

are thousands of young men who would be glad to come to Ottawa and take their chances of rising on their intrinsic merit.

The **MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES**. There is no promotion for a temporary man.

Mr. **CLANCY**. There is nothing to prevent the hon. gentleman promoting any young man who shows that he has intelligence and industry enough to go forward. The law does not promote him, but he may be promoted.

The **MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES**. The leap is too great.

Mr. **FOSTER**. The leap was not too great for Mr. Keyes.

The **MINISTER OF FINANCE**. He could not get it under this Bill.

Mr. **FOSTER**. You can get over anything when you want to.

Mr. **CLANCY**. If it were shown that the class of men required for that work could not be obtained under other circumstances, that would be some reason for this measure; but this class is being created in order that permanent appointments may be made, leading to all the consequences which the hon. member for York pointed out as having obtained in the past. Surely we should profit by the experience of the past, and hon. gentlemen have not made the shadow of a case for the change. A young man who has a fair English education can do any part of that work. The experience of the past was, that the service was being constantly filled up with political appointments. It may be said that young men are unwilling to come to Ottawa at the salaries given. That was not the experience of the past. It may be said that they cannot live well on those salaries. The country is not obliged to tell the young men how well they are to get along. The experience of the past is that you cannot keep a young man back if he is industrious; he is bound to rise in the service, unless he is unfairly treated by one or other of the great political parties.

Motion agreed to; Bill read the second time, and House resolved itself into committee thereon.

(In the Committee.)

On section 1,

Mr. **G. E. FOSTER**, (York, N.B.) I am opposed to amending the Act, and I propose to give my reasons why. One thing that has been urged is that you are at a loss to find men to put into the second-class vacancies. Let us see how much there is in that. In the Privy Council you have eight men who are third-class clerks. Every one of these is eligible to promotion to any vacancy that may occur in the second class. I will ask any gentleman in this House if he

does not think there is quite sufficient material there for promotion, without making a new class. Will the Prime Minister himself say that these third-class clerks are so dull, so incapable for the execution of clerical work, as to be not fit to take any places which may become vacant in the second class? He will not say that.

The **POSTMASTER GENERAL** (Mr. Mullock). Nor does the Act say so, nor is it intended to have that effect, nor will it have that effect.

Mr. **FOSTER**. There are only two reasons for this Act. One is that given by the Minister of Agriculture, that his heart bleeds and his eyes weep because he sees young men and women whom he would like to promote and cannot. The other is that you cannot get material with which to fill up your second-class vacancies when they occur. In the Privy Council there is material enough to go upon for many and many a year without creating another class. In the Department of Justice, while there are not so many third-class clerks, there are still some who are available. However, that is a somewhat technical department, where a different grade of clerk is sometimes necessary from what is required in most of the other departments; he must have a knowledge of law in order to perform his duties. Coming to the Department of the Interior, you find a whole host of third-class clerks, some of them up to their maximum, and others in all grades of the service, from \$600 to \$1,000. There is evidently abundant material in that department from which to make promotions to any vacancies in the second class which may occur. The Department of Inland Revenue is the same.

The **MINISTER OF INLAND REVENUE**. Only two.

Mr. **FOSTER**. Very well, I would exhaust the two before forming another class. In the Department of Customs, there are names of third-class clerks whom I know very well, who have not reached their maximum to-day, and are well able to fill second-class positions if any vacancies occur. So, I might go through the whole service from one end to the other. Take the Post Office Department, it has some four pages of a list of third-class clerks, running from \$1,000 down to as low as \$600 or \$700.

The **POSTMASTER GENERAL**. There is not the slightest intention of passing them over.

Mr. **FOSTER**. Then, when you want to fill vacancies in second-class clerkships, that is where you ought to go for your material, and there is no necessity to form another class for the kind of work which is done by the clerks in the second and higher grades. My whole contention is based upon this fact, that the kind of work which is