

Mr. PATERSON. Yes, three have been added, Mr. W. G. Livingston, Mr. Capreol and Mr. J. M. Sullivan. Carried.

Mr. SPROULE. Carried if the committee will rise now.

Mr. PATERSON. You do not want to give me the other items?

Mr. SPROULE. It would only be detaining the House because there will be a great deal of discussion on the other items.

Mr. PATERSON. There are four or five items just the same as last year.

Mr. TAYLOR. The next item is miscellaneous, which includes:

Printing and stationery, subscriptions to commercial papers, flags, dating stamps, locks, instruments, &c., for various ports of entry, legal expenses and uniforms for customs officers.

In the Auditor's Report I find salaries of men in Washington and St. Paul at \$3 a day, for 365 days in the year, men who have been hidden away about whom we know nothing.

Mr. PATERSON. The explanation is that all of that is paid back to us. The people of Canada do not pay it. They are Canadian officers who are placed there for the convenience of the American roads and the American roads have to pay their salaries. The people of Canada do not pay them.

Mr. TAYLOR. I will read one other item. We have here this entry:

Woodyatt, T. Brantford: services arranging for and conducting investigations of charges against customs officials, 18 days at \$10; board and lodgings, \$17.50; fares \$28.70; telegrams and postage, \$1.60—\$227.80.

What did he do for that money?

Mr. PATERSON. I think that was back in 1896, and he did not render his bill for a long time.

Mr. TAYLOR. We want to know what he did during those eighteen days.

Mr. INGRAM. I still insist that it is a reasonable hour to adjourn. If the minister has not his estimates passed I do not hold myself responsible for that. The Minister of Customs, I understand is consulting the Finance Minister (Mr. Fielding) about it. That hon. gentleman takes no part in this discussion. But if he had to watch these matters as closely as some of us on this side do, he would find it pretty hard work. I think I am within my rights in objecting to going on any longer.

Mr. PATERSON. I think I have given the explanation the hon. gentleman wanted.

Mr. SPROULE. This item will require some discussion and it is now one o'clock. The minister complains that the items are not passed, but I think we have greater

right to complain that the information that we ask for is not given. I think we have done a good long day's work.

Sir WILLIAM MULOCK. I am sure that there is no disposition to press the passage of items unduly. At the same time I think there should be some regard for time on the part of hon. gentlemen on the other side. What has taken place to-day? We began the discussion of these items about five o'clock and we have been actually at work six hours on these few items. And I am sure that if hon. gentlemen will read 'Hansard' to-morrow, they will find that this discussion could have been greatly condensed. If hon. gentlemen will, unintentionally perhaps, waste time they must not complain if the government wish to proceed with the public business and make substantial progress. We could have accomplished the useful part of this discussion in one-third of the time occupied and could have disposed of a much larger volume of business than has been done. If the opposition kill time they must not complain if the government ask them to go on and do a legitimate day's work.

Mr. TAYLOR. Go on, then.

Sir WILLIAM MULOCK. Very well.

Mr. SPROULE. I object to the statement that the opposition are wasting time, I say the government are wasting time.

Sir WILLIAM MULOCK. Who is wasting time at this moment?

Mr. SPROULE. The government. If the Minister of Customs had given the information asked for, we could have done three times as much as we have done. The Postmaster General complains that we have done little. We have voted over a million and a quarter of dollars to be spent in salaries all over the country, and we have done it, I must say, on the most meagre information I ever heard given by a department. And because we occupy time in trying to pry the information out of the minister, we are accused of wasting time.

Mr. TAYLOR. The Postmaster General lectures the members of the opposition. He was not in the House at half past five, when the Minister of Customs took the floor and talked until five minutes past six. And when we came back at eight o'clock he talked till five minutes to nine. The members of the opposition can hardly be expected to listen quietly to a charge that they have wasted time, when 'Hansard' will show that three-quarters of the time was taken up by the Minister of Customs making a campaign speech. The Postmaster General was not here to hear the lecture that the Minister of Customs read us. We are not going to take such lecturing without resenting it.

Mr. INGRAM. So far as I am concerned, I had no idea of killing time. Every ques-