

Mr. CHAPLEAU. No; on the contrary, the sub-examiners do not correct the papers. They conduct the examinations and forward the papers to the examiners, who examine them and value them. I know one of the examiners who has had 3,000 or 4,000 papers to look over. These papers are valued only by the examiners, and not by persons outside.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. What precautions are taken by the examiners to ensure that a knowledge of the questions should not be conveyed in any way to parties about to be examined?

Mr. CHAPLEAU. The ordinary precautions which men of sense usually take.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. What is the custom?

Mr. CHAPLEAU. I can tell the hon. gentleman that the examiners have taken every precaution and have evinced a great amount of prudence and care in regard to the examinations, and in seeing that the papers are communicated to nobody. The discretion of the examiners has been so great, indeed, that I am sure none of the members of the Council have had any communication with them as to the examinations. The *personnel* of the examiners is well known to hon. gentlemen, and it is a sufficient guarantee of their probity and of the care and prudence they exercise in their duties.

Mr. CASEY. It is not a question of the intention of the examiners to do right, but we know that examiners, with the best of intentions, have sometimes been deceived by those who deal immediately with the candidates, those having the mechanical work to do. This happened in the Province of Ontario, in connection with the written examinations for school teachers, where the candidates got access to the papers by bribing somebody, and the result was that a new system was adopted, which is considered to be perfectly invincible. Although the Commissioners are men of the highest intelligence, they may not be up to all the tricks which may be played by candidates, and I hope the Minister will consult with them as to what precautions they adopt and see whether they meet his approval. We have not seen the report of the Civil Service Examiners this year. Has it been brought down?

Mr. CHAPLEAU. Yes; it was brought down within fifteen days of the opening of the Session—including all the examination papers, &c., as required by Statute.

Mr. CASEY. It is strange we have not got them, but I suppose the distributing clerk has been careless.

Mr. CHAPLEAU. The report, I believe, has been printed. It is very short, but the examination papers would make an immense volume. A list of the successful candidates at the different examinations has been printed and published in the official *Gazette*.

Mr. CASEY. Then the part to which I specially referred has not been printed. In England and the United States, and other countries, it is the custom to publish examination papers, and they should be published here as they are the gist of the ordinary report of the Board of Examiners.

Mr. CHAPLEAU. I am told by one of the examiners that there were 6,000 papers for one examination.

Mr. CASEY. Those are the answers, but I mean the questions.

Mr. BLAKE. I understood the Minister to say that this vote was, in fact, to make provision for a deficiency in the vote of 1882-83, and therefore it is not really to complete the service of 1883-84. Perhaps the hon. gentleman would state what the total expenditure was for the financial year which this sum is asked to complete; also the total expenditure for the current financial year.

Mr. CHAPLEAU. I have not the exact figures of the amount appropriated, but it is in excess of that voted last year.

Mr. BLAKE. I understand that examinations are held in various parts of the country on named days. I presume these examinations take place simultaneously, and that the papers are sent under seal to the sub-examiners, and opened only at the instant of examination. I would ask whether any candidate has been permitted a second opportunity of answering the papers.

Mr. CHAPLEAU. In two or three cases of examination for promotion, where, by some accident, which was not the fault of the candidate, but an error in the communication of the papers, the examiners have been authorized by an Order in Council to re-examine the candidates, of course from entirely new papers. This has occurred in two cases; for instance, in one case the papers were sent for one examination, but the wrong papers were given, in which case, of course, a certificate could not be awarded.

Mr. BLAKE. It was a mistake on the part of the examiners?

Mr. CHAPLEAU. Yes.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

222	For allowance for Secretary of Department, for performing the duties of Deputy-Head, absent through illness, as provided for in section 11, Canada Civil Service Act, 1882, from 1st July, 1883, to 30th June, 1884	\$700 00
	For difference of salary between \$1,300 and \$1,400, voted in Estimates of 1883-84, for Mr. J. F. Dionne, as first class clerk in Patent Branch of the Department of Agriculture, for "special responsibility of duties, and special technical qualifications"	100 00
	For difference of salary between \$700 and \$1,200, voted in the Estimates of 1883-84, for Mr. T. McCabe, a second class clerk in the Patent Branch of the Department of Agriculture, for "special and scientific attainments as Model Examiner"	500 00

Mr. BLAKE. What is the first item?

Mr. McLELAN. This amount is given Mr. Lowe under the eleventh section of the Act of 1882. Mr. Lowe performed the duties of a Deputy-Head, and this amount is to bring his salary as Chief Clerk to the amount provided by Statute.

Mr. BLAKE. And the second item?

Mr. McLELAN. This was provided for in the Estimates of 1884, under the head of Patents. The increases were given, and they were promoted for responsible and technical duties; but the Auditor objected to paying these particular persons without having their names specified. Therefore, the amount is just revoted here, with the names given.

Mr. BLAKE. Is it intended that these promotions shall take place without an examination for promotion?

Mr. McLELAN. They were promoted a year or two ago upon the certificate of the Deputy-Head for special technical qualifications in the examination of patents, and they received the promotion by Order in Council.

Mr. MILLS. I observe that in this vote the hon. gentleman takes an appropriation for the purpose of supplementing the salaries of officers of an inferior rank, who have been engaged in the discharge of the duties of those of a higher rank. I understood the First Minister to say, when we were discussing this subject before, that the Government invariably acted upon the rule, in that case, of giving the inferior officer the compensation of the superior officer.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I think that is the practice.

Mr. MILLS. Well, I wish to call the hon. gentleman's attention to a case in the Department of the Interior. Mr.