

cost of operating the engineering services in the province.

Mr. LEMIEUX: Will the minister kindly state how many districts there were in each province before the reorganization, and what the number is now?

Mr. McCURDY: Yes, with pleasure. Before the reorganization to which I have alluded there existed in the province of Nova Scotia, five districts. Under the reorganization, there is one. In Prince Edward Island there was one district, and there will be one under reorganization. In New Brunswick, there were two districts, and under reorganization there will be one. In Quebec there were eight districts; under reorganization there are four. In Ontario there were eight districts; under reorganization there are four. In the Prairie Provinces there were two districts; under reorganization there is one. In British Columbia there were five districts; under reorganization there are three. The result is a total now of sixteen districts with a staff of 140 instead of 239. It will be of interest to the committee to know that while the salary list as of April 1, 1920, was \$445,440 representing, after deducting the salaries of those who have resigned or are deceased aggregating \$48,060, a net total of \$397,380—the present salary

9 p.m. list amounts to \$312,980, or a saving of \$132,460 for the next fiscal year and of \$84,400 over the past fiscal year. To the latter amount must be added a saving in round figures of \$10,000 in the salaries of construction foremen who henceforth will be employed part time only. Moreover, it must not be forgotten that the salaries of the proposed staff include the statutory increases for the next fiscal year of \$15,000. Therefore the net economy represents \$109,400.

Mr. SINCLAIR (Guysborough): Has my hon. friend given credit for the pensions or retiring allowances to the retired officers?

Mr. McCURDY: The amount of the retiring allowances is not figured in that calculation, but it is not very large. There will be a very substantial saving, but it cannot be figured with definiteness because until the retirements are effective the amounts payable for retiring allowances will not be known.

Mr. SINCLAIR (Guysborough): The minister has to provide for the 99 who are retired, for I presume they are not going

[Mr. McCurdy.]

to be put out on the street without some provision being made for them.

Mr. McCURDY: I have said there were 240 positions under the old establishment. During the past three or four years vacant positions have not been filled. The new establishment calls for some 140 positions only.

Mr. SINCLAIR (Guysborough): Can my hon. friend tell us how much will be expended per year to pay the retiring allowances of those whose services have been dispensed with?

Mr. McCURDY: I have already advised the committee that those amounts are not yet definitely ascertained. In cases where officials have been in the employ of the department for a shorter period than ten years a lump sum gratuity is paid to them; and to those officials with ten years' service or over a retiring allowance of one-sixtieth is given for each year's service up to thirty years. That is to say, an official retired after eleven years' service would receive eleven-sixtieth's of his average salary for the previous three years. So the amount involved could not under any circumstances exceed one half the salaries being received.

Mr. LEGER: Have all the staff of the engineer's office in Chatham been discharged?

Mr. McCURDY: Not by any means. New Brunswick is not one of the provinces where the saving effected by reorganization is greatest. The proposed staff of the amalgamated office is as follows: District engineer, Mr. Geoffrey Stead; senior assistant engineer, Mr. F. G. Goodspeed; assistant engineers, H. F. Bennett and G. E. Martin, A. W. Wilbur, W. C. Ewing; junior engineers to be promoted J. H. Thurber, W. J. Johnston; bookkeeper H. A. MacMurray; staff stenographer, C. M. McLean; employees to be retired under reorganization, K. A. Brown, draftsman; M. C. Irvine, junior draftsman.

Mr. McCURDY: I think one from the former Chatham office and one from the St. John office.

Mr. McCURDY: I think one from that office and one from the St. John office.

Mr. LEGER: I do not see that very much saving is effected, because they have the same staff at St. John, and the travelling expenses to any part of New Brunswick coast line will be heavy. I think there