

SUPPLY—CUSTOMS—MISCELLANEOUS—*Con.*

Paterson, Hon. William (Minister of Customs)
—517.

Firm of I. G. Baker & Co. were a mercantile firm in Montana, in the early days, before the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway. In those days the government made purchases from this firm of goods for Indians and the Northwest Mounted Police, as it was easier to get goods in from Montana than by long overland haul from Winnipeg. Large quantities of goods were bought from I. G. Baker & Co. Up to 1880 goods were bought on basis of free delivery—no customs duty to be charged. In 1879-80, orders were given for goods on same understanding. There had been a change of government meanwhile, and when the new government came in, they adopted plan of charging customs duty. Messrs. Baker & Co. say they were not notified of change. This \$2,033.07 is to refund duties paid by them on goods brought in before notification that duty would be charged—517. Reads memorandum of commissioner of customs containing letters from Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs and Comptroller of Northwest Mounted Police—520-1-2-3.

Amount required to pay Messrs. I. G. Baker and Company customs duties paid on government supplies in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1880, \$2,033.07—7515.

Bergeron, J. G. H. (Beauharnois)—7517.

I believe we are not legally obliged to pay it, and I do not think we are morally obliged, either—7517.

Foster, Hon. G. E. (North Toronto)—7517.

Do both departments acknowledge the debt?—7517.

Fowler, G. W. (King's and Albert)—7517.

Has the claim ever been presented before?—7517. Is this rm still in existence?—7518.

Herron, John (Alberta)—7516.

The contractors paid the customs duties? And the money is owing to the Baker firm now—7516.

Paterson, Hon. William (Minister of Customs)
—7515

I explained this item at the time I was going through my main estimates—7515. The department feels it is an honest claim that has not been paid all these years just because two departments could not agree as to who was responsible—7516. If you don't want to pay it, don't pay it. For sixteen years down to 1896 the claim was tossed from one department to another. Both departments acknowledge the debt—7517. It will be charged to the Customs—7518.

Sproule, T. S. (East Grey)—7517.

Are you satisfied as to whether it is the Interior Department or the Customs Department that is responsible?—7517. Which department will it be charged to

SUPPLY—CUSTOMS—MISCELLANEOUS—*Con.*

Sproule, T. S. (East Grey)—*Con.*

as a matter of book-keeping? It ought to be charged to the Indian Department—7518.

Stockton, A. A. (St. John city and Co.)—7518.

There was no question of the liability, but only as to what department should pay?—7518.

SUPPLY—DEPARTMENTS GENERALLY.

Care and cleaning of departmental buildings, including amount of \$100 required to pay for firing noon gun, which amount may be paid to a member of civil service, notwithstanding anything in Civil Service Act, \$30,000—416.

Borden, R. L. (Carleton, Ont.)—416.

Is there any increase in number of departmental buildings—416.

Laurier, Rt. Hon. Sir Wilfrid (Prime Minister)
—416.

Increase of \$5,000 is necessitated by increase in number of departmental buildings—416.

SUPPLY—DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Salaries and contingencies, \$37,968.75—7573.

Fielding, Hon. W. S. (Minister of Finance)
—7573.

This is practically the same as before, subject to the statutory increases; there is one chief clerk more than before—7573.

Board of Civil Service Examiners, salaries and other expenses under Civil Service Act, including \$400 for secretary and \$150 for clerk, which sum may be paid notwithstanding anything in Civil Service Act, \$2,250—416.

Hughes, Sam (Victoria and Haliburton)—416.

What is the system followed in these examinations and who are men who compose the board?—416.

Laurier, Rt. Hon. Sir Wilfrid (Prime Minister)
—416.

The papers are collected by a secretary appointed in each city and sent to examiners—416.

SUPPLY—FINANCE.

Academy of Arts, \$2,000—7576.

Fielding, Hon. W. S. (Minister of Finance)
7576.

This vote is not for the purchase of pictures, but it is a contribution we make to the Academy of Arts—7576.

Foster, Hon. Geo. E. (North Toronto)—7576.

What has been done to replenish the Art Gallery this year?—7576.

Amount required to provide for expenses in connection with the Royal Commission on Life Insurance, \$10,000—7581.