

more careful in his valuations. In addition to that, we have sent into that country an appraiser, a gentleman who will assume the peculiar duties of appraiser of goods that may go in there. This is more necessary now, perhaps, than it was before. Goods are going in now in greater quantities, entries are going in in greater numbers. Since the railway has been constructed, though goods are not going in in large cargoes as they did when they went up the Yukon River, a greater quantity is going in, and there is now a greater need for a qualified appraiser who is conversant with mercantile work, to assist the collector in his duties. The staff has been strengthened otherwise, and I have reason to believe that Dawson is now being carefully worked. As I say, the inspector reports, that, taking what had transpired into consideration, the exceptional circumstances that prevailed, he considered, taking all things into consideration, that the collector had done his duty fairly well, not only in this matter, but in other matters. I consider it a very unfair thing to place in the hands of the Speaker a resolution, and ask the House to pass censure upon the government upon the strength of a lot of documents among which are to be found letters from a legal firm acting for a rival company in which they state as their belief so and so and setting that up against the ascertained facts by the department through their chief inspector. As to the action of the chief inspector and what he has reported, it is before the hon. gentlemen, it is in the papers in their hands, and, I think, that the hon. member for Pictou was not fair enough in his resolution to put in the report of the chief inspector. I speak subject to correction.

Sir CHARLES HIBBERT TUPPER.
I read it in full.

The MINISTER OF CUSTOMS. In the resolution?

Sir CHARLES HIBBERT TUPPER.
Yes.

The MINISTER OF CUSTOMS. Then, it speaks for itself.

Mr. W. H. MONTAGUE (Haldimand).
But not the invoices.

The MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES (Sir Louis Davies). Invoices as to what?

Mr. MONTAGUE. As to the purchase of boilers.

The MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES. You would not have invoices as to the purchase of boilers.

Mr. MONTAGUE. Mr. Speaker, the hon. Minister of Customs (Mr. Paterson) has sought to make light of the whole transaction which has been referred to by the hon. member for Pictou (Sir Charles Hib-

Mr. PATERSON.

bert Tupper). I think that any one who has spent a moment upon the return which has been brought down, dealing with this matter, will not, if he desires to offer a fair and impartial judgment upon it, say that it should be passed over in the very light manner in which the hon. Minister of Customs has referred to it. He has treated it with a smile and a toss of the head and he has said that the government are not at all responsible for this matter, that Dawson port is being well worked, and from this correspondence, I am bound to say, that this statement is correct. I think it could not have been better worked than it has been worked by Wade and some other officers, who are defended by the hon. gentlemen on the Treasury benches. To come back to my former statement, the hon. Minister of Customs has treated the matter in an exceedingly light manner. I believe that if the evidence which is given to the House were placed before a judicial commission of inquiry they would say there is evidence upon the face of these documents and upon the face of this correspondence of collusion of the very worst kind between two paid officers of this government, one sent there to protect the public revenue, and the other sent there in the pay of the government and of the people of Canada to see that justice is administered in the Yukon territory on behalf of the Canadian government. I am saying what I draw from the return as a layman, having no particular knowledge of the law, and I say that you find these two facts which were mentioned by the hon. member for Pictou, first, that the steamer *Yukoner*. I think she was called, against which Wade was advising the authorities at Dawson, is treated in a most harsh and illegal manner, that he receives a large sum of money for his own work in connection with the *Yukoner*, \$750; then, when you come to the *John C. Barr*, you find this same Crown prosecutor, paid by the money of the people of Canada, not acting against the *John C. Barr*, as he was acting against the *Yukoner*, but acting for the *John C. Barr*, receiving a large fee, I have no doubt, in connection with her advising the collector of customs as to what he ought to decide upon this matter of the *John C. Barr* and the greatest possible favours are granted, allowing her fraudulent registration and allowing her to come in at a valuation that the Department of Customs is now, by the report of its chief inspector, compelled to admit was only about one-third of its proper value. You have these two bald facts, and they are facts that cannot but convince any impartial tribunal that Wade has committed fraud on the Canadian people.

The MINISTER OF CUSTOMS. Where is the statement that Wade was instrumental in getting this boat entered at \$10,000?

Mr. MONTAGUE. There is no statement at all, but we have not to state it. The