

Mr. TEMPLEMAN. The vote for the Mines Branch of the Interior Department will be reduced by a relative amount, although I think in the other estimates we are asking quite as large a sum as before for the purpose of carrying on the Mines Branch.

Mr. BERGERON. It is a transfer of salary from one branch to the other?

Mr. TEMPLEMAN. Yes.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Is it the intention to do away with the Geological Survey Department as a separate department?

Mr. TEMPLEMAN. No. There are very few votes in these estimates asked for the Mines Branch, in all seven officials, while in the Geological Survey Branch there are about forty.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. What is the number of officials in that department?

Mr. TEMPLEMAN. About forty-six in the entire department.

Mr. CROCKET. How many in the Geological Survey?

Mr. TEMPLEMAN. Twenty-eight technical officers; two first-class, three second-class and five junior second-class, who receive salaries ranging from \$3,000 down to \$800.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. How much devoted to the Mines Branch?

Mr. TEMPLEMAN. One officer, \$3,000; one at \$1,837; two at \$1,850; one at \$1,750; one at \$850 and one at \$800.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. What duties have been discharged by the head of the Mines Branch, and the other prominent officers?

Mr. TEMPLEMAN. Mr. Cirkel, M.E., is investigating the chrome iron ore deposits of the Eastern townships, after which he will collect material in the province of Ontario for the report on the mining metallurgical industries of Canada. Mr. J. W. Bell, M.E., is collecting material in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec, for the report on the mining and metallurgical industries of Canada; Mr. Robert Hedley, M.E., is obtaining material in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, for the same report; Mr. Lindeman, M.E., is to investigate the iron ore deposits of Vancouver Island and conditions necessary for the inauguration of an iron industry in British Columbia. Mr. Nystrom, M.E., is to investigate the peat industry in Sweden, Norway, Finland, Denmark, Germany, Holland and Ireland, and we expect to have his report at an early date. Mr. B. F. Haanel, B. Sc., is investigating the iron ore property in the township of Leeds, and Mr. J. J. Bell is collecting statistics in Ontario and Quebec for the report on the mining and metallurgical industry of Canada.

Mr. BERGERON.

It is intended to issue a very comprehensive report and we hope a very creditable report on the mining and metallurgical industries in Canada.

Trade and Commerce—salaries, \$24,025; contingencies, \$11,000.

Mr. BENNETT. Where is Mr. W. T. R. Preston, please?

Mr. FIELDING. Mr. Preston is in Yokohama.

Mr. BERGERON. What is he doing there?

Mr. FIELDING. He is supposed to be a commercial agent looking after the extension of Canadian trade.

Mr. BERGERON. I see there was a Mr. Preston present at a dinner given by the Tokio Board of Trade to the Hon. Mr. Lemieux, is that the same gentleman?

Mr. FIELDING. Very likely, he is in Japan.

Mr. BERGERON. If he is in Yokohama he cannot be in Tokio.

Mr. FISHER. They are only eighteen miles apart.

Mr. BERGERON. I don't know as much about Japan as does the Minister of Agriculture.

Mr. FISHER. If you did you would not put that question.

Mr. FIELDING. A slow train could take him there in a couple of hours, and it is worth going eighteen miles to a good dinner. Provision is made for the annual statutory increases and the increase in the department is only \$212.50. The chief item in contingencies is an increase of \$1,000 on account of the department having to pay postage on packages which formerly went free.

Mr. U. WILSON. I think this is the department that employs Mr. J. L. Haycock, the inspector of binder twine.

Mr. FIELDING. Yes.

Mr. U. WILSON. Well, three or four days before voting day last general election Mr. Haycock appeared on the public platform in my town in company with a cabinet minister and made a strong speech against me.

Mr. BENNETT. That is what he is paid for.

Mr. URIAH WILSON. I want to know if officers paid out of the public treasury are to be allowed to go round stumping against members who are opposed to the government. If the Minister of Finance wants to read an account of Mr. Haycock's doings on that occasion he will find it in the Toronto 'Globe' of the 29th of October,