

Mr. TAYLOR. What is the difference in the expenditure on the Rideau canal as compared with 1896 ?

Mr. GRAHAM. I would have to hunt that up. Why not let this item pass and I shall bring all that information? This item is for staff and repairs but we have a great number of capital estimates on which all this information could be asked.

Mr. FOSTER. All right.

At one o'clock, committee took recess.

Committee resumed at three o'clock.

Department of Railways and Canals—salaries, \$62,575; contingencies, \$14,000.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. There is an increase of \$575 in salaries, and \$2,000 in contingencies.

Mr. GRAHAM. The increase in salaries is made up of the statutory increases. There are a few changes. One or two clerks have been retired and their successors have been appointed at a less salary.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. There are two additional officers; last year there were thirty-seven and this year there are thirty-nine.

Mr. GRAHAM. Some new officers were appointed.

Mr. FOSTER. Have you made any changes among the chief clerks ?

Mr. GRAHAM. No.

Mr. FOSTER. Have you the same officers there now ?

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Little takes the place of Mr. Shannon. Mr. Shannon is now chief of the Audit Department of the Intercolonial at Moncton.

Mr. BERGERON. Is that a promotion ?

Mr. GRAHAM. It is a promotion for him. We thought he was the best man for that purpose. He got \$2,500 here and he gets \$3,600 there. I find Mr. Devlin was moved up to take Mr. Little's place, but he gets \$100 less.

Mr. FOSTER. Then from among the first-class clerks you promoted Mr. Devlin to be a chief clerk ?

Mr. GRAHAM. He is one of the clerks that were promoted. The salaries of first-class clerks may go up to \$1,900 as a maximum.

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Shannon, you say, was amongst the chief clerks, and he was transferred to Moncton; do you therefore have one chief clerk less ?

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Ross was promoted to be a chief clerk.

Mr. FOSTER. He was chief clerk last year.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Ross seems to be the only one that was promoted to the chief clerkship.

Mr. FOSTER. You are taking the estimates now for next year. In your payments of last year you had Mr. Shannon, and he is gone. Have you one less chief clerk than you had last year ?

Mr. GRAHAM. My hon. friend will find Mr. Shannon and Mr. Ross in the report.

Mr. FOSTER. Both of them were paid as chief clerks last year; Mr. Ross for a portion of the year.

Mr. GRAHAM. Was not Mr. Shannon paid for part of the year and Mr. Ross for the balance ?

Mr. FOSTER. Then you have one less chief clerk ?

Mr. GRAHAM. No, Mr. Shannon goes and Mr. Ross takes his place. Both were in last year, one for three months and the other for nine.

Mr. FOSTER. Were there any promotions from the second class into the first class ?

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. McKnight was promoted from the second to the first class.

Mr. FOSTER. What salary was he getting ?

Mr. GRAHAM. He was getting the maximum of a 2nd class clerk last year—\$1,500.

Mr. FOSTER. When was he appointed ?

Mr. GRAHAM. In February, 1900.

Mr. FOSTER. In what order did the other second class clerks come in—Almon, Bell, Dechêne and Falconer ? Were these in the service earlier than McKnight ?

Mr. BERGERON. How many employees have you in the Department of Railways and Canals at Ottawa ?

Mr. GRAHAM. About 90.

Mr. BERGERON. Are there any young ladies in this number ?

Mr. GRAHAM. Yes.

Mr. FOSTER. I did not get an answer to my question.

Mr. GRAHAM. Dechêne, Falconer and McKee were appointed in 1901, and McKnight was appointed in 1900. He seems to be the senior of these three.

Mr. FOSTER. Dechêne appears last year to have been a junior 2nd class clerk and then to have been appointed a 2nd class clerk at an increase of \$300, and Mr. Falconer appears to have been a junior 2nd class clerk at \$950 and to have been promoted to a 2nd class clerk at \$1,200.