

to those members of the cabinet who were instrumental in bringing about the change. Thus the salary-increase question was disposed of — may a merciful Heaven grant that it recur not again in our time, for had we not been buoyed up by a stern sense of duty, we had long since grown to hate the very sound of the words. The reorganization question, we regret to say, was not so happily settled. There, each department has been permitted to be a law unto itself. No standard of uniformity has been set up where such a standard is sorely needed. The result is that certain departments have liberally construed that section of the act which enjoins reorganization; that certain other departments have pursued a medium course; and that one or two have done absolutely nothing,—civil service reform, or the desire to do simple justice, not having yet penetrated to certain quarters. It is an unenviable position to possess power without sense of responsibility. No reasonable person ever argued that the problem was an easy one; but to shirk it altogether on that account is far from admirable.

#### **An Unsettled Question That Deserves Consideration.**

But while reorganization methods are proving, and will prove, sources of discontent and irritation, there is another matter of the greatest importance which has not yet been taken up in earnest. We refer to Superannuation. Beyond a pronouncement by the government that it intends to consider the question fully, no advance has been made from the time when the commission presented its report recommending the Bill therein contained. There has been no lack of interest, however, in the service itself. For a long time the service has seen and deplored its unhappy posi-

tion in this respect. Private corporations by the score, both in Canada and in the United States, are declaring for Superannuation, and the service is very naturally asking whether it is to be made the last sad example of the force of an expired notion. We believe that this is another case that only requires to be properly presented to receive the attention which it deserves. The time is now ripe for such representations to be made; otherwise, consideration of the question must go over until another year, and there has been enough postponement already,—“to-morrow and to-morrow and to-morrow.”

#### **Action of the Civil Service Association**

At a meeting of the C. S. Association, held on Thursday of last week, it was decided to embrace an early opportunity of waiting upon the government and of pressing for the introduction of the Bill recommended by the Royal Commission. It was further decided that, as to special claims arising under this head, the Association should do all in its power to have them recognized at the proper time. In thus deciding, it appears to us that the Association has recognized the main point,—namely, that the important thing for the service at present is to get a reasonably satisfactory Superannuation Bill under weigh at once. Such a measure will fully meet the needs of the great majority of those who are now without superannuation, and besides applying as to the future to the remainder of those now in the service, will also meet the needs of future entrants for all time. The particular requirements of the important remnant in respect of uncounted service and the like will not, however, be lost sight of. The special provisions necessary in their behalf would in any case probably be enacted separately from the main