

CONFIDENCE BEGETS CONFIDENCE.

In view of the bitter disappointment felt by Civil Servants in Ottawa at the failure of the proposed Civil Service Act and Superannuation Act to become law at the recent session of Parliament, it could hardly be expected that satisfaction would be felt and expressed at any gathering where the situation was considered. Yet satisfaction was the key-note of the special general meeting of the Civil Service Association of Ottawa, held in the Y. M. C. A. hall on the evening of July 7th. The officers of the organization are to be congratulated on the ability they displayed in handling a difficult situation, and the rank and file of the Association are equally deserving of congratulation because of the sane and sensible manner in which they considered the facts laid before them.

The meeting was called for the purpose of explanation, and those who were not present missed an opportunity of getting an understanding of the occurrences of the late session of Parliament and of the present situation, which cannot be obtained otherwise.

President Paré, Vice-president Lynch, Secretary Walter Todd, Treasurer O'Connor, and many members of the Executive Committee were present, and ready to take their constituents into their confidence, freely and frankly.

Mr. Paré, in opening the meeting, thanked the membership of the Association for their loyalty to the Executive. He assured them that their support was well deserved, and appealed for its continuance.

Secretary Todd was the chief speaker. He gave a lengthy, concise and intimate recital of the history of Civil Service affairs during the past seven months. In that period the Executive Committee held fifteen full meetings, and numerous sub-committee meetings. During the sitting of Parliament the officers and special committees were busy with the organization's affairs practically every day.

One achievement of the session has given great satisfaction, viz.: the passing of the amendments to the Insurance Act. Respecting insurance, the Association asked the Govern-

ment for three concessions, viz.: that the maximum of risks be raised to \$5,000, that women be admitted to the benefit of the Act, and that the old 1% penalty on those under a former superannuation act be abolished. Of these the two former were granted. If the Civil Service gets two-thirds of all it asks for it will do very well indeed.

Mr. Todd gave some idea of the immense amount of work done by the Executive Committee and officers, and by the Minister of Finance, in getting the Civil Service and Superannuation bills ready for presentation to the House. But for the unfortunate illness of the Minister, followed by the blockades of business by the Canadian Northern and Farmers' Bank bills, the measures affecting the service would have been presented in time to be enacted into law. The delays were beyond the power of anyone to prevent. While it was not his intention to discuss the bills, Mr. Todd referred with satisfaction to the concession gained in the matter of the \$100 annual increase.

The Minister of Finance had been very much impressed when the representatives of the Association showed him that it had twenty-six hundred paid-up members and twenty-four of the twenty-nine departments organized and represented on the committee. The growth of the mem-