

being perpetrated by the Government. A few words with respect to the advertising given by the Government to the newspapers. Any hon. member who gives the subject the slightest attention must come to the conclusion that a great deal of extravagance is indulged in by the Government in dispensing advertising patronage to the Canadian newspapers. The advertising given out last year by the Government, according to the Auditor General, amounted to \$54,079.85. I will give some of the items: *Belleville Intelligencer*, the organ of the Minister of Customs, \$271.86; *Berlin News*, \$232.82; *Brockville Times*, \$206.80; *Montreal Gazette*, \$737.70; *Montreal Herald*, \$246; *Shareholder*, \$719.90; *Star*, \$619.80; *Quebec Chronicle*, \$808.31; *Toronto Mail*, \$1,278.55; and other amounts in proportion, I suppose, to the importance and influence of the organs of the Government. In the city of Ottawa, I find that the *Citizen* got \$515.17, and the *Investigator*, \$147.90.

Mr. LISTER. What paper is that?

Mr. SOMERVILLE (Brant). There is something strange about that paper. It is a paper which I find is published semi-occasionally in the city of Ottawa. It makes its appearance once a year, when the House is about to meet, and I have here a specimen of this publication. Its editorials are devoted to lauding the good qualities of some particular Ministers of the Crown—and I have no doubt they are possessed of many good qualities—and in speaking in high terms of praise of their abilities as Ministers of the Crown. You see the size of this journal, and I do not think it circulates to any great extent outside of this building. I know we are all favored with one copy when we come here, but I never happen to see another after the first. Now, I think that is a very good exhibit for the little *Investigator*, and for the work that journal performed last year it was paid the sum of \$147.90. Then the *Regina Leader* got \$1,710.68, and I think I may refer to an account which was rendered by that journal.

An hon. MEMBER. Who is the editor?

Mr. SOMERVILLE (Brant). Mr. Nicholas Flood Davin is the editor, and he seems to be a particular favorite with the present Government. I find in the Auditor General's report page 367, that the *Regina Leader* rendered an account for the publication of mining regulations, and in one charge which serves to make up the amount I mention, I see that the Queen's Printer has seen fit to raise the amount of the account which was rendered, that gentleman evidently thinking that the *Regina Leader* man knew nothing about his own business, that he did not charge enough, and consequently he increased the price \$31.93. I find that he dealt in the same liberal way with the *Winnipeg Times*, the account of that paper for publishing the mining regulations having been raised \$35.78. Furthermore, I find that the *Brandon Mail* rendered an account for the same work, and that the Queen's Printer raised the number of lines which the proprietor of that journal charged for and he was paid a larger sum than he demanded in the first place. I would just say, in connection with this matter, that I believe a vast amount of money is being squandered annually by this system of advertising. When they advertise for contracts to be let, the advertisements are distributed all over the Dominion, whether there is any chance or not of the advertisements proving of any benefit to the Government or to the country. I think there is a fearful waste of money in this regard, and it is evident that the money is spent more for the purpose of subsidizing the organs of the Government than benefiting the public service. Besides this amount of \$54,079.85, which I have referred to as having been paid for advertising by the several Departments, I find that \$28,319 was paid for advertising and printing for the Intercolonial Railway. This work was dispensed among the organs of the Government in the Maritime Provinces principally, some of them receiving very large amounts, footing up, in some cases to \$1,000 for