and Mrs. T. L. and Mrs. Robrere recently dsor, who has r in Wolfvilla. son, Boston.

15.86

CHANGES SUGGESTED IN REPORT OF CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Serious Charges Made Against Officials of Marine and Fisheries Department, but as No Particular Official is Named. Mr. Brodeur Will Demand a Fuller Investigation

Too High Salaries Paid in Militia Department Including That of Brother of Leader of Opposition-Adoption of British System Urged—Commissioners Think better Inducements Should be Held Out to Brilliant Young Men Who Enter Civil Service—Would Appoint Fewer Girls.

bulky document which discusses a by limiting the field for promotion wide range of questions and relative to the higher classes, prove detrimental costi lightship, winding up with this to the civil service, the living condi- to the development of the higher and statement that "It seems to be a pretty departments and of parliament. There are recommendations for the change many respects and of parliament ita strong tendency to recommend the adoption of the British system in

In a general way it may be said that crease in the pay of the officers of the government at Ottawa and elsewhere per cent that good men may be attracted to the service and retained of the methods of work and there is partments in particular. In connection with the militia de-

of the leader of the opposition, as bea high salary, more than would be paid for similar duties in a business. faction among the officers of the other They advise that the Civil Service

Act be repealed and fresh provision With reference to salaries the com

ranks of the service are paid less than they would receive in outside occupations and less than modern conditions demand. No efficient deputy head party purposes, and in the expectation should be paid less than \$5,000 a year. that campaign literature may be de-Chief clerks, first class clerks, should

say it is difficult to obtain proper as- like that in Great Britain. sistance at a minimum salary of \$500. The commissioners

ployes be classed as in England as ments. He examines the printing bu-

on his merits. The service should be were proper or excessive. In many entirely free from political favoritism cases stores were ordered unnecessar-

Should Act at Once

The commissioners are of the opinion that salaries should be dealt with immediately. They cannot recommend general increases but they would suggest taking votes for granting infor Eastern Canada, both in the inside and outside service, such increase \$1,500, and 12 1-2 per cent for salages above that rate, and for the western provinces where no doubt a greater need per cent to the same proportions of incomes and all provisonal allowances should cease. The higher officials, such as deputy heads, are underpaid in by persons in outside avocations. The without change of duties. In some departments the number of chief clerks

other departments. there should be, below the deputy heads, a rank of officers having spedal and technical qualifications, such | Marine and Fisheries as the officers of the experimental farms, engineers, architects. Below these there should be a chief for each branch as accountant, chief of corresany other important special work. Beany other important special work. Below these there should only be the spondence. The department, they say, is practically swamped with correspondence and the custom seems to be that each letter has to be an any some one in the department who is supposed to be an falt with the subject.

on his merits.

The service should be entirely free from political favoritism or patronage; that appointments should only be made by merit after competitive examinations; and that for that purpose a permanent commission of three officials. Hit or miss, the letter goes, and in should be created to deal with the many cases it is found later on that question of service examinations and it was written in ignorance of or conwith power to make an annual inspection of each department. And that
these reports should be acted upon by
the government for the improvement of

on all concerned. But nobody is ever both the inside (Ottawa) and outside the wiser for all this. It is regar

sources.

There should be a superannuation system which should include pensions to dependents on civil service, for there seems little doubt with the exception of elight setbacks the conditions of life in the Dominion are and as unfortunate perhaps, but more or less inevitable in the nature of things.

Certainly satisfy a punished for it.

The rush of unorganized work and the consequent jumple goes on as terminally reof life in the Dominion are and are sponsible for everything done in his likely to be such that advances in the department, the administration shows prices of commodities will be the rule, that he is in point of fact held responsand it will be almost impossible for ible for nothing. the average civil servant to effect any savings from his salary. The commis- to regulate everything, but he regusioners note that the lower grades of lates very little. His signature is ne-interior and other service are practically filled up with women. While ac- law requires it, but in his absence some knowledging that many women are other signature is perfunctorily supthoroughly entitled to succeed in the plied, and it is held to do just as well travelling on public business at rates

the lower grades of the service, and considerable detail with the correspondmore responsible branches of the ser- conspicuous case of how not to do it. vice, for it can hardly be admitted yet that the work devolving on the departcomposed entirely of women. The commissioners have had it brought before them painfully that in the devolpment which has taken place in the last few years in the Dominion the character. and quality of the male candidates entering the service has declined.

