

The minimum price fixed by the Act is \$10 per acre, and no land has been sold for school sites below that price.

These sales are not advertised.

ISSUE OF SCRIP TO HALF-BREEDS.

Mr. LAKE:

1. Has any commission been employed on the issue of scrip to half-breeds since the 1st January, 1908?

2. If so, in what part of the country have they been employed and to what extent have issues of scrip been made by them?

3. Who composed the commission, and did any other persons accompany them, other than their employees? If so, who?

Mr. OLIVER:

1. Yes.

2. In that portion of the Northwest Territories including Split lake, Oxford House, Nelson House, and other points covered by the adhesion to Indian Treaty No. 5.

No scrip was issued by the commissioner, but scrip aggregating 7,920 acres, in satisfaction of 33 claims, was issued by the Department of the Interior and delivered to the claimants personally by the commissioner.

3. Reverend John Semmens, inspector of Indian agencies, and reserves, who was also appointed commissioner to take the adhesion to Treaty No. 5. It is not known whether or not any persons other than his employees accompanied him.

ST. MAURICE RIVER—DREDGING AND IMPROVEMENTS.

Mr. BLONDIN:

1. Does the government intend to construct this year or soon, an embankment or dam over the Grand Piles chute, on the St. Maurice river, county of Champlain?

2. Does the government possess plans and specifications of such intended embankment? If so, since when?

3. What are the different amounts expended annually during the last ten years on the River St. Maurice for dredging, maintenance and all other works, between the Grand Piles chute and La Tuque?

Hon. WM. PUGSLEY:

1. No decision yet arrived at.

2. No plan or specification has ever been agreed upon.

3.

Year.	Dredging.	Maintenance and all other works.
1899-1900..	\$ 2,830 00	\$ 13,488 45
1900-1901..	9,598 29	20,047 58
1901-1902..	6,394 83	29,493 37
1902-1903..	Nil.	15,832 21
1903-1904..	7,751 53	13,371 26
1904-1905..	7,953 02	20,359 92
1905-1906..	11,240 71	17,115 85
1906-1907..	9,198 08	39,866 67
1907-1908..	16,146 59	50,464 01
1908-1909..	15,888 17	41,982 77
Totals..	\$87,001 22	\$262,022 09

Mr. OLIVER.

TURTLE MOUNTAIN TIMBER RESERVE.

Mr. SCHAFFNER:

1. Has there been any tree planting in the Turtle Mountain timber reserve during the years 1908 and 1909?

2. If so, how many men were employed in said tree planting during the years 1908 and 1909?

3. What was the amount of money paid to each person so employed during the years 1909-1910, and what are their names?

4. Is there an assistant timber inspector in Turtle Mountain timber reserve? If so, what is his name and salary?

5. What percentage of the trees planted was living at the end of the growing season of 1909?

Mr. OLIVER:

1. No tree planting was done on the Turtle Mountain Forest reserve during the years 1908 and 1909, but a small nursery of coniferous trees was started on this reserve in 1909 to provide trees for planting.

2. None.

3. None.

4. There is no permanent assistant timber inspector. Temporary help is obtained as required.

5. Answered by No. 1.

ASSENT TO WATERWAYS TREATY.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I beg to lay on the table of the House papers and correspondence regarding the purchase of the steamer 'Rainbow'; also papers and correspondence regarding the intended purchase of the steamship 'Niobe'. I have also to inform the House that the government of Canada has assented to the exchange of ratifications in the Waterways Treaty. There is some additional correspondence with regard to the same, which will be put upon the table of the House either to-morrow or early on Monday.

TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. SPROULE. In the absence of the Finance Minister—I notice a statement circulated in the press that an announcement would be made to-day in regard to the negotiations with the President of the United States concerning tariff matters. Is the First Minister prepared to take the House into his confidence, and give us a statement, so far as he can; and if there is any correspondence or data connected with that matter, will he lay them on the table of the House?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I have to inform my hon. friend that the Minister of Finance will himself be in the House within probably an hour, and when he comes, we will take up an item so as to give him