

Branch. The work in that branch is now precisely what it has been ever since the Treaty regulations were made. Throughout the older Provinces, there has been no change. In the North-West, the hon. gentleman has still the same number of Indians to oversee that the late Administration had, but he has this advantage over the late Administration, that they had certain treaties to negotiate; I believe every year there was a treaty negotiated, which involved a considerable amount of expense. But so far as the administration of the work of the Department is concerned, it is now precisely what it was in 1878, except in so far as the hon. gentleman may have increased it by those unfortunate experiments in mining operations. Notwithstanding all this, we find that the expense of the Department has enormously increased. In 1878 there were eleven officers connected with the Indian Branch, whose salaries amounted to \$11,880; while there are now thirty-one officers, whose salaries amount to \$32,310. That is a threefold increase in the number of employees and in the expenditure. In 1878 we charged the salary of the Inspector of Indian Agencies in the North-West to the Department, he was treated as an officer of the Department, whereas, at present, the hon. gentleman charges the expense of that officer's salary to the appropriation for expenditure in Manitoba and the North-West Territories. I refer to Mr. McCaul.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. If the hon. gentleman would only enquire a little he would find that the business of the Department has enormously increased, and with respect to some of these salaries it is merely a transfer. For instance, the whole Toronto general agency was broken up and transferred here, and two officers, Mr. Plummer and Mr. Dalton, are transferred here, and their salaries are added to the inside service instead of being, as formerly, charged to the outside service. Mr. Dingman, who has been appointed an inspector, is also added to the number. If the hon. gentleman would happen, in his walks in the morning, to go into the office, I think his old employees would prove to him that the work is so severe that they were obliged to declare, especially in the Accountant's Branch, that they could not get on without further help. In fact, the book-keeper, the hon. gentleman knows, said he would resign unless he got some considerable assistance.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. There is a sort of symmetry, as my hon. friend will see. The cost is three times as much as it was in his time, and the First Minister is expending three times as much on the Indians as my hon. friend required to do.

Mr. BLAKE. I have no doubt that if the hon. gentleman wishes to vacate the office, my hon. friend will go there.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. If he knew how much worry these Indians sometimes cause me, I would not congratulate him on the change.

10. The Office of the Auditor-General \$18,925 00

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I perceive there have been some considerable changes. Will the hon. Minister explain?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. Mr. Barber was superannuated. He was a first-class clerk and received the maximum salary. One person has been promoted from second to first-class, another from third to second, and there has been a new appointment to the third-class, which will make a difference, notwithstanding an increase of \$50 in a few of them, of \$275 less than the year previous. This was due to the superannuation of a first-class clerk who was at the maximum and filling the position by a clerk at the minimum.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. What age was Mr. Barber?

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. He was not quite sixty, but he was superannuated on the certificate of his medical man, that he had heart disease and must retire from the service.

11. The Department of Finance and Treasury Board..... \$57,162 50

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. The clerks seem to be the same, but a messenger appears to have been abolished.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. One officer, Mr. Higgins, has been superannuated. He was at the maximum of his class. A messenger has been superannuated, and we do not propose to fill the position. There was a promotion of one employé to another class. Altogether there is a decrease of \$1,162.

12. The Department of Inland Revenue..... \$34,212 50

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I observe that some officers have been dropped and some changes made.

Mr. COSTIGAN. As regards the staff, there is no alteration in numbers. We have appointed an additional messenger. The Inspector of Standards has been transferred from the inside to the outside service. The first-class clerks have been reduced by one. This gentleman was estimated as first-class last year, because he was doing the duties pertaining to that class. This gentleman, Mr. Hall, although he passed the necessary examination, could not, it was held, under the Civil Service Act, rise at once from the third-class to the first-class, and therefore he is estimated this year as second-class. Mr. Devlin, last year, was third-class; this year he is second-class.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I observe there is no increase as between last year and the present year; but I do not think there was any great occasion for the increase which has taken place during the last few years. The expenditure has run up from \$26,000 to \$34,000, after disposing of the Inspector of Standards and also of a mechanic who used to be attached to that branch. The hon. gentleman is not responsible for that, but the increase is considerable.

13. The Department of Customs \$35,420 00

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Here is a considerable increase in various ways.

Mr. BOWELL. The hon. gentleman will see, on looking at the figures, that the principal increase is caused by the proposition to add to the staff two second-class clerks, either by promotion or by appointment. The Commissioner, the Chief Clerk and the Accountant are the same, \$50 statutory increase is given to the Clerk of Statistics. The first-class clerk, and Assistant Accountant, are at the maximum. The proposal is, as I have said, to add two second-class clerks. Some of the third-class clerks, instead of having been appointed at \$400, as provided in the Civil Service Act, are clerks who have been transferred from the outside service. Whenever I find it necessary to have an experienced man, one whom it would require twelve months to educate for the work, I have a man transferred from the outside to the inside service, under the Act, at the salary he received at the place from which removed; and then I appoint a third-class clerk for the outside service. I may explain to the Committee that these two clerks, at \$1,100, may not be appointed. If I find third-class clerks who have passed some of the optional subjects which would fit them for the positions, I will employ the cheaper ones. However, in the Accountant's Branch, where the clerks must have a knowledge, not only of the law, but of mathematics, so as to enable them to make the calculations for drawbacks, &c., a better class of men than you find among third-class clerks in the Department, is required, and I bring them from the outside service. That accounts for the apparent increase in this estimate. I may not, as was the case in regard to my last