

that section and to make quite clear what is intended, viz., that a person who passed a qualifying examination previous to the passage of the Act of 1908 shall be entitled to be promoted to the other divisions.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Are there not a number of civil servants who did not pass any qualifying examination before 1908?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: They cannot avail themselves of this provision. It only extends to those who have passed the qualifying examination.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Those who had not passed it would have to pass an examination now?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Yes, they come under the existing Act; but this Bill applies to what may be termed vested rights, and is only giving recognition to the rights which these persons then had.

The section was agreed to.

On section 3—minimum and maximum salaries:

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: The only change in the Second Division is that the minimum is increased in Subdivision B from \$800 to \$1,000; that is to say, in the Second Division the minimum and maximum salaries shall be: in Subdivision A, \$1,600 to \$2,100, the same as before; but in Subdivision B the minimum has been increased from \$800 to \$1,000, and the maximum from \$1,000 to \$1,600.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: They start at the higher salary?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Yes. They started at \$800, but now it is proposed that they should start at \$1,000.

Hon. Mr. POWER: I think these changes are in the right direction at any time; but I dare say honourable gentlemen have seen a great many complaints that the increases were not as great as they should be in order to enable the civil servants to live respectably. I think those objections are made because we are now dealing with what I trust is an abnormal condition. It is to be hoped that before very long, "when this cruel war is over," conditions will revert to something nearer to what they were before the war began. If at the present time we permanently increased the salaries of public servants so as to enable them to be just as comfortable now as they were before the war, we should be placing a considerable burden on the public, which would be unnecessary when the war is over and

things return to their normal conditions. As you all know, I am rather in favour of economy as a rule; but the idea has been suggested to me, and I pass it on to the honourable the leader of the Government, that the United States have, if I may be permitted to say so, shown a great deal more business capacity in their measures intended to provide for war conditions than Canada has shown. In the United States, as I understand, in dealing with their Civil Service, instead of increasing salaries 30 per cent, or whatever amount is deemed necessary, they give bonuses to the civil employees in order to meet the exceptional condition of things, though I presume they also somewhat increase the salaries. Those bonuses are recognized as being only temporary, as they will cease when the abnormal cost of living has passed away after the war. No doubt the Government have been impressed by the fact that there are a good many of our civil servants who, even after this beneficent Act has passed, will still find it rather hard to maintain their families, and I suggest that the Government might consider a policy of giving bonuses pro tem in such cases, as is being done in the United States.

The section was agreed to.

On section 4—increase of \$100 authorized in certain cases where salary less than \$1,000:

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: This section gives authority to the Governor in Council to enlarge the annual increase from \$50 to \$100 to that class of civil servant in receipt of less than \$1,000 per annum.

Hon. Mr. POWER: I notice that this beneficent clause covers only the case of clerks in the Third Division of the Inside Service.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Yes; this Bill does not deal with the Outside Service at all.

Hon. Mr. POWER: But, as far as I can judge from what I have seen of them, it costs the members of the Outside Service in cities like Toronto, Montreal, Halifax, and St. John quite as much to live, and they are as a class just as deserving as the members of the Inside Service who live in Ottawa. I understand that when this measure was going through the other House the Minister of Finance made a sort of promise that the cases of the outside servants would be considered later, and I hope that the Govern-

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED