

1899, being for nine months of the fiscal year 1899. These returns show the following exports to Germany:—Oats, 477,827 bushels; pease, 20,892 bushels; rye, 81,852; wheat, 46,015 bushels.

#### LEASE OF LOT 1, BLOCK 13, NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C.

Mr. PRIOR asked :

What annual rental did John Wilson pay in 1893 and David Diamond in 1896 for the lease of lot one, block thirteen, in New Westminster, British Columbia ?

The MINISTER OF INLAND REVENUE (Sir Henri Joly de Lotbinière). On the 27th May, 1893, John Wilson paid \$250, being one year's rent to 12th May, 1894. Payment was made in advance. His lease being subsequently cancelled by Order in Council of 29th January, 1896, he paid no more. Mr. D. Diamond never paid anything as the Order in Council of the 29th January, 1896, which granted him the lease was cancelled by Order in Council of the 16th December, 1897.

#### COAL MINING RIGHTS, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Mr. FOSTER asked :

Have any leases or rights to mine coal under the waters of the harbour of Nanaimo, B.C., been granted by the Dominion Government to any persons or companies.

If so, what fees or royalties have been enacted therefor ?

Will the Government bring down any correspondence in relation to applications made in that respect ?

The MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR (Mr. Sifton). No such lease has been issued. The correspondence will be brought down.

#### MAIL SERVICE—OTTAWA AND CYRVILLE.

Mr. HODGINS asked :

1. Who has the contract for carrying the mails between Ottawa and Cyrville ?

2. Were tenders asked for by public advertisement or otherwise for this service, and when ?

3. Who were the tenderers, and what was the amount of each tender ?

The POSTMASTER GENERAL (Mr. Mullock). The mail service between Cyrville and Ottawa is at present performed by the postmaster at Cyrville, under a temporary agreement. The service was put up to tender on the 7th December last, the tenders being due on the 2nd February. There were no tenders received at the department, but after the date for the opening of the tenders a Mr. Lavigne called at the department and stated that he had tendered for the service at \$96 a year. No trace of the tender could be found, but the service was put in Mr.

Mr. PATERSON.

Lavigne's hands from the 1st April last, at \$96 a year. On the 29th May last, Mr. Lavigne, before the execution of a contract, declared that he would not continue for less than \$200 a year, and the service was taken over by the postmaster of Cyrville at the rate paid to Mr. Lavigne, viz., \$96 a year. The rate paid prior to the 1st April last was \$100 a year.

#### THE TRANSVAAL QUESTION.

The PRIME MINISTER (Sir Wilfrid Laurier). With the unanimous consent of the House, Mr. Speaker, I beg to interrupt the regular course of the business, in order to offer certain resolutions which I believe the state of things now existing in a distant country under the suzerainty of Her Majesty seems to render appropriate. Every one will agree with me that the development of the British Empire has now reached such a condition and degree of consolidation that no part of it can affect to be indifferent to anything that may be going on in any other part, and, assuredly, we cannot be indifferent to the condition of things existing in the Transvaal state, which, it must be remembered, though an independent and self-governing country, is under the suzerainty of Her Majesty. Some 80,000 of Her Majesty's subjects have been allowed to become residents of that country, to purchase lands there, to open mines, to develop trade, to establish industries and to build up cities, yet are denied almost every kind of participation in its administration. They are subjected to discriminating and heavy taxation, and yet are denied any kind of representation, and although forced to bear their full share of citizenship, are denied the rights and privileges and liberties of citizens.

For my part, I do not hesitate to say that there are many things to be admired in the career and character of President Kruger. No one who has read his history can fail to admire his sturdy patriotism and force of character. But every one must admit that there would be much more to admire in him if, instead of being intolerant and oppressive towards fellow-members of the same community, he had remembered that patriotism does not preclude justice nor is it inconsistent and incompatible with generosity. At first blush it may be said, and perhaps with some reason, that if the people of the Transvaal have chosen to refuse the rights of citizenship to any but their own race, they are within their own rights—that to nations, as well as men, the old saying applies that every man's house is his own castle.

That would apply if Mr. Kruger had not allowed the Uitlanders to go into the territory of the republic to found and build cities, develop the country, and if he had not taken their money and filled his treasury with it. But, having allowed the Uitlanders to go into the country and become residents, the least that would be expected by those who took