There should be certificates of physical fitness and of moral character required of persons entering the service Deputies shall report on the number of employes required and promotions shall be only on the recommendation of deputies. Purchases and expenditures are dealt with, and the commission states that owing to large revenues some departments have ordered stores this system, where estimates are acompanied by explanatory memorandum and the public accounts commission consists of 15 instead of 100 members, as in Canada, and the chairman is always a member of the opposition

these fifteen members spend from 30 to 40 days in examination of all expenditures and then report. "In Canada during the present session at the first meeting of the public ed for forty-one sets of papers. There is no doubt whatever that all these have an annual increase of \$100 until less to say that the six members were

all opposition members." The report suggests a system that

They recommend that temporary em- took stook of only two public depart- commissioners have come to the conwriters, and as vacancies occur they reau accounts and the government rail- desertions is to a great extent caused way stores, but not the stores of by the want of sympathy between the There should be below the deputy head a rank of officers having special and even if he did neither the Auditor men. and technical qualifications. In the General nor his officers could certify 1. The high rates of pay enjoyed by the matter of pay and promotion every of to the quality of the stores detailed in officers in the militia department is ficer in the service should be treated the stock books or whether the prices, said to be without doubt a cause of or patronage. Appointments should liy, and there is doubt whether a good their time fully occupied with their quality was always delivered. Mr. Pottinger states in his evidence that it is ple paid much better than themselves his opinion that the amount paid by and working no harder. the Intercolonial Railway for coal was

higher than it ought to be. In instances which have been brought to importance that the expenditure of the the notice of the commissioners, stores have been received which were not wanted and which it was difficult to creases to deserving officials and that get rid of. In fact at different points stores had been shelved where in all probability they were

and stated that they had under consideration the question of having a In conclusion the commissioners point director general of stores or a supply out the large growth of expenditure, agent to purchase supplies for all ser- the increase in the permanent and vices, but they had not had an opportunity of developing the subject. The addition to the general system of high commissioners consider that purchas- pay the favored men of the militia sering agents, presumably three, should proportion to the emoluments derived be appointed at good salaries to make, selves but for their wives and children, all purchases, and goods required by that the staff is sufficient for a corps classification at present existing is the several departments should be promostly disregarded. Officials are made cured by them. The commissioners go on in this conection: Your commission- sertions have been one in three, that In other words, some of the governinquiry be made as to the working of annual camps, that rural battalions the bribery clause in conection there-

In dealing with the marine and fish-eries department the commissioners make some severe strictures on the lack of system in the department in connection with the handling of corre-spondence. The department, they say,

today received the report of the civil a large number must, if continued in the defective methods of administrathe nature of their business. They the course of time utterly swallow up tion as pointed out above, dealt with point out that in the preparation of desirable, whether the blue books issued by the several departments should be reviewed by some authoritative body

Taking up the militia and defense the report says the expenditure in this oounds. In 1903-4 the total expenditure a half million dollars, while the estimate for the fiscal year ending March 21st, 1909, asks for \$6,500,00. That is, in four and three-quarter years the ex-

under the terms of the Militia Act the full control of the department, 'that it lows, therefore, that the control of militia expenditure is in a great meas ure the business of the militia council. had been appointed, called the inspec-

In Great Britain the inspector gen do not exist in Canada.

