

## Congress Considers Bill to Increase Federal Salaries Twenty Per Cent

From Civil Service Assembly Newsletter

New legislation has been introduced in Congress by Senator Sheridan Downey of California, providing for a flat pay increase of 20 per cent for most of the federal employees who are paid on an annual salary basis. The contemplated increase would be in addition to the pay increases which became effective on July 1 under the Federal Employees Pay Act of 1945.

Participating in the hearings on the bill before the Senate Civil Service Committee, U. S. Civil Service Commissioner Arthur Fleming declared that he was "authorized to state that Senate Bill 1415 providing for an increase of 20 per cent in the existing basic rates of compensation for most of the per annum employees of the federal government, is in conformity with the program of the President."

During the hearing, Mr. Flemming also presented a series of suggested amendments for the committee's consideration, stating that if such provisions were incorporated in the bill, they would likewise be in conformity with the President's program. The recommended amendments are summarized as follows:

1. That the salary ceiling for professional, scientific and administrative jobs under the Classification Act be raised from the present maximum of \$9,800 to a maximum of \$15,000. This could be accomplished by adding two new grades to the Classification Act: grade 10 in the professional and scientific service and grade 17 in the clerical, administrative and fiscal service.

2. That Cabinet members salaries be increased from \$15,000 to \$25,000; Undersecretaries and the Solicitor General be raised from \$10,000 to \$20,000; Assistant Secretaries, Assistant Attorneys General, and Assistant Postmasters

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