

House. In that case their duties should not be so exacting or onerous in the future as they have been in the past.

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: The classification of the Civil Service is not a thing that can ever end. New positions are being created and the duties and responsibilities of such new positions must be standardized. New duties may be added to the present duties involving the fresh classification of duties and responsibilities which also affects the range of salaries. Generally speaking, my hon. friend (Mr. Pedlow) is right that when the classification in the main has been adopted that part of the work should be very much less onerous upon the commission.

Mr. McKENZIE: I wish to emphasize what I said before, that if we are going to have efficiency, development and experience in the commission, they must do things themselves. If they are going to waive aside anything that presents a difficulty to them and call in another commission under them to decide the point for them, they will lose great opportunities of development and of acquiring experience for themselves. We know that all of us possibly prefer to call in a doctor of ten or twelve years' experience in preference to a young man who has just gone through some university and who has only had a few months' experience. Both doctors may have gone through the same course at college, but one has had a practical experience that the other has not had. Our commissioners are never going to get practical experience if they are going to switch the responsibility to some board. What we want is a commission which will get the experience and knowledge that come from doing things themselves. They may make a mistake, and they naturally will make mistakes. Human nature is disposed to get away from difficulties and switch them to somebody else. We want them to take the responsibility of doing disagreeable things. When we take positions we must learn that we must deal with these things, face them and try to do our duty even if they are disagreeable and irksome. I would say one word particularly in view of the fact that the chairman of the commission is here to-day. I wish him to have my views at first hand. I must say that I have always had the highest regard for him both in this House and outside of it.

I wish to say in his hearing that it is always a most marvellous thing to me that whenever they make any appointment in the part of the country I come from they in-

variably strike a Tory. Once in a while it might be an accident but when accidents occur they usually happen on both sides of the political fence, and right and left. If this is an accident it is a continuous accident in only one direction. I would have a great deal more regard for the commission and their friends if I found that sometimes they made a mistake and appointed a Liberal to a position. While they continue persistently selecting Tories I can only come to the conclusion that we have the same old Tory machine and the same old system of patronage, and that the commission is merely an instrument in the hands of the other patronage machines.

Resolution read the first and second time, concurred in, and referred to Committee of the Whole to be considered in connection with Bill No. 18.

CIVIL SERVICE ACT (1918) AMENDMENT.

On the motion of Hon. A. K. Maclean, the House went Committee on Bill No. 18 to amend the Civil Service Act, 1918, as reported by the Special Committee, with amendments, Mr. Boivin in the Chair.

On section 3—appointment of commissioners; salaries to be paid.

Hon. Mr. MACLEAN: I wish to move that 2 (a) be added as a new paragraph:

2 (a) Subsection 3 of section 3 of the said Act is amended by substituting the word "seven" for the word "six" in line three thereof, and the word "six" for the word "five" in line four thereof.

This is the principle involved in the resolution we were just discussing and which has passed Committee of the Whole.

Section as amended agreed to.

On section 8—examinations and appointments.

The CHAIRMAN: Clause 8 has been further amended by adding as a new paragraph (38 a) the following:

"The provisions of this Act shall not apply to positions in connection with the Government railways or any railway owned and controlled by His Majesty, or to any position or any ship of His Majesty until the Governor in Council otherwise directs; and the Governor in Council shall have power to make this Act apply in whole or in part to any of the said positions; and in any case where the commission decides it is not practicable to apply this Act to any position or positions, the commission, with the approval of the Governor in Council, may make such regulations as are deemed advisable, prescribing how such position or positions are to be dealt with."

Hon. Mr. MACLEAN: That is not really a new clause at all. Clause 38 of the Act