

THE POSTAL CARRIERS IN CONVENTION.

Mr. Robert Wight had the honour to represent the Federated Association of Letter Carriers of the Dominion of Canada, as their delegate to the Trades and Labour Congress of the Dominion of Canada at Vancouver, September 20th to 25th inclusive, during which sessions resolutions were adopted affecting the Service and the Letter Carriers in particular.

Resolution No. 24 was a plea on behalf of certain carriers not benefited by the Saturday half holiday.

No. 72 expressed a desire that all mail deliveries be suspended on statutory holidays for well argued reasons.

No. 83, moved by Mr. Wight, desired that the statutory half holiday, for grounds and reasons stated, be extended to take in every week in the year instead of July and August only.

No. 27 deals with the subject of a universal half-holiday on account of the moral and physical benefit involved.

Nos. 17, 42 and 47 deal with the Patronage System as follows:

No. 17: "That, whereas, it is not in the best interests of the people that officials who have the responsibility of carrying out the laws of the country should be influenced by political considerations in the administration of the law; be it resolved,

"That this Congress recommends that the workers in Canada at all times protest and take action, whenever possible, to abolish political patronage as a means to public service or Government appointments; and be it further resolved, that this body urge for a Civil Service examination in preference to the present system."

No. 42: "Resolved, that this Congress affirms that the principle of appointment to the Civil Service of Canada, through the present system of political patronage, is derogatory to efficiency and subversive of discipline, being opposed to all that is democratic in the institution of government, and the best interests of the public service; and be it therefore resolved that this Congress go on record as supporting the principle of promotion to all offices in the gift of the Government being made from Civil Service employees having the necessary qualifications and abilities to perform the duties of the office." Resolution was covered by No. 17, concurred in.

No. 47: "Whereas, the system of appointment of inspectors in the Public Works Department of the Dominion of Canada depends largely on political influences; and, whereas, said inspectors often owe obligations which place obstacles before them in demanding quality of ma-

terial and workmanship to the detriment of the skill of various artisans; and, whereas, the dignity of the different crafts is penetrated by the supervision of their work by appointments under the partisans qualifications; and, whereas, many skilled and technically trained artisans attached to the Trade Union movement have a non-committal policy in politics and are held at a distinct disadvantage in competing for such employment; be it resolved, that the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada, which endorsed the Technical Education scheme presented by the recent commission, be called upon to obtain fair competition for appointments in this department for those who are fully qualified."

LETTER CARRIERS LOYAL.

Editor, The Herald: Apropos of your comments upon good service to the Empire, in to-day's paper, I would like to draw attention to the record of Calgary's letter carriers. Out of a total of 68 we have now enlisted for active service 28, or equal to 42 per cent of the original staff of carriers. Their places having been filled and the public receiving their mail as per usual, perhaps it would be a small tribute to our boys if this were brought before the notice of the public. I might add that their fraternal and insurance dues to the association are being kept up by the stay-at-homes. Thanking you, I am, yours truly,

F. G. BUSHELL,
Secretary.

FROM A POSTAL DELEGATE.

Mr. Fred Davies, of Toronto Post Office, who was a delegate several times to Civil Service Federation conventions, has enlisted for overseas service with the Army Medical Corps, and arrived recently with his contingent in England. He writes the secretary of the Federation as follows:

Shorncliffe, England.

I am just sending you a card. Don't know how long I will be here but it will likely be some little time before I reach the front. I am kept very busy here and the O. C. will likely hold me at the office for a while. Hope you have a good convention this year. With my very best wishes to all, I am,

Yours sincerely,
F. W. DAVIES.