

Mr. GRAHAM. These were promoted from the junior 2nd to the senior 2nd but McKnight was a senior 2nd class clerk and now he is promoted to a first-class clerk.

Mr. FOSTER. Then I think you will find that Bell was promoted as well.

Mr. GRAHAM. Yes.

Mr. FOSTER. So that instead of there being one promotion there have been three.

Mr. GRAHAM. He was promoted in 1906 apparently.

Mr. FOSTER. I cannot make it jibe. I find that last year you had 12 1st class clerks and now you are providing for 10. What has become of the other two?

Mr. GRAHAM. I think my hon. friend is wrong. I think he will find that we had only 10 1st class clerks last year.

Mr. FOSTER. There are 12 in your list.

Mr. GRAHAM. There may be 12 names but not 12 clerks. There may be two names for the one salary, one drawing it part of the year and another part of the year. They may overlap.

Mr. FOSTER. That would explain it. What was the necessity for these extra clerks?

Mr. GRAHAM. We are shorthanded in the Railway Department all the time. I am amazed at my own economy.

Mr. FOSTER. In comparison with your brother ministers?

Mr. GRAHAM. In comparison with the work we have to do.

Mr. BERGERON. You might advertise for help as Sir Wm. Mulock did.

Mr. GRAHAM. We try to do as much work as possible with the smallest possible number of clerks. I think perhaps I could secure more.

Mr. FOSTER. Who is private secretary?

Mr. GRAHAM. C. B. Robinson. Mr. Payne is chief of the statistical branch.

Mr. FOSTER. Is the minister really going to economize in sundries or is he looking to a supplementary estimate?

Mr. GRAHAM. We are in good faith trying to economize.

Mr. FOSTER. We will see how that comes out.

Mr. FOWLER. Is it the intention of the minister to build any new stations on the line of the Intercolonial Railway during the coming year?

Mr. GRAHAM. There is nothing for new stations in the items we are now discussing.

Mr. FOSTER.

Railway statistics, including clerical assistance, \$3,525.

Mr. BERGERON. There is an increase in this item.

Mr. GRAHAM. We appointed one extra clerk to keep up with the work and the others are the statutory increases.

Mr. BERGERON. These are cheaper than the canal statistics; are they easier to keep.

Mr. GRAHAM. This is only for the staff of one branch, and the other vote was for all the officers throughout the Dominion.

Mr. BERGERON. While in Valleyfield the other day I heard a very strong complaint from the officials of the New York Central Railway that they were discriminated against by the Railway Commission. They said that they were kept to a very strict account in regard to their cars; that the officers of the commission were there every two or three days—in fact, were acting as if they were detectives. The officer who told me that seemed to be au courant with what is going on on the other railways, and he said they were not treated the same way. He seemed to be under the impression that the New York Central was discriminated against because it was a foreign company. I do not know what there is in the story. If it were true, it would be a very bad thing, as all the railway companies should be treated alike. Moreover, the New York Central has a great many Canadian employees. I bring the matter to the attention of my hon. friend in order that he may bring it to the attention of the Railway Commission. There may not be anything in the story. If there is not, it will be a good thing to know it.

Mr. GRAHAM. Does my hon. friend know what information those officers were asking for?

Mr. BERGERON. I understand that it was about cars—whether they were loaded or unloaded, and charging them so much a day if they were not sent out immediately; finding a car unloaded for a day or six hours and not reported, or reported ready to clear with the intention of having it ready in the morning, and the officer would spring on them at night, and finding that car was not unloaded, would make a report against them; or something of that sort.

Mr. GRAHAM. It is not clear to me, but I will make inquiries.

Railways and Canals—miscellaneous works not provided for, \$5,000.

Mr. FOSTER. Has the minister found out what that is?

Mr. GRAHAM. My hon. friend will see the particulars for the expenditure for 1907