

attention of the Government to the following matter: He informs me that the *New York Police Gazette* had been prohibited from entering Canada, and that this prohibition is being evaded by the title of the paper being changed to the *Sporting Times*; that the same obscene paper under this title is now for sale in the usual places where such papers are sold, and he desired me to bring the matter in this way before the Minister of Customs—I presume it would be—in the hope that the matter would be dealt with.

NORTH-WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY.

Mr. MITCHELL. I would ask the Premier whether the requirement of the Government in relation to the Beatty Bill has been fulfilled: whether the deposit has been made by Mr. Beatty or not?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. A deposit has been made in New York, but whether satisfactory or not we cannot yet say.

SUPPLY.

House again resolved itself into Committee.

Maintenance of Gaol and Lunatic Asylum at
Regina..... \$10,000 00

Mr. BLAKE. This would seem to be the organisation of a lunatic asylum at Regina, and it proposes a lump sum without any scale or arrangement as to the number of officers or the salaries.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. This is for the establishment of a lunatic asylum and hospital at Regina. The expenses of the lunatics in the North-West are very great, and they have to be sent to the penitentiary in Manitoba, where their board and lodging have to be paid for. It is proposed to put up an ordinary building to be used as a lunatic asylum and hospital for the lunatics who are found on the plains, and the serious cases of illness which have now to be sent to the hospital at Winnipeg at an enormous expense. There is no scale fixed for the number of officers or salaries, but that will be done on the most moderate scale.

Mr. BLAKE. The objection is to this bulk vote for salaries, when we have no statement of what the expenses are estimated to be. I trust that, under such circumstances, the salaries to be given will be of the most moderate and unexceptional character, and made in such a manner that Parliament may freely deal with them.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. By all means.

Legislation..... \$100,520 00

Mr. MULOCK. Why is this \$100,000 to meet expenses of the Franchise Act different from the item already given?

Mr. McLELAN. It is expected that the expenses will be very much less under the amendments that are made.

Mr. MULOCK. The hon. gentleman will please give some particulars with respect to the \$100,000.

Mr. McLELAN. The money will be expended over all the items, especially the printing.

Mr. McMULLEN. When the first item was passed, further information was promised. The country understands that the Franchise Act will cost a considerable sum. We require information as to payment to be made to the clerks, and with respect to the travelling expenses of the different officials. Our constituents will expect to obtain full par-

ticulars, and I am afraid we shall return to them blindfolded in regard to the expenses attending this Act.

Mr. McLELAN. The accounts have not come in, so as to enable the Government to make anything like a correct estimate of the expenditure. I took the accounts for printing of four of the large counties of Nova Scotia, and found they averaged \$500, and upon that an estimate for the whole Dominion was based. We have no data on which to make an estimate. It is stated by those competent to judge in regard to printing matters that the expense of printing the lists will be largely reduced.

Mr. VAIL. How is it proposed to pay the revising officers? In some Nova Scotia counties there are 10,000 or 12,000 votes, and in other cases one revising officer has two counties with 20,000 or 22,000 each. Is the same sum to be paid to each officer, or will payment be made in proportion to work done?

Mr. McLELAN. Regard will be had to the quantity of work done.

Mr. CAMERON (Middlesex). The Finance Minister has stated that there is no data on which to form a reliable estimate. The Department of the Secretary of State, however, issued a circular to the different revising officers asking them for a statement of the probable cost of working the Franchise Act, omitting the cost of printing and the revising officers' salary. The cost given was between \$600 and \$700 per constituency. At \$600, the total would reach \$126,600, omitting the payment to revising officers and the printing of the lists. Consequently the estimate of the Government is entirely too small. There is a manifest determination on the part of the Government that the country shall not obtain full particulars as to the working of the Act. The only justification for a reduction in the amount is that a saving is expected in printing the lists. There is ample ground for a reduction. In one of the western constituencies the printing of the voters' list at the cost of the municipality, containing 4,792 names, was \$179.65; the new list, printed under this Act and under the tariff of the Secretary of State, containing 5,126 names, will cost \$621.12. One municipality that had its lists printed at the cost of \$28 will pay \$130 under this Act, and there is a difference of only one in the number of names.

Mr. SOMERVILLE (Brant). No doubt the Government have made a mistake in endeavoring to keep the printing under their own control. From a return brought down to the House on 21st May, which contains 1,570 pages, with respect to the Franchise Act, I have been able to cull a few interesting statements, which go to show that the Government are determined that the printing of the voters' lists shall be worked for the benefit of their own newspapers. The Government must have determined that the printing of the voters' lists shall be kept entirely in the hands of their own friends, for I find various telegrams in this correspondence instructing the revising officers that they are to have the work done at certain offices. I will read a few of them to show the House in what way the Government are seeking to control the matter. I entirely agree with the statement of the hon. member for Middlesex that if this printing had been left entirely in the hands of the revising officers, and had been done in the usual way in which it has heretofore been done in the Province of Ontario, one-half the expense would have been saved to this country. There is no doubt the Government intended that their newspapers should make a fat thing of the printing of the voters' lists, and the prices they were allowed, running from 12½ to 16 cents per name, is certainly an extravagant price, as any printer will decide for himself on looking at the list. Here is the first letter I will read: