

place it would be right to make it retroactive. The Government would consider the matter in the meantime, he said, and if they reached the conclusion that it would be right to make the legislation retroactive an amendment would be introduced this session to make it so. The Government, after considering the whole situation, and having regard to the representations that were made in the early part of the year 1919 to these representatives of the Civil Service, reached the conclusion that it was only fair and right that the classification should be made retroactive. Undoubtedly, these civil servants relied upon the Government's statement at that time, and believed that the Act would come into force as from the first day of April, 1919.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: What was the ground upon which the Government thought it fair and right to make the Act retroactive?

Mr. ROWELL: On this ground. The Civil Service Commission in recommending to the Government a certain bonus recommended it on the basis of this classification going into effect, and not on the basis of the old classification. My hon. friend will see this set forth in the introduction to the classification submitted to Parliament. Therefore, in order to carry out the understanding with the Civil Service, the Government decided to recommend that the classification should be made retroactive.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: In the Estimates that have been brought down, there is mention of the fact that they do not contain the necessary details because of the re-classification of the service not being ready. Can my hon. friend tell us if the re-classification has been completed, and if so, when Parliament will be favoured with a copy?

Mr. ROWELL: The re-classification is completed subject to certain appeals that have been made from it and which have not yet been disposed of by the Board of Hearing. Under the Civil Service Act the Civil Service Commission has power to vary the existing classification subject to the approval of the Governor in Council. Appeals can be made by any class of the Civil Service against their classification. These are heard by the Board of Hearing. From the Board of Hearing a recommendation goes to the Civil Service for approval and if approved it must come to the Governor in Council for approval before it becomes effective. If it involves any increased pay-

ment of money, it cannot go into effect until Parliament votes the money. Now, a large number of appeals have been heard and determined, but there are still some appeals pending. Subject to the determination of these appeals, the reclassification is complete. There is, of course, not only the reclassification itself, but the application of the classification to the service, that is, fitting each individual official in the service into his appropriate class. My hon. friend will see that that is an enormous undertaking where you have nearly 50,000 civil servants to be dealt with and each put into his appropriate class. I am glad to be able to advise my hon. friend that the application of the classification to the service is very nearly completed also. It is completed in the Departments of Agriculture, Archives, Auditor General, Civil Service Commission, Commission of Conservation, External Affairs, Finance, Indian Affairs, Insurance, Interior, International Joint Commission, Library of Parliament, Mines, Naval Service, Board of Pension Commissioners, Public Works, Railways and Canals, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Secretary of State, Governor General's Secretary, Honorary Advisory Council, Marine, Post Office, Privy Council, and Trade and Commerce. It would have been completed also in Customs and Inland Revenue but for the illness of the deputy. It is almost complete in Immigration and Colonization. So my hon. friend will see that the application of the classification is rapidly approaching completion.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: We desire to have the classification when we come to consider the Estimates of these departments, and I would ask my hon. friend if it might not be possible for the Government to print what they have and bring it down so that we may have an opportunity to study the matter before we discuss the Estimates.

Mr. ROWELL: I shall be glad to consider the suggestion of the hon. gentleman, and I think that it may be possible to do what he proposes.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Can my hon. friend tell us what expense the classification has involved?

Mr. ROWELL: There was the work of classification and its application to the service, and there was also the re-organization of the Printing Bureau, which was a distinct piece of work. Altogether, I think the expenditure amounted to approxi-