

next winter. At a meeting held recently the following officers were elected:—

Honorary President, Dr. W. F. King, C.M.G.; Honorary Vice-Presidents, Dr. Otto Klotz, C. A. Biggar, John Sharpe; President, C. A. E. Clendinnen; Vice-President, R. M. Motherwell; Secretary-Treasurer, O. Sills; Executive Committee, R. M. Stewart, R. K. Young, J. H. Labbe, R. B. Nugent, and J. M. Cote.



The Montreal Hockey and Social Club held their annual euchre and dance in the Majestic Hall last night, when 120 couples were present. The guests of honour were Mr. Henry McLaughlin, Surveyor of Customs, and Mrs. McLaughlin, Mr. A. E. Giroux, Mr. T. F. Slattery, Mr. Barlow, Mr. Newton, Mr. Hurteau, Mr. A. Dade, Mr. R. C. Irwin, President of the Club.

The winners of the gentlemen's euchre prizes were: Messrs. P. J. Cooney, M. J. Modler, E. Gagnon, B. Lunny, A. Giroux and D. Manson. The lady winners were: Miss O. Ryan, Miss Hilda Latimer, Miss Eva DeCoste, Mrs. P. J. Keane, Miss I. Drury and Mrs. J. Newton. The affair was a big success and a most enjoyable time was held.

#### PUBLIC SERVICE NEWS.

Ex-President Taft, in speaking on the powers and limitations of the Presidential office before the students of the Hill School in Pennsylvania, made a plea for the competitive classification of all offices in the executive branch of the Government, with the exception of ambassadors, ministers and Cabinet members. As the opinion of one who has been through the patronage mill, the following extract from this address will be of interest to friends of the merit system:

With the exception of the judges of the courts, of the members of his Cabinet, and the appointment of the general officers of the army, I think that the action of the President in respect to all other offices ought practically to be nothing more than a formal acquiescence in a system which prevails in other well governed countries by which the selection and promotion of all officers is by examination, and their tenure is for life. The President will not be bothered, as he is now, with having to exercise an arbitrary discretion enabling him, if he choose, to use the offices for political purposes, and involving him in controversies that interfere with his effectiveness as the chief executive officer of

the nation, and do not help the public weal. It is entirely possible to put all these offices, except the ones I have named, under the system called the classified civil service. If popular government is to be a success, the success will be measured by the ability of the Government to use the services of experts in carrying it on. The selection of all but the highest offices on political grounds will not result in the use of experts to carry on the various functions that the Government performs.

— Good Government.

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A general campaign is to be conducted by organizers of the American Federation of Labour throughout the United States in an effort to unionize the 300,000 Government employees, Secretary Morrison, of the Federation of Labour, announced today.

This step is in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Executive Council of the Federation, in session here last week.

It is proposed, according to Mr. Morrison, to bring as many Government employees as possible into existing unions, and then to create new unions for those whose line of work has not yet been unionized.

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The cities in the United States having Municipal Civil Service Commissions and the number of such boards in each are as follows:

Arkansas, 1; California, 4; Colorado, 2; Illinois, 7; Indiana, 1; Iowa, 1; Kansas, 5; Louisiana, 1; Minnesota, 3; Missouri, 2; Montana, 1; New York, 50; Ohio, 79; Oklahoma, 2; Oregon, 1; Pennsylvania, 2; South Carolina, 1; Tennessee, 3; Virginia, 1; Washington, 5; West Virginia, 1; Wisconsin, 1.

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On November 24 Hon. Dudley Field Malone, formerly third assistant Secretary of State, took the oath of office as Collector of Customs at the port of New York, to succeed John Purroy Mitchel, the Mayor-elect. After the formal ceremony Mr. Malone delivered a short address, in which he voiced his intention to take part in politics when not otherwise engaged at the Custom House. His speech is given in part as follows:—

It is the duty of every good citizen to interest himself in the affairs of politics and government. . . . I for one wish to say that after I have completed my hours of service at the Custom House in the performance of the non-political business duties of the collectorship of the port of New York, I reserve the right which belongs to every citizen to spend my leisure time in fighting for clean politics and sound administration.

—Good Government.