

ness, an invitation to visit Moose Jaw branch was accepted, and before the insertion of these notes, the visit will be over and our members looking forward to a return visit from the railway City members, and we are certain that they will go home with the bonds of fraternal interests more closely cemented together. News has just been received in this office of the wounding of Mr. W. H. Smith, Bill was struck by an enemy bomb and seriously injured in the leg, his officer writes in part as follows, "That when being carried away and suffering painfully, he was surprisingly cheerful". It is encouraging to note that this branch is now more prosperous than at any period of its existence. Never had we such a membership, never were we so strong financially, never so productive of good results. Our Association is the heritage of the boys at the front. Carry on.

#### Edmonton.

We note with interest the comment of the Editor of the Postal Journal on the foundation of a Public Service Association in Edmonton. The writer of these lines has resided in the West for close on two decades and during this period has witnessed more than one attempt to purge the Service of the pitch "that defileth" and to substitute "competition wallahs" for purely political appointees. The consummation of this ideal is most devoutly to be desired, and it is hoped that this latest endeavour will prove less sterile and spasmodic than its predecessors. If there was less talk of Political Expediency, and more of Public Weal, the people of this country would benefit both individually and collectively.

In lighter vein we have now on Feb. the unbounded success of our Whist-Drive and Dance held on Feb. 20th, when a crowd of 150 people enjoyed the cards and dancing arranged for their delectation by the Social Committee, who not only distinguished themselves, but afterwards endeavoured to extinguish themselves. Happily the conflagration was merely of a local character, and at the close of the present penitential season, we shall find them like giants "refreshed with lemonade."

Mrs. Martin, the P. M.'s scribe, has returned from a two week's stay at a place called Lethbridge. Before going South, a mathematical operation was performed, whereby she assumed a new strange name. Our condolences are with her; likewise a casserole. (Sounds like a part of a ship's rigging, does it not?)

Lieut. Tessier, late 233rd Batt., is back once more in the office, having been dis-

charged from the Service on account of an unfortunate illness. The spirit to serve, however, has been manifested by him, and we should all feel a pronounced sense of grievance, were he to lose anything by his absence from the office on Imperial business.

We have promised ourselves the disagreeable but necessary duty of administering a wholesome castigation to certain Patriotic Fund back-sliders in this Office. We have had occasion to refer to this matter on several occasions before, thereby laying ourselves open to the charge of assuming the rôle of a mere captious critic; but on a subject like this we welcome such an indictment, as we feel, with Othello, that we must be "nothing if not critical."

It may prove interesting for some parties in this Office to learn that steps have been taken to eliminate the factor of uncertainty and irregularity attached to the subscriptions to the Patriotic Fund, by adopting a surer and more drastic method of collecting.

The breakdown in the voluntary system of contributing is solely the result of the action and attitude of a few individuals, who by withholding what they pledge themselves to donate, indirectly assist the Germanic Cause. (Let them argue this statement out for themselves and they will find it to be a fact.) These person's patriotism and sense of self-sacrifice is as shoddy as the views they have advanced from time to time when called upon to contribute to any cause, Patriotic or otherwise. The even tenor of their way in this respect can be gauged only by their length of service in the Office. Let them take heart of grace however; the question as to whether or not they shall have the privilege of fulfilling their pledges at pleasure, is now in higher hands. Till anything definite is arrived at we will consign them for nonce to well merited obscurity, in company with the Duke of Gloster's "iron witted fools and unrespectable boys."

#### "DOES FAMOUSLY."

Lance-Corp. P. Simmonds, 106553, 1st C.M.R., prisoner of war, Reserve Lazarett, Stuttgart III., Rollschuhbagn, Stuttgart, Wurttemberg, writes: "The Canadian Red Cross does famously for us in the parcel line, clothes also. If you know anyone in it please give them my thanks."