

8. Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained the Secretary may from time to time fix the amount of salary to be paid to an officer at any sum within the maximum limits of the class or grade in which such officer is placed, and such amount shall be the salary payable to such officer, without annual increment.

9. The General Division shall include all officers in the Department not included in the Administrative, Clerical, or Engineering Divisions.

10. In the General Division the officers shall be paid in accordance with a fixed amount or scale determined by the Secretary, and as may be provided in the annual estimates and authorized by Parliament.

11. Officers may, at the discretion of the Secretary, be transferred from any division to any other division except the Administrative Division, and shall be graded in such class thereof as the Secretary determines.

12. An officer transferred to the Department from any other Department of the Government service may be classified and graded in such division and class as the Secretary determines, due regard being had to merit and the nature of the duties to be performed by such officer.

INCREASE IN IMPORTANCE OF OFFICE OR WORK

13. If at any time any office or any particular work or division of work has become of greater importance, or the duties incident thereto more onerous or extensive, than at the date of the last grading, or for the purpose of meeting the exigencies of the Department, the Secretary may, if he thinks fit, alter the grading of such office or work and determine the salary appropriate thereto, and shall treat such office or work as vacant or new. The vacancy shall thereafter be filled in accordance with the provisions of the said Act.

CREATION, ABOLITION, OR REDUCTION OF POSITIONS.

14. The Secretary may at any time create any position he deems advisable for the better working of the Department, and fix the grading therefor, or abolish any position which he considers no longer necessary, or reduce the grading of any position where the importance of the duties has diminished or where the exigencies of the Department require such action: Provided that the officer holding any such position deemed no longer necessary or reduced in grading shall be transferred to an equivalent position.

PROMOTION.

15. (1.) No officer other than one of those specified in subclause (2) hereof shall be eligible for promotion in the Clerical Division to any position with a salary exceeding £270 per annum unless he has passed the Controlling Officers' Examination referred to in Part V hereof.

(2.) Any officer who—

(a.) Was in receipt of a salary of over £200 on the 31st March, 1913, or had not less than twelve years' continuous permanent service and was on that date engaged in clerical duties:

(b.) Prior to the 1st April, 1919, had passed the Post and Telegraph Senior Technical Examination with 50 per centum of marks, the Public Service Senior Examination, the New Zealand University Matriculation Examination, or such other examination as was, prior to the 1st April, 1919, recognized as equivalent to a pass in the Public Service Senior Examination:

shall not be required to pass any further examination for promotion to any position to which is allotted a salary exceeding £270 per annum.

16. No officer graded in Class VII shall be eligible for advancement beyond a salary of £165 per annum until he has passed the Competency Examination referred to in Part V hereof, nor to advancement beyond a salary of £180 or £220 until he has satisfied the Promotion Board of his efficiency in the performance of his duties.

17. (1.) Every officer shall, on promotion, be placed at the bottom of the class to which he is promoted, but he shall be entitled to not less than the same salary as that which he received immediately before such promotion.

(2.) Officers promoted in the same financial year to any class may, if the Secretary so decides, retain the same relative seniority as they had before such transfer.

(3.) Officers already in the service may on promotion to a cadetship receive a commencing salary of £80 per annum.