

placed in a convenient spot in the brain, where they can be readily referred to, a lot will have been accomplished before the start.

Brantford has become a branch of this association, and will be represented at convention either directly or by proxy. This splendid news will be most welcome to our members throughout the country and all will join in congratulating them upon their move forward. May we hear from you, Brantford, in these pages!

Perhaps some of our readers will be looking for comment upon the agenda which has now been in circulation some time. We do not believe, however, that it is wise to say anything in these columns in regard to what is to be discussed at Regina. Let us wait until after the business has been dealt with by those delegated to do so, and then talk of the results.

You might all read Victoria's "grouch" as the malady referred to is not peculiar to the Pacific coast. Should any one get very sore with the matter he finds there, it must surely "hit" him pretty hard.

We very much regret that our limited space has again compelled us to hold over "Night Hawk's" letter and several other items. These we trust we publish in the next issue.

#### A CONVENTION MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT.

Recently it occurred to me to investigate the etymology of the word "Association," and upon referring to a dictionary I found that one of the meanings of the word was given as "partnership." Proceeding further I found the meaning of the word "partnership" was given as "joint interest." Now, when the convention is held at Regina this year, will the representatives of all branches please remember the meaning of the word "Association," as given in the dictionary. If we can only keep this "joint interest" idea in mind, we can more successfully conquer the obstacles that lie in our path, and attain those results which we have set out to achieve.

Those who were privileged to attend former conventions of this association will remember that at each convention one of the most remarkable features was the number of divergent views upon any subject when that subject was first brought up for discussion; and how, when the matter had been thoroughly discussed in all its bearings it was found that, after all, these divergent opinions were often caused either through adverse local conditions, or

from a misconception of the real nature of the question at issue. Many delegates found that what might appear to them a vitally important issue was perhaps a matter which would conflict with the general policy of the association, which is well expressed in the phrase, "the greatest good for the greatest number." They were, therefore, quite satisfied to relinquish their own side of the question and adopt the attitude which would coincide with the above mentioned policy. Thus was the "joint interest" idea maintained throughout, and at the first convention of the Postal Clerks Association of the Dominion of Canada it might be well if we were to adopt just such a simple matter as these two words. It would help us to a clearer understanding of some of the problems which confront us. To approach them from a standpoint other than our own is to give us a broader outlook on our duties to each other, and to the Service of which we are an integral part.

Selfishness in an individual is not a desirable characteristic and the same thing applies to associations. As members of this association we should be prepared to submerge our individuality when our "pet theories" conflict with the general welfare of our fellow members, and in the case of branches they must be prepared to do likewise and not feel aggrieved if their particular ideas fail to meet with the approval of the majority. Thus only can we secure unity of purpose and only through unity of purpose can we make any real progress.

The means to secure this end must find its origin in unity among ourselves, and in addition to the motto already suggested we should bear in mind that during the present year our chief efforts have been devoted to organization and that "United we Stand" is, or should be, the slogan of all Postal Clerks Associations in Canada. This was not the case a year ago, but the foundations were laid at the Vancouver convention last July, and this year, at Regina, the structure should be well under way. In so far as postal clerks are concerned, the East and the West will meet this year for the first time and upon this meeting will depend our future. Let every man go prepared to do all in his power to make the association Dominion wide, not only in name but in fact, and by keeping in view the general welfare of every member, strike to make the association a partnership in every sense of the word.

Fraternally yours,  
A. S. BLACK.

When a doctor is irritable, it may be because he is out of patients.