

and ideas, with practical plans for the furtherance of the common good, are made available. It is hardly clear, in view of facts so well understood and applied to day the civilized world over, how we postal clerks of this Dominion, or such a large percentage of us at least, have been content to drift so long singly and alone. Think of the tremendous force which an association united from coast to coast would have for good if we only forgot our provincialism and thought a little in terms of the whole. A postal clerk is not merely a servant of this or that office, he is part of a huge machine and, such, is related and interrelated as part to the whole. If we are to realize the most we can in life, it must be conceded that the only way to raise the status of each is to raise the status of all. Get together, work together, swing the long pull and lean the long rope and in the harmony of united action we shall find things coming our way at last. There are many things we need, many things we are going to get some day, but it will hasten the day perceptibly could we only put the full force of our collective weight behind the push at the most suitable moment. If we are to achieve any useful purpose, we must be a disciplined force. We must have a common plan of action; distraction and divided counsel would be, not only confusing to the authorities but fatal to our own aims and interests and derogatory to the status of the Service. The present is above all else, a time of change, changing ideas and ideals, many of the long cherished political traditions are passing to the wall.

The tests of worth that have sacrificed in the past along lines of national policy are being weighed in the balance. There will be few regrets among postal clerks when Time's inexorable hand has finally relegated much that is worst in the system to the limbo of forgotten things. Antiquated and out-of-date in this progressive age it would nevertheless be foolish to expect sweeping changes or far-reaching reforms during the present titanic struggle of the nations, but that a period of reconstruction and reorganization in the service will follow hard in its wake may be confidently predicted. There is no need that, as a body, we should be misunderstood, we are merely out to embarrass the powers that be or in the slightest degree encourage anything calculated to deflect the sole great aim of the Country and Empire at this moment, rather on the contrary, do we wish to facilitate "a consummation so devoted to be wished" and jealously to guard and conserve the efficiency of a great national service. Postal

clerks of the Dominion, manhood calls those who are not serving abroad to serve at home. Your present and your future interests demand it and while the world of men around us are learning this splendid lesson, are we to go on ignoring the signs of the times? Away with false ideas of self-complacency, self-sufficiency and self-conscious superiority. The present is not a time to waste in nice distinctions of place and class. Why prattle about the dignity of work and fail to own in practical form the logical conclusion it seeks to inculcate?

In a word, let us be united under a common banner and so hasten the better time when added weight will insure for all the consideration that their just and proper demands deserve. What we should and must have is a union of postal clerks from coast to coast.

"For East is East and West is West,
 "But there is neither East nor West,
 "Border nor breed nor birth,"

When the laws and regulations that govern the lives of postal clerks are being formulated at Ottawa.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Prince Albert, Sask.

The Editor of the "Journal":

Dear Sir,—It is very interesting and encouraging to hear sentiments appreciative of our efforts in matters concerning our association expressed from the seat of war. Appended are extracts from a letter received by one of our members from Brother A. H. Lacroix. Referring to our association he says, "I notice by the 'Postal Journal' that you sent a delegate to the last postal clerks' convention. I hope you got good results and I think that it is up to the boys to send one every year. I have also read the branch notes and, say, what kind of a time did you have on Labour Day and how many boys came from Saskatoon? Quite a good idea, inviting them down."

After reading this, who would dare say that we should do other than keep up the good work!

Faternally yours,
 H. L. DOYLE,
 Semi-staff Rep.

The major of an Ontario battalion writes: "The one great craving of the boys in the trenches is for letters—even a 'please remit' would be welcomed. The scrap books sent by girls in Toronto have been greatly appreciated, too. My first word to everybody is to write to some boy in the trenches."