

the same salaries as they had before, and when they die or go into some other position, the salary will be abolished. That court is a part of the Superior Court of the province, that is to say, a judge of the province of Quebec, will, after the present incumbent leaves the office, discharge the duty of a judge of the Vice-Admiralty.

Mr. FORBES. Will the Minister tell me why the Registrar of the Admiralty Court in Nova Scotia is not on the same footing?

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. These salaries were fixed before Confederation, a special salary for the judge of \$2,000, and a salary for the registrar and the marshal. While the incumbents remain, as the hon. member for Quebec Centre (Mr. Langelier) has explained, these salaries cannot be interfered with. But the law provides that they shall sink to the condition of other salaries when vacancies occur.

To provide accommodation when  
necessary for the Exchequer Court  
in Admiralty..... \$300

Mr. MULOCK. Does that court ever sit?

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. Oh, yes. The Exchequer Judge is the Judge in Admiralty, and it sometimes happens that he has to hold court in other places than Ottawa, and this is to provide accommodation for him in case he should need it. We paid nothing last year.

Dominion Police..... \$22,000

Mr. McMULLEN. How many of those are now employed, and what is their pay?

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. I laid on the Table at the beginning of the session a return which showed the number and pay. I think the number is thirty-five altogether.

Mr. McMULLEN. Are they principally employed in Ottawa?

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. Yes; we do not pay any police outside. These officers are employed in connection with the public buildings and grounds and services of a similar class.

St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary. \$98,875 86

Mr. MULOCK. I observe in the press that a day or two ago an incident occurred in connection with this penitentiary. The warden having taken a convict out of bounds, to make use of his services on board of a pleasure yacht, the prisoner at the termination of the pleasure trip attempted to drown the engineer. Is it customary for wardens—I believe this convict had several months to serve—to take prisoners out of the confines of the penitentiary?

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. It is when they are prisoners of good character, who have but little more time to serve.

Mr. McMULLEN. In looking over the items of expenditure by the inspector in

Mr. LANGELIER.

connection with this penitentiary, I observe in the Auditor General's Report that he has charged twenty days' cab hire at Ottawa, \$10, and cab hire to church at Montreal, \$1. The Auditor General has drawn attention to these items and has pointed out that they should not be charged. It seems singular that an officer having such long experience should attempt to make such charges.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. I am sorry to say that Mr. Moylan is a victim of very severe rheumatism, and it is absolutely necessary that he should have a conveyance to and from his house. I do not know how this matter was disposed of in the department, as I was away at the time.

Mr. McMULLEN. The entire amount spent on this penitentiary last year, I observe, was \$87,940. What is the number of inmates and what was the per capita cost last year as compared with the previous year? In view of the low price of meat and other food products there should be a decrease in the expense.

Mr. MULOCK. According to the report of the Minister of Justice the average number of inmates in Manitoba Penitentiary in 1893 was 72, who were maintained at a cost of \$48,000, or nearly \$700 each. At St. Vincent de Paul the total number of inmates was 374, who were maintained at a cost of \$98,000, or about \$300 each, or less than half.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. The hon. gentleman will remember that there are two or three circumstances connected with these expenditures, namely, that the sum includes all the officers' salaries, maintenance of prisoners and improvements made in the penitentiary during the year. For example, at St. Vincent de Paul we have made considerable improvements in furnishing machinery and heating apparatus, and \$15,000 was spent for working expenses.

Mr. MULOCK. It is so much the worse for Manitoba Penitentiary.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. I am showing that the sum per capita is not to be judged by the total cost of the penitentiary, but the per capita cost in the penitentiary will always be greater the smaller the number of convicts, other things being equal. In Manitoba we had last year 71 prisoners, the normal number being about 80, whereas at St. Vincent de Paul the number is about 300. That disparity in number makes a very great difference in cost, for you can maintain double the number of prisoners without materially increasing the cost per capita.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. What was the total which was obtained from the labour of the prisoners in St. Vincent de Paul?