

valuable time to it; he must have one or two of his clerks do this *nice* work and this opens the door to favouritism and fawning, to the wreaking of petty vengeance and spite, to small and dirty espionage and all manner of things nasty.

Typewriters must write these reports, messengers must carry them, they must be discussed and gossiped about and their contents will become more or less well known.

One Chief may look upon Section 40 as of mighty importance, and being a methodical man with care to detail, there may be no limit to which he may go in these reports if he is small-minded; while another Chief, wide-minded and generous, with eyes and mind only for big and broad things, will make his reports if he must, but they will only be perfunctory and he will know what to do when promotions are necessary.

It is easily seen that the Section cannot work justice under all kinds of chiefs and will help the mean and small-minded to be more mean and small-minded.

It may be asked what would happen if Section 40 were eliminated; for somebody must report on the fitness of a clerk who is in the line of promotion or who desires a raise in salary. The answer to my mind is clear: the fault in the Section is not in the fact that a clerk before promotion or increase in salary must have the approbation of his Chief, but in the fact that the reports on clerks is made a statutory written record at stated times and seasons.

It seems to me it is time enough to report on a man, either verbally or in written record, when he becomes objectionable to his Chief or when he applies for promotion or increase of salary, and then let the Commissioners sit upon his case and take evidence from what source they think fit.

If the Commissioners are for any purpose, they are for the purpose of equalizing power; they are to act as

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