

Mulock) to move a motion which was embodied in my request to which the hon. gentleman objected on account of some technicalities connected with it. I suppose that as he has given me the assurance that he will bring down the information, there would be no objection to moving it at this stage. I therefore move :

For copies of all correspondence, reports, Orders in Council, tenders, if any, or papers relating to the carrying of the mail between Golden, B.C., and St. Eugene since July, 1896, the number of trips made by each carrier and the amount paid to each.

The POSTMASTER GENERAL (Mr. Mulock). All I told the hon. gentleman was that if he made a motion, I would see to it that there was no objection taken, no delay, so far as I could help it, in the adoption of the motion and the production of the papers. I meant just what I said. I do not know whether the wording of the motion covers all the papers that ought to be produced, and, if the hon. gentleman will give notice of the motion or give me a memorandum of what he desires, I will facilitate his getting the information. I am not speaking to delay him, but in order that there should be substantial production with the papers dealing with the matter.

Mr. FOSTER. I have asked for all the papers.

The POSTMASTER GENERAL. I do not know from hearing what has been read what is desired.

Mr. FOSTER. I will send the hon. Minister (Mr. Mulock) the copy of the motion I have read.

The MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES (Sir Louis Davies). Better give notice of motion.

Mr. FOSTER. We shall never reach it again this session.

The POSTMASTER GENERAL. Having read what the hon. gentleman proposes, I have no objection to the motion.

Motion agreed to.

#### FREE AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

Mr. DAVIN moved :

That good faith on the part of the present Government with the farmers of the North-west should compel them to place agricultural implements on the free list.

He said : This motion is one in which the farmers of the North-west Territories, and probably more than the farmers of the North-west Territories, take a deep interest. I wish to say, first of all, that I approach this motion in the character of a protectionist, and I see no reason whatever why the

strongest protectionist in Canada should not vote for this motion. It is seconded by my hon. friend from South Leeds (Mr. Taylor). I want also to say, in order to meet some of my independent friends on the other side and some of the Patrons ; this motion is not a vote of want of confidence in the Government. A vote of want of confidence in the Government is taken on a motion to go into committee, or when you traverse some other motion of the Government. But this motion is not a motion, technically and in the proper sense, implying a want of confidence, so that there is no reason why my hon. friend from Frontenac (Mr. Rogers) or any other independent gentleman should not vote for it when we come to a vote, whether to-day or to-morrow, the next day or next week. Because the time will come, as the Greeks said of death, to-morrow, the next day, or the day after. When we come to a vote I hope that we shall not see Ministers sliding up the gangway to interview the Patrons and the independent members. And if they do I hope they won't succeed, as they succeeded in 1896, and in 1897, and once again this very session. It is a humiliating spectacle. Once it was the Postmaster General who did this, another time it was the Minister of Agriculture, and lately it was the Minister of Marine and Fisheries. Why, Sir, I see the Postmaster General is at it again. Now, Sir, after the leader of the Opposition, I believe that I may say with truth that I have, at an earlier period than any other man in this House, advocated protection for the Dominion of Canada. I am a thorough believer in protection. Now, let me explain what scientific protection is. I understand that some manufacturers throughout the country, when they see in my name a motion like this, think that there is inconsistency on my part, or inconsistency on the part of hon. gentlemen who might vote for me. Why, Sir, this motion says in the first place that the Government, in order to keep good faith with the farmers of the North-west, should place agricultural implements on the free list. If I prove that the Government promised the people of the North-west, held out language to the people of the North-west that sounded as a promise, that they would get implements on the free list, is there any man listening to me who is not bound to vote for that motion ? Now, I want to explain what protection is. Protection does not mean that we are bound to put a duty on all articles that we manufacture in Canada. What protection means is this : That in regard to any industry that will flourish naturally in Canada, it is the duty of the Government to protect them from the foreigner until they get strong enough to fight unaided the world at large. The moment they get strong enough—protection does not say that you are going to put high duties on to keep outside competi-