

Tommy and Ken say that they will do their best to entertain the Kaiser when they dance into Berlin.

BRANCH OFFICERS.

In reading the reports of annual general meetings of branches of the Postal Clerks' Association, one thing in particular attracts our attention. This is the very many cases in which the officers retain their positions year after year. This is not as it should be in the best interests of organization. This state of affairs means one of four things, viz:

1. The men in office are held in such esteem and have so proved their worth that it is believed impossible to efficiently replace them.
2. That not sufficient members are self-sacrificing enough to accept office.
3. That there is not sufficient interest and enthusiasm to nominate other men.
4. That the branch is too small to allow of much change in the personnel of the officers.

Taking point by point to consider them, we may sum the situation up in the following manner:

1. If your worthy and tried men should leave the service or go to fight for their country, you would have to fill the vacancies with fresh men and it is hard to know a man's worth until he has had ample opportunity and room for exhibiting it. Speaking in a general way, all live members that are in any way whatever suitable to carry out faithfully the important duties that the office calls for should be persuaded to run for office and given support in proportion to your opinion of them from an association point of view and no other point of view should be taken into consideration.
2. Without an exceptionally strong reason no man has the right to refuse office. It is part of his duty to his association and fellow members every bit as much as is paying his dues.
3. This reason is oftener than not at the bottom of the matter and it is up to the live members to improve upon this state of affairs.
4. This is the only good and satisfactory reason for the same men continually holding office.

The more varied the personnel of your officers and executive, the more brains you have working for the good of the cause, as seldom do we find a past officer become a dead member. And so, with each officer elected, fresh enthusiasm and interest is created and brought to play in the interests of your organization, and thus your chain of live members is linked ever stronger and stronger together.

APPOINT DISABLED SOLDIER POSTMASTER.

Yorkton, Sask., Jan. 16.—J. N. Clark, who for the past fourteen years has occupied the position of postmaster at Yorkton, resigned recently. As this is the most lucrative government position in the constituency, there has been great speculation regarding the appointment of a successor.

Pte. Harold W. Purvis, a disabled soldier recently invalided home, was recommended for the position by a large majority. Pte. Purvis left Yorkton with the first contingent, and was seriously injured at the battle of Ypres, where he was a member of a machine gun squad. The effect of the appointment of Pte. Purvis, who is not yet 23 years old, to this responsible position, cannot but have a most beneficial effect on recruiting, and provides convincing proof that Canadians meant it when they promised our soldiers they would be provided for should they return from the front disabled.

The above extract, taken from the Manitoba Free Press, dated Monday, January 17th, is just one more example of the "plums" of the Service being utilized for the benefit of politicians. To those "inside" the comment on the appointment must appear ludicrous in the extreme as they are well aware of the composition of the "large majority" mentioned. You, dear reader, have a vote in your constituency, but have you a vote on the question as to who shall be appointed postmaster in your town? This is merely a case of where political corruption has been whitewashed in order to stimulate recruiting. We have nothing whatever to say against Pte. Purvis as a man. He, together with many thousands more of our citizens, has done his duty to the Empire and Canada, and we take off our hats to him. We have several hundred of our own men at the Front, men who have been in the service of the Post Office Department for years and are fully qualified to take any position such as that to which Pte. Purvis has been appointed. Will they get some such lucrative position when they return? We think not.

The upward sweep of civilization is not unlike the rising of the incoming tide. It advances and recedes, but each advance carries humanity to a higher altitude than it had reached before.—*B. O. Flower.*