

made by the Board of Trade. I must at once dissent from that interpretation. It cannot be admitted that the government will simply fill the part of a mere recording clerk for the Board of Trade. When recommendations are made to the government by the Board of Trade, the government is bound to consider the fitness of the persons proposed, but naturally would accept those recommendations unless there was cause to the contrary. At all events, that is the interpretation we have given to the statute, and I think that interpretation will be accepted by parliament. In this case the recommendations made by Toronto were accepted without dissent. So were the recommendations made by Winnipeg. But some dissent was expressed to the recommendations made by the Montreal Board of Trade. I do not mean that the fact that Messrs. Carruthers and Metcalfe were passed over would indicate anything against those gentlemen. I do not think it would be fair to imply or accept anything of that kind. But the Minister of Trade and Commerce informs me that these gentlemen have been passed over for good and sufficient reasons, which will appear upon the face of the papers when they are brought down.

STEAMSHIP COLD STORAGE—THERMOGRAPH RECORDS.

Mr. HENDERSON (Halton) moved :

For copies of all thermograph records of temperature taken on board Atlantic steamships during the calendar year 1903, stating : (1) name of steamship ; (2) date when thermograph was put in chamber ; (3) date when the steamer left the report ; (4) whether chamber was (a) cold storage ; (b) cool air ; (c) mechanically ventilated ; (d) ordinary, or whether the record was taken on deck or other place where the natural temperature of the air would be registered, unexposed to the sun's rays ; (5) where practicable, in what part of the chamber the thermograph was placed.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER (Prime Minister). There is no objection to the motion, but I understand that it will take a very long time to prepare this return.

Mr. HENDERSON. This information was moved for last year, and was brought down. But it is not in the possession of the clerk of routine and records—it is not available to members of the House. I am under the impression that the whole matter is in the hands of the Department of Agriculture.

Motion agreed to.

FREIGHT AND STORAGE CHARGES—SYDNEY INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY STATION.

Mr. A. MARTIN (Queen's) moved :

For a return showing in detail all the collections for freight and storage at Sydney In-

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tercolonial Railway station for 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903 and 1904 ; giving the names of shippers and consignees ; a description of the merchandise ; where from ; weight of each package ; the amount received for storage, and from whom. Also a reference to the authority under which storage has been collected ; the rate, and by whom fixed. Also any refunds for freight and storage, and to whom paid.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER (Prime Minister). I am informed by the Railway Department that it is not customary to furnish such information as is asked for by this motion. It involves private business. Moreover, I am informed it will take almost a year to prepare such a return. I would advise my hon. friend (Mr. A. Martin) to allow the matter to stand and have a conference with the Minister of Railways. Perhaps the minister can give the hon. gentleman the information he wants.

Mr. A. MARTIN. The reason I have moved for this return is that I have received letters from parties, who complain that there is discrimination in freight and storage charges, some parties being charged more than others. I do not know any other way to get that information. If the order is too large, perhaps we might shorten it by making it apply only to one year.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. If my hon. friend were to have a conference with the Minister of Railways, perhaps they could agree upon a form in which the motion could be carried.

On motion of Mr. Clements, the debate was adjourned.

BOUNDARIES OF MANITOBA.

Mr. W. J. ROCHE (Marquette) moved :

For copies of all petitions, memorials and resolutions from the legislative assembly of Manitoba, the executive of that province, and any correspondence relative to the extension of the boundaries of Manitoba to the west or north.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I would ask my hon. friend not to move this to-day. The correspondence is not complete yet, but it may be completed next Monday. Allow it to stand.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. If any correspondence is received between now and then, will that be included ?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Yes.

Mr. HAGGART. I suppose we will have it before the discussion of the Bills ?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I do not see any connection at all between the Bill now before the House and this question regarding the province of Manitoba, I cannot see that they have any relation whatever. It is intended to have the correspondence complete as soon as possible, probably this week.