

before the inquiry can be said to be an absolutely successful one.

Steam service between Prince Rupert and Queen Charlotte Islands—further amount required, \$5,000.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: Is that a weekly service?

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: It is a tri-weekly service. In order to have it carried on under present conditions, the Post Office Department and the Department of Trade and Commerce had to make a slight addition to the former subsidy.

Mr. OLIVER: How many vessels are employed in that service?

Sir GEORGE FOSTER: One, the Prince John—a very superior vessel.

Department of Finance and Treasury Board—To hereby promote H. Goode to Third Division, subdivision A, \$100.

Mr. PUGSLEY: I do object to Parliament being asked by legislation to promote a man from one division to another. If this gentleman is entitled to promotion, he is entitled to it under the Civil Service Act. The House is asked "to hereby promote" this gentleman; what right have we to be asked to promote a man from one division to another? If he is entitled to promotion, let him have it, and let a salary be provided for it.

Sir THOMAS WHITE: My hon. friend uses language of hyperbole to describe what is really a very simple and proper transaction. My hon. friend is spending the powers of his intellect against a young woman, Miss Goode, who is to be promoted from one division to another, to take the position of Miss McConnell, resigned, who was paid \$1,200 a year. She is employed in the office of the chief accountant. Miss Goode entered the service on July 1, 1915, and has passed the Civil Service examinations for stenographers. When she took over Miss McConnell's work it was found that the Civil Service Commission required her to pass in two or three extra subjects not covered in her stenographer's examinations before it would be possible to promote her to Third Division, subdivision A. She is one of the best clerks in the department, and we should have lost her services if we had not been able to promote her. This is not the best time to obtain skilled assistants of the kind in question; we are finding that out in the department. Generally speaking, I agree that it is not advisable in any way to transgress the provisions of the

Civil Service Act; but I call my hon. friend's attention to item 410, in which the Civil Service Commission has been obliged to do this very thing themselves. Item 410 is to provide for the promotion of one clerk from Third Division, subdivision B, to Third Division, subdivision A, \$112.50.

Mr. PUGSLEY: They have been encouraged by what the minister has done.

Sir THOMAS WHITE: So that if the Civil Service Commission, owing to a shortage of help in a time of war, have felt themselves justified in inserting an item of this kind, I do not think that my hon. friend ought to protest so strongly against our promoting this exceedingly efficient clerk to a position in which she will get \$900 a year.

Department of Insurance—to provide for three clerkships in Third Division, Subdivision B: one at \$800, one at \$700, one at \$600—\$2,100.

Sir THOMAS WHITE: Several members of the actuarial staff of the department have enlisted. It is proposed to provide substitutes for those by making appointments in the lower divisions, which appointments it is necessary to create, the department having no vacancies in this division. Some of the younger men, who were very desirous of going to the front enlisted.

Mr. MURPHY: What has become of the positions which are vacated? Were salaries voted for them?

Sir THOMAS WHITE: The men who have enlisted receive their pay and their positions are being held for them, but as the department is handicapped by their absence, it is necessary to provide these substitutes by making appointments in the lower divisions, the idea being that, by the time those men come back, the work will have so increased that it will not be necessary to let any one go. The work of the Insurance Department is very efficiently done, and not with a large staff.

Department of Insurance — contingencies, printing, binding and stationery, including cost of annual reports, further amount required, \$5,000.

Sir THOMAS WHITE: This amount is intended to cover the increased cost of printing and materials, and also to provide for an increased circulation. More and more of the reports issued by the Insurance Department are being asked for each year.

Pensions—compassionate allowance to Private Colin C. McNab for a disability arising from service during the Northwest Rebellion, 1885, \$1,000.