

the rank of the junior class shall be placed in subdivision (a) of the third division. Clerks now holding the rank of third class, and temporary clerks paid out of civil government contingencies, shall be placed in subdivision (b) of the third division. You will see by these extracts that I have just referred to that the law provides the place that each employee shall occupy in the classification of our civil servants inside of this House. I contend the Senate has the power to correct any error that has been made in the classification. We are often correcting errors. I think the thing should be done properly. If there are errors in our classification let us correct them according to law. Clause (a) says:

As soon as practicable after coming into force of the Act the head of each department—

In this case it is the Speaker of the Senate.

—shall cause the organization of his department to be determined and defined by order in council—

That is by the Senate.

—due regard being had to the status of each officer and clerk, as the case may be.

So the head of the department, in this case the Speaker of this House, is by law obliged, in order to frame a classification, to have due regard to the status of each officer and clerk as the case may be. The order in council—that is the regulation passed by the Senate, the decision come to by the Senate—shall give the names of the several branches of the department and the number and character of the officers and the duties and details and salaries thereof, &c. Then comes sub-clause 3; after being so determined and defined, the organization of the department shall not be changed except by order in council.

'By order in council' is determined by clause 45. All the enactments according to the last number, which are given, are governed by clause 45, which says that the Governor in Council means so and so, and the head of the department means so and so, and the deputy head means so and so. So I contend this House has the power to correct any error in the classification that

Hon. Mr. LANDRY.

it made last year, and we have only to base ourselves on the law. We have the right to base our classification on salaries when (and in that case only when) the law does not provide for the classification; but where the law says such and such employees you place in such and such a class, it is a law which is paramount, and you cannot do otherwise. I would ask the House, without taking any action immediately to confirm or to accept this declaration as an amendment to the report of the committee, to concur in the report of the committee, and declare that in its opinion the classification made last year of its employees failing to answer the enactment of the Civil Service Act should be corrected so as to make it conform to the law as a general principle. I am giving no names at all for the moment. I think that part of our function should be studied in a more particular way. I want the House to acknowledge the principle that we have a right in this House to correct, and it is our duty to correct, the list, so as to make our classification according to the enactments of the Civil Service Act, which is the law that governs us at the present. I move, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Roy, that the following words be added to the motion that the House concur in the report:

And declares that in its opinion the classification made last year of its employees failing to answer to the enactment of the Civil Service Act should be corrected so as to make it conform to the law.

Hon. Mr. THOMPSON—I do not think the amendment is germane to the subject we are dealing with in the report. I think it is a larger question. The report is merely acting on what has been the disposition of the Senate during the present sitting, the enlargement, somewhat, of the remuneration of the employees of the Senate; and this larger question as to how the Act applies to the Senate, and the classification or reclassification of it, ought to be taken separately if it is a question relating to apportioning. If there is a difference of opinion in respect of our classification, by the head of the department, it is a matter in itself that might be dealt with at the opening of the session, but could not be dealt with in the few