

ance continues to apply after the salary has passed the \$1,600 mark and until the ordinary salary has reached \$1,780 when it ceases. This new basis removes the discrimination from which the Post Office people in the West have suffered as compared with the other services and will be gratifying news to all affected. As will be seen by the list referred to, the Ottawa service comes in for recognition also; it is common with their confreres abroad having long suffered from that tormenting malady known as "hope deferred."

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The *Civilian*, from the standpoint of the common good, considers the foregoing the best news it has been able to give out for many a day. But as we have mentioned before, the present repentance, gladly and warmly as we congratulate the government upon it, does not wholly absolve it from the transgressions of the past. We have previously pointed out that a certain Postmaster General fifteen years ago turned a great public utility service into a money-grubbing, revenue-getting, surplus-making department. The result is well known. A proud boast in the House of Commons to the glory of one man at the expense of the frayed trousers and the sore hearts of thousands of other good men. We venture to say that owing to the administration of the P. O. Dept. in the past, the clerks are each hundreds of dollars in debt. Even under the new classification comparatively little immediate benefit accrues. In most cases years will elapse before the clerks reach the new maximum of their classes and it seems to us that one thing more is necessary to complete the good work the present government has so sincerely taken in hand.

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Men in the employ of what we are pleased to call a great nation cannot be expected to attain to the high-

est ideals of service unless their natural cravings for food, the necessities of clothing and the pinching exigencies of an ever and always mounting scale of living are fairly met. No one will be found who will pretend that human, not to say humane treatment has been accorded to the men who attend to the postal facilities of the country. In order that this great and growing country may regain its self respect, and in order that the men, who labour so that our daily budget of news and letters shall not be delayed or go astray, may become more satisfied in body and contented in mind, it is incumbent upon the government to grant a flat amount in lieu of a higher classification long since overdue. This might well be provided out of the many surpluses screwed out of the working expenses of this department. This plea is not advanced in a spirit of carping criticism. On the contrary it is inspired by a desire for simple justice and coupled with a sincere appreciation of what the government has already done with especial reference to the attitude of the Honourable Mr. Pelletier who has been aggressively favourable to the rank and file of his department since the day soon after his acquisition to office when he turned the hose upon the Augean stables in the basement of the Langevin Block. The P. O. officers should see to it that an exhaustive brief of their complicated case is handed to their representatives who attend the annual meeting of the C. S. Federation next Autumn, so that an act of equity long outstanding may be finally consummated.

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THE COMMISSIONERS.

In the Ottawa service there are always a number of moot questions and unsettled problems seeking solution. One of these at the present time refers to the promotion of some of the older members of the service