

on behalf of certain provinces in other works. This is picayune business. The Senate is recommending a small increase to the officers of the staff. Let us protect our own rights. We are protecting Prince Edward Island and giving that province an extra \$100,000; we are giving McBride \$6,000,000 for one of his roads, Ontario \$2,000,000 and Manitoba another \$1,000,000. Why should a hon. member rise at the last moment and object to the citizens of Ottawa, who are undergoing the expense of high living, a few paltry dollars. I think this is a small business, especially in view of the fact that we are giving away millions, and that we have a surplus of \$39,000,000. Why does not the hon. gentleman protest against the extravagant expenditure of millions instead of the few paltry dollars given to officers whose families need it. I thoroughly disagree with the hon. gentleman on this question.

The motion was agreed to.

A QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE.

Rt. Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—I do not think the Senate is properly treated in having the desks of those of us who take some interest in the affairs of this body removed when we are going to have considerable debate. I can carry things in my head as well as most men, but I do not choose always to go into discussions of matters which may involve serious questions without having some papers to refer to, and one of two things ought to have been done: Prorogation should have been postponed until these matters could have been disposed of decently and in order, or we should have been left in possession of the material which we may require to carry on any discussion. It does not appear to me that the Senate is being treated with proper respect in having our desks removed, particularly the desks of myself and my hon. friend opposite, until the business of this sitting at any rate is disposed of. I do not approve of it.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—I can readily have my right hon. friend's desk brought in, and it can be afterwards removed.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN

Rt. Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—I am not going to be made a single and solitary exception. Having put in a protest I waive my right to have my desk, but I do not think it is respectful to the Senate that these things should be removed. I hope nothing will occur to prevent our passing the Supply Bill this afternoon, though I am not quite sure. I desire to call the attention of my hon. friend to another matter, to which he may or may not be in a position to give an answer, but probably he will be able to furnish an answer at three o'clock. We have passed an Act recently which appears to me to be in direct conflict with an Act of the imperial parliament. Do my hon. friend's colleagues propose to get that Act of the imperial parliament removed? Without venturing upon an opinion on the point of law, my impression is very strong that if the Act to which I allude, increasing the subsidy of Prince Edward Island, is brought before the courts in any shape, that the courts would have to decide that, under the imperial Act, which cannot be altered by us, is ultra vires, void and waste paper.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—I am unaware whether the attention of the government was directed to the point that was taken by my right hon. friend on that subject.

Rt. Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—Can my hon. friend obtain the information by three o'clock?

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—If the legal obstacle which my right hon. friend has pointed out be a valid one, I suppose the parties would have recourse either to the courts or to secure such legislation as has been intimated. So far as the passage of the grant by this parliament is concerned, it stands upon our statute-books. If it can be paid over to Prince Edward Island it will be paid in pursuance of that Act. If the imperial legislation stands in the way of it being paid, it simply remains to be said that something else will have to be done. I presume whatever is done will be done legally. If the Act has the effect my right hon. friend has pointed out, I apprehend there will be no defiance of any imperial legislation such as he has mentioned.