

the beginning of October, perhaps a little later, according to the season of the year, mails are sent direct from any part of this country to the Yukon Territory and to Dawson. After about the 1st of October we send only a limited number of parcels and letters to the Yukon Territory, to Dawson and the surrounding posts. The following classes of mail matter are only sent onwards from White Horse to their destination in the Yukon :—

Letters (in their usual and ordinary form); post cards; singly wrapped newspapers and periodicals from the office of publication, addressed to public libraries, to newspaper publishers and individual subscribers; transient newspapers and third-class matter of all kinds except books, trade catalogues, circulars and patterns and samples of merchandise.

Mr. THOMPSON. Do all kinds of mail matter go as far as White Horse?

Mr. LEMIEUX. Yes, all the year round.

Mr. THOMPSON. And have Canadian postmasters been notified of that fact?

Mr. LEMIENX. They have been notified, but in view of the representations that have been made to the department by my hon. friend, I have issued a new circular that will be posted in all the post offices of the Yukon Territory.

#### NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN OTTAWA AND WASHINGTON.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Before the orders of the day are called, I would like to ask the Prime Minister whether any information is to be afforded to the House respecting negotiations which are said to be pending between Canada and the United States for the purpose of concluding a treaty respecting various important matters. A somewhat circumstantial account has appeared in some of the English journals, and allusion is made in our own press to a projected visit to Ottawa of the British ambassador at Washington. I thought it well to call the Prime Minister's attention to this, in case he might have any communication to make to the House.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Informal negotiations have been carried on by Mr. Bryce, the British ambassador, upon different subjects affecting the relations between Canada and the United States. One is about inland fisheries. The hon. member for North Toronto (Mr. Foster remembers very well that when he was in office an attempt was made to have uniform regulations prevail on the great lakes, and to have a close season. That is under consideration at the present time. Then there is the question of the distribution of water power on the great lakes, which has been under consideration

Mr. LEMIEUX.

for some time. I understand Mr. Bryce is coming to Ottawa in a short time with a view of discussing these and any further questions with the Canadian government.

#### INQUIRIES FOR RETURNS.

Mr. FOSTER. I want to draw attention to the return which was brought down in answer to an order of the House, dated 11th December last:

For a copy of all correspondence, petitions, statements, papers, orders in council and proclamations respecting the setting out of limits for prohibition of the sale of liquors along the line of the Grand Trunk Pacific under the Public Works Construction Act.

Well, all I get is some correspondence between the Alberta Deputy Attorney General and the Railway Department, and an inquiry by the Railway Department from the Secretary of State, from which it appears that there is not anything to return. I must have been very much misled in reading the papers, as I had gathered that along the line of the Grand Trunk Pacific, east and west, there was a variety of moves made and communications took place, and orders given, and orders recalled, so far as the extension of the limits were concerned. I know it was a matter of much remark in the newspapers, and I am afraid that this return is not a full return. This is not what I wanted at all, and it is not such as I ought to get.

Mr. GRAHAM. I suppose the correspondence was brought down. If there is anything in my department which has not been brought down I will be glad to see that it is. There seems to be several departments involved, the Department of Justice, and possibly the Department of Railways and Canals. What department does the hon. gentleman think has been lax?

Mr. FOSTER. I think the Department of Justice, as usual, is lax in this case.

Mr. AYLESWORTH. No, everything that is on the files of the department has been returned.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. When am I likely to receive a return asked for on the 11th of December, and also one on the 10th of December, one with regard to the Postmaster General's Department, and the other with regard to subsidies to steamships?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. The return with regard to subsidies has been brought down to-day.

Mr. WORTHINGTON. I desire to ask the Minister of Militia when the return asked for on December 11 will be brought down. The return asked for any further information regarding the Ross Rifle Company, and also correspondence respecting the drill shed.