

The **MINISTER OF TRADE AND COMMERCE**. The same clerks, I believe.

Department of Militia and Defence..... \$41,050

Mr. **HUGHES**. According to the estimate, there is a saving here. I would like to ask wherein the Minister proposes to make the saving?

The **MINISTER OF TRADE AND COMMERCE**. I had not expected that this would come up. I have just sent for the Deputy Minister, and if the hon. gentleman (Mr. Hughes) wants, as he is justified in wanting, detailed information, that officer will be here in a few moments. In the meantime we might proceed to another item, passing over the next item, of Secretary of State's Department.

Department of Public Printing and Stationery \$29,100

Mr. **FOSTER**. There is a slight increase here. We would like an explanation of the changes that have been made.

The **MINISTER OF TRADE AND COMMERCE**. I believe that there are hardly any changes except a few increases in salaries of halves and quarters of the fifty-dollar increase, which have been allowed, some of them for broken periods. Otherwise, there is no change.

Mr. **FOSTER**. Are there any vacancies in the positions estimated for here?

The **MINISTER OF TRADE AND COMMERCE**. I understand these are all filled.

Department of the Interior, including \$2,000 to provide for the promotion of T. G. Rothwell and \$1,900 for the promotion of K. J. Henry to chief clerkships, \$1,500 for the promotion of P. G. Keyes to a first-class clerkship, and \$850 for the salary of James Dunnet, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Civil Service Act.....\$104,814

Mr. **SPROULE**. There is an increase of \$370 here. Will the hon. gentleman give us some explanation of what has caused it?

The **MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR** (Mr. Sifton). The increases consist of certain statutory increases and of the increases indicated in the item—in the salary of Mr. Rothwell from \$1,750 to \$2,000, Mr. Dunnet from \$650 to \$850, and Mr. Henry from \$1,800 to \$1,900.

Mr. **FOSTER**. We could have seen that by comparing the figures. I think my hon. friend (Mr. Sifton) will have to give a more extended explanation than simply to subtract the old figures from the new. The House would like to know the reasons for the addition in each case. But, first, with reference to the deputy head, I would like to ask who is the present deputy head of the department, whether a change has been

made, and if so, what the reasons for that change are?

The **MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR**. The present deputy head of the Department of Interior is Mr. Jas. A. Smart. As the hon. gentleman is no doubt aware, Mr. A. M. Burgess was formerly Deputy Minister of Interior. A change has been made in the following way: Mr. Burgess has been transferred to the office of Commissioner of Dominion Lands, an office that was formerly held by Mr. H. H. Smith, of Winnipeg. But Mr. Smith has been superannuated, and it is the intention to abolish the office of Commissioner at Winnipeg, and Mr. Burgess will transact the duties of Commissioner at the head office in Ottawa. In answer to the hon. gentleman's request for the reasons of the change, briefly these reasons are: That under the former management of the Department of Interior, the affairs of the department were not conducted in a satisfactory manner. They were not conducted in a satisfactory manner, because it was apparent that there was no desire, or no strong desire, no effectual desire, on the part of the Minister of Interior, or of the deputy, or of both, to act in a reasonable way with the settlers of Manitoba and the North-west Territories, with whom, particularly, that department has to deal; and it was deemed impossible by me as the responsible head of the department to secure a satisfactory administration of the department without at the same time making a change in the deputy head. I think it desirable that the deputy head of that department should be a man who is familiar with the affairs of Manitoba and the North-west Territories, and not only familiar with the affairs of the country, but familiar with the circumstances of the people, one who would understand, not only the technical office details of the business that came before him, but understand the circumstances with which he was dealing so that he would know the effect of any decision, or would know what was likely to occur as a result of it. I do not know whether the hon. gentleman expects me to go into an extended discussion of the result of the late Government's policy in regard to North-western affairs, probably this would not be the best place to enter into a lengthy discussion of that matter; but I have no objections, if the hon. gentleman so desires, at a convenient time to give him my ideas in regard to the manner in which the Department of Interior as affecting the condition of the people of the North-west Territories, has been conducted. I fancy the explanation I have given, however, will be sufficient for the present.

Mr. **FOSTER**. What salary does Mr. Burgess get in his new place?

The **MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR**. \$3,200. The ex-commissioner's salary was \$4,000.