

recognizing the emergency character of the work, has up to the present time permitted the department practically to make its own appointments, which are but temporary appointments, and the commission afterwards certify to them, where necessary. But it is desirable that this should be expressly stated in the Act, so as to relieve the Civil Service Commission of the responsibility which rests upon it, and to give to the department the advantage of making appointments instantaneously where it may be necessary to do so.

The amendment was agreed to, and paragraph b of subsection 2 of new section 5, as amended, was agreed to.

Paragraphs c, d, e, f and g of subsection 2, new section 5, were agreed to.

On paragraph h of subsection 2, new section 5—penalties:

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: I move that the following be substituted for subsection 2 (h) of new section 5:

(h) For imposing penalties not exceeding in any case a fine of two hundred dollars or imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months enforceable upon summary conviction for the violation of any provision of any such regulation.

The amendment was agreed to.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: It is desired to insert the following as paragraph i:

(i) All regulations made hereunder approved by the Governor in Council shall be laid before Parliament within fifteen days after they are made if Parliament is then sitting; and if not, then within fifteen days after the opening of the next session of Parliament.

The amendment was agreed to.

Subsection 2 of new section 5, as amended, was agreed to.

Subsection 3 of new section 5 was agreed to.

The preamble and the title were agreed to.

The Bill was reported as amended.

THIRD READING.

On motion of Hon. Sir James Lougheed, the Bill as amended was read the third time and passed.

POSTMASTERS' SALARIES BILL.

SECOND READING.

Hon. P. E. BLONDIN moved the second reading of Bill 31, an Act to amend the Civil Service Act, 1918, with respect to the salaries of certain postmasters and assistant postmasters.

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He said: Honourable gentlemen, the purpose of this Bill is to make provision for continuing the policy which has already been in force ever since the Special War Revenue Act was passed. Its effect is to prevent postmasters and assistant postmasters in city offices from drawing salaries on any portion of the revenues derived from the sale of war-tax stamps. The salaries of the postmasters and assistant postmasters in city offices are provided as shown by the Civil Service List. The policy which I have mentioned has up to the present been enforced under the War Measures Act, but, as the war is over, it is necessary to bring these provisions before the House in order that that policy may be continued.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Can the honourable minister give us any idea of the quantities of these stamps that have been sold through the post offices? Have the postmasters made any claim for commission for handling war-tax stamps.

Hon. Mr. BLONDIN: We have no exact return of the numbers of war-tax stamps sold. Honourable gentlemen can readily understand that it is pretty difficult to ascertain what proportion of those stamps have been used for postage, and what proportion for the tax. We can make a fairly accurate computation, however. It is estimated that about one-third, or 28 per cent, of the revenue of the department is derived from that source.

Hon. Mr. McSWEENEY: Do you pay the postmasters a commission or an additional salary for handling stamps?

Hon. Mr. BLONDIN: The salaries of the city postmasters are established by the Civil Service Act, and are based on the value of the stamps sold by them. They range from \$1,400 to \$4,000. I shall give the House the figures showing the revenues upon which the different salaries are paid. They are as follow:

Revenue.	Salary.
\$ 20,000 to \$ 40,000.. . . .	\$2,000
40,000 to 60,000.. . . .	2,200
60,000 to 80,000.. . . .	2,400
80,000 to 100,000.. . . .	2,800
100,000 to 150,000.. . . .	3,200
150,000 to 200,000.. . . .	3,500
200,000 to 250,000.. . . .	3,750
An amount exceeding \$250,000.	4,000

The salaries of assistant postmasters range from \$1,400 to \$2,800.

Hon. Mr. FOWLER: Does the Government pay the salary of a postmaster's assistant in a town post office or does the