

Ways and Means

Mr. Nowlan thereupon moved for leave to introduce Bill No. C-105 for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the public service for the financial year ending the 31st March, 1963.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: When shall the said bill be read the second time? By leave, now?

Some hon. Members: Now.

Mr. Nowlan moved the second reading of the bill.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and the house went into committee thereon, Mr. Chown in the chair.

On clause 1—*Short title.*

Mr. Chevrier: There is one question I should like to ask, if I may. The interim supply document that was circulated at the outset contained a number of items of the estimates. However, as I look at page 3, schedule A, I see just three items and the bill seems to refer to more than one schedule. Is part of this bill missing?

Mr. Knowles: See clause 2.

Mr. Nowlan: There is nothing missing, Mr. Chairman. The resolution, paper or document to which my hon. friend referred exempted certain items which are not included in the bill, "save and except". That is what made the resolution look longer than what he was looking for. This was deliberately excluded from the bill as the moneys had already been voted. We therefore did not include them in the bill.

Mr. Knowles: By special invitation of the minister I am going to ask him a question at this stage.

Mr. Nowlan: An unwilling invitation.

Mr. Knowles: In tonight's *Journal* I notice there is a report which says that I tried yesterday to get certain information from the minister and that I was unsuccessful for the second time. The *Journal* is out by 300 per cent or 400 per cent. I was unsuccessful yesterday for about the sixth time. As the minister knows, a week ago last Monday he made certain announcements about increases in salary for the public service and there followed for the next few days certain questions. On Thursday in particular, a week ago today, I asked him if he could tell the house whether there were any categories of the civil service for whom the civil service commission had recommended pay increases but who were not given such increases by the government. He told me last Thursday that

[Mr. Nowlan.]

he did not happen to have the information but that he would get it later. I asked him again on Friday and he told me he would try to produce it early this week. I asked him on Monday but he did not have it. I asked him on Tuesday and he did not have it. I asked him on Wednesday and he still did not have it.

May I say, Mr. Chairman, that the present minister is not that kind of minister. He is really in command of his job. I am sure that he knows the answer to this question, and I do not know why he has kept putting me off. I could find other questions to ask on the orders of the day. I am not obliged to keep repeating the same one. I ask him now to answer this question, and to clear this matter up. The reason I do so is this. Not only do many civil servants feel that they were dealt with unjustly in that they were not given increases, but there is a strong feeling that the minister has tried to put the blame elsewhere than on the government when, in fact, that is where it should be placed. A week ago Tuesday, when the hon. member for Hull asked a question about certain groups which had not been given increases, the Minister of Finance blamed the pay research bureau. The next day, in response to my question he blamed the civil service commission. My understanding is that there are a number of categories of classified civil servants for whom recommendations were made by the civil service commission on the basis of reports to it by the pay research bureau, which the government on the advice of treasury board did not implement. I understand as well that there are some instances in which pay increases were recommended by the civil service commission, but that the government on the advice of the treasury board, which after all is the Minister of Finance, scaled down those recommendations.

As I say, there are two things here which I think constitute real grievances. On the one hand many civil servants did not get their increase. On the other hand, the minister has sought to leave the impression that the blame rested on the civil service commission or the pay research bureau. I therefore ask him now this question: Were there such categories of civil servants for whom recommendations for an increase were made but were denied by the government? If so, how many and what is he going to do about it?

Mr. Nowlan: Many changes were made, of course, in some of the recommendations which were brought forward. When I said, "the civil service commission" I was referring, of course, to the pay research bureau which operates for the civil service commission in