

Mr. MURPHY: Has the hon. gentleman got the date of the Order in Council to which he referred?

Mr. CALDER: I have not a copy here. It must have been made about two years ago.

Mr. MURPHY: Will the hon. gentleman be good enough to bring it down?

Mr. CALDER: Yes.

Mr. MURPHY: Who defines the duties for each of these positions which are set forth in the advertisements of the Civil Service Commission inviting applications?

Mr. CALDER: The same practice prevails there as in all the departments. The department in the first place suggests to the commission what the duties should be. If any objection is taken by the commission, then I presume there would be a conference between the departmental officials and the commission, and as a result the duties would be finally fixed.

Mr. MURPHY: I understand that the general rule is as the hon. gentleman states it, but I should like to know who defines the duties of this particular position. Is it the hon. gentleman, or his department, or the Civil Service Commission, or this Council of Women?

Mr. CALDER: That would be done by the deputy head of the department in consultation with his chief officer.

Mr. MURPHY: Does the hon. gentleman know that that has actually been done?

Mr. CALDER: I would think so.

Mr. MURPHY: Can the hon. gentleman say so definitely?

Mr. CALDER: I have no knowledge to the contrary.

Mr. LEMIEUX: Does the Council of Women hold regular sessions?

Mr. CALDER: I think their meetings have been confined to one annually.

Mr. LEMIEUX: Are they paid to attend such sessions?

Mr. CALDER: If I mistake not, we paid their travelling expenses the first time they met; since then, they have paid their own travelling expenses.

Mr. MURPHY: Have advertisements been published inviting new applications for the position?

Mr. CALDER: That I cannot say.

[Mr. Calder.]

Mr. MURPHY: Does the hon. gentleman know when such applications will be invited?

Mr. CALDER: That I cannot say.

Mr. MURPHY: Could the hon. gentleman state who were applicants for the position, and what their respective standings were?

Mr. CALDER: I do not know the name of one of them. I never had the list before me, and I never made inquiries. I have persistently kept away from the Civil Service Commission and their work, and I propose to continue to do so. I never heard the name of a single applicant for that position, and I do not want to.

Mr. MURPHY: Surely my hon. friend would not take the attitude that for a position comprising part of the machinery of his department he is going to allow one or two outside bodies to define the duties of that position, and generally to disregard him in the appointment?

Mr. CALDER: That is our law.

Mr. MURPHY: No, that is not the law, I beg my hon. friend's pardon. Now, in connection with another department—in regard to which my hon. friend could get information from one of his colleagues—an incident happened, something similar to the one we are discussing, and my fear is that instead of having regard for the duties attaching to this position, and for the good that may be done by the person occupying it, there is danger that certain qualifications may be drafted which, like a suit of clothes or a hat or a pair of boots, will fit only one particular person, so that nobody else, no matter how much better qualified, may obtain the position. Hence my curiosity.

Mr. CALDER: That did not occur here, surely.

Mr. MURPHY: I hope not. I am curious to know why nobody was appointed out of these dozen applicants and why the position is to be re-advertised. The fact that my hon. friend says he does not know anything about the matter merely increases my suspicion that some busybodies—with whom long residence in Ottawa makes us fairly familiar, no matter which Government is in power—have been at work. In another department a job—not to put too fine a point upon it—has been “framed up” for a person who is not even a resident of this country, and the qualifications have been so drawn that they just apply to this