

of the positions now in the Civil Service in the classification established and confirmed—

And so on. If the commissioners were at liberty to spend \$50,000 or \$60,000 in doing what they did, they might go on spending another \$10,000 or \$20,000 on this work.

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: I am informed by the chairman of the commission that the commission did have the authority of the Government to proceed with this work.

Mr. HOCKEN: By Order in Council?

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: Yes.

Mr. HOCKEN: Can the minister produce that Order in Council?

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: I cannot produce it at the present. If there is such an Order in Council, I can produce it later.

Mr. HOCKEN: That is the point.

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: The chairman also informs me that authority for the expenditure was given by the Government and subsequently incorporated in the Estimates at the last session of Parliament, when a lump sum was voted for this work.

Mr. HOCKEN: That is to say, a sum was put in for the Civil Service Commission?

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: No, to pay for this.

Mr. HOCKEN: Specifically to pay for the classification.

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: Yes.

Mr. HOCKEN: Was that in the Estimates of last session?

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: I think it was.

Mr. HOCKEN: I could not find it. I will look it up.

Mr. J. H. SINCLAIR: I do not wish to worry the minister too much about this able seaman, but—

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: I was using that only as an illustration. I would be quite satisfied if the hon. member would drop the able seaman and take up something else.

Mr. J. H. SINCLAIR: The minister informed the committee that this was the first time in the history of the country that the duties of an able seaman had been defined and he inferred that a great thing had been done because those duties had been defined. I want to tell the minister that this is absolute nonsense; that he might as well attempt to define the duties of a farm labourer,

and if he did he would have a very difficult task to perform. If an able seaman is asked to take a scuttle of coal out of the hold in order to warm up the captain's cabin he will turn up the book and tell you that that is not in the book and consequently that is not his job. That is the result of an attempt to define the duties of a seaman.

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: Those duties are not exhaustive; they are only an outline.

Mr. J. H. SINCLAIR: The work I am putting the seaman at now is not mentioned in the book, and that is only an example of scores of other things that an able seaman has to do every day. So when a man attempts to define the duties of a seaman he is attempting a task which he should not attempt at all. I presume my hon. friend will attempt to run his ships under the mercantile laws of the country. The ships will have to be run under the rules of the merchant marine, and in those rules the able seaman is employed for one voyage. He may be employed for the return trip, but when he arrives at the port, when his voyage is completed, it will be the duty of the captain to discharge him, to take him before an officer of the Board of Trade, or the shipmaster, or the British Consul and give him his discharge in the presence of that officer. Then as a rule he employs a new crew for his next voyage; he does not necessarily have to have the same crew, and he employs them at the rate of wages that is current in that port.

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: I do not think that is the practice.

Mr. J. H. SINCLAIR: If you went into the port of New York to-day, you would not get a single sailor at the highest rate of pay mentioned in the list, which I think is \$60.

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: We have them now.

Mr. J. H. SINCLAIR: You cannot. You have not them at that rate.

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: Yes, we have.

Mr. J. H. SINCLAIR: I do not think so. I do not think anybody else has, because very much larger wages than that are being paid at the present time, and the rate goes up and down from week to week. An attempt to set down a permanent rate would be nonsense, and it would not work at all in connection with the business. These things are not done by rules of that kind. The captain will be under the necessity of conducting his business like any other mer-