

Mr. HAZEN: I am not disposed to differ very much from my hon. friend. There is need for a very great reorganization in connection with the salaries paid to these fishery officers. We have been able to effect that reorganization up to the present time in the western part of Nova Scotia, where we have fewer officers than we have in other parts of that province, with the result that we give them larger territory to look after and greater recompense for their services. The same question will have to be grappled with in the other parts of Nova Scotia, but at the present time and in the past there has been such a large number of offices that the officers have been receiving small salaries. It would be better to have fewer officers and to give them larger salaries. I hope, if we live long enough, we shall have a reorganization throughout the whole province. Some of these officers are paid small amounts such as \$20 or \$25, and in this day and generation you cannot expect any service of value for remuneration of that sort.

Mr. COPP: I see by the Auditor General's Report that Mr. Robert Prescott, an overseer at Baie Verte, in New Brunswick, is receiving a salary of \$150, with travelling expenses of \$718.29.

Mr. McKENZIE: The \$150 is put at the wrong end.

Mr. COPP: I understand that the area is a large one, and as Mr. Prescott lives inland at some distance from the shore where the factories are, he receives so much per mile for travelling expenses. I am making only the same criticism as my hon. friend from Richmond (Mr. Kyte). From the Auditor General's Report I find that the expenditure in connection with the fishery overseers in the province of New Brunswick amounts to \$7,195.69, but under the heading of special guardians there is an expenditure for wages and disbursements up to March 31, 1916, of \$34,429.81. There are no items or explanations with regard to this, and I would like to know what it means.

Mr. HAZEN: That is all published in the official report, and I will get the information for my hon. friend.

Mr. McKENZIE: Is there any scale of disbursements? Is so much allowed for every mile travelled? Is any provision made for horse hire, or anything like that? I regret that the geographical knowledge of the minister is so limited that he does not know where Ingonish is, and I doubt the right of any gentleman to be in the Govern-

[Mr. Kyte.]

ment who does not know where that great place is situated. I know the inspector there, and I would like to know where he travels abroad so extensively, because he seems to be provided so amply with funds. Perhaps when these estimates come up again the minister will be able to tell me the number of miles this officer travels, where he goes and the extent of his district. If his district is Ingonish alone that is a magnificent spot in the summer time on the beautiful shores of the Atlantic, and a man ought to be willing to travel around there for nothing, as it is such a lovely spot.

Mr. HAZEN: You think he ought to be able to live on the sea breezes?

Mr. McKENZIE: I would like to know what Mr. Donovan is doing for his country for the money he is receiving.

Mr. HAZEN: I shall be very glad to get all the details for my hon. friend. As regards the question asked by the hon. member for Westmorland (Mr. Copp), Mr. Prescott is one of the regular fishery overseers and, like all the rest, where he owns a horse himself, he is allowed ten cents a mile for the distance he travels on business connected with his position. With regard to salaries and disbursements of fishery officers, if my hon. friend will look at page 363 of the Fisheries Branch of the Department of Naval Service, he will see the way in which the different items are made up. If, after looking at that, he desires further information, we shall be glad to furnish it.

Mr. OLIVER: I wish to draw the attention of the minister to a matter of hardship that is taking place under the administration of the department in connection with the fisheries at Lac la Biche, north of Edmonton. The minister is, of course, aware that in northern Alberta there are a number of important lakes which furnish white fish in large quantities, and that since the recent construction of railroads, those fish are available for the world market. The question of fishing in this lake has become a commercial matter and means the investment of considerable capital. Since the railroad was constructed to Lac la Biche, there was commercial fishing for export last year. This commercial fishing is done in this way. Certain companies establish the necessary plants of houses, ice-storing, box-making and so on, and either they provide small boats and rig-outs for actual fishermen, or fishermen come in and supply their own and sell their fish to these com-