

Mr. LAPOINTE: Yes, when they are not paid by the departments requiring their services.

Item agreed to.

To provide for the revision of the Dominion statutes. Payments may be made notwithstanding anything in the Civil Service Act or regulations thereunder, \$35,000.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Is this a continuous job?

Mr. LAPOINTE: No; we expect that the revision will be completed in 1926.

Mr. MEIGHEN: How much has been spent since 1921?

Mr. LAPOINTE: The work started only last year.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Oh, no.

Mr. LAPOINTE: Yes.

Mr. MEIGHEN: It was started before the government came in. We had Mr. O'Connor at work and he did an enormous amount of work under Mr. Doherty and Mr. Bennett. The minister cannot smile at Mr. O'Connor's work on statutes. I do not care who has been advising him; I know something about it myself. I do not know any man who is more thorough in that kind of work. The minister knows perhaps that he is the author of a very valuable treatise indeed; and as a framer of statutes, if the minister had some experience with him I do not think he would have introduced a great many measures in the way he has done. There have been some awful draftings submitted to the House that he would not be guilty of. I know who has advised the minister, and while I have the greatest respect for the man who has done so, at the same time he is wrong. He is very prejudiced in the matter.

Mr. LAPOINTE: Who is he?

Mr. MEIGHEN: I refer to Mr. Newcombe. Mr. O'Connor's work in this matter has been very valuable and it has been discarded.

Mr. LAPOINTE: Has my right hon. friend seen his work?

Mr. MEIGHEN: I have not dug into it and reviewed it but I know something of its character. Right after the government came into power they appointed a string of men on this work. It must have been about 1922.

Mr. LAPOINTE: No.

Mr. MEIGHEN: When was the board appointed?

Mr. LAPOINTE: The board was appointed at the last meeting of council attended by my predecessor in the department.

Mr. MEIGHEN: There was a reconstituted board appointed.

Mr. LAPOINTE: No; the full board was appointed at the last meeting attended by Sir Lomer Gouin who retired in 1923. I took charge of the department in January 1924 and the secretary and translators have been appointed by myself since then. So that the board has worked only since January 1924, about a year and a half.

Mr. MEIGHEN: How many are on it?

Mr. LAPOINTE: Five.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Who are they?

Mr. LAPOINTE: Sir Charles Fitzpatrick, Mr. MacGregor, of Toronto, who took the place of the late Mr. Hartley Dewart, Mr. E. J. Daly, of Ottawa, Mr. F. R. Russell, K.C., and Mr. L. A. Rivet, of Montreal.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I do not know the last named gentleman but I know the political stature of the others. I do not know their legal stature but I suppose that does not matter.

Mr. LAPOINTE: I have no doubt they have sound ideas on politics.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I think there is only one man on it, Sir Charles Fitzpatrick. If he is doing the work the work will be done properly. Is he doing it?

Mr. LAPOINTE: Yes.

Mr. MEIGHEN: What will the others get?

Mr. LAPOINTE: The president is paid at the rate of \$4,000 per annum. Mr. Newcombe was vice president, and when he was appointed to the Supreme court, he was replaced by Mr. Cameron. Each of the other commissioners get \$2,500.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I do not think this idea of having a sort of corporation to revise the statutes is a proper one. That is the work of a man with an assistant.

Mr. CANNON: It is always done in this way. It is the only way to do it.

Mr. LAPOINTE: It has always been done in this way. The revision of the statutes of Ontario, under a government friendly to my right hon. friend, was done in a similar way.

Mr. MEIGHEN: When?