

the rifle associations until they are 21 years old.

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. The age is from 18 to 48.

Mr. STAPLES. They must have been wrongly informed.

Mr. JAMESON. Some days ago the minister stated that the return ordered by the House respecting the Bear River rifle range would be brought down immediately, but it has not yet been tabled.

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. My deputy tells me that the return is complete with the exception of some letters which are at Halifax and which have been telegraphed for.

Mr. JAMESON. How long would it take to get them?

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. It ought not take more than two or three days.

Mr. STAPLES. When a rifle club secures a range does the department pay any part of the purchase price; where a range is rented does the department pay the rent?

Sir FREDERICK BORDEN. The regulations provide for one dollar per year for each member of a rifle association. Where there are regular military corps we construct the range ourselves and rifle associations have the right to use them free of all expense.

Conciliation and Labour Act—further amount, \$8,000.

Mr. KING. Most of this amount is required for the cost of printing the special report on wholesale prices in Canada compiled by Mr. Coates, associate editor of the 'Labour Gazette,' which shows by means of statistical tables and charts the movement of prices in Canada of 230 articles for the last twenty years. The report has been circulated to members of the House and they know how valuable it is.

Mr. DANIEL. How many copies were printed?

Mr. KING. Seven thousand. We have reserved some of the copies as it is a report that is likely to be called for in years to come. It is one of the most comprehensive works that has been published by any department of the government.

Mr. LAKE. Has the work been distributed?

Mr. KING. Copies have been sent to every member of the House and a number of members have written for additional copies. If my hon. friend has not got one I shall send it to him.

Mr. WILSON (Lennox). I do not see why this was not provided for in the main estimates.

Mr. KING. The report is larger than we had expected at the outset and it cost more than we anticipated. I commenced with an idea that it was best to take an inside estimate, but experience has taught me that it may be the better plan to make an estimate large enough at the outset so as not to have to come back for a supplementary.

Mr. WILSON (Lennox). There are altogether too many supplementary estimates and more care should be taken in preparing the main estimates. The experience of the past should be a guide as to the cost.

Mr. KING. This is the first special report that has been published and we had no past experience to guide us.

Mail service between Canada and Cuba, \$8,333.32.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. The contractor for this service at first employed Norwegian steamers and the government compelled the contractor to use ships of British or Canadian register in the service. During the time negotiations were pending as to this, four trips were made and the vote lapsed meanwhile. This is to pay for the four trips.

Mr. DANIEL. This vote is for the use of the Norwegian vessels?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I suppose so.

Mr. DANIEL. I asked in the House the other day whether subsidies were paid to vessels flying the Norwegian or other foreign flags when British or Canadian vessels were available, and the reply was that they were not. This item would appear to show that the government had changed its mind in that respect.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. No. In the case of one subsidy, a company started on the business, and two or three trips were made with Norwegian vessels; but we protested and compelled the company to substitute British vessels. We would not pay them until they complied with our terms. After they did so, we thought it well that they should be paid for the two or three trips that they had made with Norwegian ships.

Mr. DANIEL. That means that for the future Norwegian vessels will not be paid for?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Yes.

Administration of Chinese Immigration Act, further amount required, \$12,000.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. This is required in consequence of the great increase which has taken place in the immigration from China. As the members of the committee are aware, Chinese immigrants are