

1904. I object to that sort of thing, and I do not think that kind of an official should be retained in the public service.

Mr. BENNETT. Send him up our way.

Mr. FOWLER. You will take care of him.

Mr. FIELDING. My recollection is that my hon. friend (Mr. Wilson) brought the matter up last year and perhaps the year before, and there must be some statutory limitation in these things. If my hon. friend desires my opinion I have no hesitation in saying that I think that where a man does not receive a living salary; where he receives some small salary which is not a living wage, there may be some difficulty in defining his proper status; but where a man receives a living salary he has no business to take any part whatever in politics other than to exercise his franchise as a citizen. That is the view I have always held, and I would strongly enforce it wherever it came within my authority so to do. But sometimes, I do not say it is so in the present case, many of our officers receive but a very small allowance and it is pretty hard to draw the line in such cases. I would say unhesitatingly that every officer of the government who receives a living wage ought to abstain from any political action except the right to exercise his franchise.

Mr. BENNETT. Does any minister enforce that principle?

Mr. FIELDING. Every minister should do it as far as possible, and if it has not been done thoroughly in the past, I would not hesitate to say that it ought to be done.

Mr. U. WILSON. Mr. Haycock gets \$1,600 a year salary, and \$1,300 a year for expenses, which is more money than he ever earned before in any one year in his lifetime. I think his present office is simply a reward because when he was leader of the Patrons he gave a guarantee that he would not see Sir Oliver Mowat defeated in the local House. I know Mr. Haycock very well, and I know he has been accused on several occasions in my riding of distributing money and trying to bribe voters in the rear of my county. Perhaps that is not since he has been an officer of this government, but it is nevertheless true. I want the Minister of Finance to know Mr. Haycock's general character. I need not tell him how low he was before he got this office and how near he was to a bar-room loafer, and his own brother-in-law told me on the streets of Napanee that he was the biggest liar between Napanee and Gaspé.

Mr. FIELDING. Does Ottawa lie between these points?

Mr. URIAH WILSON. That is the character his brother-in-law gives to Mr. Hay-

cock, to whom this government is paying \$1,600 of salary and \$1,300 or \$1,400 of expenses, and allowing him or permitting him to go on the stump against an opponent.

Mr. FOWLER. I wish to ask if it is true that Mr. E. H. S. Flood has been appointed a trade commissioner?

Mr. FIELDING. Yes.

Mr. FOWLER. What is his salary and his sphere of duty?

Mr. FIELDING. His salary is \$3,000 a year, in addition to which he is entitled to travelling expenses. His work is to travel through the British West Indies, from island to island, with the view of interesting parties in the development of Canadian trade.

Mr. FOWLER. Haven't you men down there now supposed to be doing that work?

Mr. FIELDING. There are four local agents stationed at different points and receiving from \$250 to \$400 a year, very small sums, for which they cannot be expected to do very much service, and the idea is to have a commissioner who will be constantly on the move interesting people in Canadian trade. It is a most desirable move to encourage West Indian trade, and the prospects at present are more promising than usual.

Mr. FOWLER. What qualifications has Mr. Flood?

Mr. FIELDING. He is, I am informed, a university graduate. At all events, he is a well-educated man and has been engaged in business in the city of St. John, where he and his family are well known.

Mr. BENNETT. Have you still Mr. J. B. Jackson in England? If so, where is he and what is his salary?

Mr. FIELDING. Mr. Jackson is still the agent at Leeds, with a salary of \$3,000 a year.

Mr. URIAH WILSON. And how much expenses?

Mr. FIELDING. Whatever they are, I am not able to give the amount, because they are not covered by this vote.

Mr. BERGERON. I find by the Auditor General's Report that he was paid last year \$4,197.07. Is that correct?

Mr. FIELDING. I believe so.

Mr. URIAH WILSON. As a matter of fact, his salary and expenses amount to from \$5,000 to \$6,000 a year. I have had returns on two or three occasions in regard to Mr. Jackson.

Mr. FIELDING. I am informed that Mr. Jackson has offices in both Leeds and Hull, and, therefore, he would naturally incur greater expenses than some other agents. However, there is a special vote covering expenses, and when we reach that I shall