

faith which that hon. gentleman has in the possibilities of the people of the empire in devising a system of trade by which to their national advantage and mutual interest they can trade between themselves irrespective of the outside world. I might for the advantage of my hon. friend the Secretary of State, who seems to have placed very great confidence in the reports which he evidently received from London as to the influence exercised by the premier in securing the denunciation of these treaties, point out to him the fact that during the Jubilee the premiers met and passed a resolution in regard to the denunciation of the German and Belgian treaties.

I say it was in pursuance of the addresses from time to time sent by the Canadian parliament in pursuance of the address sent by the Intercolonial Conference which met in Ottawa, and in deference to colonial sentiment that the Imperial parliament denounced those treaties at that particular time. My hon. friend must think that we are possessed of a great measure of credulity if he believes for one moment the mere statement made by him or by any body else that it was entirely owing to the intervention of the premier of this country when at the Jubilee proceedings that those treaties were denounced.

Hon. Mr. POWER—Did not the Cobden Club say so?

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—I am not disposed to take the statement of the Cobden Club as establishing anything outside of their own ancient and embalmed theories.

Hon. Mr. POWER—They probably knew what they were talking out.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—They are somewhat antiquated in their ideas and are not seriously regarded, I think in England or any other country, on modern trade questions.

Hon. Mr. BOULTON—If the hon. gentleman will allow me to say what I was told in England, I may tell him that the Cobden Club was merely the remnant of those people who took such a great part in bringing about free trade in 1846. The senior of the club was the Hon. Mr. Villiers, who died last month, and the necessity for maintaining the Cobden Club ceased, because all England

fully appreciated the necessity for free trade.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—I have to apologize to the House for taking up so much time on this subject. I did not intend to do so, but the remarks of the Secretary of State led me to go into the matter more fully than I intended. The next subject of importance in the speech is the contract which has been recently entered into by the government with Mackenzie & Mann, and upon which so much has been said, that I am afraid very little remains for me to say on the subject. I would like to preface what I am about to say by directing the attention of the government to the fact that in connection with the administration of the Yukon country they have removed from the territories a large proportion of the police and in fact have jeopardized life and property to an extent which is simply alarming. I am not making this statement with a view to making criticism upon the government, but simply directing the attention of the government to a fact which I think has escaped their attention. I need not call the attention of the government to the serious state of affairs which arose there in 1885 in connection with the Northwest rebellion owing to the absence of a sufficiently strong police force in the vicinity of Indian reserves and half-breed settlements. The government is fully aware of those facts—facts of a most regrettable character and which at that time cost the country some eight millions of money. At this time we find the police, and particularly those police who have been stationed in the vicinity of Indian reserves removed from their quarters and sent to the Yukon country. Take for instance the district in which I live, where there are no less than eight or ten thousand Indians within a day's march or so of the town of Calgary, the police have been so displaced in their removal from time to time that should there be an Indian uprising life and property would be sacrificed. A very large amount of capital has been invested in that country, particularly by ranchers, by large cattle men who have been relying entirely on the protection of the force in policing that country, but entirely irrespective of this fact we find the police removed from there and at a time when greatly needed. If the police in the eastern part of the territories and those parts where