

provide for immediate relief in consequence of increased cost of living. We believed that the arrangement of salaries and reorganization of the service would bring such a measure of relief to so large a number of individuals in the service that it would be sufficient to meet that demand. But we have found since we had our classification completed that that expectation was not borne out, and we now propose to remedy that defect."

Details as to the Cost of Living Increase.

The following explanation as to the leading details of the new increase were added by Mr. Fisher:—

"The general principle is a flat rate of increase to everybody in the service, and after careful consideration and after counting the cost, we decided that \$150 would be a fair treatment. I am glad to say that the delegation of the Civil Service Association which interviewed the Prime Minister and myself, afterwards agreed to that; and I am glad to say that since that agreement they have placed the matter before a special meeting of the Civil Service Association, which passed a resolution thanking them and thanking the government for the decision which has been taken.

"In the case of an officer who has received an increased salary upon classification and organization, that increase shall be offset against the increase provided here. As I said to begin with, this Act is the complement or continuation and fulfilment of what was designed in the Act of last session. By the classification and reorganization certain increases did accrue. Those men had, therefore, under the action we took last session, received their increases, and it would not be right for them to receive an

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