

Hon. Mr. FOWLER: How is he going to know when the last two weeks will begin?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: He will have to take his chances on that. He may have to wait here three weeks to ascertain when the last two weeks will begin, but that will be to the advantage of the Senate. Consequently the two provisions combined will pretty well assure a full attendance unless a member desires to throw away his indemnity.

Hon. Mr. FOWLER: I was not here when section 3 was discussed, and I should like to ask a question. I see that a very generous allowance is made to the Speaker of the House of Commons and to the Speaker of the Senate. Does that mean that he gets in addition some \$3,000 a year, I think it is for his house?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Not under the Act. A provision has been made by Order in Council, I think, and afterwards carried into the Estimates, by which, under the exceptional circumstances growing out of the fire, the allowance was made to both Speakers as to residence. There is no statutory authority for that, however: it is simply an act of grace from session to session.

Hon. Mr. FOWLER: Is this intended to cover the House allowance as well?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: It does not preclude Parliament from making any further grants in lieu of residence.

Hon. Mr. FOWLER: Is there a grant of \$3,000 this year?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Yes.

Hon. Mr. FOWLER: Then this year each of the Speakers would receive \$3,000.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: No.

Hon. Mr. FOWLER: Yes.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: I could not say exactly what the amount is. On the basis on which my honourable friend computes it he is correct.

Hon. Mr. FOWLER: So that in four years the Speaker would draw \$52,000. He is pretty well paid.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: This increase would not come into operation until the end of the session. My honourable friend must keep this in view, that

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under the old practice quarters and also servants were allotted to the Speakers, and they also had the advantage of fuel and light, and other perquisites.

Hon. Mr. FOWLER: I am not objecting to the \$3,000 allowance, but I am objecting to the additional allowance provided for here, because I say that \$13,000 is more than the position is worth, and I think that would be the general feeling in the country.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Now that the increased allowance appears upon the statute book and will come into operation when the Act is passed, of course Parliament can revise what it has done in the past. It does not follow that the same allowance will be made for house and servants and fuel.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: I may tell the honourable gentleman from Kings (Hon. Mr. Fowler) that, as far as the \$3,000 grant it concerned, conditions are far from being as good as they were in the old House. In the old House the Speaker was provided with fuel and with help—he generally had six employees at his command for the whole year—whereas now, for instance, I have bought a house on which the interest on the amount invested is \$1,500, and I pay \$500 for taxes. I have to hire all my servants, and I have to pay for my fuel, my light, and everything else. So it will be seen that former Speakers were much better paid than we are now. If I understood the honourable gentleman aright, he said that the Speakers were paid too much for their work.

Hon. Mr. FOWLER: I think so.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: I suppose that when the honourable gentleman is appointed Speaker of this House he will decide whether he will refuse the \$3,000 or not.

Hon. Mr. FOWLER: I do not think that is the right way to put it. I think I have a right as a member of this House to criticize, and I should perhaps criticize a little more closely now, since His Honour the Speaker takes that attitude. It is no argument to say what I or any other person would do if appointed Speaker: it is a question as to what the people who have to pay the Bill will consider with regard to this. I was not objecting to the \$3,000 that was given in lieu of quarters, servants, and all that; but I object to the increase which gives to the Speaker \$13,000 a year. Ministers of the Crown, who have to devote