

surely have no recourse under any standard of justice if a certain body of men resolve to do for themselves what they have previously paid him to do for them. A mistress of a household having two servants dispenses with the services of one and does the work herself. Has the servant under ordinary circumstances a grievance?

But the main point in favour of civil service co-operation is this: Co-operation very appreciably raises the morale of the co-operators. It will make the civil service of Canada a more self-respecting, a more efficient body of men. Looking at the matter strictly from the country's interests: could any one wishing to benefit the country by and through the conditions prevailing among its employees undertake a work that acknowledges a higher aim than that? A Civil Service Co-operative Association, rightly managed and prosperous, will prove a national asset, just as any other undertaking of the kind will prove an asset.

A NEW WORK TO DO.

Mr. A. C. Campbell's suggestion in our correspondence column that the Civil Service Association undertake an active canvas among its members on behalf of the government insurance scheme is, apart from its intrinsic interest, of importance as showing the feeling of permanency with which the Association is now regarded in the service, and the never-ending uses to which its activities may in thought be turned. Briefly, the suggestion is that every civil servant induced through the offices of the Association to take out a policy from the government, should in sheer gratitude for having his attention directed to so advantageous a stroke

of business be willing to pay to the Association the commission which under ordinary circumstances he would have to hand over to the agent who captured him. As Mr. Campbell says, the matter is one involving detail. It is certainly a good subject for discussion. One point to be remembered is this: There are perhaps 7,000 or 8,000 persons in the field to be worked, scattered from the Atlantic to the Pacific. That at once brings it within the ken of the proposed Federation rather than of our local body; and indeed a special clause in the call quoted in our opening article of to-day takes cognizance of this opportunity. As only three or four hundred have as yet taken advantage of the government's offer (to the shaming of the service in the eyes of every business man of the country be it spoken!) the field is to all intents virgin soil. Again: the ceaseless comings and goings in so large a body render the work a permanent one. The C. S. executive recently voted the sum of \$80 to be expended in printing a circular to civil servants with the object of removing the reproach which the neglect of so excellent an opportunity involves. Our criticism of that is, that it will be limited to the inside service, and that even if it be successful in the highest degree it will require to be repeated periodically as the personnel of the service changes. Practically, therefore, if the government system is to be advertised and taken up as it should be, the organization of a permanent canvas is necessary. The idea that this should on a wholly voluntary basis be made to yield a revenue is ingenious, is conceived in the true co-operative spirit, and might easily prove most valuable.