

Royal Canadian Mounted Police

kind, a position which will obviously carry a high salary. The assistant commissioners are able to do the necessary work without one of them being given the title and salary of a deputy commissioner. My hon. friend spoke of the discipline of the force, but I do not think a deputy commissioner would have more authority than have the assistant commissioners. There is probably no body of men in Canada or elsewhere where better discipline or esprit de corps exists than in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and this fact makes me a little suspicious that this is merely a move to give a good position to someone.

Mr. GUTHRIE: Mr. Chairman, may I say that in connection with matters of organization and discipline in the force generally, as Minister of Justice, I am obliged to rely almost exclusively on the advice given by the present commissioner of the force. The force has been considerably augmented since August 1, 1930, when this government came into power. The present strength is 1,550 as compared with a strength of 1,217 on August 1, 1930. In addition to this increase, certain members of the preventive service have been taken into the force. A special selection has been made of those best fitted for duty in the service, and 350 members of the preventive service will be taken into the force. When introducing the resolution I stated that upon the completion of the whole program the total force would number 2,000 but I now find it will number 2,010; the mounted police numbering 1,660 and the preventive service, 350.

As the committee is well aware, we have taken over the police forces of six provinces, whereas in the past we policed only the province of Saskatchewan. Major General MacBrien, an officer of very great ability and experience, has informed me that in his opinion it will be necessary to have someone promoted to the rank of deputy commissioner. It is true that at the present time there are four or five assistant commissioners scattered throughout Canada, but in the opinion of the commissioner it is necessary to have someone in command or control when he himself might be absent on police business. This will not involve any material increase in expense as the present senior assistant commissioner at Ottawa will be promoted to the rank of deputy commissioner and, speaking offhand, I do not think there will be any increase in salary. This deputy commissioner will have the power and authority to act as commissioner when the commissioner finds it necessary to be absent from Ottawa.

[Mr. Lapointe.]

Mr. HEAPS: Can the minister advise the committee as to the number of men taken over from the provincial governments?

Mr. GUTHRIE: I have not the number, but I have the amounts to be contributed by the different provinces which give a fair idea of the number of men involved, as, generally speaking, it is computed at the rate of \$1,000 per man. The province of Alberta will pay \$225,000 per annum, which would be about 225 men; Saskatchewan, \$250,000; Manitoba, —this is marked "estimate"—\$125,000; Nova Scotia, \$125,000. This memorandum was prepared before the New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island agreements were signed, but my recollection is that the amount for New Brunswick is \$125,000 and for Prince Edward Island, \$15,000. In Prince Edward Island there will be fifteen men; in New Brunswick, either 100 or 125; in Nova Scotia, 125; in Manitoba, 125; in Saskatchewan, I would assume, 250, and in Alberta, 225.

Mr. HEAPS: Does the figure of 2,010, which the minister has given, include all the men taken over?

Mr. GUTHRIE: All the men.

Mr. EULER: How many members of the preventive service have been incorporated in the mounted police, and is that process completed?

Mr. GUTHRIE: The Department of National Revenue has selected the list and submitted the names to the commissioner of police. He is engaged now in making his selection; in fact, I think he has pretty well completed it. There will be approximately 350 men taken from the preventive service into the police.

Mr. RALSTON: Out of how many?

Mr. GUTHRIE: I think 250 will not be required.

Mr. GRAY: Did the Department of National Revenue recommend the men to be taken over by the commissioner?

Mr. GUTHRIE: They made the selection and submitted it to the commissioner. Unless there be any serious reason in regard to any particular man, no change is made in the selection submitted by the Department of National Revenue.

Mr. EULER: Perhaps I should ask the question of the Minister of National Revenue when we come to his estimates, but what connection will remain between the Department of National Revenue and these men who