ada has only to report the commissioners are very doubtful however valuable the reports may be, that the salary is beneficial and altogether in the public interest. "From past experi-ence it would seem as if this office were being made a stepping stone to the re-tiring of military officers in Canada on

ber of desertions from the strength of They recommend instead of a mini- The Auditor General informed the the permanent corps, which is regarded mum salary an entrance salary of \$700. commission that he really audited and as showing a grave state of affairs. The clusion that this large percentage of officers of the permanent corps and the

grave dissatisfaction to the members of the other public departments, who with

"Your commissioners have noticed that it has been held to be of serious Canadian militia should increase with seem that the militia expenditure would have to be cut down in proportion to the revenue." The better method in their opinion would be that the might be at the rate of 15 per cent for officials whose salaries are under of 1888 dwelt on this matter rather in proportion to the growth of are deemed necessary the word dis-

the population. vice draw pensions not only for themars respectfully beg to recommend that about 40,000 militia are trained in the the prevention of corruption act of the have no drill except at these annual Imperial parliament passed in 1906 and camps, that it is arguable whether the city corps are as efficient as they were some years ago, that while 40,000 come out for drill yearly, compared with the population of over 1,000,000

and 40, the proportion seems small.

Dealing with public works, the re-Ottawa and outside are not under the there may be over-payment of wages ize the large army of employes in con-nection with this department, bring- tinue the furnishing of anthractic coal ing them under definite regulations so at the cost price, namely, \$6.25 per that their employment may be fixed and stable.

The commissioners point out that in furnished coal at a loss in the past that vices of officials are often charged to different votes and are of the opinion ficials should be charged against one appropriation only. They are also led to believe that in many cases works have been undertaken by the department at the instance of municipalities locally interested in which the opinions of the outside officers of the depart-ment as to their desirability was not

asked for . The commission think it desirable to again recall the observations of the ommission of 1892 as to the practice of building customs houses, etc., in small towns.

matter of economy of simplification with the trade of the Dominion were grouped in one department similar to prought under the control of one min-

ment on the motion that the report be

side to make a brief statement," said the Minister of Marine and Fisheries. "The general tenor the report will mo doubt Fisheries. "The general. ussed in due course and I have no there is a special feature of the report sicners have very great respect for the present able official who occupies that but unmistakable terms they charge for and not delivered at Sorel yard, position they are of the opinion that when the office becomes vacant it need no longer be filled up." a proper section with material paid for and not delivered at Sorel yard, officials of the department of dishonant lines of the opinion that when the office becomes vacant it need to they make any clear or one year was in progress. cites a couple of cases apparently in-tended to support the conclusion of the commissioners, but both these cases in delay was to be found in the fact that the report conveyed impressions completely at variance with the facts; commissioners authorizes them to inquire into and report upon such changes as may be deemed advisable in the best interests for efficiency, in the public service. I may venture the

> the management and control of the dewithin the scope of this commis 'I suppose it may be stated also that it was hardly within the scope of the commission or any of the commission ing was a logical result of the wasting impoverishing and demoralizing system of protection,
> "The report says of my department

opinion that matters connected with

There is not only a lack of sufficien organization and method in the department. There would also seem to be a lack of conscience. In connection count' never appears. It is tacitly aswhole commercial world knows wise. If one gets any benefit from headquarters staff to about 220, that in trade with the government except the these great purchases made for the government without discount its offiers must be assisting the trader to get better prices from the government than In other words, some of the govern-ment officers are serving two masters Scripture notwithstanding.

PRICE OF COAL CONSIDERED. "The two commissioners assume Brodeur went on, "that illegal commi sion was received and enhanced price men in Canada between the ages of 20 paid dishonestly. The commission in support of their statement procee ed to furnish the following details They quote an official memorandum dated 17th, Sept., 1907, in regard to pur port says: In this department it is chase of coal at Prescott, prepared for found that with the exception of a very deputy minister's consideration by the few instances all the officials both at clerk in charge of that work, Mr. Stumbles. It reads as follows: 'Joseph Buckcivil service act at all. In certain cases ley of Prescott, who furnished coal to this department at \$5.76 per ton, states that this coal was furnished at a consome steps should be taken to organ- siderable loss to him. The coal cost

> coal in the future." vestigation that what had been recommended had been approved by the de-partment, and state in the report that hendation was agreed to. he fact is that the Deputy Minister submitted to the Minister the memo-randum with the following words writ-

ten across it:

tuilding customs houses, etc., in small
towns.

