation in the form of free corn. The duty on sugar candy, now ½ cent per pound and 35 per cent ad valorem, we propose to

make 35 per cent ad valorem. Item 463 of the present tariff, cigars and cigarettes, the weight of cigarettes to include the weight of the paper covering has now a duty of \$2 per pound and 25 per cent ad valorem. We increase the rate of duty on cigarettes to \$3 per pound and 25 per cent ad valorem. The duty on cut tobacco, item 464 of the old tariff, is 45 cents per pound and 12½ per cent ad valorem. We increase that duty to 50 cents per pound with 12½ per cent, an increase of 5 cents a pound. Manufactured tobacco, n.e.s., and snuff, item 465 of the old tariff, the old duty is 35 cents per pound and 12½ per cent. We make it 45 cents and 12½ per cent.

Mr. FOSTER. What increase does the hon. Minister expect to get from that change?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. I shall be glad to present to the hon. gentleman in a little while a general statement of expected revenue, so I trust he will excuse me if I do not mention that item now. I shall not detain the House by giving the free list. It will be enough to say, in general terms, that we do not make any material change, except for the purpose of placing certain things on the free list to which reference has been made. Speaking generally, and subject to correction, the free list remains the same. Unenumerated articles, as in the present tariff, will stand at 20 per cent.

Mr. TAYLOR. I would ask the hon. gentleman what he has done with item 320 of the old tariff: "Corset clasps, spoon clasps, or busks." &c.?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. I think my hon. friend will find that is included with others.

The CONTROLLER OF CUSTOMS (Mr. Paterson). Items 320 and 321 were cut out altogether. The articles named in them will take their rating among the different classes of goods to which they belong.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. The usual provisions are made with regard to classes of prohibited goods. I am sure the House will be glad to have me deal with the question put to me at an earlier stage by the hon. leader of the Opposition as to the method by which we propose to establish a different tariff for those countries that are disposed to deal with us.

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton). Would the hon. Finance Minister say if he leaves the free list exactly as it is now?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. Not exactly.

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton). There are certain items on the free list providing that where goods are imported by manufacturers they shall come in free; but if imported by a merchant to sell to a manufacturer duty