

increase of business which has fallen upon the Customs Department, while the expenditure, in 1878, was \$44,600.

Mr. BURPEE. That includes the contingencies.

Mr. BOWELL. Yes, in both cases. The estimate for this year is only \$955 more than the expenditure of last year; and if you deduct the statutory increases from that \$955, you will find that the actual increase is only \$25.

Mr. BURPEE. The hon. gentleman knows that we had to pay, in 1878 and previous years, a very large amount on American invoices for advertising the discount. Of course, gold being now at par, that is not necessary. But that added largely at that time to the contingent account.

Mr. BOWELL. That is very true, but the expenditures for salaries alone was \$28,287 in 1878, against \$31,800 last year, notwithstanding the statutory increases.

14. Post Office Department \$141,125.00

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex). I would like to know the reason of this large increase. This appears to be a Department remarkable for its advancing expenses. In 1879, it had only ninety-two employes, last year it had 122, and now it is proposed to employ 161 persons. The salaries, in 1879, amounted to \$87,850, last year to \$116,970 and now it is proposed to take \$141,000. The increases are very serious. Perhaps the hon. Postmaster-General will explain them.

Mr. CARLING. A number of the salaries were paid last year out of contingencies, for instance, the eighteen packers, who are now put on the staff; and it has been found that, with the large increase of business in the Department, we require fourteen additional clerks to manage the work of the Department during the present year.

Mr. ROSS. I can understand that there should be an increase in the Savings bank Branch, owing to the large amount of money now being deposited, and perhaps in the Money Order branch; but in the Secretary's office, which I suppose is only for the ordinary business, there is an increase of five second-class clerks, four third-class clerks, and twenty-two packers. Do I understand that the whole of these increases were formerly paid out of contingencies?

Mr. CARLING. Thirty-two were. We have established 161 new post offices during the year; there has been an immense increase of business all over. In connection with that particular Department, the whole number of additional clerks is fourteen over that of last year.

Mr. CHARLTON. The increase of the Secretary's office amounts to 70 per cent. in the number of employes, and 35 per cent. in the expenditure. Do I understand that these clerks were employed in former years, and their salaries not included in the Estimates?

Mr. CARLING. Yes.

15. Department of Agriculture..... \$43,065.00

Mr. POPE. This is a very progressive Department. The increase arises, as a general rule, from the employment permanently on the staff of clerks formerly employed temporarily. The statutory increase of \$50 per year, amounts to \$1,035. In the appointments, which were necessary, were repairers, \$1,250; one patent clerk, \$400; there was a German engaged writing German pamphlets and correspondence, who speaks German, French and English, \$780. This German was but temporarily employed, and was paid by the day, and it was thought better he should appear here. In the Archives, it was found absolutely necessary we should have a French clerk, and the man employed was in the service before in the Immigration Department. There is no increase in his pay, although he is put here. This is Mr. Marmette. Mr. Lake, Chief of Statistics, has been for years drawing the same pay as now, \$1,500, but was paid out of

Mr. BOWELL.

contingencies. The promotions under the Civil Service Act, are: Mr. Currier, my Secretary, who gets \$100 a year promotion. Mr. Dion, who was taken from the second-class and made a first-class clerk in charge of the divisions, at an increase of \$100. Mr. Hanwright, who received \$400, receives \$100 more. Mr. McKay is a gentleman of great ability as examiner of patents, a branch which requires great skill. I do not know how we could replace him if he were to leave. He has been offered much more, and I have increased his salary \$450.

Mr. BLAKE. A statistical officer in the Census branch, Mr. Lake, the hon. Minister says was employed for the last ten years, but paid out of contingencies, and is now put on the permanent staff. Have we got to the end of that category?

Mr. POPE. It would be a great mistake to get to the end of the temporary clerks, for in case of pressure of work it is necessary to have their services.

Mr. BLAKE. I was not referring to temporary employment, but to what is really permanent employment, though for years paid out of contingencies. Have we reached the end of these temporary permanent officials?

Mr. POPE. I do not think we have. We have thought proper to keep up the staff, and as the business of the Department increases we give the preference to these temporary men for permanent positions.

16. Department of Marine and Fisheries..... \$35,000.00

Mr. CAMERON (Huron). No doubt a great many Departments are very progressive, and have much increase of business; but there are some in which there cannot be much, if any, increase. Take the Department of Marine and Fisheries. To what extent has business increased since last year to necessitate the employment of more men? I would like to understand what justification the Head of the Department has for this increase. I do not think he can be a particularly economical officer, judging by the increase that has taken place in the Department since he entered it. This year the hon. gentleman asks for \$35,000 to run this Department; last year he asked for \$31,020. In 1879, the Department only cost \$25,070, and there were twenty employes to do the work. Last year the hon. gentleman himself was able to manage the Department with twenty-five employes, at an expense of \$31,020. The increase this year, over 1879, is \$5,950. The increase in 1882 over 1878, was \$5,950; the increase in 1883 over 1882, was \$2,980; and the increase in 1883 over 1878-79, was \$9,930, and with an increase of ten more employes. I think it is only fair that we should know why these additions in the service are required.

Mr. McLELAN. I claim that the Department of Marine and Fisheries is a progressive Department. Every year a number of lighthouses are added, and new harbors are opened; and then there has been added to the Department the Signal Service branch of the Public Works. The bounty business has also been thrown upon this Department, which increases its work very much.

Mr. MACKENZIE. Who did the Signal Service before last year?

Mr. McLELAN. It was connected with the Public Works Department.

Mr. MACKENZIE. I do not think so.

Mr. McLELAN. It was transferred during the summer. There is a branch of the Signal Service now connected with the sea coast, with the fisheries, and in connection with shipping. The meteorological service has also extended very largely, involving additional correspondence, as does also the inspection of vessels, steamboats and hulls. I have the same reason to give that my colleagues have given for the