

Mr. MACKENZIE. It is unfortunate that it should be so, and the Civil Service Act might be amended in that regard.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. They are merely entered in the Estimates as chief clerks, and so on. But for other purposes they keep their designation of hydrographer, chemist, and so on.

Mr. ROSS. An amount is entered for a librarian. Is it intended to have a Geological library, and place it in charge of an officer?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. There has always been an officer having special charge of the books, maps and other literary matter connected with the Geological Survey. The present officer is Dr. Thorburn, who is found to be very valuable, not only as a librarian, but as being able to perform a very valuable function in my opinion, that of being able to explain to visitors the different branches of the museum and the exhibits.

Mr. MACKENZIE. It is necessary we should have such an officer. I may say I sympathize with the hon. gentleman in losing so many of his best servants; but I hope he will be able to retain all his colleagues.

Mr. ROSS. Am I to understand that all geological works under the control of the Government will be found in the Geological Museum?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Certainly not. The Library Committee of the House of Parliament will see that books of science will be fully represented in our National Library here. The works in the Geological Museum are the working tools of the staff, more than books of public reference.

9. Department of Indian Affairs..... \$31,287.50

Mr. CAMERON (Huron). There is an increase in this Department of \$6,372 over and above what it cost last year. I notice that the hon. gentleman has added to the salaries in some cases. There is also to be a solicitor.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. There has always been one.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron). It has not so appeared before. If so, the Estimates are not correct. At all events, it appears for the first time under this head.

Mr. MACKENZIE. Such an officer was paid before, but it did not appear in the Estimates.

Mr. CAMERON (Huron). Who is the solicitor, and where does he reside?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The Deputy Minister of Justice, since 1867, has received \$400 in addition to his salary for acting as solicitor of the Indian Department.

Mr. CAMERON. I also observe there are additions to the staff; there are eight more clerks in the Indian branch than last year, involving considerable additional expense. While I am prepared to admit that the work connected with the Department of the Interior must necessarily have increased for the last few years, and probably will increase, I cannot understand how the cost of running the Indian Department can by any possibility have increased. Have we any more Indians than we had last year? Is a new system inaugurated by which the Indian affairs are managed? What is the real cause of this increase? Altogether it is this year \$6,372.50 over and above last year, when there was an increase of \$4,215 over the year before. The hon. gentleman accounted for it last year, and found it necessary, I think, to apologize or explain to the House the reason why that increase occurred over 1881. I think he mentioned that two officers of the outside service were brought down here—Mr. Plummer, of Toronto, and Mr. Dalton; and their salaries, with the statutory increases, made the difference.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The work of the Department has been increased, strange to say, though the hon.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD.

gentleman cannot understand it. In the first place, there is a great increase in the number of Indians coming in to settle on the reserves, I am glad to say; then, with respect to the officers, it will be found that the difference between eleven and seventeen is caused by the appointment of temporary officers, who were paid out of contingencies, to permanent positions. I will also bring down, on Concurrence, full details of all these matters.

10. Auditor-General's Office ..... \$19,200.00

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex). Under the heading of the office of the Auditor-General I see that an additional officer has been appointed, and yet there is a decrease in salaries. Will the hon. Minister explain? This is strange.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. What is strange about it?

Mr. ROSS. It is strange because there is an increase of officers and a decrease of salaries.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. It so happened that two first-class clerks were superannuated, and we have not filled the vacancies; then two or three—two I think—third-class clerks were promoted to the second class; and, on the whole, I am happy to say, for the information of the hon. gentleman, that there is a reduction in the expenditure.

Mr. PATERSON (Brant). Is there no increase in superannuations?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. Yes; because we are paying the parties superannuated. If you charge that against it, there would not be a reduction; but, in the interests of the service, it was found desirable to do so.

11. Department of Finance and Treasury Board. \$58,125.00

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex). So the public purse bleeds to the same extent all the same. In the Department of Finance and Treasury Board—this is more natural—there is an increase of three officers, and quite an increase in salaries, something like \$3,000. This is more in keeping with the eternal fitness of things.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. There is an increase of three officers, and if we give them but the statutory allowance, \$50, it would amount to that sum; but it has been found that the duties of the deputy-head of the Department are so onerous—a large portion of his time being taken up with correspondence, depriving the country of time which might be devoted more profitably than to writing his own letters, that a clerk has been employed, who acts as a clerk in the Department, and is shorthand-writer for him. Any hon. gentleman who knows anything about that Department, and the labor involved in its correspondence, will quite appreciate the position of the deputy until this assistance was given. Then the officers of the Department are increased in number, as we are continuing to add to the deposits in the savings bank; owing to the increased number of depositors, thousands more accounts, I may say, have been opened. Then there are all these returns; every payment made, and the returns from the officers in the different parts of the Province, have to be sent here, checked and corrected. The increase in this work alone will require, the deputy estimates, probably two officers during the next year besides the additional appointed shorthand-writer; that is the reason for the increase.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex). The hon. gentleman referred to the necessity of the increase, as due to increased labor because of the savings bank. I am somewhat inquisitive to know what the hon. gentleman considers the expense of managing the savings bank; what percentage does the cost of management bear to the deposits.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. I think about 7 per cent., making the money cost us about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. If my memory serves me, it is a little under  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.