

## CO-OPERATIVE NEWS.

Of interest to civil servants who are susceptible to the co-operative idea are the movements appearing here and there to reduce the cost of living. In New York city so oppressive has become the load of living expenses that the Fire, Police and Post Office Departments are conferring with a view to forming a huge purchasing company. The particulars of the organization are interesting but not superior for instance to that of the society doing business in Ottawa at the corner of O'Connor and Slater streets, and which may be the basic system of that larger measure some day to be incorporated throughout the service all over Canada. The New York plan is one that should be installed in each of the large centres of the Dominion under one federal organization. As it may be of interest in this connection, a short extract from the New York "Chief" dealing with plans for distribution is appended.

**Maximum Efficiency and Economy.**

A central receiving and distributing depot to be established in Manhattan for handling a general line of groceries, fruits and vegetables, where all goods will be received and deliveries made direct therefrom to the buyer's home. The goods to be handled by three eight hour shifts each, the last shift putting up the vegetables which come in that night, and all perishable goods to be handled through or in cooled rooms. This will assure minimum expense, the least waste and the goods delivered to the homes in the freshest possible condition. It is equivalent to the individual buying at car lot prices and having the goods delivered to the home at a nominal cost.

The city to be divided into districts, according to the density of business and orders sent in direct to the company or through order agencies to be established throughout the city, once a week or oftener, according to vol-

ume of business in each, and deliveries with same frequency. Delivery orders not to be taken for less than \$1 total and to be paid for when ordered. The goods to be delivered the day after the order is received at the headquarters.

The company is to issue a trade paper or market circular from time to time containing prices of all articles offered. Any changes in the meantime to be announced through the daily newspapers, to be selected. Orders from outside the city to be accepted at the regular prices plus an approximate cost for shipment packing.

**REQUISITIONAL.**

(With Apologies to Rudyard Kipling.)

O. M. HUBBARD in *The Civilian* (England.)

First of Divisions, Uncontrolled,  
Lord of our store-consuming line,  
Relax those awful hands that hold  
Dominion over tape and twine:  
Warden of Stores, we're using yet  
What we can get, what we can get.

Our piled-up stationery flies,  
Our envelopes and forms depart,  
And though we often sacrifice  
The fifteen-pence we had to start,  
Warden of Stores, we're using yet  
What we can get, what we can get.

Old hoards, oft drawn on, melt away,  
From desks and presses sinks our store.  
Lo, all our stock of yesterday  
Is lost as well as gone before:  
Warden of Stores, we're using yet,  
What we can get, what we can get.

If mad with want of forms we loose  
Wild tongues that hold not thee in awe,  
Such outeries as Collectors use,  
Or First Class Clerks, above thy law,  
Warden of Stores, bear with us yet,  
Though we forget, though we forget.

For requisitions sent in vain,  
And urgent supplications penned,  
For simple faith that asked again,  
And asking, thought that thou wouldst  
send,  
For foolish hope and frantic word  
Thy mercy on thy Service, Lord.