

In reply to my hon. friend for Brandon (Mr. Forke) I would say that the estimate of \$8,145 is made up as follows: the Birtle agency got \$15 worth of flour, \$30 worth of bacon, \$10 worth of tea, \$1 worth of rice, \$1 worth of rolled oats, and medical attendance \$75. The Portage la Prairie agency got \$30 worth of flour, \$12 worth of bacon, \$10 worth of tea, \$2 worth of rice, medical attendance \$200, medicine \$150, and \$50 was given to relieve unforeseen cases of destitution. The salary of the constable at the Sioux village was \$60. Then the Griswold agency item is made up in the same way.

Mr. FORKE: The Sioux Indians are not treaty Indians. They are only getting this as a grant, I think, from the government. I think that grant of \$8,000 will probably cover a good deal more than 1,000 Indians. You can figure out how much is coming to an Indian from the government when you consider it in that light. It will be understood that there is no treaty money paid to those Indians, and this is all they get. I think it is therefore plain why the condition of these Indians is such as it is to-day. The government practically does nothing for them. They supply the agent and that is all. The flour and feed that is handed out amounts to nothing. Although they are not treaty Indians, they have lived for 60 years in Manitoba, and I think they are entitled to just about the same treatment as the other Indians in the Dominion of Canada.

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): I do not know that they get any different treatment from the Indians on the plains.

Mr. FORKE: Do the Saskatchewan Indians not get anything in the way of treaty money?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): Five dollars a head.

Mr. FORKE: The Manitoba Indians do not get that.

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): The Sioux Indians.

Mr. FORKE: No, I do not think so.

Mr. MEIGHEN: The minister read an item for medical services. Is it a fact that the appointment of doctors for the reserves has been taken away from the Civil Service Commission and is once more under patronage?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): Not that I know of. There has been no change, so far as I know. If a medical officer is appointed permanently, he is appointed by the Civil

[Mr. C. A. Stewart.]

Service Commission, but, as formerly, where it is a case only of payment for attendance by the doctor residing in the village, he is paid for the visit.

Mr. MEIGHEN: What is the case at Portage la Prairie? Which class does he come under?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): He is not a permanent official. He gets \$200 and his fees.

Mr. MEIGHEN: So that he is under patronage?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): Well, I suppose he is under patronage, if that is the definition of it. But I may tell my hon. friend that that would not be the definition I should place upon it.

Mr. MEIGHEN: It very distinctly applies—

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): Let me ask my hon. friend this question: If it were necessary to appoint a permanent official he would be appointed by the Civil Service Commission, but if it is not necessary to appoint a permanent official and he is simply paid for his visits, does that indicate that there is patronage?

Mr. MEIGHEN: No, I was just going to indicate why it was patronage. The minister has fired the incumbent.

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): At Portage la Prairie?

Mr. MEIGHEN: Yes.

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): I was not aware of that.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Yes, and he has appointed another. The incumbent who was there was one of the leading physicians of the town. He was a married man with a family and his two partners were returned soldiers. They had been partners for some time and are still, and the minister has appointed in the place of this man a gentleman who had no connection with the militia or war in his life, so far as I know, nor has he any partner who has had such a connection. In other words, the minister has virtually taken the position from returned soldiers. Of course, he has given it to a leading Liberal, and if such a man could be called eminent the adjective might apply. That is the indication of patronage.

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): Is the present incumbent not a medical man?

Mr. MEIGHEN: Oh yes, he is a medical man. I did not dispute the fact of his being