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Increases for the Outside Service

The Estimates for 1913-14.

The main Estimates for the fiscal year 1913-14 were laid on the table of the House of Commons on Monday last, the 3rd inst. This is always an incident of some importance to the service at large, and this year it is unusually so. There are no special increases to the Ottawa service except in one or two instances. The large increase in the vote for Civil Government, which is \$364,395, is due to ordinary promotions and to the large increase in the staff, indicative of the growth of the business of the country. The number of clerks has increased from 3,491 in 1912-13 to 3,734 for 1913-14.

The increases to the Outside Service are particularly gratifying in view of the increased cost of living. Certain salaries for officers outside of Ottawa are scattered through a number of votes and it is not easy to pick them out. The votes for some of the larger services are published on the following pages in detail. The increase to the Excise officers is \$43,807 compared with \$31,000 for 1912-13. The Customs salaries are increased from \$2,700,000 to \$3,375,000, an increase of 25% as compared with only 9½% for 1912-13. The Post Office services are at last coming in to their own, so it would appear. The clerks in the city Post Offices are to get an increase from \$2,571,978 to \$3,618,459, the advance being \$1,046,481, or 40%, as compared with 12% for 1912-13. The Railway Mail Service is to get an increase of \$191,000, or 23%, as compared with 11% for 1912-13. The Post Office inspectors' officers are increased by 34%, as compared with 8% for 1912-13. The distribution of these large amounts to individual clerks, whether it is to be by bonus or increases in classification, is of course not known, but judging from the figures given the service is sure to benefit immensely. Congratulations are in order for the ministers concerned, especially Hon. Mr. Pelletier and Hon. Mr. Reid.