

presented to the Government. These pamphlets were sent out in ample numbers to all parts of the country.

Legislation for the Service, in the nature of a consolidation and revision of the Civil Service Act, and a new Superannuation Bill became early in the year 1914 the foremost topic of interest for the officers. In the month of March telegrams were sent to the secretaries of all associations within a reasonable distance, recommending a delegation to Ottawa to call on the various Ministers in connection with the new Civil Service Bill. The response was most gratifying, and delegations of representative size called on the Ministers concerned, except in the case of the Minister of Customs, who was so fully occupied at the time that the very fine delegation which had come from considerable distances were unable to present their views. The two Bills (Nos. 217 and 229) were brought down during the closing days of the session, and upon the invitation of the Minister of Finance it will be one of the duties of this Convention to make suggestions in respect thereto.

During the last months of the session, expectancy as to the presentation of the Bills was at its height and a memorial was prepared by a special committee of Outside and Inside members resident in Ottawa. This committee performed a very excellent piece of work; the memorial being addressed to the members of the Senate and House of Commons, and a copy mailed personally to each Member of Parliament.

While the delegates were visiting the city on the above mentioned business a meeting of the Executive was held and two important committees were appointed to undertake the tasks of Organization and Publicity. For obvious reasons membership on these committees were confined to residents in Ottawa. A fair start was made with both these subjects; the Organization committee adopting as its motto "10,000 membership or bust." Organization of a large Outside Service body in Ottawa was about completed when for the time being it failed of its purpose. Continuous correspondence was kept up with two fine Post Office Department organizations in the West, viz., the Postal Clerks' Association of West-

ern Canada and the Western Federation of Railway Mail Clerks. The former body, however, postponed for one year the question of affiliation. This work was interrupted by the advent of war, but nevertheless some progress has been made. Similarly in regard to the publicity campaign, plans had no sooner been laid for an extensive system of newspaper education as to the importance of the public service, when the war broke out. Acting on the best advice available, the officers decided that owing to the intense state of the public mind on the subject of the war, any attempt to pursue this part of the programme would be wasted energy.

On July the 16th a bulletin was issued to all members and prospective members of the Federation dealing with "PUBLICITY," and requesting the co-operation of the various organizations by way of providing the necessary machinery for this committee. The bulletin referred to the Special Number of *The Civilian*, requesting co-operation in making sales of the book, and also to the subject of the two Bills (217 and 229), inviting suggestions for the amendment of said bills.

The replies regarding publicity were very general and satisfactory in every way. The responses regarding suggested amendments to the two Bills were surprisingly few.

Activities of this nature on the part of your officers were, in the month of August, interrupted by the declaration of war by the British Government against Germany and Austria.

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The patriotic instincts of public servants now came into evidence. A representative of the Federation proposed to the Inside Service Association the policy of a day's pay contribution to the Canadian Patriotic Fund by a voluntary subscription list. The Inside Service in a public meeting enthusiastically agreed to the plan. The Prime Minister graciously granted the Federation's request for the accommodation of