

is claimed such a step is unnecessary, and might become permanent.

Mr. FISHER. What is that?

Mr. WORTHINGTON. It is an article in the Montreal 'Star.'

Mr. FISHER. Oh, well, you need not bother about that.

Mr. WORTHINGTON. The 'Herald,' I mean.

Mr. FISHER. It is only a rumour.

Mr. WORTHINGTON. It says:

St. Johns, Quebec, March 1.—A deputation, consisting of the mayor-elect, J. S. Messier, councillors and other citizens, is in Ottawa today for the purpose of urging the government to allow the temporary displacement of the dragoons from the barracks at that place. This step they ask in the interests of the homeless students of the College of Ste. Marie de Monnoir, who would then find quarters in the barracks here until, as it is represented, the academy could be rebuilt.

Mr. FISHER. I have not heard anything about that.

Mr. MONK. I would like to make this observation in connection with the whole of this vote for the province of Quebec. It is always a disagreeable task to select any particular locality for criticism, but anybody who will look through the whole list of appropriations for next year, amounting to nearly half a million for the nine months ending the 31st of March, 1907, and amounting to nearly another half million for the next fiscal year—

Mr. FISHER. We are not asking any more for the twelve months than we asked last year for the nine months, and nearly half of these are revotes; so that it is not extravagant at all.

Mr. MONK. Well, it is extravagant in this way, that I am perfectly sure that if we devoted the half of that amount in the province of Quebec—because I will admit that perhaps half of it is devoted to necessary works—to carrying out the suggestions of the Transportation Commission, which have been referred to more than once this year in this House, the province would derive a hundred times more benefit from that expenditure than from most of these expenditures for new public buildings which are mentioned in this list. Very often during the present session the advisability of carrying out the suggestion of the Transportation Commission has been discussed. I do not wish to refer to that debate, but why is it since that very important document has been before the government and before the country we have so signally failed to carry out specifically the recommendations made there? It is, I venture to say, because every year we are obliged to vote a very large amount of money to

erecting buildings, and very often the wharfs, in constituencies where the benefit derived is very slight. Very often it is done to enrich or benefit individuals. If we carried out the suggestion of the Transportation Commission, as far as the province of Quebec is concerned; if, for instance, we devoted that money to making the ports of Montreal and Quebec national ports and making the channel between Montreal and Quebec and below Quebec what the Transportation Commission recommended the government to make it without any delay, the money would be far better spent.

Mr. FISHER. I think my hon. friend, before the end of the session, will see that he has nothing to complain about in regard to transportation.

Public buildings, Ontario—Alexandria, reconstruction of portions destroyed by fire, \$3,000.

Mr. URIAH WILSON. Is this the ordinary buildings of the usual kind, customs house, post office and that kind of thing?

Mr. FISHER. There is a post office; I do not know if there is a customs house or not. The usual public building in a small place.

Belleville armoury, \$30,000.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. I notice an item of \$391 for law expenses; it seems an enormous amount.

Mr. FISHER. I suppose that was for the purchase of site, &c. I understand that a site was purchased there and then an exchange was made at the request of the people of the city involving a considerable amount in searching for titles, no less than three lots had to be obtained in the exchange.

Mr. ALCORN. Where does Mr. Butler who was paid this amount at V—60 practise?

Mr. FISHER. I suppose in Belleville.

Mr. ALCORN. I do not know any man of that name there.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. It seems a large amount in comparison with what you pay others for similar work.

Mr. FISHER. There was a good deal more work.

Mr. URIAH WILSON. Deeds are generally at the expense of the seller. I understand a prudent man having the title examined to see that it was good, but this seems an excessive amount.

Mr. FISHER. I do not know the Ontario practice, but in Quebec I have had to pay for the registration of the deed.

Mr. URIAH WILSON. But not the legal expenses to have the deeds drawn. You