

Breton who are receiving salaries of from \$50 to \$100 are no greater than those of the fishery officers in western Nova Scotia who receive salaries as high as \$500 and \$700. Mr. Aymer, of Meteghan, whose salary is \$500, received \$248.58 for travel and outlay, whereas Mr. Thibeau of Richmond county, who gets a salary of \$100, expended for travel and outlay only \$212.21. Edward Chute, of Canada Creek, whose salary is \$500, expended for travel and outlay \$278.91, while Anthony Sampson, of L'Ardoise, whose salary is \$125, expended for travel and outlay \$239.45. The minister must be mistaken when he says that the fishery officers of Cape Breton are getting more for travel and outlay than the fishery officers of western Nova Scotia.

Mr. HAZEN: In the county of Cape Breton, where there are eight officers, the travelling allowances are about equal to those of the two officers in any one of the counties in western Nova Scotia. I do not think that the services in the former case are as effective, because if a man gets a fair salary he devotes his attention largely to the duties of the position, but he gets only a trifling salary of from \$50 to \$150 he regards the work as a kind of side-line and does not give it the attention that he otherwise would. I think it would be far better to reduce the number of officers in Cape Breton and pay adequate salaries to those who do perform the duties, as we do in western Nova Scotia. I do not say that the condition of affairs in Cape Breton is satisfactory; there must be a reorganization there as well.

Mr. KYTE: The county of Cape Breton has a much larger area and a much longer coast line than any of the counties in western Nova Scotia. It necessarily follows that more officers are required there. But the gross amount paid to the eight officers in the county of Cape Breton by way of salaries is very much less than the amount paid the two officers in the county of Digby. The same applies to all the counties in the island of Cape Breton. The total amount paid for salaries and allowances of officers in the county of Cape Breton is less than that paid the smaller number of officers in any of the counties in western Nova Scotia. Either the officers in western Nova Scotia are too well paid, or those in eastern Nova Scotia are not sufficiently paid.

Mr. COPP: The hon. member for Digby the other day made a proper statement of the present business methods of the Fisheries Department. This afternoon I cited

[M. Kyte.]

a case where a fishery overseer or warden in New Brunswick, whose salary is \$150 a year, received last year for travel and outlay, \$718.20. The minister accounted for the amount of the travel and outlay by the fact that the overseers are given a travelling allowance of 10 cents a mile. The fishery overseer to whom I referred has certain duties in connection with the lobster fisheries, the open season for the district affected being from May 24 or 25 to August 10. I am not finding fault with this man or the amount that he is paid, but I contend that it is unbusinesslike to allow a man to be his own judge in the matter of the amount of travelling that he does, for which he receives 10 cents a mile.

I contend that Mr. Morrison, the inspector of the district which comprises five counties, who is paid a salary of \$2,000 a year and who has received six or seven hundred dollars for travelling expenses, should organize those counties on a business basis, finding out what would be a reasonable remuneration for the overseers and paying them that amount. This is a matter of vital importance to the people. The same thing is true throughout the whole of New Brunswick, and I presume that the same thing exists in other provinces where fishery regulations require to be enforced. I find in the same county, within twenty miles of where Fishery Overseer Prescott lives, another overseer, Mr. Vinneau, of Barachois, who has a salary of \$140 a year, and whose travel and outlay amounted to \$1,008.54. Such a charge for travel and outlay is absolutely unjustifiable. I know the man and the district he has to work in. This matter should not be left in its present condition, because it is not conducive to good business or an honest expenditure of public money. I understood the minister to say that he had made a change in some portions of Nova Scotia, and I hope he will do the same in New Brunswick. I am not offering any criticism as to the amounts these men are paid; they should be paid a reasonable remuneration for their work, but they should be paid in such a way that the chief inspector will have a check on this expenditure, so that he can see that they are not paid for what they do not do or for any expenses not connected with their district. I find another man in Barachois in exactly the same district, with a salary of \$140 and travelling expenses of \$549. This man must have practically the same area to look after. When I was at home a few days ago, a gentleman from Prince Edward Island happened to call at