

THE CIVILIAN

VOL. X.

AUGUST 31, 1917.

No. 10

The Supplementaries

Supplementary Estimates were tabled in the House of Commons on August 17th. As anticipated, they include several items of great importance to the Civil Service,—Both Inside and Outside divisions. Until the plan of disbursement of the moneys asked for under various headings is explained in the House by Ministers of the several departments, it is impossible to say just what the proposed votes mean to individual civil servants.

A noteworthy feature in the Supplementaries is the provision, by some departments, of money for *promotions* from "3A" to "2B," indicating that many clerks of the "old Third" are to be immediately promoted, as permitted by the Act of this session. In the Customs, ten such promotions are provided for; in Agriculture, one; in Railways and Canals, six; and in Post Office Dept., thirty-six.

An item of \$29,825 is "to pay each of the officers, clerks and employees in the Second Division, who obtained the ordinary annual increase during the present year on or subsequent to the first day of April, 1917, and previous to the coming into force of the Civil Service Amendment Act of 1917 an additional amount of \$50." This provides for that "broad" interpretation of the intention of the Government in framing the Act, for which the Service is indebted to Sir Thomas White.

The sum of \$32,500 is also asked "to provide for any increase of salary under the Civil Service Amendment Act of 1917, not otherwise provided for therein."

Under Customs estimates there is an item of \$300,000 for "salaries and contingent expenses" of ports, including overtime, the amount being in addition to the main estimates, already passed. There is also \$50,000 additional for salaries and expenses of inspectors of ports, etc.

Under "Excise" there is \$25,000 additional for salaries, also \$15,000 more for salaries under "Weights and Measures," etc.

Under "Post Office, Outside Service," there is a further provision of \$464,800 as "salaries, provisional allowance."

Penitentiary officers having salaries less than \$1,000 get bonuses of \$100 each. \$26,500 is provided for this.

Immigration, Outside, salaries get \$20,000 more.

Dominion Parks, Outside, salaries also get \$20,000 more.

An innovation is the provision of \$34,600 "to provide for the appointment and payment of master mechanics, mechanics and chauffeurs to be employed in connection with the motor car service at city post offices, the master mechanics to be paid not less than \$4 nor more than \$5 per day, mechanics \$3 to \$4, and chauffeurs \$2.50 to \$3.50 per day.

Railway mail clerks, St. John division, who have done extra work on British mails, get \$173.83 extra pay.

Engineers, firemen and watchmen in the Ottawa public buildings get \$60,000 additional.

Explanation of these items,—particularly of the Post Office and Customs votes,—in the House is awaited with great anxiety by the Service.