

the same services by the United States. I should like to ask the minister what he proposes to do this year for these underpaid, hard working civil servants of this country?

Mr. CARDIN: We have considered the representations which have been made to us and the minimum salary for a light keeper has been increased to \$100.

Mr. SHORT: That is for just the lowest grade?

Mr. CARDIN: Yes.

Mr. SHORT: Has there been no increase granted to the other grades?

Mr. CARDIN: No. Several particular cases have been considered, but there has been no general increase.

Mr. SHORT: Then you do not propose to increase any grade except the lowest one, where you have increased the minimum from \$60 to \$100? Those are just the small lightkeepers who simply light their lights at night and put them out in the morning. You have not considered grades 6 to 10 or 11 to 15 at all?

Mr. CARDIN: No.

Mr. SHORT: Do you not think the request of the Lightkeepers' Association was very reasonable? They asked for an increase of only about \$90 in grades 11 to 15, and about \$80 in grades 6 to 10. I think these are very reasonable requests which would not involve a very large sum of money. I would have expected the minister to grant such a request.

Mr. CARDIN: Apparently the representatives of the lightkeepers were more concerned with the lower classes than with those receiving a higher salary, but we are quite willing to consider any particular case which may arise. I think the lightkeepers themselves, generally speaking, are satisfied with the increase we have given the lower class, but the door is not closed.

Mr. SHORT: My information is that they are not satisfied. I know some lightkeepers who are getting only \$240 per year and who have not had an increase for many years. Everyone knows that the cost of living has increased very materially, and simply because a man lives in a remote district along the coast of Nova Scotia does not mean that his cost of living has not increased proportionately as it has increased elsewhere. I know one man who walks a mile at night to light his light and the same distance in the morning to put it out, and he gets only \$240 a year.

Mr. FRASER: I should like to ask a few questions in regard to the recent appointment of fishery guardians in British Columbia.

Mr. SHORT: Let us get through the marine items first before we go on with fisheries. There is another matter about which I want to speak. Has the minister given any further consideration to the use of hydroelectric power in light houses where such is available?

Mr. CARDIN: Consideration has been given to this matter, and I can inform my hon. friend that the Point Prim light will be electrified.

Mr. SHORT: This matter was brought up last year. The line has been extended to the lighthouse and I was wondering what arrangements would be made.

Mr. CARDIN: They will be completed this week.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): The speech from the throne contained the following paragraph:

The report of the royal commission appointed to inquire into the existing situation with respect to radio broadcasting in Canada will be presented for your consideration.

That report was without question a very excellent one, and many people expected the government to act upon it. I am informed that subsequent to the introduction of the report a bill was prepared, but for some reason that bill was not presented to the house. Agitation was created by some private interests, particularly a notable newspaper, and this seemed to acquire some support. A special committee of the house was appointed with a great blare of trumpets; the press carried photographs of members of the committee with the announcement of the great work they were to do. That committee was never convened although on two occasions I myself requested the chairman to call a meeting.

I deplore the fact that the government did not press for the passage of a bill based upon this report. Since a bill is not to be introduced this year, will the minister give an assurance to the house and to the country that no further licences will be granted to private interests until this question of the control of radio has been definitely decided? I have no desire to embarrass the minister by multiplying the complications, but this result would be brought about by the granting of further broadcasting licences. The question