

Landing waiters have been reclassified and received an increase of \$200 in their maximum salaries. It has been suggested that this particular item as it appeared in the C. S. list was a misprint, but the increase is in accord with the statute as passed. The increase to the landing waiters does not appear in the above table.

Customs officers have discussed the low rate paid by the department for extra time which is only 30c per hour. This rate, it is claimed is less than the rate of pay for regular working hours. It is pointed out, moreover, that the usual rate of pay for business houses is time and a half for work after hours. It is also pointed out that extra time for officers in the Inland Revenue Outside Service is \$1 for the first hour and 50c and 25c for time after the first hour.

The Customs officers labour under an anomaly also in respect of the provisional allowance made to the post office and inland revenue officers west of the Great Lakes. The allowance is necessary, and is intended to meet the higher cost of living in that territory. This point has for years been discussed by the Customs service, but this year this subject, as well as extra time allowance, will take a more animated form, and will be presented to the department through the federation.

Far and away of greater importance to the welfare and fair-living-state of the members of the outside customs service, than provisional allowance or extra pay, is the absence of statutory increases of salary. This fact brings about a state of affairs which, it is claimed, un-officers the officer and un-mans the man. Instead of being judged by the quality of his work, the outside customs officer is judged by the favours he can do for politicians. Hence it happens that two officers will be working at the same desk doing the same work equally well. One of these will get

an increase of \$200, the other only \$50, or nothing. Experience shows that the clerk who has been thus overlooked, will neglect his work and cultivate the friendship of some merchant for whom he will do some favours at the country's expense, and thus earn the increase given to his desk-mate. Reports of conduct of this kind are prevalent and the facts are well substantiated. The best known and most respected merchant in one of our largest cities informed the writer of this article of a proposal made to him by a customs officer. The merchant had a lot of dutiable material which required to be weighed, measured, etc. The officer claimed he could not get his promotion or increase of pay except through the interposition of political influence and offered to under-approve the quantity of the dutiable material. It is a matter of everyday knowledge that the men subject to these conditions, say, "To Hades with the Customs" and seek comfort and aid from the ward-heelers of their precinct, and those to whom they appeal are not those of the highest strata of society. Instances of the nefarious operation of the patronage system could be cited and the cases multiplied. Executive officers get less than the subordinates. In one case an executive officer desires to report one of his staff who has gone off his head, but cannot do his duty for fear of "the heelers coming on his neck." A cashier getting \$500 below the usual pay for such officers cannot get recognition without a heeler's recommendation, which he cannot do without losing his dignity or sacrificing his honesty.

Tactful.

Dobson had just bought a new typewriting machine.

"Now, what color ribbon do you want for this machine?" asked the salesman.

"Oh, black, by all means!" said Dobson. "You see, my typewriter is a widow."—Ex.