

meets with the approval of Congress, can be adopted hereafter as the basis for the annual appropriations. In other words, a Congress can swap horses in mid-stream, both horses moving in the same direction. The new plan will give the government a cost-fixing budget similar to that now employed by the railroads.

Hitherto civil service reform in the government has been directed almost entirely to appointment to office without political interference. The new plan is intended to get the greatest possible efficiency out of the civil service once the appointments have been made. It is not the purpose of the President and his advisers to kick out of office men who are now on the job, but to make the government clerk a modern humanized agency for the transaction of the government's business, and to cure him of his present machine-like character. It is not expected that definite results will become apparent immediately, but the net result of the proposed reform, if carried out as contemplated, will, it is thought, be of great benefit to the country at large.

The determination of the President and the Cabinet to follow out the above plan of action was reached after a study of forty propositions submitted by as many of the leading audit companies of the country. Cleveland was head of the original Bureau of Municipal Research in New York, served on Finance and Tax Commissions, and conducted further investigations into the office and organization work of that city. He is believed by the President to be best qualified for the work at hand.

The experiment is perhaps the most important of its kind in many years past. Civil servants the world over will follow it with the closest interest, and will undoubtedly derive a most valuable body of suggestions capable of indirect if not immediate application to their own actual work.

At the Sign of the Wooden Leg.

On Saving England.

To the Englishman we are a serious people, an over-serious people one may say.

Have you ever attended a meeting of the Canadian Club and heard one of those old-country generals, or bishops, or publicans (excuse me, I mean publicists) dilate on the way we have solved the problems which have defied solution on the other side for centuries? They are not joshing us. They mean what they say. And we, fools of nature, throw out our chests at their words, suffer an instantaneous shrinking of our hats, and then sit down to weep because there are no more worlds to conquer.

The weeping does not last long, at least not in Toronto. The people there soon come to realization of their duty to the Empire. It is a cold day in Ontario when some league is not formed for the salvation of England. There are three o's in Toronto and they are in daily use to express the holy city's feelings in regard to the condition of the English people. Poor old feudal England, where Canadian bacon and apples sell more cheaply (oh, the pity of it!) than they do here, where false trustees often languish in prison and wife-slayers are sometimes put to the indignity of the gallows, it is well for thee that Canada has time on its hands and is willing to place its hand on *The Times*.

"From the lone shilling of the distant Island
Mountains divide us, and a world of sea;
Still the blood is true, the heart is Highland,
And we, in dreams, uphold the mouldering
[tree.]"

Yes, Canada is the Problem-solver Extraordinary to the Imperial Court. We have squared the family circle, trisected the Angle, corrupted the Saxon, made a good