

Mr. PREFONTAINE. I do not know that the statute requires that this statement should be put on the table of the House. It requires that the report should be had from the deputy minister, and that was done. As regards depositing it on the table of the House, I am prepared to do so.

Mr. HAGGART. Surely the House is entitled to as much information as Council in reference to the reasons for making this increase.

Mr. PREFONTAINE. I do not deny that, but I do not know that it has been customary to place these reports of the deputies on the table of the House. Of course, I have no objection at all to doing so.

Mr. TAYLOR. I understand from the minister that this technical officer was put on the outside service. If so, why are we voting money for the outside service in this vote?

Mr. PREFONTAINE. We are not voting money for the outside service.

Mr. TAYLOR. The minister said the technical officer was required for the outside service.

Mr. PREFONTAINE. Not at all. I said that we had taken a man from the inside service and placed him in the outside service, and that it was on the report of the deputy minister that this new officer was required.

Mr. HAGGART. It is the very opposite that you are doing. You are not taking a party from the inside service and putting him on the outside, but you are taking one from the outside service and putting him on the inside.

Mr. PREFONTAINE. That is what I said.

Mr. HAGGART. You said the reverse. Has there been a recommendation from the department for the statutory increases, and has every one got the increase who was recommended for it?

Mr. PREFONTAINE. Yes.

Mr. TAYLOR. Last year there were twelve first-class clerks, and now there are eleven in the estimates. I understood the Minister of Justice to say that one of the twelve had been made a technical officer. But the Minister of Marine and Fisheries told us that the technical officer was brought in from outside.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. An additional officer has been added to the technical branch. We have to make provision for one additional technical officer, and there is one first-class clerk less. The estimate is for one more technical officer and for one less first-class clerk.

Mr. TAYLOR. But that is not what the minister of the department told us. He

Mr. HAGGART.

said that the technical officer had been brought from the outside and not from the inside service.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. I think he said that Cunningham had been transferred to the outside service, but did not say whence he had been taken. As to the construction to be put on the statute, I take issue with my hon. friend from Lanark (Mr. Haggart). The minister comes to parliament and asks parliament to vote an appropriation for an additional officer. The condition upon which parliament votes the appropriation is that full information be given by the minister to the House; and after parliament has voted the item, it is necessary for the permanent head of the department to make a report to the effect that an additional officer is required, and that the person recommended has the necessary qualifications. But that is not a condition precedent.

Mr. HAGGART. I have not looked at the statutes lately, but the practice used to be entirely different. First of all, the deputy head reported what his department required. Then the minister had to get the consent of the Council for the appointment asked for. The voting of the money by parliament was not a condition precedent at all. The power of appointing rests with the Crown. The Crown may appoint, but cannot pay. In the past, when a change was required in the cadre of a department, the report of the deputy head required the sanction of the minister, and then its adoption by the Council. If the Council approved, an estimate was submitted to meet the expenditure. The minister should always be ready in the House to give the reasons which he submitted to the Governor General in Council for the new appointment. As to the other question, the explanation of the Minister of Justice is entirely different from that of the Minister of Fisheries. The latter told us that he took this technical officer from the outside and not from the inside service. What was the need of another technical officer if you had him already in the department as first-class clerk? Who was the first-class clerk promoted? Evidently the minister desired to give additional pay to some first-class clerk who had reached the maximum of his grade, and he took this means of doing it.

Mr. TAYLOR. Will the Minister of Marine and Fisheries inform me if it was one of the twelve gentlemen who were in the first-class list last year who was promoted to the position of technical officer?

Mr. FITZPATRICK. My hon. friend knows well that no promotion could take place until authorized by parliament. All we are doing is giving authority to the minister to do this in the future.

Mr. TAYLOR. What does the minister intend doing? Does he intend taking one of these twelve first-class clerks and making him a technical officer?