

the city of Ottawa lost through exemption of civil servants from taxation; and Mr. Reid stated he would give details when the bill was under discussion. It was a large amount. Mr. Fripp thought the collection of income tax from civil servants would work a great hardship and that this action would result in the Government being under necessity of increasing Civil Service salaries. Mr. Fielding thought there should be no objection to the clause abolishing exemption from taxation. Mr. King thought if there was any hard bargain it was so far as the civil servants of Ottawa were concerned. Mr. Reid could not agree in this view, he considered there was no hard bargain on the civil servants "who are being classified to-day so that they may receive salaries on a fair proportion to other workers throughout the city who are filling positions of a similar character."

On March 22 Mr. Mackie was told by Hon. Mr. Reid in response to a question that the Public Works Department could dispense with employees in the Architectural and Engineering Branches, the number depending on the work which the department was authorized to carry out, and that the services of some of the employees could have been dispensed with "some time ago" without hampering the work, — this from the beginning of the year 1917.

On the same date Mr. Ethier moved for copies of all correspondence, etc., relating to re-classification and resignations in consequence. Sir George Foster pointed out that the return would involve a tremendous amount of work but to the main part of the motion as to resignations, etc., there was no objection.

On March 24 in reply to a question by Mr. Gauvreau, Hon. Mr. Sifton stated that appeals taken to the Board of Hearing were finally disposed of by the Civil Service Commission and not the Board of

Appeal and it was stated that the Commission had confirmed all recommendations of the Board of Appeal except in one instance where the office had been abolished. On the same day Mr. Demers was told by Hon. Mr. Meighen that a number of members of the Mines Department had resigned for the reason that they had received more remunerative positions. Hon. Mr. Sifton stated in reply to a question by Mr. Fontaine that 233 employees had been dismissed from the Government Printing Bureau since November 1, 1919. On the same day Mr. Glass in a speech *re* flax industry stated, "It is unfortunate that at the present time there is not a proper appreciation of the value to the Civil Service and the country of technical men with scientific knowledge; and referred to a man in the Agricultural Department leaving because his salary was inadequate. In this connection he said: "How long shall we be able to hold our technical men if this continues? These technical men are necessary to the development of the industries of this country, but the Civil Service Commission just fix what they think should be the maximum salary for the position and I don't know but what the chances are that when they advertis for a chemist they get a blacksmith." Mr. Glass thought the matter a serious one and hoped the Government would "put a check upon this waste of important skilled and technical experts in the Department."

On March 26, Hon. Mr. Meighen laid on the table a return to an order of the House of March 18, 1920, calling for copy of representations, complaints, and correspondence with reference to classification of the Civil Service.

On March 31, in reply to a question by Mr. Burnham, Sir Henry Drayton pointed out the conditions under which civil servants are eligible for superannuation.

At the Federation Convention

There were many interesting phases to the convention, not the least being the pleasure experienced in meeting so many representatives of various branches of the outside service. Each branch seemed to have many distinct problems of its own, but that didn't prevent its delegate taking a keen, intelligent and above all a tolerant interest in the problems of others.

The committee work was excellent. If one could only have managed it and had there been time enough, one would have liked to have been on all the committees, for it was there that one experienced just what a fine lot of delegates had been sent to Ottawa. Here's hoping they may come back next year.

Five women delegates were present, all from Ottawa. They were Mde Mercier and Miss Lily Paynter representing the Office Cleaners' Association; Miss Jessie Ross, president of the Women's Branch, but representing the Pensions Board; Miss Annie Dewar and Miss Edna Inglis, delegates for the Women's Branch.

Women Elected to Dutch Parliament

News come from The Hague that on March 2nd, Mrs. Pothius Smit, a Socialist, was elected to the upper house of the Dutch Parliament. She is the first woman member.

—CSFC—

DOM. MEAT LAY INSP. ASSN.

Secretary T. S. Evans, of the above association reports the result of recent election of officers as follows:—

J. Buitham, president; T. S. Evans, secretary-treasurer; P. Kelley, G. Dicks and J. Williams, executive; A. McGinn and P. Kimpton, sick committee.

Mr. Evans reports that the members are taking a greater interest as is indicated by 100 per cent attendance at meetings.

MODERN JUVENILE FINANCE

A small boy called on a doctor one evening.

"Say, Doc, I guess I got influenza", he remarked, "but no one knows it. I can keep it quiet."

The doctor looked puzzled.

"Aw, get wise, Doc," suggested the small boy. "What'll you give me to go to school and spread it among all the kids in the village?"

WOMEN'S COLUMN

(Continued from April issue)

The Dancing Classes

The Recreation Committee of the Women's Branch, convened by Miss Helen Leggett, have to their credit this season, a most successful series of dancing classes. Over three hundred members were enrolled and they have just held the closing dance of the season, at the Racquet Court.

A Conservative Estimate

A return brought down in the House of Commons during the month of March 15th shows that out of 46,339 government employees, 6,471 are women. Of 23,035 others, sex not stated, probably a smaller proportion are women, as this includes 4,400 Public Works employees. It would appear that from 10% to 12% of government employees are women.