

CIVIL SERVICE COAL.

Mr. A. E. Caron has informed those who have taken coal on the co-operative plan that eight carloads of coal will shortly arrive in Ottawa. Enquiry elicited the information that the shipment had already crossed the boundary line. The delay will not affect the price to those who bought their coal for July delivery.

PERSONAL.

Mr. E. C. Hayes, of the Auditor General's Office, leaves next week for a months' vacation and tour of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

The following is received from a correspondent in the Marine Dept. :—

The engagement is announced of Miss Valeda Verret, daughter of Alderman Verret, of Quebec, to Mr. Frank J. Boulay, of the Department of Marine and Fisheries at Ottawa.

Mr. Boulay takes his three weeks and spends them at the Tercentenary, and the above is the result.

Last month a young lady clerk of the M. and F. Department, took her three weeks' leave; before they had expired she met a young man and, instead of returning to the Department at the end of her leave, she resigned and was married to him.

One young lady was heard to say, "Well, really, I am afraid to take any holidays," which shows the strong "esprit de corps" which permeates the Department.

There will be several weddings from the Department before long, if Dame Rumor is to be believed.

CIVIL SERVICE CONFEDERATION.

A matter of very great importance to all the civil servants of Canada will

shortly, it is hoped, become a matter of live interest. All bodies of men engaged in any kind of work common to all are brought into some kind of a central organization. Clergymen, journalists, railroadmen, etc., etc., all meet from time to time in annual meeting or convention. Why not civil servants? There are several organizations at present in existence in some of the provinces of the Dominion. The remaining provinces could be similarly organized. There then remains for a plan to be drawn up by which these scattered units may be brought together and have representation in one central body.

Civil servants all over the Dominion have been interviewing the Government in reference to claims for fair treatment in the matter of salary. These claims and any other views civil servants desire to express might come through this new central body and would command just as much more weight as there are more members in the central body than in the smaller constituent parts. The claims of civil servants both in Ottawa and throughout Canada for treatment in accordance with cold economic facts have been ignored. It is doubtful if the same answer would have been returned if the service had presented a united front and spoken as one man through the medium of one powerful central executive.

Business of an ordinary nature could be carried on between these widely scattered bodies by mail vote and for annual or special meetings some central point could be chosen. For certain purposes, and perhaps for all purposes, union might be sought with provincial civil servants. A great deal of good might come out of such affiliations as these referred to, and at least it is satisfactory to think that the idea is founded on the sound doctrine that in union there is strength.