Taking up the Secretary of State department the commission recommend
that a system of per diem allowance

ten across it:

"This will have to be decided on the
conditions of the contract, F. G., the
least letters being his initials. I refused to increase the price of the contract and I wrote across the memoranpartment the commission recommend fused to increase the price of the conthat a system of per diem allowance tract and I wrote across the memoran be made to public officials engaged in dum, 'Carry out the contract.'

travelling on public business at rates "The two commissioners stated in the

given to carry out the work of the conhat I had had a very careful inquiry nade into the payments made since the date of this contract and the prices which have been paid are those men-tioned in the contract." (Renewed

to another sample of the manner in which the two commissioners have supported their statements. The officials of the department here, having had octhe agent at Quebec for a certain brand of flour, wrote to that official and asked him for an explanation of for payment. A long correspondence took place between the accountant's branch and that of the official and the account was officially inquired into to fair and just. In other words, the of-ficials of the department here took all necessary precautions not to pay more than would be a just and fair price. However, the two commissioners state carelessness of the officials of the department, that this was inquired into As a matter of fact the auditor general has not yet seen the account, and not have anything to do with the in-

officials have been open to censure for the manner in which they have despatched their business I have never honesty on their part. The accusation acter as to reflect on the integrity of the officials generally. For the protect ness to the officials, it is necessary that further inquiry should be made into such accusation, and I propose to take without any further delay the neces-sary steps to that end." (Renewed Lib-eral cheers).

OPPOSITION OPINION.

few minutes of the presentation of the report to the house. The Minister of Marine and Fisheries was guilty of a grave discourtesy to the house, Borden eld, in making his statement, when not possibly discuss it fully, and when it was an unwise, precedent for the

Mr. Bennett asked if there was any thing in the report as to padding the tion of it. Bennett retorted that the cause of

Desbarats, the hon, gentleman is absolutely incorrect. (Liberal cheers). Desbarats, he explained, was not con-

ment to which Bennett had referred and had never been directly or indirectly concerned in the matter spoken of. (Renewed Liberal cheers). Bennett said he would have to accept

he statement of the Minister. He had. was the head of Sorel yard and that all these matters came under his super-vision. It was a wonderful thing that a commissioner appointed by the government had not been able to fathom tion. There had, he went on been a large expenditure in the marine and fisheries department on what was known as the Georgian Bay fisheries commission. He asked if any refernce was made in the report just agement, but affecting the personal honor and honesty of officials who brought down to the fact that a mem-ber of that fisheries commission had had been in the department een convicted by one of Brodeur's own years whose integrity and honor they officials for filegal fishing.

Mr. Brodeur replied that there was

no mention of such an incident. The civil service commission was not charged with looking into the fisheries comment as to Desbarats not having any connection with the matter brought up Bennett. That pertained to one of the engineers.

Mr. Bennett—The Minister stated in

reply to a question the other day that padding pay lists at Sorel. Is that in ness to himself and his officials.

Mr. Brodeur—Yes. Mr. Bennett asked if Fraser was still in the employ of the department, or if he had been suspended pending the

result of inquiry.

Mr. Brodur replied that Fraser had not been suspended. There was nothing before him that would justify him ing before him that would justify him in suspending that official, who was not appointed by the present government, had been in the employ of the department many years and was so far as he knew a worthy officer. He could not think of suspending him until it had been proved that he was not a deserving official.

him \$6.25, and he is now willing to continue the furnishing of anthracite coal at the cost price, namely, \$6.25 per ton. I recommended that Mr. Buckley's offer be accepted and as he has furnished coal at a loss in the past that five per cent. profit be allowed him for coal in the future.

