

seven deaths occurred; that there were nine births; the population being five more than last year, the total population being 183. During last year we have adopted a new principle, and intend to cut down the expenditure for medicinal and other supplies in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick and the other provinces. Matters have not been running as satisfactorily as they might have done. No effort seems to have been made to make the Indians independent, but they have been brought up with the idea to look to the agent in case of distress and also for medical attendance. With the inauguration of the new system we expect next year to be able to show different results as regards medical expenditure.

Mr. BORDEN. The amount expended in 1892-93 for medical supplies and attendance was \$500 for a population of 180, or an average of about \$3 per head. If this rule were applied to the white population, the expenditure would be equal to \$50,000 a year for medical attendance and medicine, which would be ridiculous. How are the medical men paid?

Mr. DALY. The Indian population for the province is 2,141. Doctors receive 50 cents per mile going and coming and the cost of medicine, and nothing for attendance unless the patient requires surgical treatment; for an office consultation the doctor gets 50 cents. All the accounts are audited here.

Indians—British Columbia—

To provide additional amount for medical attendance and medicines.....	\$4,000
To provide an amount sufficient to pay the Department of Lands and Works, B.C., for the transport of Mr. F. A. Devereux, Indian Reserve Surveyor..	500

Mr. McMULLEN. Excessive charges appear in connection with the agencies in British Columbia. In one agency I observe out of a general expenditure of \$3,531, no less than \$925 was paid to doctors. At Fraser agency the total expenditure was \$10,984, and of that \$1,796 went to the doctors. At Kamloops station the total expenditure was \$3,860, and of that, \$1,532 was paid to the doctors. At the North-west Coast agency, over \$3,000 were paid to the doctors out of a total expenditure of \$10,000. At another agency, out of a total expenditure of \$2,458, over \$700 was paid for medical attendance. Such expenditures requires explanation from the Minister, because he is asking for an additional grant of \$4,000. In some cases, half the amount is paid to the doctors, and in other cases, 25 per cent, and from reading the report of the Department of Indian Affairs, I gather that the fewer doctors sent there the better, because the Indians appear to die more rapidly when they have medical attendance.

Mr. DALY. The appropriation made by Parliament in the main Estimates last session has been exceeded by the amount we

Mr DALY.

now ask. We had at the time the Estimates were before Council, unpaid accounts in the department for medical attendance in British Columbia to the amount of \$2,279. It will take fully that amount to meet the bills for the current year, up to 30th June. That will make a total expenditure in British Columbia of \$10,000 for medical attendance on an Indian population of 25,807 for the current year, as against an expenditure of \$11,044 in 1892-93, and an expenditure of \$13,600 in 1893-94. So we have effected a saving of \$3,600 compared with the former year, even with this \$4,000 added. No doubt we would not have required this additional amount if the sum asked last year had been granted in the main Estimates, but the Finance Minister thought the amount would not be required. No doubt this appears to be a large sum, but, in view of the large Indian population, the long distance to travel, and the fact that medical attendance is more expensive there than elsewhere in the Dominion, the amount does not appear excessive. We have already reduced the expenditure \$3,500 in one year, and the department is making efforts to effect still further reductions. I can give the exact expenditure on each of the reserves for medicine during the present year in British Columbia, which shows that between 1st July, 1894, and 7th January, 1895, it amounted to \$5,996.85. This \$4,000 will make up the \$10,000 expended, as against \$13,600 in the year previous. Where there are no doctors the medicines are handed out to the Missionaries to whom we supply them. The medical tariff in British Columbia is 50 cents a mile going, and 50 cents a mile returning, and 50 cents for medicines and \$1.50 for professional services. The department is very much in disgrace with the medical profession in British Columbia because we have seen fit to cut down their bills, and the doctors and the representatives of the province have made complaints. We have succeeded in cutting the expenses down \$3,500 in one year and I hope to reduce it still further.

Mr. PATTERSON (Brant). Have these bands no trust funds?

Mr. DALY. Very few of them. We support them principally in medical attendance, and if we do not do so they go back to the old habits of their tribes, which would result in something far worse to us than our expenditure in this direction.

Geological Survey—

Artesian boring in North-west Territories .....	\$9,000
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Mr. McMULLEN. What amount of money has been expended altogether for artesian boring?

Mr. DALY. There was appropriated last session for boring for petroleum at Athabasca \$7,000, and of that sum \$5,000 has been expended up to January last according to details given at pages 7—A to 12—A of the