

*Supply—Privy Council*

at a high level, that they fluctuate upward whenever the escalator provisions of the United States tariff operate to increase their duties on lead and zinc.

I believe that action of this kind is called for to maintain our self-respect. It would not get us into trouble with the Americans. It would bring to their attention, however, a very dangerous situation in their own country which needs to be corrected. If this is not done, trade relations between Canada and the United States might well sustain irreparable damage.

**Mr. Clarence Gillis (Cape Breton South):** I should like to say that I am in agreement with the hon. member who has just taken his seat. It is not a new story to have idle miners of all kinds in this country. At all times we are up against United States markets and United States imports into this country. I have no intention of making a long speech or any kind of analysis of this matter; but if the United States government, which has been taking zinc and lead from Canada, has imposed a duty at this time that makes it impossible to sell in what apparently was our normal market over there, to the extent that there are 1,000 unemployed people in that industry, with the prospects of more to follow, then I think the hon. member who has just taken his seat is entitled to raise the grievance and to ask for retaliation against commodities from this country that the United States has to import at this time. Asbestos and nickel are two good examples.

I myself have no illusions about what the United States government will do when it comes to protecting their own economy and their own people. They will apply any measure that is in the interests of the United States, and I think it is pretty near time Canada paid some attention to that. The government of the United States is a high tariff government, and when it is to their interest they will apply that high tariff. That is indicated by the grievance raised by the hon. member at this time.

Since they will protect their own interests, then I think the Canadian government has to take the same stand. I do not want to delay the proceedings of the house, but I am in absolute agreement with the hon. member who has raised this grievance.

**Mr. G. F. Higgins (St. John's East):** I will not be two minutes. If the hon. member for Kootenay East (Mr. Byrne) is correct, and I have no reason to think he is not, then it is going to seriously affect one of the big industries in Newfoundland, namely the mine at Buchans, which is a lead-zinc mine. I do

hope that the remarks of the hon. member for Kootenay East and the hon. member for Cape Breton South will be taken into account. Truthfully, I would not like this idea of putting on an imposition of any kind on the commodities they have to buy from us. That sort of action may bring about a chain reaction, and I do not suggest that we should take strong actions of that kind. If something could be done short of that, we may be able to accomplish the same result without setting up some kind of a chain reaction against foreign goods in the future. If it so happens that we cannot do it in any other way, then I would agree with what the hon. member for Cape Breton South has said.

Motion agreed to and the house went into supply, Mr. Beaudoin in the chair.

## PRIVY COUNCIL

Privy council office—

306. General administration, \$351,802.

**Mr. Cruickshank:** Mr. Chairman, may I, as briefly as I can, take exception to the amount set out in this item. I know I cannot increase it, but I can recommend that it be increased.

We are very proud of our country. We have just heard that we are going to take action in one matter in conjunction with the United States. This afternoon in the debate we learned that we have been working in conjunction with Great Britain in the matter of wheat. But I suggest that before we take action in unison with any other country we should put our own house in order.

So far as I am concerned I think we can find a little money to ensure that the leader of our country is properly rewarded. Certainly it reflects no credit on us when we expect the Prime Minister to accept this amount. I can speak freely in this matter because, through some misfortune, some other party may at a future date have the responsibility of office, and anyone leading that party would hold the office of prime minister. However, I realize that the hon. member for Eglinton has given up hope of anything like that happening, the possibility of anyone from his party residing on Sussex street, because he objects to our putting the building in proper order so it will be a credit to the country.

The people in my constituency find it most strange when they see members of the civil service drawing \$35,000, \$40,000 and I am informed up to \$50,000, and at the same time the Prime Minister receiving much less. I am not in any way detracting from the ability of those civil servants, or the ability of any man holding a responsible position.