

Mr. LEMIEUX: Exactly. You have differentiated between the Deputy Minister of Justice and the others. If I mistake not, there is a marked difference in their salaries. In the case of the deputy Minister of Justice, Mr. Newcombe, you have given him a larger salary than his minister, a salary equal to that of the Prime Minister; but do you believe that the other deputy heads are satisfied with that? If you persist in differentiating, you will accumulate on your head any amount of trouble. I cannot say that I shall be sorry for it.

Mr. WHITE: What about the Deputy Minister of the Department of Naval Service and the Deputy Minister of the Department of Agriculture, who is also Deputy Commissioner of Patents, under the late Government?

Mr. LEMIEUX: It is always the 'tu quoque' argument.

Mr. WHITE: Had you purgatory?

Mr. LEMIEUX: No, we had something better than purgatory. If the hon. gentleman differentiates and lays down the principle that some deputy heads must remain at \$5,000, while some others shall get \$6,000, \$7,000, or \$8,000, I can only predict for him all sorts of trouble in the future, but it will be his own fault.

I hope that the hon. gentleman will change his mind. He might wait until next year to frame a schedule of salaries for all the classes of the Civil Service; but surely this year, with the hard times, the high cost of living, he should think of the under-dog—the messenger at \$500, the other poor fellows at \$800, \$900 or \$1,000. Can he afford to leave them with these salaries? My hon. friend has a tender heart, and will surely think of the families of these poor civil servants, and give them this year the much-needed relief.

In a memorial sent by the Civil Service Federation there are some good suggestions.

Mr. WHITE: I have that memorial.

Mr. LEMIEUX: As regards promotion, the memorial states:

The present method of effecting promotions is discouraging and unsatisfactory; influence and favouritism being frequently more potent factors than merit. The remedy desired is the appointment of an independent promotion board with power to investigate and report upon all recommendations or applications for promotion—promotion to depend upon a favourable report. The Civil Service Commission, reconstituted with three members and endowed with all necessary powers, would be an acceptable

board, though in the opinion of many the scheme would be incomplete without provision being made for an appeal from the decisions of the board.

I would ask my hon. friend to consider well this proposal of the Civil Service Federation during the vacation. I am glad to hear that he intends spending some time during the summer and the fall in looking after the Civil Service, but he should at once do something for the lower division of the service.

Mr. FRIPP: I feel that I ought to say a few words on this question, which is of very great importance, not only to the Civil Service of Canada, but directly to a large section of the people in the city of Ottawa whom I have the honour to represent.

I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister of Finance on submitting this resolution. No one living in the city of Ottawa knows better than he does that the civil servants have been suffering for some years on account of their salaries, and the divisions under which they find themselves under the present Civil Service Act. I do not know of any class of persons upon whom the high cost of living has fallen more harshly than upon the salaried class, and that, of course, affects about 3,500 of the civil servants of Canada who are living in the city of Ottawa. I would like to emphasize what the hon. member for Rouville (Mr. Lemieux) has so well said, and with all of which I agree.

There have been placed in my hands some statistics with which I think the House ought to be acquainted, because I intend to urge, as he did, the absolute necessity of coming to the aid of the lower grades of the service. This is a statement showing the number of employees of the inside service at the maximum of their respective grades at different times:

	1909-10.	1910-11.	1913-14.
Lower grade messengers, etc. . . . .	20	111	147
Third Division, grade A . . . . .	42	181	322
Totals . . . . .	62	292	469

When it is remembered that, of the whole Civil Service, at least 87 per cent earn on an average only \$1,042 a year, the House will see how important it is to recognize the just claims of those in the lower grades. If you take the messenger grade and the third division, they represent over 50 per cent of the Civil Service, with an average salary of \$821.24.