"Anthracite coal in Ottawa costs from \$7.25 to \$7.75, and the regular price at Prescott is \$7 per ton. The said two commissioners saw a duplicate of this commissioners saw a duplicate of this commissioners saw a duplicate of this commissioners are a duplicate of the commissioners and the control of the course and laughter.)

commissioners saw a duplicate of this commissioners saw a duplicate of this control of the civil service commissioners and memorandum on file and appoints report, whether the commissioners that control of the civil service commissioners are the control of the civil service commissioners and if the minister of the control of the civil service commissioners are the control of the civil service commissioners are the control of the civil service commissioners are the control of the civil service commissioners. who disagreed with his report in so far as his department was concerned would as his department was concerned would vote with the opposition that the re-port be not received.

Hon. Mr. Fielding replied that the re-

that there was any impropriety in the graft. action of the Hon. Mr. Brodeur. That

WHICH EVERY CANADIAN OWES FIRST TO HIS OWN COUNTRY.

"I will call the attention of the House University Magazine, addressed the the world to live in. Canadian Club on the subject The Whole Duty of the Canadian Man. Dr. the truth about the country and not to McPhail proved to be a most interest- induce immigrants into it who are not

> preceded the address was served in extableware has been used. The silverware was adorned with a crest consistscroll bearing the words, "The Canadian Club, St. John, N. B." Before introducing the speaker of the

er, briefly addressed the club. He ed through the specified portals. thanked the members for electing him

Own Country. By performing that, he England in the wrong in her diplomat was the family, and civic duties were treaty-making of a century ago, Canamerely the extension of family life. He i dians might as well blame her for los-

ing to make it prevail. The best gov- with which the Empire was faced. ernment, he said, was a compromise At the conclusion of the address a delay was to be found in the fact that
Mr. Desbarats, in charge at the Sorel
yards, was, son-in-law of Hon. R. W.
Scott, Secretary of State.
Hon. Mr. Brodeur—In regard to Mr.
Desbarats, the hon. gentleman is abwho had arrogated to themselves the Wm. J. Bryan's friends controled the function of government. If one section lowa Democratic state convention toof the community was dumb and an-other vociferous equal justice could not cast of the Nebraska platform, includbe done to all. As a result of this sil- ing the indorsement of Bryan for preence on the part of the agricultural sidential candodate.

Dr. Reid said that in such a case the

Thursday evening Dr. Andrew McPhail community and men who depended professor of the History of Medicine in salaries and fees, Canada had become McGill University and editor of the one of the most expensive countries of The next duty, he said, was to tell

ing and forceful speaker, who dealt fully informed of the conditions. The with his subject in a manner that held only valid reason for inducing immithe attention of his hearers all the grants to come to Canada was that they might be happier chere than else-The attendance of members of the where, and not for the sake of increasclub was large. The luncheon which ing the mere bigness of the community The lecturer referred to the unse It was the first at which the club's in the various parliaments, which in private life was never heard amongs ing of a beaver above a crown with public life distasteful to the best mem maple leaves below, and below all a bers of the community. Parliamen a man could not be admitted to it even evening the president, Dr. T. D. Walk- be if he were yet alive unless he enter-

He urged his hearers to be suspiciou president and also made reference to of theorists who knew what the future the death of W. B. Howerd, one of the of this country was to be. The life of lub's members. He then announced a nation, he said, was too vast and too tions of condolence on the deaths of drawn up in advance of events. He members or motions of votes of thanks said that Canada was making its way speakers. President Walker then in- surely and quietly, and gradually takformed the club that H. B. Ames, M. ing its place in the Empire according P. of Montreal, would be the speaker to its fitness to perform the duties

had been correspondence relative to By an elaborate caluclation, Dr. Mchaving them speak before the phall showed that Canada paid more were Professor Leacock, for public purposes than any other Eng-Principal Peterson of McGill and Arch-bishop Howley of Newfoundland. The ent this expenditure had been upon subject on which the latter would public works which were a national aspeak, should he consent to address the set. He looked to the time when this club, would in all probability be New-work would be finished and Canadians foundland and Confederation, Dr. free to devote themselves to the busi-Walker also made reference to the presence of Judge Russell of Halifax at the luncheon.

