

ing the present session, as amended, be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER moved :

That a message be sent to the Senate to acquaint their honours that this House will unite with them in the formation of a joint committee of both Houses on the subject of the printing of parliament, and that the members of the Select Standing Committee on Printing, viz.: Messrs. Bennett, Bergeron, Clarke (Toronto), Cyr, Dymont, Gervais, Henderson, Hughes (Victoria), Johnston (Cape Breton), Johnston (Lambton), Lavergne (Drummond and Arthabaska), Maclean (South York), McColl, Macpherson, Oliver, Parmelee, Piche, Prefontaine, Roche (Marquette), Ross (Yale and Cariboo), Scott, Sutherland (Oxford), Taylor and Tisdale, will act as members, on the part of this House, on the said joint committee on the printing of parliament.

Motion agreed to.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER moved :

That a select committee composed of Messrs. Bourassa, Bergeron, Brodeur, Calvert, Demers (St. John and Iberville), Johnston (Lambton), Hyman, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Scott, Grant, Smith (Nanaimo), Foster, Stockton, Clarke (Toronto) and Monk, be appointed to assist Mr. Speaker in the direction of the library of Parliament, so far as the interests of this House are concerned, and to act as members of a joint committee of both Houses on the Library ; and that a message be sent to the Senate to acquaint their honours therewith.

Motion agreed to.

DEBATES COMMITTEE.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER moved :

That the select committee be appointed to supervise the Official Report of the Debates of this House during the present session, with power to report from time to time, be composed of Messrs. Bureau, Guthrie, Gervais, Clark (Essex), Ethier, Johnston (Cape Breton), Logan, Scott, Macpherson, Bergeron, Clarke (Toronto), McCarthy (Calgary), Schaffner, Roche (Marquette) and Taylor.

Motion agreed to.

MEMBER INTRODUCED.

Arthur Lachance, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Quebec Centre introduced by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Hon. Chas. Fitzpatrick.

REPORTS PRESENTED.

Annual report of the Department of Indian Affairs for the year ended June 30, 1904.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

Annual report of the Department of Marine and Fisheries for the year ended June 30, 1904.—Hon. R. Préfontaine.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER.

SUPPLY.

House in Committee of Supply.

Civil government—Department of Militia and Defence—salaries, \$48,350.

Rt. Hon. Sir WILFRID LAURIER (Prime Minister). The first item for the deputy head requires no explanation. The second item, that of chief clerks, shows a decrease of one by the superannuation of Major Benoit. Instead of five chief clerks, there will be four.

Mr. FOSTER. How old was Mr. Benoit ?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. He must have been thirty years in the service and about sixty years of age.

Mr. FOSTER. Why was he superannuated ?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Because of very serious and chronic bad health. In the first-class clerks, there is an increase of one owing to the promotion of Mr. Chesley.

Mr. FOSTER. Were all the vacancies filled last year ?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. No, there are two vacancies which we do not intend to fill. In the second class there were eight last year, and only six this year.

Mr. FOSTER. Are all of the six clerkships unfilled ?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. They are all filled.

Mr. FOSTER. So that the reduction is simply an apparent one, because the full number was not filled last year.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. We might have found people to fill them, but resisted the temptation.

Mr. FOSTER. Has my right hon. friend any idea as to the outcome of that Martineau business ? He will remember that there was a serious lache in the Militia Department, and that there was a suit of some kind in which Martineau gave evidence. Did that evidence implicate others, and what is the position of Martineau now ?

Hon. CHARLES FITZPATRICK (Minister of Justice). He is in the penitentiary at Kingston now. I think his sentence was for seven years. So far as the civil remedy is concerned, the government have taken action against the Bank of Montreal to recover the money paid out on these cheques, and the case is somewhat complicated by the fact that the Bank of Montreal has taken action against the other banks through which the cheques were passed. The suit is now waiting judgment by Mr. Justice Anglin.

Mr. FOSTER. It seems rather extraordinary that such defalcations could have taken place in a well organized and super-