

poses in the lands branch of the Interior Department.

Mr. CHAPLIN: Are they appointed by the Civil Service Commission?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): Yes. As far as I have been able to learn, all officials who are employed at Ottawa are under the control of the Civil Service Commission.

Mr. GUTHRIE: Is the increase of \$21,380 an increase authorized or resulting from some ruling of the Civil Service Commission, or is it by reason of some statute? I understood the minister to say, statutory increases.

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): I presume it is the increase that is granted. Perhaps, I can explain it in this way. I find, in some of the branches of the service, that officials are retired probably at the maximum salary of the position, and when the position is filled, the appointee begins at the minimum. Therefore, there is a slight reduction; but all those increases until the officials reach their maximum apparently involve increased considerations annually. I do not know when the end of this reclassification will be reached; I presume it must be nearly reached by this time; but, in many instances, reclassification will probably mean that a very considerable amount must be voted for any individual civil servant affected. I understand the Civil Service Commission are taking the ground that temporary service must be temporary service according to the way that I would understand it—service for a period of three, four, five or six months—and that those who are now designated as temporary will have to be blanketed in in the permanent service.

Mr. MANION: Do those temporary employees get the gradual increases the same as the permanent employees?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): Temporary employees do not get statutory increases; the increases in this item apply to the permanent staff. There are about seventy employees on the survey staff, of whom about fifty are blanketed in. The remainder are not, although I find a number of these men have been employed since 1909-10. I imagine difficulties have arisen with individual cases, and they have not yet been taken in. Hence, there are many difficulties to explain; at least, I find it difficult to understand the grading and classification of the Civil Service.

[Mr. Charles Stewart.]

Mr. CHAPLIN: While the minister has his deputy beside him, can he explain what the classification of a temporary employee means?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): Supposing I put it in this way: A temporary employee in the real sense, or as I or any one else would understand the matter, would be a beginner in the service under trial.

Mr. CHAPLIN: And he would be there for only a certain short period?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): I think the difficulty arises because the reclassification is not all completed. I just mentioned one of the difficulties that we are involved in at present in connection with the survey employees, who have undoubtedly been permanent as we would designate them, inasmuch as they have been in the service since 1910. Naturally, we would say that they are permanent. The real classification of a temporary employee should be one who is a beginner, who is on probation until such time as he proves efficient and is taken into the service permanently. But that is not the position these men are in; they are designated as temporary until the final blanketing-in order is put through making them permanent in character.

Mr. CHAPLIN: The explanation of the minister is all right; but is there anything in the printed classification defining a temporary employee?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): I think there will be, once the reclassification of the whole service is finished. Our difficulty is that the Civil Service Commission has not yet finished with the classification of the service.

Mr. GUTHRIE: I think it is defined in the statute.

Mr. LEWIS: With regard to the first item, I think the time must surely come when the lands of the Dominion will have to be settled and when there will be no necessity to employ these men and pay these salaries out year by year. Most of our lands are already settled, or are being settled, and additional lands are not being found which these men can survey. For that reason I should like to see these amounts gradually decreased rather than increased.

Item agreed to.