

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. They have been very successful in the United States, and in certain places in Canada.

Mr. DAWSON. So far as my observation goes, they have been very successful in my district. With regard to these Robinson Treaty annuities, I would like to ask if any progress has been made towards arranging for the payment of the large amount due to the Indians under this treaty. Some correspondence has been going on for a number of years with the Government of Ontario, and it has been held that that Government having got the land, and the payment to the Indians being liable on the land, they should pay the arrears. If this money were put in the hands of the Indian Department, and laid out in schools or industrial farms, or agricultural implements, it would do a great deal of good.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. It is certainly a wrong to the Indians that that matter has not been settled. It has been pressed on the Local Government, but the answer of the Ontario Government is that this is one of the items to be taken into consideration in adjusting the accounts between the Provinces. I hope it will be settled before long.

Mr. MILLS. I think the Local Government deny responsibility, and say that this is a debt of the old Province of Canada, paid for the so-called Indian title.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The late Government, in consequence of this matter not being settled, advanced a sum of money on account in the meantime, but it has not been settled yet.

Mr. DAWSON. Practically, the Government of Ontario disputed, but they have not wholly denied it at any time.

Mr. MILLS. They contend that this is a matter of the old Province of Canada, that it is not a charge on the land, but was paid precisely the same as the Government paid for the so-called extinguishment of the Indian title further west, for the building of the railway.

Mr. DAWSON. By the Robinson Treaty, it was virtually made a lien on the land.

For Indians of Nova Scotia generally.....\$6,032

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Here is an increase of \$1,000. What is the cause?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. This is a vote to open a road and to build a bridge at Chapel Island, in Cape Breton, which, it has been reported, would be a great advantage to the Indians in that neighborhood. Chapel Island is a reserve which is greatly resorted to by the Indians. They had a mission there, and they have been pressing strongly for these improvements.

Indians of New Brunswick..... \$5,090

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The increase is \$200. It is to enable the Department to increase the salary of the agent, Mr. Craig, from \$100 to \$200 per annum, which is well deserved, and to pay \$100 to the Rev. Mr. Cormier, who visits the Indians in King's county.

North-West Mounted Police..... \$427,700

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. This estimate is calculated on 500 men. For subsistence there is a decrease of \$14,600, which is principally owing to the reduced cost of transport. There is a reduction of \$27,000 for forage. Considerable quantities of oats are now produced by the settlers, and the Canadian Pacific Railway furnishes a convenience of transport. Hay is also reduced in price.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. If the hon. gentleman proposes to distribute these troops along the frontier, I imagine the convenience of transport would not reduce the forage or the subsistence there very much.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I do not propose that they shall all be distributed along the frontier. There will be certain patrols along the frontier, but the main force will be stationed at Regina, which is a good distributing point, and there will also be forces at Prince Albert, Battleford, Calgary, Fort Macleod, and all the other principal stations. The charge for fuel and light is increased by \$10,000. That appears large. The fuel which, a few years ago, could be obtained within easy distance of the force, has now to be hauled long distances; but it is hoped that we shall soon be able to use coal. Formerly, when there was wood, the police at the stations were engaged in cutting it, to a considerable extent. That is now impossible; besides, the time of the men is too valuable to be employed in that way. It is satisfactory to be able to state that the clothing for the force is entirely made in Canada, with the exception of helmets, and a few small articles.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Where made?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The material is obtained by tender, and is made up into clothing by tender.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I asked, because, owing to the great difficulty of obtaining employment for the number of convicts at Kingston penitentiary, it was at one time intended they should make up the clothing for the Mounted Police and the clothing for distribution to the Indians. There is always difficulties about employing convict labor, so as not to compete with free labor, but in the case of Government supplies, this labor might be utilised.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I think so. It was found the clothing made in the penitentiaries was not good enough for the soldiers. There can be no objection in the case of the Indians.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. The Indians like good clothes, too.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. They are not so particular about the fit.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I am not wont to question reductions, but I think a reduction on medicines, medical comforts and hospital expenses requires explanation.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Formerly, I think, the medicines were bought under orders of the medical men of the Department. They are now being all ordered under the special charge of Dr. Jukes, a medical man of known experience and standing. He has devoted himself to this Department, and I believe he has improved the quality of medicines and medical comforts, while, at the same time reducing the expenses.

For expenses of the Government in North-West Territories including printing, roads, bridges, ferries and aid to schools, etc..... \$39,000.

Mr. McLELAN. The following are the details of this item:—Travelling expenses of members of council and officials, \$1,000; probable expenses holding elections, \$3,000; public printing, \$2,000; stationery, telegrams and postage, \$500; roads, bridges and ferries, \$9,000; aid to schools, \$6,000; surveys under 43 Vic., chap. 24, sec. 91, \$2,000; rental allowance to clerk of council in lieu of the free residence occupied by him at Battleford, \$500; cost of mail service in North-West Territories, \$3,000; legal adviser, \$200; rental allowance to Hugh Richardson, stipendiary magistrate, in lieu of the free quarters occupied by him at the late seat of Government, \$500; safes, indexes, registrar