

years ago in a boat, after having held a fine meeting the night before. In British Columbia there are examiners at Vancouver, Victoria and Nelson.

Mr. TOLMIE: How often are these examinations held?

Mr. LAPOINTE: Wherever there is a sufficient number of aspirants.

Item agreed to.

Investigation into wrecks, \$12,300.

Mr. MARTELL: I presume that is the branch of the service presided over by Captain Demers?

Mr. LAPOINTE: Yes.

Mr. MARTELL: I understand Captain Demers, as the official investigator, conducts his court, and after he gives his decision there is no appellate court to which an appeal can be taken. He is 9 p.m. known as the nautical assessor. What is the salary of Captain Demers?

Mr. LAPOINTE: It was voted under the civil government estimates. I have not the documents before me, and I cannot say offhand.

Mr. MARTELL: I understand the salary is in the vicinity of \$4,000. I believe that Captain Demers presides over more courts than any judge in the Dominion of Canada. I do not believe there is a judge, either of a county court, of a court of King's Bench, or of an appellate court in the Dominion of Canada, who has half as much work to do as the official wreck commissioner in his investigations into marine casualties. Millions of money are involved in his inquiries, and there is no appeal from his decision. I believe it would be in the best interests of the service if Captain Demers were given a salary commensurate with his services and with the duties and responsibilities of his office. Will the minister take that into consideration? A wage should be given to him in accordance with his ability and responsibility.

Mr. LAPOINTE: I will take that into consideration when decreases are suggested, because we have been asked to decrease salaries instead of increasing them.

Mr. MARTELL: Decreases are very good, but where you have a good official and a person exercising great responsibility and performing good service for his country, we do not want to give him a starvation wage.

[Mr. Lapointe.]

Mr. LEWIS: Does he come under the Civil Service Commission?

Mr. LAPOINTE: Yes.

Mr. LEWIS: One of the unfortunate lambs my hon. friend is pleading for?

Mr. LAPOINTE: Yes.

Item agreed to.

Navigation schools, \$8,000.

Mr. MARTELL: Where are these schools conducted?

Mr. LAPOINTE: At Halifax there are two instructors. Captain O'Hara gives his whole time and receives a monthly salary of \$110 besides the regular bonus. Captain E. N. Young, teacher in mathematics, at \$100, also devotes his whole time to the work of the school. There is a school at Yarmouth with two instructors, Captain Hilton, with a salary of \$66.66, and Dr. Crowell, who receives \$50 a month, working part time. North Sydney there is one instructor, Captain Sutherland, who works about four months. He receives \$90 a month. At St. John the instructor, Captain Pollock, gives his whole time and receives \$125 a month. There is one instructor at Quebec, Captain Alphonse Halle. He also gets \$90 a month, working four months. At Kingston the navigation school in Queen's University gets a grant of \$500. At Collingwood Captain Coles is paid as examiner, and at Vancouver Captain Charles Eddie, who also lectures on navigation, is paid in the capacity of examiner.

Mr. STEVENS: Is Captain Eddie paid for lecturing on navigation?

Mr. LAPOINTE: He is paid as examiner.

Mr. STEVENS: Captain Eddie is examiner of masters and mates, and I believe that he has performed the duties in this respect very satisfactorily for many years. But in addition to that, altogether in his own time, he delivers lectures to seamen on navigation, and in times past he was paid specially for this. Now I understand that under some new ruling these lectures are to be regarded as part of his services as examiner of masters and mates, and that strikes me as hardly reasonable, because I do not think that the amount paid him as examiner is in any sense excessive. I am not arguing for an increase, but I object to the cutting of that additional amount of \$250 per year which in the past was paid him for the lectures he delivered.

Mr. LAPOINTE: He received two salaries formerly, one as examiner and the other as lecturer. These salaries have now been