

great and important interest. The expenditure for the maintenance of the lights—because the increase is largely due to that—is one which I am satisfied will be justified by Parliament and by the people of Canada. The next item is Civil Government, and I take the expenditure of 1877-78, because it was lowest in that year; I take the most favorable year for hon. gentlemen opposite, because I do not wish them to say during this discussion: You have selected the highest year of our expenditure. I desire to stand upon firmer ground than that, and am willing to give them the benefit of the lowest expenditure for the purpose of making the comparison to which I now call the attention of the House. While the expenditure of civil government for 1877-78 was \$823,369, last year it was \$1,084,417, or an increase of \$261,047—

Mr. CASGRAIN. Hear, hear.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. The hon. gentleman says, hear, hear. I do not wonder at it, because hon. gentlemen opposite have made this one of the great charges against the Administration throughout the length and breadth of the country, to prove the extravagance of this Administration. Now I desire to call the attention of the House to the circumstances that have led to this increase of \$261,000 in six years. One of the difficulties that every Government must experience in preparing the Civil Service estimate, is the increase that is inevitable under the provision of the Civil Service Act, by which a very large proportion of the employés receive each a yearly increase of \$50. This increase for the last six years is estimated as follows: It is estimated that 420 of the Civil Service employés have received an increase of \$50 a year, and each year since 1877-78, that is during six years or a total increase of salary to each employé of \$300. That amount for 420 civil servants gives \$127,000 of an increase. Then we have had transferred to the Civil