

FAST ATLANTIC STEAMSHIP SERVICE.

Mr. LANGELIER asked,

1. What is the amount of the lowest tender for a fast steamship service between Canada and England?

2. From whom was the tender received?

3. Do the Government intend to award the contract to the parties who have made the said tender, and when?

The MINISTER OF TRADE AND COMMERCE (Sir Richard Cartwright). Two tenders have been received, one from the Messrs. Allan, and the other from Mr. Jas. Huddart. Neither of these tenders is in accordance with the specifications, and the Government proposes to make further investigations before taking final action in the matter.

PROPOSED BRIDGE AT QUEBEC.

Mr. LANGELIER asked,

Whether it is the intention of the Government to build a bridge in front of Quebec, or in the vicinity, to connect the Intercolonial Railway with the Canadian Pacific Railway, or to aid in the construction thereof by a subsidy or otherwise?

The PRIME MINISTER (Mr. Laurier). It is not the intention of the Government to build a bridge in front of Quebec, or in the vicinity, to connect the Intercolonial Railway with the Canadian Pacific Railway. The Government have no application before them for aid in the construction thereof.

NORTH-WEST EXHIBITION—OUTSTANDING INDEBTEDNESS.

Mr. DAVIN asked,

Whether the Government intends to place a sum in the Estimates to pay the outstanding indebtedness in connection with the North-west Exhibition held at Regina in 1895?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE (Mr. Fielding). The matter is under consideration.

BOUNTY TO FISHERMEN.

Mr. KAULBACH asked,

Is it the intention of the Government during the present session in view of the increased numbers of fishermen, and for further encouragement of the industry, to increase the amount of bounty for distribution?

The MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES (Mr. Davies). The vote granted annually by Parliament to encourage the development of the sea fisheries and the building of fishing vessels, being a statutory one, it is not the intention of the Government during the present session to introduce any legislation on the subject.

CORN AND CORNMEAL.

Mr. KAULBACH asked,

As Indian corn is not grown in Canada in quantities sufficient to satisfy Canada's demand for consumption, is it the intention of the Government during the present session to place the article on the free list, free of customs duty, so as to enable cornmeal to be manufactured in Canada? Or is it the intention of the Government to admit cornmeal free?

The FINANCE MINISTER (Mr. Fielding). It is not the intention of the Government to propose any legislation during the present session amending the tariff.

CONTROLLERS OF INLAND REVENUE AND CUSTOMS.

Sir CHARLES HIBBERT TUPPER asked,

1. Are the Controllers of Inland Revenue and Customs, or either of them, members of the Cabinet?

2. Was any assurance given either of these hon. gentlemen on behalf of the Government, on taking of office, respecting his position in the Government, and if yes, what was it?

The PRIME MINISTER (Mr. Laurier). 1. The Controllers of Inland Revenue and Customs under the existing law are not and cannot be members of the Cabinet. 2. It is the intention of the Government to ask Parliament to amend and remodel the existing law concerning the Department of Trade and Commerce, so as to restore the heads of the Inland Revenue and Customs Departments to the rank of Cabinet Ministers, and the fact has been so publicly stated by the Prime Minister.

Sir CHARLES HIBBERT TUPPER. Perhaps the hon. gentleman overlooked the second branch of the question. Was any assurance given to either of those hon. gentlemen on behalf of the Government, on taking office, respecting their positions in the Government?

The PRIME MINISTER. I think I have stated that in my answer.

Sir CHARLES HIBBERT TUPPER. The hon. gentleman contends his answer covers both paragraphs?

The PRIME MINISTER. Yes.

THE PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH IN WINDSOR HALL.

Sir CHARLES HIBBERT TUPPER asked,

Is the following a substantially accurate report of a part of the hon. the First Minister's speech delivered in Windsor Hall, 22nd January, 1895:—

"I have read in the 'Gazette' the statement that if you remove protection, raw material would no longer be free. I say that if we were to have a revenue tariff raw material would be free. Raw materials are not free to-day un-