

Supply—Justice

Mr. Bryce: Is Stony Mountain included?

Mr. Knowles: Has the minister ever been there?

Mr. Garson: I am not quite certain as to whether it is in effect in Stony Mountain but I will get that information.

Mr. Bryce: If it is not, will you see that it is?

Mr. Garson: I certainly will.

Mr. Bryce: I talked to the minister some time ago about the overtime. As to these men in the penitentiary, the custodians, guards and so on, if they work three hours they get paid for it. But if they work two and a half hours each day they do not get paid for any overtime. That is a grievance they have and I think it should be corrected.

Mr. Garson: I think my hon. friend is quite right in the statements that he makes but he just states part of the truth. They do not get paid for overtime but they get for their own use compensatory time to replace this overtime.

Mr. Bryce: I may be wrong about that, Mr. Chairman, but they do not get compensatory time, as I understand it, unless they work three hours continuously. So if they work two and a half hours, they do not get paid for it.

Mr. Garson: That is right.

Mr. Bryce: If they get two and a half hours' extra work each day, they do not get paid for it. I think the minister should look into that matter. Then as to the wages, I have raised the problem with regard to these fellows' wages before. This new commission has been set up and I think it is a good commission; they are doing a good job. But you are asking a higher calibre of intelligence and better qualifications than you ever did before. In the past you paid them street-cleaners' wages. They still get \$60 a year less than the man that delivers letters. I do not say that the man who is delivering letters is getting too much; far from it. But these fellows should be getting the same; that is, another \$60 a year. Forty per cent of them still are at these low wages. I think the minister should look into that matter too. Can the minister tell the committee something about the houses that have been built in different parts of Canada for the penitentiary employees, and the rents charged at the different places?

Mr. Garson: I might take a place that my hon. friend, I am quite sure, will be particularly interested in because it is in his own

constituency. At Stony Mountain we have built twenty houses within the last eighteen months to two years. Those houses cost approximately \$9,000 and they are rented for \$35 a month.

Mr. Bryce: How does that compare, as to rent, with the houses at St. Vincent de Paul or Kingston?

Mr. Garson: The houses that will be used by the different penitentiary personnel of course will not all be of the same age. Some of them, such as those at Stony Mountain, were constructed within the last one and a half or two years, and others are much older. As to the rents that are charged for them, we try to make them comparable, having regard to the difference in age, the difference in quality and the like.

Mr. Bryce: I want to know how they compare. Let us take, for example, a house with three rooms and a kitchen. It does not matter whether it was built ten years ago or last year. Take, for instance, a three-room house or a four-room house at the different penitentiaries. How do the rents compare?

Mr. Garson: It would be obviously impossible for me, Mr. Chairman, to make comparisons of the houses at all the penitentiaries in Canada. But taking again one in which I am sure my hon. friend would be particularly interested, these houses at Stony Mountain are six-room houses, fully modern in every way, having been built within the last two years. They cost \$9,000 and they are rented at \$35 a month. We think that is a fair deal for the employees.

Mr. Bryce: I do not think that the minister has just answered my question. I am trying to get a comparison between the different penitentiaries, because I have had a great many complaints about these houses. I do not want to condemn the houses until I can get the facts from the minister and weigh them for myself. I know that the minister must have had some complaints about them.

Mr. Garson: No, I have not had any complaints. Might I ask my hon. friend to specify what ones he is complaining about? Then perhaps we could tell him what the type of house was, the rent and so on. But if he just states a question in general, it is difficult to answer it. What ones are you complaining about particularly?

Mr. Bryce: What I want to get at is this. The minister tells me that they charge \$35 a month for the houses at Stony Mountain. What do you charge for the same kind of house at St. Vincent de Paul?