

Q. We have evidence here from three of the other deputies to this effect, that professional men, technical experts—you say you have really none of that class. You say you have men specially trained but they cannot be regarded as expert men, as you have none of that class, but outside of that, if I am not mistaken, already three of the deputies held the view that in so far as their more responsible officials are concerned—just for example, name one or two of your branches. You have a Postal Order Branch here at Ottawa with a man in charge of it?—A. Money Order?

Q. Yes?—A. No, that is in the general office.

Q. Have you a general inspector over the whole system?—A. Yes.

Q. That is one chief official. Name some other officials you have.—A. Express and Railway Mail Service.

Q. Take men of that class, that is your key men, the men you must depend upon for the proper administration of business. Do you think these men should be appointed by the Commission?—A. I do.

Q. That is your view?—A. Yes.

*By Mr. Euler:*

Q. The Deputy Minister of Marine and Fisheries and the Deputy Minister of Justice I think stated the other day that in no case do the deputy heads make recommendations to the Commission as to the appointment. I understood, Dr. Coulter, that in this department recommendations are made from the Post Office Department to the Commission. Is there a variation in the practice from the other departments?—A. Oh, yes. The Post Office Department is different from almost every other department. It is the training they get in the offices. If they are good administrators and they take up their work well and are energetic, that is what we want.

Q. Right up to this stage do you make recommendations to the Civil Service Commission as to who should be appointed?—A. Not as to who should be appointed, no.

*By Mr. Kennedy:*

Q. In other words you have been co-operating closely with this Commission?—A. Yes.

Q. In your appointments?—A. Yes.

Q. You would recommend certain appointments and practically in every case they have agreed to your recommendations?—A. With the exception of one or two.

Q. Supposing you were not called upon for recommendations, and the Commission without consulting with you were carrying on this work. You would consider they could not do it satisfactorily?—A. I would object to that at once.

Q. In fact you are really doing now what you did before?—A. Practically, yes.

Q. You are recommending—A. Practically, yes, and we are able to do it freely now and we were not able to do it freely before.

*By Mr. Euler:*

Q. Were we not told that a year ago the law was changed to this effect that the departments no longer had any right to make recommendations to the Commission? I wonder if that does not apply to the Post Office Department.

Hon. Mr. CALDER: I think it altogether depends on the position. In Mr. Johnston's case he did not say his officers did not make recommendations. So far as certain classes of officers are concerned they make certain recommendations. His men out in the country made recommendations, and these recommendations in the main I think were accepted. Now I don't think the doctor would say if the Postmaster here at Ottawa died you should make a recommendation to the Commission as to who should be wanted?—A. No, unless we promoted him from the ranks, then we would let the Commission know our opinion.