

recollect, with the secretaries of the Lord's Day Alliance. I need hardly say that I did not consult the government as to what I was to say on each occasion. No doubt the government then intended, and now intends, if it be found that Sunday legislation is under our control, to deal with the matter in such a way as to give satisfaction to all parties concerned.

#### SUPPLY.

House in Committee of Supply.

Northwest Mounted Police, \$1,065,000.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. The two principal items have been passed. We reserved the sum of \$25,000, on which I promised to explain all the estimates, as at that time most of the members of the Northwest Territories were engaged elsewhere, and I thought it advisable to wait their return. We have this year for the pay of the force \$240,000 against \$205,000 last year. This is in consequence of a Bill adopted in the early part of the session whereby we have sought power to increase the pay of the force. I shall take separately the affairs of the forces of the Northwest Territories and the forces of the Yukon. The strength of the force in the Territories at the present moment is intended to be and is about 600 men. There are 39 officers and about 546 non-commissioned officers and men. The pay of the officers is as follows:

Commissioner.. . . . .	\$2,600
Assistant commissioner . . . . .	1,600
Superintendents.. . . . .	1,400 each.
Inspectors . . . . .	1,000 each.
One surgeon.. . . . .	1,200

The pay of the men is as follows :

	Per day.
Staff sergeant.. . . . .	\$1.25 to \$1.50
Sergeants.. . . . .	1.00
Corporals.. . . . .	0.85
Constables.. . . . .	0.50 to 0.75
Special constables and scouts..	0.75 to 1.50
Buglers.. . . . .	0.50
Artisans.. . . . .	0.50

The object of the Bill we have passed is to raise the pay of the officers by \$400 each, so that the commissioner who to-day receives \$2,600 will hereafter receive \$3,000; the assistant commissioner instead of \$1,600 will receive \$2,000; the superintendents instead \$1,400, \$1,800 and so on. It is not the intention of the government to give that increased amount of \$400 each immediately but to increase the pay at the rate of \$50 a year. However, the men who have been eight years in the service and more will receive eight times \$50; that is to say they will increase at the rate of \$50 for each year they have been in the service. The officers who have been seven years in the service will receive an increase of seven times \$50 or \$350, and so on. The same principle will be applied in granting the increases to the men of the force. They will be increased at the rate of five cents per

day for each year they have been in the service until they receive the increase of 25 cents a day. At present we engage our men at 50 cents a day and they work up to the maximum of 75 cents. We propose to engage them at 60 cents a day and to give a maximum of \$1 a day. The rate of addition will be the same as in the case of the officers. The men who have been a long time in the force will receive the full amount of increased pay and those who have been in only a certain number of years will receive a proportionate increase. This explains the increase of \$35,000.

There are no increases for forage, repairs to buildings, and new buildings.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I simply wanted to inquire the number of the force at present and where they are stationed.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. The force is calculated to be 600 men. It is kept at about 600. At present I think it is a little less. We have seven or eight different districts and about ninety different stations. Each district is in charge of the superintendent; we have one say at Regina, one at Macleod, one at Banff one at Fort Saskatchewan, and so on. The force is distributed all over the Territories from the boundary line up in the mouth of the Mackenzie river. We maintain a force and I conceive that we will be obliged to maintain a cordon of police on the boundary from the banks of the Red river up to the boundary of British Columbia. That is to say that for many years we will not be able to dispense with the services of the force on the boundary line. We have to do that not only to protect the country against the operations of smugglers but to protect property, also principally against horse thieves and criminals of that class. The moment these men do not see the uniform they will invade our country, but with the uniform at the boundary line we feel reasonably sure there will be no crime of that kind. That country has been remarkably free from crime up to the present time. Then we have at the present time forts extending all the way from the boundary to the Arctic ocean, in the district of Athabaska, along the Peace river, the Athabaska river and the Mackenzie river up to the mouth of the Mackenzie river. We have two small forts at the mouth of the Mackenzie river, one at Fort Mackenzie and the other on Herschell Island. In the lower parts of the country, that in the upper portions of the Peace river and the Athabaska river district, settlement is now going in and we find the police the best possible help to the settlers. At the mouth of the Mackenzie river the police are intended principally to protect the country against American poachers. American whaling men winter at the mouth of the Mackenzie river and the complaint is that their presence is not at all conducive to the best interests of the Indians, and the object