

point out a few of the advantages with which we would start such a project.

(1) We have a great body of people to draw from, all seriously affected by this question of the cost of living, and all of whose breadwinners are employed under conditions which make it comparatively easy to spend half an hour on the train en route to and from the office morning and evening.

The development of Ottawa railways, the extension of trolley lines and the improvement and cheapening of the auto-car help to settle the problem of transportation.

Land could be had at a comparatively low price and admirably suited for the proposed colony within easy distance of the city on a good road and within easy reach of a railway station.

The increase in the value of the land by reason of its choice as the site of a new suburban village would furnish a fund which would more than recoup any expenditure in organizing the movement and establishing the people in their homes.

It is easy to imagine difficulties, and equally easy to imagine ways of overcoming those difficulties. It seems to me that all that is really needed is to have some bright and energetic young man take hold of the scheme. Far more difficult propositions have been put through by perseverance and common sense.

As to details, I have only two suggestions to make now:

(1) I think that the building lots for the new village should not be more than an acre, and in many cases a good deal less than an acre would be plenty.

(2) Conveniently located in the new community should be a practical and scientific farmer, with enough land to give him opportunity to earn a good living, but with little enough land to leave him free to earn a salary or fees by giving advice to the Colonists in the work of

gardening, poultry-raising and bee-keeping to which the majority would devote themselves.

I believe that to be members of such a community would be as good as an addition of at least \$300 a year to the income of the average family.

Will not *The Civilian* talk this thing up, and see if we cannot work out something for the benefit of Ottawa civil servants? If I can get two men to tell *The Civilian* that they will consider squarely joining such a movement, I shall be ready to give my name and announce myself as ready to hear one man's share of the expense and work of trying to work the plan out to success.

Meantime I remain, yours to command.

X. Y. Z.

OUR YESTERDAYS.

By the Old Armchair.

In the good old days, when the Civil Service was in a state of flux, before the commission had introduced the present golden era which lacks nothing but abuses, there was a department which those robust old jokers called the Department of Public Works. If we had such a department now—which proposition, as Euclid would say, is absurd—we would call it the Cave of Adullam, for “everyone that was in distress, and everyone that was in debt, and everyone that was discontented” and lazy and incompetent gathered themselves unto it. The only trouble with such a state of things as the commission is responsible for is that we have become indolent. There are no longer any dragons to slay.

It is said—but Rumor is a proverbial liar—that the following code was acknowledged by that old Department, or at least by sections of it:—

In re the Civil Servant.
His Motto: