

Mr. BERGERON. How many prisoners are there there? Are they living like the judges?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. We do our best for them. The prisoners in the Yukon are kept in the guard-room, and we allow the mounted police \$2 per diem for each prisoner.

Mr. FOSTER. For his keep?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Yes.

Mr. BERGERON. How many are there?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. I have not the figures.

Mr. BERGERON. How many are there generally?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. I could not tell you.

Mr. BERGERON. Twenty-five thousand dollars would pay for a good many.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. It occurred to me that we ought to be able to reduce that amount, and I asked the official why we could not reduce it. For the information of the House, I shall read the report which he makes.

Probably this could be reduced to \$20,000 without any inconvenience as desired by the minister, but it was thought that a good margin should be left, as the rate being \$2 per diem, each prisoner costs \$730 and it would only take ten additional prisoners to cost \$7,300 more.

Last year, of course, we did not spend the amount we estimated.

Mr. FOSTER. Two dollars is a pretty high rate.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Everything appears to come high in the Yukon. We pay 60 cents in the Northwest Territories to the Mounted Police. That has been the rate established for some years, and the rate is \$2 in the Yukon.

Mr. FOSTER. I notice in the present contest in Toronto—to bring in an extraneous matter—that a document was sent around which represents a scientific man there as saying that it is possible to get up a good food and to keep people for three cents or so a day. My hon. friend might get a supply of that food, and it would be a tremendous economy.

Fees and expenses of witnesses, jurors and interpreters in criminal trials, \$15,000.

Mr. BERGERON. How many terms of the criminal court have they there?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. The judges themselves regulate that; they sit when it is necessary.

Mr. BERGERON. They have no regular terms?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. No regular terms.

Mr. BERGERON.

Law books, &c., and freight thereon, for the use of bench and bar and stationery, and freight thereon, for use of courts, \$2,500.

Mr. BERGERON. Is that amount spent each year on the purchase of books?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Yes, we have been doing that for years. I may tell my hon. friend that up to the last year or two we did this for the Northwest Territories as well. I am in the hands of the House with respect to that item. I cut it out with respect to the Northwest two years, and it is a question whether or not we should continue to supply books for the judges and the bar of the Yukon. I think it is a vicious practice that has grown up and has been continued for many years.

Mr. BERGERON. So long as the money is expended for that purpose it may be all right.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. There is no question about that.

Mr. BERGERON. I suppose that my hon. friend finds out if the books are bought?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. I know absolutely nothing about that, but I take all the responsibility for anything that is done, because it is my deputy, one of the most competent men for work of that description, who makes a selection of books and sees that they are sent up.

Mr. BERGERON. They are sent from here?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Yes, they are bought in Toronto and sent forward from there.

Mr. BERGERON. They have a librarian in the Yukon?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Yes, there is a librarian who receives a salary of \$1,500 and \$1,200 as living allowance.

Mr. BERGERON. There is another discrimination, \$1,200 for him and \$1,800 for the stenographer.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. I cannot help discriminations; a good man must necessarily command higher wages.

Mr. FOWLER. Did I understand the minister to say that he proposed to cut this item out?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. No, I did not say that; I said I was entirely in the hands of the House with respect to that. It is a practice that has grown up in all sections of the country administered from here. I found it in existence in the Northwest Territories and the same system was adopted for the Yukon, which, of course, had a provisional government similar in some respects to that of the Northwest Territories. Two years ago, I think it was, we dropped the item with respect to the Northwest Territo-