

can readily understand, we have a great deal of work and a good deal of expense in connection with those cases. They must be followed up, and officials must be employed to do that work. In addition there are other incidental expenses; and it is thought that when permits are granted by the department to people to enter Canada temporarily and where we have that additional work and expense cast upon us, those who are granted that privilege should be charged a fee.

Mr. JACOBS: Is it the policy of the department to make intending immigrants pay for the upkeep of the department? Is not this incidental to the work of the department?

Mr. CALDER: These are not immigrants who are to remain in Canada permanently. They are simply granted permission to enter Canada for a short time, say for a period of six months, and in some cases a year. There is a good deal of expense in connection with granting these people this privilege, and I think they should contribute something towards the expenses entailed.

As regards the general question raised, I am not so sure but that the time has come when we would be justified in charging a small fee to people who enter Canada. The expenditure in connection with the department is very large, and it may be that, within a measurable distance, the policy should be adopted of requiring those who enter Canada to pay a small fee which would help defray a portion of the expenditure. The United States charges a head tax of \$8, if I am not mistaken. I have not the figures before me but their expenditure on immigration runs into millions of dollars, and it is all paid out of the head taxes collected, and there is a surplus. I do not say that the time has arrived when we should do that in Canada, but I do say that the subject is worthy of consideration. The matter has been under consideration already, but no decision has been arrived at, and consequently nothing will be done in that direction this year. I think, however, that the matter might very well be considered before another session, and a conclusion arrived at.

Mr. JACOBS: Under the Laurier Administration we paid a little in order to induce immigrants to come to this country. We are evidently reversing that policy now. This small tax which the minister proposes to impose is an inducement, I suppose, for people to come to this country.

[Mr. Calder.]

Mr. KNOX: What revenue is received annually, or has been received altogether, from the tax on Chinese immigrants?

The CHAIRMAN: I must point out that these questions are not strictly in order upon the present item. The present item concerns only the salaries of the Civil Government employees here in Ottawa. If hon. gentlemen would only wait till we reach Items Nos. 52, 53, and following, which will be taken up immediately, all these questions would then be strictly in order, and, as an acting chairman once said, it would make the task of the Chairman much easier.

Mr. CLARK (Red Deer): Am I to understand that the Chairman, whose wisdom I never doubt, is calling the minister to order for obstructing his own Estimates?

Mr. CALDER: I might say in reply to my hon. friend from Red Deer (Mr. Clark) that I was asked a question from the other side of the House, which I politely endeavoured to reply to.

Mr. CLARK (Red Deer): From what I gathered, the subject under discussion was of considerable importance, and the minister made a very provocative speech in reply. He may consider himself lucky if the Chairman saves him from a long debate.

Mr. STEVENS: Is the Deputy Minister of the Department of the Interior the Deputy Minister also of the Immigration Department?

Mr. CALDER: Yes, Mr. Cory is still acting as Deputy Minister of Immigration.

Mr. JACOBS: A couple of years ago an additional \$1,000 was placed in the Estimates for Mr. Cory, on account of the work he was doing for the Department of Immigration exclusive of his duties as Deputy Minister of the Interior Department. Why has that been dropped?

Mr. CALDER: The reason was that some hon. gentlemen on the other side of the House took very strenuous objection to that procedure being followed.

Mr. JACOBS: Only one.

Mr. CALDER: As a matter of fact, the Immigration Department was part of the Interior Department for a great many years, until it was thought advisable to separate them. I doubt if Mr. Cory has very much more work to do now in con-