

## SUPERANNUATION "No. 1."

To the Editors of *The Civilian* :—

In reply to "An Interesting Question" in *The Civilian* of Oct. 3, asking "can you give any reason why an extra one per centum is added towards the "superannuation fund when a civil servant takes out insurance with the Insurance Department," you concluded your answer by stating "The extra 1% is credited to the Insurance Fund." This is not the case. It is not even credited to Superannuation Fund No. 2, which with the addition of a certain sum by the Government is a self supporting fund. It actually goes into the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Dominion and helps, in its own small way, to build the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, to pay subsidies to the Provinces, Indian Annuities, the National Debt or any other expenditure or liability of the Dominion. I am not surprised that Mr. McVicar cannot get the reason into his head; neither can anyone else. It is simply a penalty imposed on those who had the misfortune to have been in the service prior to April 1, 1893, and who were obliged to contribute to the Superannuation Revenue, not a Superannuation Fund. The Superannuation Act was passed by the Government for its own benefit as it was more economical to pay a man a percentage of his salary instead of the whole when by reason of ill-health or age, he was not able to render as efficient service as he did in former years. It was one inducement for him to serve his country for a low salary knowing that, while he could not lay by some provision for his declining years, he would be able to exist on his superannuation.

No reason has been given for the imposition of this 1%, no reason can be given. An excuse has been made; viz.: You civil servants who came in prior to 1893 have such a splendid privilege of contributing to the Revenue, and if you live long enough and if the Government wants to get rid of you, you can be superannuated. If you die your contributions are lost, but in the latter case you won't need an income. Your family could use the abatements deducted during these long 35 years, but the Government thinks otherwise and uses the money in its business. Many extremely distressing cases might be cited of superannuation men leaving their families homeless in reality, whereas the payments to superannuation had earned an annuity which the Government does not grant.

"35 YEARS."

Ottawa, Oct. 8th, 1913.

### THE LATE WALTER ROWAN.

The members of the service in Ottawa especially, and more especially the members of the Post Office Department, received a shock upon opening their papers on Monday morning last to learn of the fatal drowning accident at Rigaud, whereby Mr. Walter Rowan, Superintendent of the Money Order Branch lost his life.

Mr. Rowan was born in St. John, N.B., fifty-six years ago and has

been living in Ottawa approximately thirty years. He left school at the age of seventeen to enter the Civil Service. He was appointed to the post office department in 1874 and on September, 1908, he was elevated to the position of superintendent of the money order branch. Mr. Rowan was an active supporter of the Civil Service Club and for some years has been on the executive. He leaves, besides a widow, two daughters, Mrs. W. Simpson and Mrs. W. R. Baillie, both of Montreal.