

opinion that many of them feel the pinch of the high cost of living, and that few of them can roll up to the offices in automobiles."

It seems to me that I have read in *The Civilian* that the average salary of civil servants is more nearly \$1,000 than \$2,000, but I cannot find the copy containing the article. Could you give me accurate information?

While the "Retail Grocer" is sympathetic, I feel that an error of \$1,000, if it is such, ought to be corrected.

Yours truly,

W. L. WILSON.

Ottawa, March 23, 1914.

Note.—Perhaps the most effective reply to the above letter is to be found in the last annual report of the Ottawa association. The Ottawa services is popularly supposed to be somewhat on a higher scale of salary. The first paragraph under the head of salaries in the Ottawa report for 1912-13 reads as follows:—

In view of the increased and ever increasing cost of living, your executive are strongly of the opinion, in which the whole service will doubtless concur, that the present scale of salaries is entirely inadequate. The average salary of the messenger grade and third division, which, if taken together, represent over 50 per cent. of the service, is only \$821.24, while if the second division be added to this, the result will show that over 87 per cent. of the service are only receiving an average salary of \$1,042.28, or about \$158.00 less than the maximum salary of the third division.—

(Eds.)

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GARDEN CITY FOR CIVIL SERVANTS.

To the Editor of *The Civilian*:

I should be glad to know if, in the new town planning scheme for Ottawa, the question of a model village for civil servants has ever been suggested?

It has often occurred to me that the rifle range at Rockcliffe would be an ideal situation for such a scheme, run on similar lines to the garden

cities of Cadbury's and Lever Bros' at Pt. Sunlight. The government could well afford to cut up the property in 1-3 of an acre lots, and sell them at a reasonable price, and still make a good profit, on the understanding that they were not used for speculative purposes, and could reserve the right to reclaim them if the party did not build within a given time. A scheme on these lines would considerably reduce the cost of living, as at the present time it is impossible for a civil servant to acquire land for building purposes in the city of Ottawa, and it is impossible for anyone with any taste or culture to rent or buy a house in the whole of Ottawa that has any pretence to artistic treatment, or has any architectural merit. The insurance department could quite easily take over the work of lending money at 5%, which could be computed with the capital and deducted every month from the monthly cheque during a period of years, as in the insurance scheme at present. A scheme on these lines would benefit the government in every way, and give better housing accommodation to the civil servants, as has been proved by Messrs. Lever Bros' and Cadbury's, who have put their men in the way of acquiring their own houses, and have been a mutual benefit to each other. I don't know the exact area of the property at Rockcliffe, but it is big enough for a few hundred houses, and would be quite big enough to support a branch of the co-operative society. Anyone who has visited Pt. Sunlight, Letchworth, or Hamstead can only come to the conclusion that Ottawa, with its fine situation, is very far behind in domestic architecture.

There are plenty of architects in the public works department who could design small houses, which could be built in lots of six at a time, not necessarily all the same, which would reduce the cost to a large ex-