

In 1889	9,428,498	pounds
In 1891	11,108,835	pounds
..	Increase in 2 years of 17%.	
In 1897	16,557,490	pounds
	Increase in 8 years of 77%.	

(3). The demands of the railways for increased subsidies for carrying the mails.

(4). The deficit of \$800,000 in Post Office Department during 1896; and of \$580,000 during 1897.

(5). The need of additional revenue to offset possible loss through reduction of rate on letters from 3 to 2 cents.

Whilst most, if not all, of these reasons are given specifically by Sir Wm. Mulock in other statements, they are summed up generally in this short statement, which he made in the course of the debate on the second reading of his bill on May 13, 1898:

I submit that the two measures (the reduction on letters and the charge on newspapers) are in the public interest. They are entwined together, and whilst the imposition of the rate upon newspapers will not pay the whole cost of this boon that will be conferred upon the public, yet to the extent that it produces a revenue, it will add to that amount, and it will be, I trust, a check upon the hurdens that are cast upon the people to-day by the bringing out of newspapers of a useless kind—fake newspapers some call them. I would not use the term, I do not know the meaning of it. A constant demand is made upon the public to carry newspapers that succeed in getting registration, comply with the requirements of a newspaper set forth in the statutes, but which are nothing but agencies in disguise to promote private enterprise and private gain. Putting the matter on a business basis will, I trust, help to ward off some of these evils and make it possible for the country in the near future to have the advantage of the 2 cent rate without any extra cost.—Hansard, 1898—pages 5532, 5533.

Mr. Imrie quoted several extracts from Hansard in connection with the debate on Sir Wm. Mulock's bill, among them the following:

Referring to the figures showing tonnage of newspapers carried in 1889, 1891 and 1897 respectively, quoted by Sir Wm. Mulock in House of Commons on April 1, 1898, the leader of the opposition, Sir Charles Tupper, said: "I would draw the attention of my honorable friend (Sir Wm. Mulock) at the outset to a conclusion at which I have arrived from the enormously rapid increase in the number of newspapers carried through the mails.