

post. What happened? In the depth of winter a squad of our policemen left Dawson with dog teams and travelled through an absolute wilderness for four or five hundred miles. Mr. Chairman, I venture to say that there is not a man in this House who would duplicate that trip no matter how much money was offered to induce him to do so. In the dead of winter, through an absolute wilderness, they struck due north 400 or 500 miles with their dog teams carrying food for themselves and their dogs, made the Arctic, established communication and came back safely. These men in the Yukon are doing a work which the people of Canada do not appreciate and for which the government of Canada should pay them more than even this new law provides.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I am very glad to hear the high character given the force by such a competent authority as my hon. friend (Mr. Thompson). It is not new to hear good things said of the Northwest Mounted Police; we always expect to hear them, but from one who can speak with such authority as my hon. friend (Mr. Thompson) it is all the more pleasing to hear that the Northwest Mounted Police Force have not only done their duty but indeed much more than we could expect from them. The force has merited high encomium from others than Canadians; the following has been placed in my hand:

Judge J. W. Whitten, chief of the Law Division of the General Land Office in Washington, has completed a trip of 5,000 miles through Alaska, covering four months. In an address the other night on his tour, the judge declared that while Dawson, which is under Canadian rule, is, in his opinion, one of the best governed towns in the world, all places of business there closing from early Saturday evening until sunrise Monday morning, on the other hand, at Nome, the first American city across the boundary, the saloons and gambling houses are running in full blast on Sunday, and though he was told that the place possessed a church, he saw no evidence of it.

Parliament has granted us power to increase the pay of the Northwest Mounted Police in the Yukon even beyond what we are paying the force in the Northwest Territories. I do not think, however, it would be advisable to take advantage of this power immediately. The Act providing for this increased pay for the force comes into operation on the first of this month, and we will have to watch for some time how the matter will work before we can give consideration to the suggestions of my hon. friend (Mr. Thompson). I may say, however, that the question is one that ought to be carefully considered at the proper time.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. The Northwest Mounted Police is a force of which all Canadians are proud. I agree with what has been said as to the importance of their services to the administration of justice in our

western country. That has been universally recognized. Those men have done a great deal of very good work in covering enormous areas of our country and in enforcing order and good government therein. We are all very pleased to unite in this appreciation of their services. Might I ask the Prime Minister to state where they are stationed in the Yukon territory.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. There is a chief station at Dawson with eighty-three men and twenty-two horses, and there are the following substations containing two, three and four men each:

B—Dawson, Fortymile, Indian River, Ogilvie, Stewart River, Stewart Crossing, Halfway, Selwyn, Selkirk, Minto, Grand Forks, Dominion, Hunker, Sulphur, Gold Run, Grand Valley, McQuesten, Mayo, Town Station, Miller Creek, Steamer 'Vidette.'

Then there is another chief station at Whitehorse containing sixty-six men and the following substations with from two to four men each:—H—Whitehorse, Dalton Trail, White Pass, Carcross, Tagish, Tahkini, Braeburn, Hootalingua, Livingstone Creek, Tanaalus, Yukon Crossing, Champagne Landing, Big Salmon, Lower Labarge, Pine Creek, Kloo Lake, Bullion Creek, Town Station.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. I have repeatedly drawn the attention of this government and of previous governments to the fact that the Northwest Mounted Policemen who took part in the Northwest Rebellion of 1885, alone of all those who served the country then, are denied their scrip. When the Conservative government was in power I was never able to see any reason, nor have I been able to see any reason since the Liberals came to power, why scrip should not have been issued to these men, the same as to volunteers, teamsters and all others who took part in the suppression of the rebellion. Now that the Prime Minister is in such a congenial frame of mind towards the Northwest Mounted Police, I would avail of the opportunity to impress on him the advisability of giving scrip to these men, or to the families of those who have since died. They fought for their country bravely in that rebellion and the country should tender them this recognition of their splendid services.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I would be the first to agree with my hon. friend as to the character of the service rendered by the force in 1885; that is admitted by everybody. The government of that day had the claim of the Northwest Mounted Police referred to a board of inquiry and investigated; and, if I remember rightly, for reasons which they considered sufficient, they refused to entertain the claim. When this government came into office, some ten years afterwards, we did not think it would be advisable to re-open a question which had