

*Supply—Interior*

would be worth hon. members' while at six o'clock to examine this map to learn something of the immensity of that territory and the heritage which this country has up there. I intend to ask parliament to give us a little more money to get further information about the territory and to protect ourselves with respect to future explorations.

Mr. ROSS (Kingston): What missionaries have been at work up there?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): The Church of England has established a mission at Herschel island, and the Rev. Mr. Walton is also located on the Hudson bay. That however is rather south of the territory I have in mind.

Mr. ROSS (Kingston): Herschel island was the place to which you sent a judge with the gallows in readiness to hang the accused?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): My hon. friend will understand that it is difficult to obtain timber in the north country. While it may seem somewhat cruel to anticipate the outcome of a trial the hon. member will nevertheless appreciate the necessity for preparation when going into a country of that nature. The place is devoid of fuel.

Mr. McQUARRIE: How far north does the jurisdiction of Canada extend? Do we take in the North Pole?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): We claim that we go to it.

Mr. McQUARRIE: The minister has heard that the United States has laid claim to the North Pole.

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): Canada claims the territory outlined between the degrees of longitude 60 and 141 but I have nothing to say regarding any claim the United States may make. They have Alaska and naturally they will lay claim to land north of their territory there, which would be adjacent to ours.

Mr. McQUARRIE: Will they have the North Pole?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): I do not suppose any nation can lay claim to the North Pole.

Mr. McQUARRIE: I am serious in the question.

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): In order to protect Canada's interests we have made our position clear. According to international law we can claim any territory lying one hundred

[Mr. C. A. Stewart.]

miles off our explored coasts. But no one knows definitely what land there is in the unexplored region; to reach it the explorer must go either from the coast of Alaska or through Canadian territory.

Mr. ROSS (Kingston): The last North Pole expedition did not go through Canada.

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): As I have said before we do not claim the North Pole.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): The minister said he would be glad if the Civil Service Commission would undertake an independent investigation of his department to find out what over-manning if any there is there. Has the commission that power?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): Yes.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): When did it get that power?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): This is not the time to raise objections to what is going on, but frankly I think a great deal of time would be saved if we reverted to the old system of annual salary increases and promotions. As it is now, there is a continual agitation going on for promotion or increase of salary, and at least a couple of times a week I find half a dozen applications on my desk. I think I could indicate a thousand places where money could be saved, and surely we will get to that stage sometime. It does seem to me that we have a terribly cumbersome system.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): I feel very much like my hon. friend from Maple Creek (Mr. McTaggart). I think a great deal is to be said for the outside services; they are doing splendid work. But the whole of my remarks were based on the Spinney report and Dr. Roche's evidence. It seems to me amazing that the Civil Service Commission should not already have made an investigation, because I notice that in answer to a question by Mr. Euler:

If you had any suspicion that any of the departments were being overmanned, would you have any control over that at all?

Dr. Roche said:

You are not now referring to labourers?

Mr. Euler: No, to the inside service in Ottawa.

Dr. Roche: No, we have not any control, unless we are given the control we had in the bureau. We were turned loose with our organizers.

And then he discussed the Printing Bureau and all the savings that had been effected