

By Hon. Mr. Calder:

Q. You claim that man when you take into consideration his responsibilities and duties should have had a higher salary in comparison with those others?—A. I am not going to say he should have higher, but I do say, and I say it with all the force I can possibly command that he ought to be classed as high as any technical officer in our service, and that if anybody were dealing with it who understood the most elementary principles of what he is required to do he would have been so classed. That is my judgment on that and I feel keenly about it. There are four officers in our department that I regard as of equal rank. For instance, Fraser, Forneret, Macdonald and MacPhail. Fraser is the Chief Engineer; MacPhail is the Chief of Lights; Forneret is in charge of the St. Lawrence Ship Channel; Macdonald is in charge of Steamship Inspection, MacPhail understands his work well; he is a graduate of Queen's University, comes from a highly technically trained family and is put down at a minimum salary of from \$3,600 to \$4,200. B. H. Fraser, with all respect, is performing no more important service and is ranked at a maximum of \$5,400. I say it is because of an absolute incapacity to understand just exactly what was required, and the importance of the service that was being performed and with that the Civil Service Commission as a Commission have had nothing to do. Men have sat in judgment upon those people who were not competent to sit in judgment upon the merits of their work.

By Mr. Currie:

Q. You agree that in section (c) should be included, professional, scientific and technical officers, employed for the performance of duties as such? The Commission so far has failed in your regard to function properly in respect to those people?—A. Yes, they have.

Q. This is something that ought to be corrected? About the steamships. Do they appoint the captains now?—A. No, the department has been given the power to select the crews for the various steamers.

By Hon. Mr. Calder:

Q. Does that include engineers, stewards, mates and sailors?—A. Yes.

Q. Everybody employed on the ship?—A. Yes, in connection with the operation of our vessels.

By Mr. Currie:

Q. Under the Act they were supposed to do that, but they passed the matter over to you?—A. Yes.

By Hon. Mr. Calder:

Q. What classes would be left so far as your outside service is concerned, what classes would be left with the Commission?—A. At the various agencies of the department—we have an agency at Halifax, St. John, Quebec, Montreal, Prescott, at Parry Sound, at Victoria, B.C., we have agencies there where there is a clerical staff employed. So far as I am concerned I am perfectly satisfied to leave the clerical staff employed in these agencies in the hands of the Civil Service Commission.

Q. You heard Mr. Cory's evidence yesterday?—A. Yes.

Q. He suggested in so far as his outside offices were concerned, that the chief man in charge, if I remember rightly, and his first assistant should be appointed directly by the department. So far as the balance of the staff was concerned he would leave it with the Commission?—A. When it comes to the question of the selection of an agent I am quite sure we have not got in our department any assistant agents. We just have an agent. In so far as the selection of an agent is concerned I would say unhesitatingly that the department is in a very much better position to make a selection of a proper and suitable person for agent than the Civil Service Commission could do.