

are yet outstanding; still, the rate per acre here given for 1870, based on the actual payment for 200 townships, may safely be taken as the average for the year. It is more than probable that when the accounts are in the average may prove to be even less than 3 cents per acre. Now, we are still further reducing the cost of survey, in the first place, by the alteration in the system of surveys, and the section lines will not be staked out so fully as they have been hitherto.

Sir RICHARD J. CARTWRIGHT. How long have these iron stakes been placed? Has that been the custom the last year or two?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. That has been the custom from the beginning.

Mr. MILLS. \$300,000 last year was charged to capital account, and the same sum this year is so charged. But we have not before us a statement of the work done for the expenditure. We do not know how many acres have been surveyed, or whether the surveys have been carried on.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The report was only printed half an hour ago. There are 300 townships surveyed this year. I am afraid we cannot furnish a statement of the number of settlers going on to those surveyed lands during the last year.

Mr. TROW. Do I understand the Premier to say that iron stakes are used?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Iron stakes are at the four corners of the townships, but the sub-divisions into sections are made by mounds and wooden posts.

Mr. BLAKE. There was an arrangement made last Session that there should be an account opened and a statement brought down each year showing the results; also an account submitted to Parliament, showing the survey account and other expenses as against the land. The hon. gentleman argued that it was proper that this should be taken to capital account.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. My recollection is that that should be the system in the future, but that we should have one year over our heads to get ready in. We have not got all the returns of the last year in yet, but we hope, next year, to be able to give a full account and a capital account, showing the cost of surveys and showing the amounts received, indicating and commencing the basis of a fund to redeem the indebtedness for the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Sir RICHARD J. CARTWRIGHT. It was distinctly understood that the sums received, at any rate, from the 1st July, 1880, on account of Dominion Lands, were to go as far as they could go in reduction of this same charge to capital. I hope that has been carried out.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. It will appear at the end of the year.

196 Dominion Lands \$70,466 60

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The increase over the sum asked for last year is due to the rapid increase of work, both in the land transactions and in the surveys. Three draughtsmen and four clerks have been added to the staff, whose salaries amount to \$5,400 a year.

Mr. MILLS. Do the advertising expenses mentioned here include the publication of the speeches of the hon. member for Niagara (Mr. Plumb)?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I think very likely they will.

Mr. BLAKE. Those are included in the last Public Accounts. I suppose my right hon. friend means that this item is intended to include any similar speeches in the future.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I am afraid I am responsible for that charge. I lost my hon. friend's speech, not being present when it was delivered. I heard it was a very good speech and full of statistics respecting the North-West, and would make a very good emigration pamphlet, therefore I thought it would be money well spent to have that on hand.

Mr. MILLS. Is it the policy of the right hon. gentleman to circulate such speeches in this way in the future?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I will promise not to distribute any more speeches in the future, unless I come across a good speech of my hon. friend. That is fair.

Mr. MILLS. I have in my hand a list of some expenses incurred in this department last year. Perhaps the hon. gentleman, if he has not seen it, would like to hear it read.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. You may read it to me.

Mr. MILLS. The list is as follows:—Annual Register and Review, \$100; Aylmer Times, \$76.09; Berlin News, \$103.10; Belleville Intelligencer, \$193.40; Bracebridge Herald, \$22.50; Bradford Witness, \$27; Brantford Courier, \$84.40; Brantford Telegram, \$40.50; Brampton Conservative, \$47.96; Canada National Zeitung Neustadt, \$27; Canadian Temperance Advocate, \$67.90; Canadian Spectator, \$138.70; Cape Breton Advocate, \$27; Cardwell Sentinel, \$27; Central Canadian, \$64.48; Charlottetown Presbyterian, \$39.90; Charlottetown Herald, \$64.25; Chatham Planet, \$710.86; Christian Guardian, \$130.80; Ottawa Citizen, \$427.89; Cobourg Sentinel, \$27; Colchester Sun, \$35.60; Collingwood Enterprise, \$31.50; Colonial Standard, \$16.20; Cookstown Advocate, \$27; Cornwall Reporter, \$59.14; Courier de Montréal, \$168.80; Courier de St. Hyacinthe, \$27; Daily News, Kingston, \$54; Daily Telegraph, Quebec, \$67.50; Dundas Standard, \$27. The total amount received by the papers whose names I have read was \$2,962. I do not know that I need read the whole list, but if the hon. gentleman has the least doubt that there are 139 papers, I will go on.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I will take your word for it.

Mr. MILLS. I think the total cost of advertising is in the neighborhood of \$14,000. Now, it seems to me that this is a monstrous waste of public money. If the hon. gentleman wishes to aid the Conservative newspapers, as a struggling industry, on the principle of the National Policy, let him ask for an appropriation for that purpose; but do not mislead the House and the country by taking it as an appropriation for public lands. Then the country will know what they are paying these gentlemen who have organized themselves with the Government into a mutual admiration society, and who devote so much of their space and time to eulogizing the Government and their policy. If the public could see this list and know that the money supposed to be devoted to the opening up of the North-West was spent in this way, they would perhaps not attach so much importance to the opinions of the gentlemen who conduct these newspapers. If the Government would come down and say, we want \$20,000 out of the public Treasury for the support of the Conservative press of Canada, we should know exactly what was being done.

Mr. BOWELL. Why did not you do that?

Mr. MILLS. Because we did not adopt such a policy. If the hon. gentleman looks over the accounts for the period that I had charge of the department, he will find that there was less than \$500 spent in two years.

Mr. BOWELL. During the six months prior to their leaving office, over \$10,000 was spent for advertising by the Department of Railways and Canals alone.

Mr. BLAKE. My hon. friend's list, I understand, runs up to about \$14,000, and among these 139 newspapers are