

have now become members of the mounted police? The work in connection with the prevention of smuggling and so on is done in the Department of National Revenue. I should like to know what part, if any, in the administration of that work still remains with the Department of National Revenue, and how they work together with the mounted police.

Mr. GUTHRIE: I think we are taking it all over except one branch. We are taking over the marine service, the special investigation branch, the secret preventive service branch, and the air wing, but one small section, which I think is called the investigation branch, is to remain in the Department of National Revenue. It is really the preventive branch pure and simple that we are taking over; that is for the prevention of smuggling.

Mr. EULER: Is there any overlapping of authority between the two departments?

Mr. GUTHRIE: No.

Mr. EULER: May I take it that the mounted police will be entirely in charge of the prevention of smuggling?

Mr. GUTHRIE: They will be entirely in charge.

Mr. VENIOT: Take the case of an international bridge. For instance, there is the St. Stephen international bridge between Calais, Maine, and St. Stephen, New Brunswick. We have on the Canadian side an officer and I think there is a customs house at the end of the bridge. Will the mounted police have anything to do with that or will the men be replaced by the mounted police?

Mr. GUTHRIE: If a preventive officer is there at present—and I think there is one—that man will be taken into the mounted police, but he will likely be continued at his post.

Mr. HEENAN: Can the minister tell us the difference between the wages which these preventive service men are now receiving and those which they will receive when the transfer is made?

Mr. GUTHRIE: I am not sure whether I could state that definitely. When the estimates are under consideration I shall be in a position to do so, but my impression is that they are taken on at police pay. A policeman, on being recruited, receives \$2 a day with, of course, allowances; he gets his clothes and his board. After some years' service that pay is increased and naturally it is increased with the various ranks as he goes

up. But I cannot now say definitely just how the pay in the preventive service compares with that in the mounted police service, although I shall get that from the commissioner when the estimates are before the house.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: Since the provinces have agreed to this arrangement, I suppose one can hardly raise objection in this house, although I should point out that it was because of the straitened circumstances in which the provinces found themselves that this arrangement was consented to. The other day the Prime Minister told us that this would involve a saving especially in overhead, and yet I note now that already we are being asked to extend the expenditures connected with the overhead. According to a return brought down a few weeks ago I notice that in this department we have already four civil servants receiving from \$4,000 to \$4,900 and one, I presume the commissioner, receiving \$12,000 or over. It seems rather strange with these already high salaries and with the claims made recently that the members of this force should not receive any cuts, that another highly paid official should be appointed.

I wish to point out what seems to me a very great danger of centralization of the police force of this country. I hope I am mistaken, but I think this looks in the direction of military repression. We have under our eyes the spectacle of the transformation of a police force into a military force. The other day the Prime Minister suggested that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police was, in essence, a military force and it ought to come under the same provisions and exemptions as would such a force. At least that is what I took from the statement he made. I am very much afraid that with a central authority at Ottawa we may develop an arbitrary method of dealing with the existing situation which may prove to be disastrous. We have already had brought to our attention in the last few months the spy system which has been adopted by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Under this spy system officers of the police disguised themselves and for long years carried on inquiries within certain organizations. Frankly, I am particularly concerned with the effect upon the labour organizations. Several years ago one of these police spies actually worked his way up until he became secretary of a labour union and a delegate to the Trades and Labour Council of Regina. He was a member of the communist organization, but he also became secretary of a labour union. I object to labour being considered dangerous in character and to having govern-