

Gratuities.

Order in Council, Feb. 1, 1868.—As frequent instances occur of the death of officers in the service of the Government, leaving their families in circumstances of great and immediate want, and destitute of means to defray the expenses of illness and funeral, the Committee respectfully advise that in all cases of the decease of an officer of the Government on the permanent list, a gratuity equal to his salary be paid to his widow or orphan children, or to such members of his family or household as His Excellency may approve, for two months from the date of his decease.

Order in Council, Dec. 26, 1887.—The Board having had under consideration the matter of the payment of gratuities to the widows or other representatives of officials of the Government not on the permanent list, are of opinion, and recommend to Council, that the terms of the Order in Council of Feb. 1, 1868, be adhered to.

The Board are further of opinion that should Council, in special cases deem it necessary that the provisions of the above-mentioned Order in Council be extended to include payment of gratuities to the widows or other representatives of officials not on the permanent list, the consent of Parliament should be asked for the payment thereof.

JOHN J. MCGEE, *C.P.C.*

Insurance of Government Property.

Order in Council, July 5, 1881.—The Committee of the Privy Council have had under consideration, upon the suggestion of the Acting Minister of the Interior, the general question of insurance against fire of Government property; and they are of opinion and humbly advise Your Excellency, that in view of the large amount, varied character and widely separated position of the property in the Dominion belonging to the Crown, it is a wise economy for the Government to underwrite its own risks, as well on movable as on immovable property, and they recommend that all existing policies (if any such exist) be suffered to lapse and no new ones effected, and that a copy of this Order, should Your Excellency approve of it, be sent to every department of the Government.

J. O. COTÉ, *C.P.C.*

Franking Privilege at Ottawa.

Order in Council, February 25, 1892.—By an Order in Council, dated February 25, 1892, the following regulations governing the franking privilege were approved:—

Regulations.

1. In each department there may be used one franking stamp, such stamp being a facsimile of the usual signature of the deputy head, and to be kept in the custody of some officer or confidential clerk specially intrusted by the deputy head with that duty, and to be affixed by him upon official correspondence only.

2. When envelopes with a printed official address thereon are used, the name of the deputy head may be printed on such envelopes.

3. In addition to the printed stamp or printed signature as above provided, the head of the department and the private secretary of the head of the department in the name of his Minister, and the deputy head may frank by a written signature or initials; but no other method of franking except as above enumerated will be permitted.

4. No blank or unaddressed envelope shall in any case be franked.

5. The deputy head of each department shall furnish the Postmaster General with an impression of the facsimile stamp which it is proposed to use in his department.