

Five candidates presented themselves for the Shorthand Reporters' Examination, but none was successful. The Reporters' Examination requires a speed of 150 to 180 words a minute in shorthand, with not more than 1 per cent. of error in transcription.

The latter three examinations are used for promotion purposes.

For the first time in several years there is a distinct shortage of shorthand-typists fully capable of reporting lengthy interviews or of taking dictation at speeds in excess of 150 words per minute.

#### AMENDMENTS TO THE GENERAL REGULATIONS.

In consequence of the passing of the Finance Act, 1935, making provision for an increase in salary or wages of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., the following regulations were amended: Regulations 8, 109, 111, 117, 197, 201, 209, 213, and 214—increasing salaries and rates in accordance with the Act.

The necessity for a reprint of the Public Service Regulations has been felt for some time, but previously, owing to pressure of more important business, it has not been possible to proceed with the work. This task is now, however, well in hand, and the reprint of the regulations should be available at an early date.

#### CONCLUSION.

I am pleased to be able to report that Heads of Departments and staffs generally have continued to render to the State whole-hearted and ungrudging service.

I wish to express my appreciation of the loyal co-operation of administrative and other officers throughout the Service, and particularly to the members of my own staff for their support and assistance.

All of which is respectfully submitted for Your Excellency's gracious consideration.

ANDREW D. THOMSON, Acting Commissioner.

T. MARK, Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Office of the Public Service Commissioner,  
Wellington, C. 1, 30th June, 1936.