

Mr. HAGGART. No, it does not appear so. He is to be promoted to second class, with an increase of \$100. There was a provision made for him last year at the maximum of the third class, of \$1,000.

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). Then we are to understand from the explanation of the Minister, that these vacant places are not to be filled to which he has referred, and that the present staff is adequate for the work?

Mr. HAGGART. This is all the information I have on the subject.

Department of Marine..... \$32,067.50

Mr. FOSTER. There are 13 statutory increases at \$50, \$650; a first class clerk transferred from the Privy Council, \$1,650; addition to Mr. Anderson's salary, \$400, making \$2,700. There is a decrease in the salary of one first class clerk, \$50; net increase, \$2,650.

Mr. McMULLEN. I see that Mr. Chipman received \$2,970 last year and that he has been appointed to another situation. I would like to know about his holding these two positions.

Mr. TUPPER. That gentleman is no longer in the service. He resigned about a couple of weeks ago.

Department of Fisheries..... \$17,825

Mr. FOSTER. There are 8 statutory increases of \$50, and one at \$30. Difference caused by the promotion of two third class clerks, \$200; addition to Mr. Winter's salary, \$250, making in all \$850.

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). The Minister of Marine and Fisheries just made an observation that, perhaps, the Government would explain. The Minister stated that Mr. Chipman had resigned his office as a clerk in the Department. What does the Government do in cases of that sort with reference to the superannuation fund? Do they refund the payments to the party who retires?

Mr. TUPPER. No.

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). He has no claim upon the fund?

Mr. TUPPER. He resigned without any special allowance being made or claimed. He received other employment; he has been made a Commissioner of the Hudson Bay Company at a salary, I believe, of £1,000 sterling, with allowances, including a house, so that his present salary is about \$6,000. With reference to the Fisheries Department, that, I may say, is a special case, and an increase, making the salary \$850, is asked for on the grounds that Mr. Winter has been about eight years in the service of the Department, and he acts now as secretary to the Deputy Minister, and, consequently, his time is taken up much over the ordinary office hours. He is specially a typewriter and stenographer, and under all the circumstances we thought him worthy of a small increase.

Department of Public Works \$47,607.50

Mr. EDGAR. Would the Minister tell us whether Mr. Henry F. Perley is still in the employ of this Department and comes under this item?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. Yes.

Mr. EDGAR. In what capacity?

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell).

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. In the same capacity as last year—Chief Engineer.

Mr. EDGAR. He gave up the superintendence of the Quebec harbour works?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. Yes, last year.

Mr. PATERSON (Brant). Has the Minister all the help he requires in the Architect's department of Public Works? I understand that there were to have been some plans prepared for a drill shed, and that they have been in preparation for two or three years, and as the Minister told me that I might leave the matter to him, I had relied upon that. I thought probably the delay must be owing to a pressure of work in that Department. I think they have been working at it for about three years, and as I understand the plans are not yet ready, if there is a want of sufficient help in that Department, I think Parliament will sanction a little further advance in that direction.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. It is not the work that I require for the prosecution of this drill shed, but the money. I have not sufficient money to erect a building such as the hon. gentleman wishes to see erected. The matter is still under the consideration of the Department, and I hope that before long we will come to a decision, and have a smaller building erected with the money that will be at our disposal.

Mr. PATERSON (Brant). The difficulty could be overcome by asking for an additional grant. But it does seem to me that the Department—without wanting to reflect too severely upon it—has not done itself any credit in this matter. After having made this grant years ago the Government, it seems, have come to the conclusion not to go any further. I will speak on this matter further on, but it is a matter of great injustice, and if they felt it was their duty not to increase the grant, it does seem to me that instructions ought to have been given, and plans ought to have been prepared, coming within the amount of the vote. That is the reason I make this observation at the present time.

Mr. TARTE (Translation). Is the hon. Minister in a position to say whether Mr. Perley has resigned his position as Chief Engineer for the Quebec Harbour Commission, or whether he has been removed from that office without any notice?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN (Translation). I am not sure, Mr. Chairman, as to what took place; but I believe that the Chief Engineer gave in his resignation. It is my impression.

Mr. TARTE (Translation). The information I was able to secure, and which I hold from good source, tends to establish that a dismissal took place. I even read a letter from a person well acquainted with the facts, which states what I have just stated, that this officer, who held a very important position in Quebec, was not notified but dismissed without any warning. I will add, Mr. Chairman, that in view of the very grave charges that hang over this officer, I do not know whether the House would be justified in voting the item of his salary. I declare here that I have in my possession letters signed by Mr. Perley in which information of the most serious nature is given to public contractors, information which I might call most indiscreet on matters connected with the Public