# GERMAN RAIDER SANK 15 STEAMERS; PUTS INTO AMERICAN PORT IN CRIPPLED CONDITION

## HON. MR. WHITE IN MASTERLY SPEECH DISPOSES OF GRITS' CRITICISM OF-BUDGET

perment. By decreasing the postage rates Sir William Mulock had made that department a paying one. The taxation upon railway travelling was unfair to the poor, he said, and wholly to the benefit of the rich.

"I say to the Minister of Finance that his whole conception of the basis of this taxation is wrong, and I hope that upon reflection he may agree with me. When you have poverty, as you have it at this moment; when you have want, as you have it at this moment, it is not just that the same degree of taxation should be placed upon the poorer classes as upon the wealthy classes."

"Does he call this a war tariff?" exclaimed Sir Wilfrid, proceeding to a discussion of the general increase in customs taxation. "Does he pretend that when he proposed this increase he had in mind, primarily, the revenue of the country? If he had in view simply the raising of revenue, and not the idea of benefitting the privileged and wealthy and protected classes, he would have selected some articles on which he could have raised a maximum of revenue with a minimum of inconvenience and loss. But he has not done that. He is seeking to raise his revenue in such a way that he will have a minimum of revenue with a maximum of inconvenience and loss to the community.

We are living in hard times, he said. Unemployment is only too prevalent. At this moment there are, in almost every large community, men to whom the providing of the daily bread is an arduous problem. That is the consideration which the Minister of Finance should have had, first of all. Sir Wilfrid understood that there was a financial advantage to the distillers of the country in that item. They have to their advantage seven and a haif per cent, upon what they produce, which, he understood, was twenty-five cents per gallon upon the total produce.

### SHOULDERING LEGACIES OF FORMER REGIME.

OF FORMER REGIME.

Conservative Members—"Find the 'old cock."

To deal with the mismanagement of the late government, said Mr. White, would require a special assion of parliament. During 1913 he had to find money to complete the railway policy initiated by the Laurier government, a policy fraught with danger to Canada. The impression had been given to the country by Laurier that the National Transcontinental was to cost the people \$13,000,000, his own finance minister had said \$60,000,000. What had been the cost? It had been \$200,000,000, or, in other words, the difference between estimate and expenditure would have sufficed to pay the entire cost of the war. Mr. White housed that Sir Wilfidd Laurier's

The British Preference
Mr. White then dealt with the
British Preference. He pointed
out that although the government
had raised the preferential rate,
the actual advantage to the British manufacturer over his foreign
competitor had been increased by
\$2.50 on \$100 worth of goods in
an average case, on account of
the larger spread between the duties, preferential and general. As
regards free goods, the British
manufacturer had formerly been
on equal terms with his foreign
competitor; now he would enjoy
the advantage that he paid but
five per cent. duty, while the latter paid seven and a half per cent.
The question had been asked why
the British preferential tariff had
been raised at all. Mr. White answered this question by asking whether it
will be fair to tax the Canadian manufacturer on his raw material, and then
require him to compete with the British manufacturer, who obtained that
raw material free. Such a course
would ruin the industries of the country.



### SINKS AMERICAN STERMER ALTHO' CAPTAIN PROTEST

of duties under the British preference.

Why had Laurier in 1907, raised the duty under the British preferential tariff on white lead from 3 1-3 to 30 per cent.; on oil from 16 2-3 to 30 per cent.; on oil silks, paints, varnishes and why, above all, had he increased on woolen cloths from 23 1-3 per cent. to 30 per cent. Had he done this as a protectionist measure—and if he had, why this present opposition talk to protection, or to raise revenue to met an enormous increase in expenditure—and if for that reason with what force could he accuse the government now?

"I shall have to provide a million dollars a day for the war and other purposes," continued Mr. White, "and yet, hon. gentlemen opposite tell me that additional taxes are not needed." The charge that the budget proposals were not war taxes he declared to be the "acme of absurdity and partisan misrepresentation." The Finance Minister sald that Canada would have to pay at least \$7,000,000 of interest on the debt incurred through the war, and would have to provide a pension list of three or four millions a year.

Turning to the increase in cue-Dr. Clark was followed by Mr. Don-ald Sutherland, of South Oxford, It is expected a vote will be taken upon the Laurier amendment on Tues-

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