

Mr. BERGERON. I understand that Lord Strathcona does not live in that house, but that he lives in his own house. Who occupies the house that belongs to the government?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. My belief is that we sold that house years ago.

Departments generally—contingencies—care and cleaning of departmental buildings, including amount of \$100 required to pay for firing noon gun, which amount may be paid to a member of the Civil Service, notwithstanding anything in the Civil Service Act, \$35,000.

Mr. FOSTER. Is not that gun very nearly worn out?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. No, it is still doing good service once a day. The increased expenditure there goes to the charwomen.

Mr. FOSTER. On what basis is that service now carried on?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I think the same system as that which formerly prevailed. There is a superintendent, Mr. Conroy.

Mr. FOSTER. The same superintendent?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Yes.

Mr. FOSTER. And what are they paid?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I think they have an increase of 25 cents a day, they get 75 cents a day now.

Mr. FOSTER. What did they get before?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I think it was 50 cents, some got 50 cents and some 75 cents.

Mr. FOSTER. Are you going on the uniform principle now that all are equally good?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Yes, it is like the Scripture, the last comer is entitled to the same pay as the first.

Mr. FOSTER. When was the increase given?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Last year.

Mr. FOSTER. About what time?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. My hon. friend should not put that question; none of them have votes, I can assure my hon. friend. My friend Mr. Fraser does not know the date and I do not know either; it was during the year 1904 and previous to October.

Mr. FOSTER. About that time?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Perhaps.

Mr. FOSTER. That is, taking the small and the great, the autonomy for the Northwest and the increase to the charwomen are given for the same reason just before the election.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. It is a good reason all round.

Geological Survey—civil government, \$64,155.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. There is a decrease there of \$500 in the salary of the deputy head and director. I could not give any explanation as to that; I have been unable to get the information yet. If my hon. friend will pass the item I shall get the information.

Mr. FOSTER. If my hon. friend will make a point to give that explanation we shall pass it.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I shall give the explanation when we come to concurrence.

Administration of Justice—miscellaneous, including Northwest Territories, \$65,000.

Mr. FOSTER. Why is this any longer required?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. It will not be any longer required if the Territories are erected into provinces, but in the interval we have to make provision for the conditions existing at the present time.

Mr. FOSTER. You have not full faith that you are going to carry it?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Yes, we have absolute faith, but at the same time we are dealing with conditions as they exist and this provision is therefore made.

Mr. FOSTER. What comes under that miscellaneous expenditure?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. This amount is estimated to be spent for the maintenance of prisoners at police posts in the Northwest Territories, for the transportation of prisoners from place to place in the Territories and from the posts to Stony Mountain penitentiary, Crown prosecutors, legal services, jury and witness fees, coroners' inquests, and fees of sheriffs and clerks of courts. I can give the amounts expended last year. Maintenance of prisoners, \$19,363.80; transport of prisoners, \$12,847.46; crown prosecutors \$9,333.26.

Mr. FOSTER. Who appoints the Crown prosecutors?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. We appoint them here.

Mr. FOSTER. By this government?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. By this government. Jury and witness fees, \$18,000; coroner's inquests \$2,000; Sheriff's fees \$956; clerk of the court fees \$1,700; extradition cases \$588; copies of evidence \$210; sundries \$866.68.

Travelling allowances and expenses of judges in Manitoba, British Columbia and the Northwest Territories, \$20,000.

Mr. FOWLER. Why is there that increase in the travelling expenses?