

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—Notwithstanding the display of indignation of the hon. gentleman from de Lorimier (Hon. Mr. Dandurand) and the display of temper from my hon. friend from British Columbia (Hon. Mr. Templeman), I compliment the hon. gentleman from Marshfield for having aroused this indignation for once. The hon. gentleman from Victoria (Hon. Mr. Templeman) has hitherto enjoyed the reputation of being the most inoffensive senator in the House, but on this occasion, when the name of Mr. Campbell was mentioned, he fired up as if a little dynamite had been placed under him. I am glad to find the hon. gentleman has some temper, and that he can show it when he thinks it is necessary. Notwithstanding the indignation of the hon. gentleman who sits behind him (Hon. Mr. Dandurand), I propose to call the attention of the Secretary of State to a telegram received by the leader of the opposition in the lower House (Mr. Borden, Halifax) and to ask him whether he has any information on this subject that he can give to the Senate. The Hon. Mr. Borden received this telegram :

Dawson is Excited.

Mr. Borden asked the attention of the government to the following telegram he had received :—

Dawson, August 26.

Commission refuses the people's solicitor access to concession files brought from Ottawa by special official. Put question in House. Ask that commissioners be instructed by wire to produce them as the inquiry is balked. A mass meeting was held here to-night and the people are greatly excited.

(Sgd.) W. A. BEDDOE.

Mr. Fielding's reply was that he had no personal knowledge of the matter, but would cause inquiries to be made. I should like to know whether inquiry has been made, or whether the hon. gentleman has any knowledge of it, and if he has not, if he will acquaint himself with the fact and inform the House? I need scarcely say a charge of the kind made against the commissioner, who happens to be a judge—and I say it with a great deal of caution, after the lecture to which we have just listened—that he refuses information which I think should be at the disposal of every one, is rather a serious matter. If my recollection serves me right, the conditions on which the Treadgold concession was made have been laid before the House, and why the commis-

sioner should refuse to produce it to those who are acting on behalf of the opponents of the Treadgold concession I cannot imagine.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I have heard nothing of the receipt of a telegram except what I saw in to-day's paper. I read it in the 'Citizen,' and have heard no more about it. Knowing Judge Britton as I do, I must say he will be slow to withhold any paper which should be open to everybody. Of course, all papers in connection with the inquiry are public property, and I have no doubt he exercised a proper discretion in the course he has taken. I attach very little importance in the telegrams from Dawson. People are excitable there, and sometimes say more than they are warranted in saying. If I get any more information on the subject I shall be glad to give it to the House.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—I have had as long an acquaintance with the commissioner—I will not use the word 'judge' for fear I shall be accused of attacking the judge—as my hon. friend, and my opinion of him as to his excitability and his character altogether differs from that of the hon. gentleman.

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL BOATS.

INQUIRY.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY inquired :

Has the government lately been or is it in negotiation with any one whomsoever for the establishment of a fast line of transatlantic mail boats?

If the answer is in the affirmative, with whom has it been or is it in negotiation?

In the negotiations, past, present or future, what speed has been demanded or will be demanded by the government from the mail boats of the fast line?

Between what ports is this oceanic service to be made?

When is it to be inaugurated, approximately?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—This motion had really escaped my attention, but I am not aware that there is any recent information with regard to the fast line. Certainly, there is no immediate action being taken with regard to the fast line. However, I shall make further inquiry, and if there is any additional information to be had, I will give it to my hon. friend to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—We will let the motion stand until to-morrow.