The safe and could co-operate with each Dr. McPhail was then introduced and was well received.

His theme was The Duty Which Every Canadian Owed First to His torical research were resolute to but said, the Empire would be best served. dealings on behalf of Canada. Even if

which modern industrial development To the question "Are you an Imhad upon family life by removing to perialist?" every Canadian would anactories work which was once done swer "yes" as readily as he would ant home. This led to idleness and dis- swer "yes' 'to the question 'Are you a content in the family and social misery Christian?" though he might have his Christianity really meant. All desired Dr. McPhail next dealt with the duty that the Empire should be drawn to owards the school district and the gether and that every means should be parish, which at their very best were taken towards that end. Chief amongst merely aggregations of well-governed these, he said, was the development of The next larger obligation was to as- done best by good manners and reti sist in the government of the country. ence, and a continual visitation of their it was the presumption of all demo-

He det standing vote of thanks was tendered

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa, Mar. 26 .-

gentleman had not attacked anybody should be thankful he had got off so r made accusations against anybody, lightly and that the comthe house or out of it. If he had not gone through his department from In the house of out of it. If he had not called attention to a discrepancy or error of judgment on a fact affecting for the last five years. In view of whist the character and honesty of his officials. If he had allowed that report to go out for one heur without doing what he had done he would not have been acting fairly and justly. He had He alluded in general terms to simply called attention to the fact that eral other matters, speaking the commissioners through erroneous information or imperfect judgment had usual vein.

STR WILMRID CAPIS A PUTER POS-TER

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said Foster had gone far afield in throwing out general had trusted in the past and insinuations. The Minister of Marine ought to trust until the contrary had been proved. The report mission had in regard to two transacgave nothing specific. No names were tions made a singular error affecting mentioned, but it left the general the honor of officials of his department. charge of dishonesty against all offi- At the same time he had stated that cials of the department. That was a there was enough to warrant further charge against the honor and integrity investigation, and he propo of the department, and Hon. Mr. Brott. The commissioners had made ac-deur had properly stated that he did tual statements without naming anynot intend to let the matter rest there, body. They had thrown out suspicions. that it called for further proceedings, They had stated that wrong doing had and he intended to take them in fair- ben done without naming the wrong doers. Under the Dr. Reid asked if Brodeur had called the minister was quite justified in his the attention of the commissioners to course. The member for North Tothe way in which the accounts were ronto, Laurier noted, was not prepared to say whether a further investigation Mr. Brodeur was extremely sorry to say whether a further investigation or a say that except in one instance the committee of the house. The Prime commissioners had never consulted him Minister himself was not prepared to or come near him. One of them had say what form it should take, but he complained that he could not get some did most emphatically say there should

Information and he had promptly ordered all files to be placed at that gentleman's disposal.

Dr. Reid wanted to know how it came about that parties, like Merwin and Scrubb were able to continue to do a British principle to have a man conbusiness with the department. According to the recent reports of the auditor general, after revelations showing that those parties had received payment for goods at double the price. In answer to Finlayson, Oliver said they themselves had paid for them, he that the department has reason to bepelieved officials of the department had lieve that letters sent from Halifax to made purchases from those men be- an immigration agent in Liverpool and cause the Minister had told them to. signed by W. Dodds had been written Mr. Brodeur-What my hon, friend by H.L. Dickie while acting as medical says is absolutely incorrect and he inspecting officer at Halifax. The knows it. (Liberal cheers). question of restitution of money which Dr. Reid said that in such a case the had been improperly taken from immi-uditor general's report could not be grants landed at Halifax had not been considered, but an investigation was

Mr. Brodeur—Does my hon, friend state that these things have been ordered since I have been minister?

Dr. Reid—If I said what I believe myself I would say that I so (Cries of Chi Oh) from Liberals). But of course I am not in a position to prove it—(Liberal cheers and laughter)—and will have to take what the Minister states. He argued that Merwin was getting the same prices as before and getting the same prices as before and agreed to. Amount of \$702,950 was put characterized these transactions as through with little or no discussion