

MESSAGES FROM READERS.

The reproduction of some of the messages the editors receive from different parts of Canada may be of interest to readers of *The Civilian*. From Sidney, B.C., in the Pacific Ocean, comes the following written by Mr. John Macoun, a gentleman whom all civil servants delight to honour. Mr. Macoun is 83 years of age:

"Your note came last night and I reply at once. I am more than pleased with *The Civilian* and find it very interesting out here. Please find enclosure."

From Grand Harbour, Grand Manan, in the Atlantic, comes the following inspiring greeting penned by D. J. W. McLaughlin, of the Customs service:

"I take great pleasure in remitting my subscription to *The Civilian* and find it one of the best publications that come to my table, and think and know that every civil servant should patronize it for the valuable services it has already rendered and will in future render civil servants as a body. And then it keeps us in touch with all that concerns us at the Capital as well as all the brave fellows that have left all grades of the Service and gone to the front to fight the battles of our Empire. Long life to it and sincere wishes for success and prosperity to its able and efficient staff."

And from Renfrew, in the great inland province of Ontario, Mr. G. F. Macnab, sub-collector of Customs, says:

"I enclose one dollar (\$1.00) amount due you. Sorry to have obliged you to remind me of it. I think we all appreciate the work you are doing in the interests of civil servants and we certainly owe it to you that we do our part in the support of *The Civilian*. More power to you!"

PRESENTATION.

A presentation of not a little interest took place at the St. John Customs house last month in connection with the marriage of S. W. Wilkins, surveyor of customs. Mr. Wilkins is highly popular with the staff and it was felt that the esteem in which he is held could be well expressed in a presentation now. He was called into the collector's office and surprised by the presentation of a solid silver service and a case of cutlery from the collector and the staff. Mr. Dunn made the presentation, speaking of the many years that Mr. Wilkins had been in the Service, and wishing him on behalf of the staff many years of happiness and prosperity. Mr. Wilkins responded and was evidently much touched by the manifestation of good will.

NUMBERS.

I'm a jolly little Number and I know my place,

I came after Number Twenty as the King comes after Ace.

It's a very bright idea for to number all the clerks,

It's a custom of the Customs to get off such brilliant sparks.

If isn't every numbskull who is such a brainy man

As to dig from his numbskullery such a highly useful plan.

Just think how plain and simple to report upon the staff

Without bulky foolish names which are really so much chaff.

"Twenty-three's been drunk again, Ten, a day has missed,"

Will carry no disgrace unless checked upon the list.

"Number Nine's away on leave," so report will run,

"Reason, Mrs. Number Nine has had a little one."

The daily papers now can write such notices as these:

"To Mrs. Six of Customs, a little pair of Threes."

Tell me, tell me Clerk of Customs, how do the Numbers run—

1, 2, 3, 4, up to X or from X to none?

Are big men numbered big, and small ones numbered small,

Or do numbers go by weight or as you're short or tall?

Can a man go up a number if he's very very good,

Or if he's good for nothing, lose his number as he should?

Congratulations Customs on the wisdom of the plan

To make a man a Number and a Number of a man.

What difference in the end to Tom or Dick or Ted

Whether numbered One or Ninety, all are Zeros when they're dead.

H. McD. W.

SPLENDID INVESTMENT.

Splendid house on corner lot for sale, with lawn, garden, on high elevation, best locality in the city; contains seven rooms and unfinished attic, hardwood floors, open fireplace. \$300 cash (includes coal and wood); terms to suit. Must sell at a sacrifice, owner going west. Can be rented at \$35 per month. Apply 241 Centre street (between 6 and 7 p.m.)