

in this world without self-sacrifice in order to obtain it. If we desire a convention, sacrifice is necessary. Ways and means have to be found by all so that all may participate in the deliberations at Winnipeg. Branches must realize this now; later on will be too late; and must at once get busy and go carefully into this matter, find out how they stand and seek advice, if necessary, from the officers and so assure themselves of a voice at the conference and insure the Association a thoroughly representative convention.

### NOTES BY THE WAY.

We shall be glad to receive, at the earliest opportunity, similar comparative statements to the one published in this issue. Semi-staff offices, not already having got theirs out, would do well to do so at once. As we have stated before, any information can be obtained from this office, if blue books are not available locally.

We have endeavoured to keep well off the recruiting problem so far as is possible. We note, however, that recently the argument is brought forward that the Government cannot expect business houses to release men whom it is considered should be in khaki unless the Government itself so does. With this we are in complete accord. On the other hand, it is our opinion that the Government should not release its own employees before requiring outside employers of labor to do likewise. We say,

it is our opinion. However, we believe there is much higher authority than that. We are under the impression that a Minister has stated that the Government cannot move ahead of the people. We, then, have surely no need to doubt that this will apply in the subject we are mentioning.

Lethbridge is to be heartily congratulated upon the splendid work it is doing on behalf of itself and all semi-staff offices. Obviously, they have a very live and efficient branch in that locality.

The Department of Labor shows that, for the month of March, prices of actual necessities are still soaring, soaring, in fact, quite away out of reach of men receiving \$50 a month or so. We recently had the opportunity of talking to a man who had been employed in the Post Office for five years steady and he is now receiving \$65.00 per month. We cannot believe that an equal to this can be found anywhere in the West—outside, of course, of men employed by the Government.

Those branch secretaries that have recently received a circular letter from this office will please be good enough to give it their prompt attention, if they have not already done so.

### AN EXAMPLE OF THE "SEMI-STAFF" SITUATION.

We herewith publish a comparative statement showing one example, viz., Lethbridge, of the gross injustice done to postal clerks having the misfortune to be working in what is termed a "Semi-Staff" office.

The figures are taken from the latest Report of the P.M.G., the Civil Service List and the Official Railway Guide.

	Population.	Revenue.	No. of staff.	Salaries.	Ratio of Revenue to salaries.
City Offices—					
Fredericton . . . . .	7,208	\$42,403.87	11	\$12,500.00	3.39 to 1
New Westminster . . . .	13,199	\$48,227.20	16	\$17,050.00	2.83 to 1
Semi-Staff Office—					
Lethbridge . . . . .	11,070	\$49,421.99	16	\$11,400.00	4.34 to 1

The above statement is responsible to a great extent for the following resolution, recently passed by the City Council of Lethbridge:

Whereas, the Postal Clerks Association has requested the City Council to investigate their status in the Government service with a view to enlightening itself as to whether it should support the contention that the postal clerks in this city should be put on the Civil Service list and,

Whereas, on investigation, the Council find that the "carriers" are on the Civil Service list here and receive remuneration which is increased each year up to a maximum, while the postal clerks are not allow-

ed this privilege, notwithstanding they have, annually, to pass the same examination required of the postal clerks in Edmonton, Calgary and other post offices, and,

Whereas, the Council, on inquiry, learn that Lethbridge post office is nominated only a semi-staff office, while New Westminster is classed as a city office. In the first case the clerks are not entitled to the annual advance in wages; in the latter case the clerks are entitled to the increased wages, while in fact the revenue in the Lethbridge office is \$49,421, while in New Westminster it is \$48,227. In Lethbridge, the salaries paid amount to \$11,400, and in New Westminster \$17,000, and statistics show