

postponed for the present on account of the very pressing engagements of Dr. Reid and of the Commissioner, who is chairman of the Cost of Living Commission.

The Post Office delegates began to arrive on Monday morning, and included: Geo. Carpenter, Montreal, Vice-President of the Federation; S. A. MacFarlane, Hamilton; E. M. Stewart, Toronto. These were assisted by a strong detachment from the local office. The morning was spent in drawing up a memorial setting forth the views of the Post Office, and at 2 o'clock the Postmaster-General was ready to hear the members of his staff speak through the medium of the federated organization. The delegation was composed of twelve members, including the Secretary of the Federation. Mr. Campbell read the concise memorial to the following effect:—

Ottawa, March 16th, 1914.

To the Hon. L. P. Pelletier,
Postmaster General of Canada:

Sir,—In view of the approaching revision of the C. S. Act, we have ventured to approach you with a few representations regarding the officials of your department in the Outside Service.

We wish, in the first place, to make our acknowledgments to you for the benefits you have conferred upon the Outside Service in the short time you have been in office.

Although the Act of 1911-12 and the new classification therein contained was an improvement upon previous conditions, we would remind you that for the first decade of the present century the Outside Service of your department was living on a salary scale below the poverty line, and the service has never recovered from the injurious effects of this state of affairs.

In view of this fact, and also considering that the Inside Service received a flat increase of \$150 in 1908, we venture to make the request that similar consideration in this regard be granted to the officials of your Outside Service.

We wish, also, to reaffirm the petition contained in the memorial of the C. S. Federation of Canada to the Prime Minister in December last to the following effect:—

(1) That the annual increase be not less than \$100.00 for all classes.

(2) That the minimum of the third class be raised from \$500 to \$700.

With regard to our request that the annual increase be raised from \$50 to \$100, we beg leave to point out in justification of the plea the disabilities under which the Outside Service labours in comparison with the Inside Service:—

(1) Longer and irregular hours.

(2) Work on Sundays and statutory holidays, which is imperative on account of the nature of our duties, and for which there is no compensation.

In closing, we would express the hope that you will take under your consideration at as early a date as your onerous duties may permit, the application to your Outside Service of all the advantages of the merit system.

We offer these suggestions fully recognizing your sympathetic attitude in the past, and inspired solely by the hope of elevating the spirit animating the staff, and thereby perfecting more and more the efficiency of the Canadian Postal Service.

We are,

Your obedient servants,

According to the reports of those who waited upon Mr. Pelletier it is not easy to make due acknowledgements for the grace and courtesy of Mr. Pelletier's bearing. His manner was easy, dignified, and sympathetic. At the words "below the poverty line" he gave a ready nod of appreciation. The minister replied at considerable length. The tenor of his reply cannot be published at this time, but it may be mentioned that if there were anything about the interview not completely satisfactory it has yet to be pointed out.

On Monday evening the delegates met in executive meeting at the Civil Service Club, Bank street, Mr. Campbell presiding. Mr. Grierson, the secretary, reviewed the events of the preceding two weeks, and explained the reasons for inviting the delegates to come to headquarters. Some important business was transacted by way of providing machinery for the extension of the usefulness of the Federation. Three new standing committees were appointed: (1) On Organization for the purpose of increasing the membership of the federal body so as to obtain a still