

corded in revised 'Hansard' page 786, for a return showing all public buildings occupied by post offices in whole or in part, and the revenues derived from them, has not yet been complied with.

Mr. MURPHY. I will make inquiry about that also.

Mr. SHARPE (Lisgar). I desire to ask the Minister of the Interior when I may look for the return asked for on December 7?

Mr. OLIVER. What is the nature of the return?

Mr. SHARPE (Lisgar). It relates to lands, timber and mineral rights.

Mr. OLIVER. If my memory is right, the return involves a great deal of labour for its preparation. I can assure my hon. friend that it is in course of preparation, but I cannot promise it at an early day.

Mr. SHARPE (Lisgar). It was ordered a long while ago.

Mr. OLIVER. The return is very comprehensive, perhaps more so than my hon. friend realized when he moved for it.

Mr. BRADBURY. When may we expect the return ordered on January 23 last referring to licenses, leases or concessions given to individuals or corporations of water-powers and privileges on the Winnipeg river?

Mr. OLIVER. I am sorry that my hon. friend is delayed in that, it should have been down long ago, I assure him that it will be down without any delay.

WAYS AND MEANS—RECIPROCAL TRADE WITH THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. FIELDING moved that the House go into Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. TAYLOR (New Westminster). Mr. Speaker, before you leave the chair I wish to call the attention of the House for a few moments to a matter of great importance. Let me first read a telegram recently received:

Mission Junction, Feb. 18.

J. D. Taylor,
House of Commons, Ottawa.

Resolution passed here to-day as follows: 'That whereas the Dominion government has seen fit, in the reciprocity agreement, to abolish the duty on fruit, farm products: and whereas, this will be a detriment to the farmers of British Columbia, we wish to go on record as being strongly opposed to the agreement as it now stands.'

Mission City Agricultural Association,
per A. M. VERCHERS, Secretary.
Mr. LENNOX.

Also I have this communication:

The Hammond Fruit Association, Limited,
Hammond, B.C., Feb. 4, 1911.

Dear Sir,—At the annual meeting of the Hammond Fruit Association, Limited, the following resolution was passed, and I was requested to send same to you: 'That the Hammond Fruit Association, Limited, views with alarm the movement recently advanced by the grain growers of the Northwest for reciprocity in natural products with the United States. Such an adjustment of the tariff would be of material disadvantage to the fruit industry of this province, and this association is strongly of opinion that not only should no reduction of duty on fruit be permitted by the Dominion government, but that immediate steps should be taken to place our duty on a parity with that of the United States.'

Yours truly,
D. W. BAKER, Secretary.

J. D. Taylor, Esq., M.P.

I have another communication, which I will not read in full, from the Western Canada Bag, Envelope and Box Board Company, Limited, which states that this corporation has addressed to the Prime Minister a communication setting forth their position with respect to the proposals now under consideration, the effect of which is given in this:

—regarding the proposed reciprocity agreement between Canada and the United States so far as it pertains to the removal of duty on building, roofing and sheathing paper, deadening felt, box board, &c. Such a policy would absolutely destroy all hopes of success for the plant which we are now erecting at New Westminster, B.C., for the manufacture of these products and which we hope to have in operation within six months.

Motion agreed to, and House went into Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. GEORGE W. KYTE (Richmond, N.S.) The importance of the question now before the chair has been so frequently reiterated by hon. gentlemen who have already taken part in the discussion that I will make no apology for the time I shall occupy this afternoon. Since the debate was commenced, a couple of weeks ago by the leader of the opposition, (Mr. Borden, Halifax) whose views were further emphasized by the speech of the hon. member for North Toronto, I think I may fairly say that, so far as hon. gentlemen opposite are concerned who have taken part in the debate, no new ground has been broken. The imperialist drum has been pounded and the stalking horse of annexation has been paraded before us; the dire calamities that will come to the industries of Canada in respect of all her present industrial activities have been emphasized in language which for pessimism and lachrymose sentiment cannot be paralleled, I verily believe, anywhere outside the tomes of the ancient