

Q. Wait a minute? The first appointment, or the last appointment you are talking about?—A. My first appointment.

Q. That was eleven years ago?—A. Yes.

Q. What year was that?—A. 1910, and my observation covering a period of eleven years is that while the system, as any system, will have its weaknesses and its defects, and while mistakes will be made and necessarily be made, I am satisfied that on the whole the persons who have been appointed to the public service no matter under what system they come have given a very respectable measure of efficient service.

*By Mr. Euler:*

Q. I don't like to get the causes confused. Mr. Johnston has spoken of the difficulties and the unrest in the department and I asked him the question if he did not think it was the result of re-classification, the dissatisfaction in that? Is this Bill badly designed or is it designed to correct mistakes, if we may call it, in the matter of appointments by the Commission itself? If the difficulty, as Mr. Johnston mentions, is the result of classification, then that is where the change should be made.

*By Hon. Mr. Calder:*

Q. If you will turn to section 3 "the powers of the Commission under subsections 1, 2 and 3 of section 42, of the Civil Service Act, 1918, as enacted by chapter 10 of the second session of 1919, shall be exercisable only subject to approval by the Governor-in-Council, and the Governor-in-Council shall have power to amend the classification of the first day of October, 1919, by the establishment of additional classes, grades and positions, and to divide, alter or abolish existing classes or grades; also to change, revise, amend and alter the designation of name descriptive of any class or position, and the definition of class or description of duties thereunto appertaining; provided that any such amendment when proposed shall be referred to the Civil Service Commission, who shall be afforded an opportunity to report thereon for the information of the Governor-in-Council before the same is sanctioned."

If I understand that section, as it is there, it simply means that the Governor-in-Council, is asking to take power to review this whole question of classification and if necessary stop it or change it in any way.

*By Mr. Thompson (Yukon):*

Q. Can you tell us how many people are employed in the Department of Marine and Fisheries throughout Canada? Can you tell us?—A. Roughly speaking there are in headquarters 140 people here at Ottawa. We have light keepers 1,083; We have employees at agencies which vary somewhat, but at the present time it is 666, and we have harbour masters and wharfingers, 653; we have a dredging fleet operating during the summer months upon which the number of employees varies. Of course during the past few years the number has been small by reason of the fact that our operations have been very much restricted, that is to say, there are about 200 people employed. We have employed on our various vessels operating at the different agencies employees varying from 200 to 300. That means Sorel.

Q. Yes?—A. Sorel, employing about 250 people.

*By Mr. Thompson (Yukon):*

Q. Do you consider that any of those departments under you are overmanned?—A. No, because what we call the services outside the city of Ottawa, we regulate our service there very much by what our requirements may be. At headquarters here, while there may seem to be overmanning, I am satisfied that if the matter were closely and intelligently inquired into it would be discovered that there is no real overmanning. I sometimes think myself that the work could be done in my department with fewer people, but when you take into consideration that during the summer

[Mr. Alexander Johnston.]