

whether the indemnity is enough or not but if we are imposing new taxes on the country we should practise what we preach

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. BUREAU: We are discussing the restaurant.

Item concurred in.

Two parliamentary doorkeepers.

Mr. BUREAU: Provided these messengers let the members of the press into the hall, I am for them; otherwise we do not want them.

Item concurred in.

7 confidential messengers.

Mr. BUREAU: Whose messengers are these and what do they do?

Mr. SPEAKER: I move that the word "seven" be struck out and the word "four" substituted. These messengers are attached to the offices of the Prime Minister, the leader of the Opposition, the Speaker, and the Clerk of the House.

Mr. BUREAU: What about us? Surely there ought to be one for No. 16 and one for the room of the Opposition.

Mr. FIELDING: Does the use of the word "confidential" imply that if they are not confidential messengers you cannot have any confidence in them? I think the word "confidential" is rather undignified. It has a strange look.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am informed by the Sergeant at Arms that this word is used in consequence of the verbiage employed by the Civil Service Commission in their classification.

Mr. VIEN: What is the number of confidential messengers now employed?

Mr. SPEAKER: There are none now but the messengers at present attached to the officers whom I have named, and the proposed wording is simply to conform to the classification adopted by the Civil Service Commission.

Mr. FIELDING: Is the object to give them a higher salary by attaching the word "confidential" to them? I have great respect for the Civil Service Commission but I think that they, like all others, should be obliged to give a reason for the faith that is in them. I cannot see any reason why one messenger should be called confidential and another not.

Mr. SPEAKER: It gives them higher pay. It applies if they are in a class where they

would receive a larger remuneration than the ordinary messenger.

Mr. VIEN: The number is reduced to four now, are you going to dismiss three other employees?

Mr. SPEAKER: There are no others. This is a skeleton organization to fit in with the Civil Service classification.

Mr. BUREAU: May I ask what is the difference between a confidential messenger, a parliamentary messenger, and a sessional messenger?

Mr. SPEAKER: I have already explained that, for example, a confidential messenger is provided for the Prime Minister, and he remains attached to that office.

Mr. BUREAU: And that man gets \$200 more?

Mr. SPEAKER: Yes, \$200 more.

Mr. BUREAU: What do the parliamentary messengers get?

Mr. SPEAKER: They perform the same duties that parliamentary messengers have performed since Confederation.

Mr. BUREAU: There are only two of them.

Mr. SPEAKER: I propose to move an amendment that the number be increased to seven.

Mr. BUREAU: There are 38 sessional messengers.

Mr. SPEAKER: The number has been precisely the same ever since Confederation. There is no change whatsoever in that regard.

Mr. FIELDING: I do not wish to restrict the appointment of any messengers that may be necessary, but the Prime Minister for example, has his own messenger in his own department (and so has each of the ministers) who is a "confidential" messenger, although I do not like the use of the term. However, I do not object to the number of messengers employed if the Speaker considers they are necessary.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am not in love with the phraseology employed, but doubtless it has to do with the nature of their employment. Ever since Confederation it has been the custom to allocate a confidential messenger to the leader of the Government, the leader of the Opposition, the Speaker, and the Clerk. In the case of the Prime Minister there probably also is a messenger