

SUPPLY—AUDIT ACT, THE—*Con.*

Foster, Hon. Geo. E. (North Toronto)—Con.

revise the government's decision—9634. Wants a Treasury Board constituted so that it will be a fair tribunal—9635. He does not go so far as to say that every point of dispute shall be referred—9636. I want power to say 'I will honour no more cheques till you revise the persons signing'—9637. 'I want to be called controller as well as auditor'—9638. Then he has a grievance with regard to contracts—9639. I would be sorry to see both suddenly taken out from those responsible positions—9640. Supposes Fielding was present when the Auditor General said he was mistaken—9646. Perhaps he has paid some death claims—9647. Probably seven-eighths of the payments are made that way—9652. Fielding said everything was at a standstill—9653-4. It may be the Auditor General had good reasons in these cases—9655. I am afraid we will have to revise it—9656. It may be that some of these delays were due to that cause—9657.

Haggart, Hon. John G. (South Lanark)—9657.

Would it not be the department to bring the matter before the Treasury Board?—9657.

Laurier, Rt. Hon. Sir Wilfrid (Prime Minister)—9627.

Could not exactly follow the tenor of Lennox's remarks—9627. The Auditor General is clothed with very full powers, which he can exercise without interference from the government—9628. Auditor General wanted some judicial authority substituted for the Treasury Board—9629. I do not think it would be wise, advisable or constitutional to modify the Act in the way he desires—9630. I think the Act must be held to be reasonably satisfactory to all—9631.

Lennox, H. (South Lennox)—9623.

In discussing this matter should endeavour to eliminate it entirely from the arena of party politics—9623. I feel it unfortunate the government did not accede to my motion two sessions ago—9624. We cannot be too astute in arranging the law which governs the finances of Canada—9625. I am not at all sure it would not be well to have a permanent committee—9626—to investigate the question of the Audit Act—9627. I could not agree to any suggestion that the judicial system should be substituted—9627. The Treasury Board decided the government was bound to pay—9644. Is there anything in the Act to prevent the Auditor General doing that?—9655. Was the delay in the payment of the amount in dispute?—9658.

SUPPLY—AUDITOR GENERALSHIP, THE—9541.

Fielding, Hon. Wm. S. (Minister of Finance)—9541.

Does Foster want information or general discussion?—9541. Better take it up tomorrow—9542.

SUPPLY—AUDITOR GENERALSHIP, THE—*Con.*

Foster, Hon. Geo. E. (North Toronto)—9541.

Would like to bring up the subject, but have not given any notice—9541. I want a little discussion—9542.

SUPPLY—THE AUTONOMY BILL—6836.

Borden, R. L. (Carleton, Ont.)—6836.

I think Fitzpatrick said he would leave the schedules to the last—6836.

Laurier, Rt. Hon. Sir Wilfrid (Prime Minister)—6836.

I have not considered that at all. If Fitzpatrick agreed upon any order, I have no objection—6836.

Paterson, Hon. William (Minister of Customs)—6836.

I understand that owing to the indisposition of Fitzpatrick we cannot take them up to-day nor before Tuesday—6836.

SUPPLY—BALLOT BOX FRAUDS—9199.

Avery, M. (Frontenac)—9212.

I would like to say a word in regard to the question as I was mixed up in it by having the ballots stolen from me—9212. This man Lott took an active part in the first election I ran, a by-election in Adington—9213. This man Carl Taylor who was so active in my election is to-day carrying the mail for the government by stage—9214.

Barker, Sam. (Hamilton, East)—9225.

If it had not been for the expenditure undertaken by private individuals there would have been no prosecution—9225. Bail for the principal criminal in the trumpery sum of \$2,000, and he has escaped to the United States—9226.

Borden, R. L. (Carleton, Ont.)—9216.

He referred them to his solicitors—9216. When did Shibley and Hawkey leave the country?—9217. It seems to me that Peter took a very proper and fair course in giving the information which he did—9219. Whether or not the government in this case exercised a reasonable amount of diligence in dealing with a very grave conspiracy—9220. The important point after all was that two of the men were allowed to escape—9221. The returning officers have been declared by very eminent authority to be officers of this House and to be punishable as such—9222. Let them appoint Liberals if you like, but let them appoint men who are above suspicion—9223.

Cochrane, E. (East Northumberland)—9225.

I am satisfied that the two missing ballot boxes are in East Northumberland to-day—9225.

Fitzpatrick, Hon. Charles (Minister of Justice)—9207.

Would Porter be good enough to name the returning officer or deputy returning