

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

77. Departmental administration, \$129,300.

The CHAIRMAN: Shall the item carry?

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): No, not by any means.

The CHAIRMAN: Shall I report progress?

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): Before that is done, I should like to say to the minister that when his estimates are taken up I will expect him to give the committee a full explanation of the recent changes in his department and the occasion therefor. I shall not mention the other things I have in store for him.

Item stands.

Progress reported.

At eleven o'clock the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant to standing order.

Wednesday, June 26, 1940

The house met at three o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION RESPECTING CERTAIN EMPLOYEES

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to lay on the table of the house a report of the civil service commission recommending the appointment of Miss Gladys Northcott as clerk, grade 4, in the law branch of the House of Commons.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister) moved:

That the report of the civil service commission laid on the table of the house on the 26th instant, recommending the appointment of Miss Gladys Northcott as clerk, grade 4, law branch of the House of Commons, be approved.

Hon. R. B. HANSON (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to have some little explanation from the Prime Minister. In all the years I have been a member of this house I never heard of such a motion before. It may be a new departure. I think the house ought to be informed of what is really going on, and why.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: The house has to approve appointments of its clerks where recommended by the civil service commission. The civil service commission has recommended this particular appointment of Miss Northcott as clerk, grade 4, in the law branch of the house. In making the motion I am simply taking the necessary step to have the commission's recommendation approved by the house.

[Mr. R. B. Hanson.]

It is the usual formal way of proceeding with respect to appointments of officials of the house.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): I thought it was always done through the estimates.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: No, the house approves the recommendation of the civil service commission with respect to its own staffs. A day or two ago the civil service commission also recommended that three long-term temporary employees of the House of Commons be made permanent. In a moment I should like to make a similar motion regarding that particular recommendation.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): I am not opposing this at all, but with respect to the first case I would ask if ever this procedure was adopted before.

Hon. PIERRE F. CASGRAIN (Secretary of State): Yes, Mr. Speaker. It was done on many occasions in the last parliament, when, for instance, certain long-term temporaries on the staff of the House of Commons were recommended for permanency, a competition was held under the auspices of the commission and the commission recommended permanency. It is the custom to introduce a resolution in the house and have it adopted confirming the appointment recommended by the commission.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING moved:

That the recommendation from the civil service commission regarding the permanency of three long-term temporary employees of the House of Commons, namely, Miss L. A. Kearns, Miss I. A. Boyce and Mr. L. C. Hill, be approved.

Mr. GREEN: May I ask the Prime Minister a question on this motion? Does making these officials permanent instead of temporary involve any reduction in salary?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Not necessarily. I should think it would leave the salary scale about where it has always been.

Motion agreed to.

PRIVATE BILLS

FIRST READINGS—SENATE BILLS

Bill No. 57, for the relief of Muriel Agnes Martin Beech.—Mr. Hazen.

Bill No. 58, for the relief of Alfred Reinhold Roller.—Mr. McIlraith.

Bill No. 59, for the relief of Sarah Kerzner Spilberg.—Mr. Factor.

Bill No. 60, for the relief of Christina Smith Dunlop Andrique.—Mr. Edwards.

Bill No. 61, for the relief of Anna Shepherd.—Mr. Abbott.