

matter what help is given us the burden is going to fall, and fall heavily, upon the experienced hands, and what is more those hands are going to see that the public suffer as little as possible. That is the spirit which all members of our association will work with during the trying weeks ahead of us. The time is coming when we shall be enlisting the public's sympathy and the Department's attention. Let us, therefore, show both of these bodies that we are justly entitled to their consideration and the best way in which we can do this is by putting our shoulder to the wheel with our utmost effort at a time when it will most assuredly be needed as it has never been needed before.

W. S. Simpson, the Saskatoon correspondent for these pages, has enlisted for overseas duty. No correspondent has been more regular nor more entertaining than has Mr. Simpson, and all our readers will wish him the best of good wishes while he is away upholding our country's cause and the proud record of the Saskatoon branch which is one to be honored by all our branches. Here's to you, William!

Keep in mind the fact that the returns of your branch's activities are now going in to the Organizing Secretary who is on the look-out for slackers. Get a good reputation, boys, for your branch's attendance records.

Just above we have been pleading for a man's best during the coming Christmas rush, from a departmental viewpoint. Now you are asked to pity the poor editor during December. If needs be, other association work can wait during the very heavy season, but not so the work for these pages. We desire to thank several friends for recent contributions and if they and a few others whom we know of will kindly keep up the good work for another week or two it will considerably relieve the strain that will be felt in the editorial department during the month of December.

Branch Notes in this issue show more men on the Honor Roll than at any time previously. Brandon, Saskatoon, Edmonton, Calgary and Prince Albert have all lost men, and Calgary, Edmonton, Lethbridge, Saskatoon have men on the wounded list.

A membership due card, in the form of a meal ticket, has just reached us and it is without a doubt the best idea that we have yet been shown. This matter will be treated more fully in a future issue.

It's easier for a woman to keep young ungracefully than to grow old gracefully.

## BRANCH NOTES.

### Sydney, N.S.

The learned readers of these few scattered notes will notice that this is the first time in the history of the "Postal Journal" that the Sydney branch of the Postal Clerks' Association have appeared in print, and, needless to say, we are like a great many others, just a little bit scared to make our debut.

Nevertheless, with the editor's kind permission, we have decided hereafter to take up a limited space in his valuable paper. We have always been of the opinion that without an association to back us up we would never receive much attention from the Department. Therefore, on the twelfth day of January, 1915, we took the final step that placed us on an even footing with the western offices by joining the Postal Clerks' Association, from which none are barred.

We hold a meeting once a month at which all important matters are brought up for discussion, then there is the annual meeting when the election of officers for the ensuing year takes place. Owing to the holiday season we have postponed our meetings, but are looking forward to the time when we can once more assemble to talk over the numerous little things that crop up in a short space of time.

The above is the story of our association, and it is our earnest hope that the many semi-staff offices both in the Western and Maritime Provinces who have not already joined will wake up to the cause by following their leaders in joining the ranks of our popular and fast growing association.

### Prince Albert.

The most important matter we have to report this issue is a sad one. It is with very deep regret that we announce the death of Stephen H. Thorson, a member of the railway mail service, who has been killed at the front. "Steve" was a familiar figure in this city and his loss will be severely felt. For a considerable time he ran on the S. R. & P. A. and his pleasant manner endeared him to a very large number of friends.

Very serious is becoming the high cost of living, if the language of some of our married men is to be taken notice of. Wood, our chief industry here, has taken a jump to \$6.00 per cord, and another advance is prophesied. Our married friends to the south might take a hint on this fuel question. The social side of the branch is asserting itself with the long winter evenings here. A team has been