

# House of Commons Debates

FOURTH SESSION—NINTH PARLIAMENT

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WEDNESDAY, July 6, 1904.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Eleven o'clock.

### TREADGOLD CONCESSION.

Rt. Hon. Sir WILFRID LAURIER (Prime Minister). With the indulgence of the House, as I have to be away in a minute or two, I would like to call the attention of the House to a matter in regard to which my hon. friend the leader of the opposition (Mr. R. L. Borden) asked for information yesterday, that is in regard to the report of the Treadgold commission. The House was advised some time ago that the concessionaries had withdrawn and asked to be relieved of their contract and that the application had been granted by the government. Thereupon my colleague, the Secretary of State, advised Mr. Justice Britton of the fact and intimated there was no necessity of a report. Mr. Scott acting without consulting Council, and when the matter was brought to the attention of Council his action was not approved of. Mr. Justice Britton was advised immediately to consider the letter of Mr. Scott as unwritten and withdrawn, and therefore we expect a report from Mr. Justice Britton on the matter.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Has the right hon. Prime Minister any information to give the House as to the date when we may expect the report?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Judge Britton is being communicated with at the present time, and I will perhaps be able to tell my hon. friend to-morrow.

### RESIGNATION OF LT.-COL. GREGORY— INQUIRY FOR PAPERS.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the day are called, I would like to know when we may expect to have brought down the papers relating to the resignation of Lt.-Col. Gregory? These were spoken of in the debate which took place last week in the House and it was then announced by the hon. minister of Militia (Sir Frederick Borden) that there was no objection to bringing the papers

down, and that they would be brought down at once.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I will call the attention of my hon. friend the Minister of Militia to this matter and have the hon. gentleman's question answered to-morrow.

### PREFERENTIAL TARIFF.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I would like to know whether or not it is the intention of the government to introduce legislation founded upon the resolution of the hon. member for Cumberland (Mr. Logan) which passed this House unanimously about ten days ago?

Sir WILLIAM MULOCK. I will call the attention of the government to the hon. gentleman's question, and will be able to give an answer to-morrow.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. But the hon. gentleman is the government. I expected an answer from him.

Sir WILLIAM MULOCK. I am a very humble member of the government.

### SUPPLY—LETTER OF MR. W. T. R. PRESTON *RE* LORD DUNDONALD'S DISMISSAL.

Hon. H. R. EMMERSON (Minister of Railways and Canals) moved that the House go into Committee of Supply.

Mr. E. F. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, before you leave the Chair I would like to bring to the attention of the government a communication which appears in the London 'Times' of June 18, over the signature of Mr. W. T. R. Preston. I presume the gentleman is the Canadian Emigration agent at London. I would like to get some information from the government respecting this communication, whether the government approve of it, if their attention has been called to it, or whether they disapprove of it, and whether they think Mr. Preston is in the line of his duty as emigration agent of this country in the old country in addressing an ex parte, inaccurate, and therefore misleading statement to the English people through the columns of the London 'Times' respecting a matter upon which there is a wide divergence of opinion in this country. Mr. Preston is the servant of the people