

## J. A. MACDONALD.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald (recently resigned position on staff Topographical Surveys) was born in Prince Edward Island on June 22, 1865; educated at Prince of Wales College, Charlottetown; taught school for a few years in P. E. I. (holds also a teacher's license in Ontario), after which he took up land and railway surveying under Professor Shaw, B. Sc., C.E., L.S., of the Prince of Wales College, and field-work with Henry Cundall, D.L.S., chairman P. E. I. Board of Land Surveyors. Previous to entering the Civil Service, Mr. Macdonald was engaged on exploration and location surveys on the National Transcontinental Railway between Lake Abitibi and Winnipeg. Mr. Macdonald while at Ottawa was a frequent contributor to the technical press, the Engineering News, the Engineering and Mining Journal, New York; the Canadian Engineer, Toronto; the Electrical Review, London, England, etc. He was also a frequent contributor to *The Civilian*. "Civil Service Notes and Comment" in the Ottawa Saturday Journal in 1913-14 was written by Mr. Macdonald. He is about to take up land and railway survey work in the Maritime Provinces.

## CO-OPERATIVE NOTES.

### Continuation Committee.

The committee to consider a continuation policy for co-operative distribution met on April 25th, with seventeen members in attendance. Mr. H. T. Owens was chairman, and Mr. W. S. LeSueur secretary.

A number of suggestions were made as to means of continuation. Mr. W. W. Edgar outlined the formation of a Co-operative Club, limited to civil servants and their relatives, to be operated without capital, and for cash, and to have a manager

on a similar basis to the Savings and Loan Society. The club would purchase and distribute certain seasonable commodities,—an enlargement of Mr. J. L. Payne's fish purchase plan, so to speak,—adding sufficient profit loading to meet expenses of management and other charges.

Mr. F. J. Alexander, Naval Service Department, wrote recommending the formation of a new enterprise, without restriction as to membership, taking in all who desired to contribute capital. Mr. Alexander's plan would involve a business conducted on orthodox retail lines.

Mr. Geo. Bull, Militia Department, proposed a scheme of organization and distribution similar to the Army and Navy Stores in Great Britain. He recommended shares of \$1 value and ordinary retail distribution.

Mr. Geo. H. Clark, Seed Branch, recommended securing special discounts from regular grocers. He instanced one retailer who would be willing to give discounts on the following scale: for a \$5 cash order, 5 per cent; for a \$10 cash order, 6 per cent; for a \$15 cash order, 7 per cent.

The chairman recommended that an effort be made to secure the re-investment of the debenture capital to be released from the old Association, and to start a retail business but with immediate profit to the purchasers, selling below ordinary retail rates like the Civil Service stores in London, England, and, if necessary, doing away with the deferred purchase dividend. The new enterprise to be conducted, both as regards buying and selling, absolutely on a cash basis, and expense of clerk hire and delivery to be rigidly curtailed.

After discussion these propositions were submitted to a sub-committee composed of Messrs. W. W. Edgar, F. C. Nunnick, E. D. Eddy, James Hoey and W. S. LeSueur for report.

### Progress of the Winding-up.

The Local Master has appointed