

allowance to Gamble, engineer for services rendered in connection with works under the control of the Department of Public Works, \$360; messenger, \$400; stationery, \$200; fuel, \$200; advertisement for tenders, &c., \$200; travelling expenses and contingencies, \$840; total, \$1,000.

Mr. BAKER. When Mr. Trutch was appointed agent, were the members for the Province of British Columbia consulted or asked about who should be appointed to the position?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. The members of Parliament were not consulted. The appointment was made under the responsibility of the Government. We appointed a gentleman of high standing, and we have found him acting towards the Government in a very straightforward way, and I must say he is one of the best officers we have.

Mr. BAKER. I quite endorse what the hon. gentleman has said, but I desire to know whether members of particular constituencies or the Province generally have any say, or should be considered in these matters. That is all I wish to know. I am not casting any reflection on the integrity of the Minister of Public Works, or the ability of the gentleman so appointed. I have the very highest regard and esteem for both. At the same time, I desire, being a young politician, to know whether I have any right as a representative of a constituency, to have any say as to who shall be appointed to certain official positions in my constituency or not.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. In answer to the hon. gentleman, who says he is a young politician and does not know exactly what position he holds, I may say this: Of course a member has a perfect right to make representations and give advice to the Government, and the Government having received such and having weighed them well, act on their responsibility, and they appoint those whom they think best qualified for the service, and for those appointments they are responsible to Parliament.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I would suggest to the hon. member that the extent of the power of members in respect of recommending persons to offices is very apt to depend on the majority possessed by the Government. I have seen the time, ten or eleven years ago, when the hon. gentleman could have got exactly what he wanted from hon. gentlemen opposite.

Mr. BAKER. I am speaking generally, not particularly in regard to this matter, and I thought it a very opportune moment to ask for the information I desired. I believe the appointment in question was made previous to my representation, and I heartily endorse the appointment; but, at the same time, I am looking a little into the future, possibly into the near future, and I desire to know whether I am to be consulted in regard to matters appertaining or pertinent to my constituency.

POST OFFICE.

210	Ontario	\$1,102,475 00
	Quebec	585,084 00
	New Brunswick	206 270 00
	Nova Scotia	2 7,450 00
	Prince Edward Island	52,000 00
	British Columbia	87,237 00
	Manitoba, Keewatin and North-West	209,460 00

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Has any arrangement been made with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company for the mail service?

Mr. CARLING. The ordinary rates will be paid; there has been no special arrangement made.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. How much per mile?

Mr. CARLING. That depends on the amount of business done. If the mails go by the fast train, 8 cents; if by ordinary trains, 6 cents and 4 cents, according to business done.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. We used to pay the Grand Trunk so much per mile over its entire length.

Mr. CARLING. That was a special arrangement with the Grand Trunk and also with the Great Western.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Then I understand that as regards the Canadian Pacific Railway, the arrangement is 8 cents, 6 cents, and 4 cents per mile.

Mr. CARLING. Yes; according to the business done, the number of trains and the speed of the trains.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I should like to have a statement showing what was paid last year to the Canadian Pacific Railway, and the estimate for the present year.

Mr. CARLING. They will be brought down.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. What is the present allowance paid the Grand Trunk and Great Western per mile?

Mr. CARLING. The present rates are: Grand Trunk, \$160 per mile; Great Western, \$124; Intercolonial, \$132; Prince Edward Island, \$40. The other companies are paid by the mile according to work done.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Is it the intention of the Government to make a mileage arrangement with the Canadian Pacific Railway?

Mr. CARLING. It is not at present the intention of the Government to do so.

Mr. LANDERKIN. Is it the intention of the Government to increase the mail service on those railway lines which have now only one service a day? I wish to draw the attention of the Postmaster-General to the fact that the railway from Palmerston to Wiarton and Durham passes through a thickly settled country, and the people wish two mails per day each way. The expense would be light, as we have now two trains to Palmerston, and I hope the Minister, as he is increasing his vote, will be able to give the people along that line all the convenience and benefits which may arise from proper postal facilities. The people in that locality, in common with the people in the country generally, have been giving the people in the cities free delivery and additional mail service, and they think it is a reasonable thing that the Postmaster-General should increase the service in that part of Canada. On the one line, the places which would be benefited would be Palmerston, Mount Forest, Holstein and Durham; and on the other, Palmerston, Harriston, Ayton, Neustadt, Hanover, Elmwood, Chesley, Tara, Alanford, and Wiarton—all thriving business places. I believe that the increasing revenue from this change would be such that the increased outlay would not be felt.

Mr. CARLING. I may say that an application was made to the Department for the increased mail accommodation the hon. gentleman has spoken of. The matter has been referred to the inspector for a report, and as soon as that report is made to the Department, it will be favourably considered.

Mr. DESJARDINS. I would call the attention of the Minister to the necessity for increasing the service in the outlying municipalities around Montreal. The hon. gentleman has already considered the service in the post office in Montreal, and the new Hochelaga ward, but he is aware that outside the limits of the city there are a number of towns, such as St. Cunegonde, St. Jean Baptiste, and St. Gabriel, all large towns, which though not included in the municipal organization of Montreal are, to all intents and purposes, part of the city, and as such their postal service ought to be under the central office of Montreal, as there are large manufactories going on there all the time. I think the organization which has been adopted for Hochelaga ward should be adopted in all those municipalities. I hope the hon. Minister will give his attention to the matter.