

visit to the North-West, it was considered of the utmost importance, that the High Commissioner who was in London to forward immigration interests, when parties called on him and made enquiries regarding the country, should be able to speak from his own observation, in addition to the information he possessed from reports, &c.; and, therefore, his expenses in this relation were paid by the Government.

Mr. CHARLTON. I see that Sir A. T. Galt is one of the applicants for a colonization grant on plan No. 2, for some fifty townships. I would like to enquire whether it is at all possible that he attended to that business, when he was making this journey, and charging the Government for his expenses?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. I do not think so.

Mr. CHARLTON. The circumstances are rather suspicious.

Mr. MACKENZIE. I wish to ask the Premier at what time Sir A. T. Galt's resignation takes effect?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. On the 1st of June.

Mr. MACKENZIE. Who is to be his successor?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Oh!

Mr. MACKENZIE. The hon. gentleman can tell me in confidence.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I think that the hon. gentleman and myself took the same oath—that we would not disclose advice given to His Excellency without his permission.

Mr. BLAKE. Has any addition been made to his staff during the last year?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. No.

Mr. BLAKE. Has any officer of any kind been appointed?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. No; only Mr. Colmer, who has always been there. He was there as secretary for some years previously.

Mr. BLAKE. Is it proposed to make any change in connection with the change of office—in the organization of the office? Are other officers to be appointed in connection with the High Commissioner's office?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. There is no such present intention at all. Not a word, not a suggestion of the kind has been made.

23. Post Office and Finance Departments—Contingencies—Amount required to make payment to those officers of the Savings Bank Branch, Post Office and Finance Departments, engaged in balancing and computing interest in Depositors' Accounts, to 30th June, 1883.....\$2,000.00

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. Returns are sent to the Finance Department from the different agents of the Post Office saving banks quarterly, and upon the receipt of the returns, circulars are at once prepared and sent to every depositor stating what appears at the credit of his account, so that it may be ascertained whether the accounts are correct or not; this must be done within two or three weeks from the date of the returns, and the result is that we have either to employ persons not acquainted with this work or not competent to do it satisfactorily, or employ a portion of the staff extra hours until twelve or one o'clock for about three months during the year. It was considered unfair that these officials should do that extra work without extra pay, and the Government last Session thought that \$1,000 should be placed at its disposal, \$500 to the Post Office, and \$500 to the Finance Department, to remunerate these officials. It was found by the deputy heads of the two Departments that that sum was not adequate, and they proposed another \$1,000 should be

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added. In no other way can the work be done as economically.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex). I see that Senator Kaulbach was paid \$120 last year out of contingencies for legal services in connection with the savings banks. Is it the intention of the Government to provide for senators in this way?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. I am not aware who was employed. If there is a defaulter in Nova Scotia or any other place the hon. Minister of Justice employs such legal counsel as he thinks proper. I do not know who was employed in this case, whether it was a senator or not.

Mr. ROSS. The item appears on page 15 of the Auditor-General's report:

"The Hon. H. A. M. Kaulbach for legal services, \$120. Mr. Kaulbach is a member of the Senate."

Mr. MACKENZIE. We ought to know whether senators are employed to do professional work.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Until I heard Senator Kaulbach's name mentioned, I was not aware he had been employed. I will make enquiries of the hon. Minister of Justice.

Mr. BLAKE. The proposal now made is of a dangerous character. Last year we were told \$1,000 would be sufficient, and that that was the most economical way of doing the work. My impression is the most economical way would be to fix an additional remuneration for those employed to do extra work during a certain period of the year, and not go beyond that. I do not say that the hon. gentleman ought to call in extra hands, nor do I say that these officials should not get extra pay for their extra hours' work, but that extra pay should be settled and not departed from.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. There is a great deal in what the hon. gentleman says. Some men are quite free and willing to do the extra work they are directed to do. Others are not so free. Therefore, if we can select the men and apportion the increase among them it may be the better course, but we will allow it to stand at present and see how it works.

24. Amount required for salaries of board of examiners and other expenses connected with the Civil Service Act.....\$2,500.00

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex). I would like to know to what extent the Government have availed themselves of those who passed these examinations. Six have passed at Halifax, six at St. John, eight at Charlottetown, six at Quebec, twenty-six at Montreal, six at Kingston, forty-six at Toronto, eighteen at London, six at Winnipeg, and three at Victoria, British Columbia—quite a considerable number. On looking at the examination papers they appear to have passed through a severe ordeal. Can the hon. Minister tell us how far these men have been utilized?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. Since the Civil Service examinations, whenever we require a clerk we select one from those who have passed. Of course, if we require an official who cannot be found among those, a man of higher position, for instance an accountant, an engineer or a lawyer, or a professional man of any kind, we must go outside the list. But since the list was sent in by the board of examiners we have taken what clerks we required from it. I will bring down a statement giving the hon. gentleman the required information.

Mr. ROSS. Will the hon. gentleman give in more detail the mode in which it is proposed to expend this amount of \$2,500?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. The expenditure of the money was fixed by law during last Session, and the notice