

On first thoughts you may say that this is both utopian and impractical. But is it? The local executives of the Vancouver branches of the A. P. W., Railway Mail Clerks' Association, Customs Association, and the Civil Service Federation have been meeting weekly for some time, drawing no plans for the reorganization of civil servants into one organization. The following is a brief skeleton of the plan:—

All employees of the Dominion Government are eligible for membership. An employee is one who has been employed by any department of the Government on full time, for a period of not less than six months continuously. All dues shall be payable to one organization. This organization shall consist of (a) sub-sections (b) sections (c) departmental groups (d) district councils and (e) a national council. A sub-section shall consist of a group of employees in a branch of a department doing similar work; *e. g.* letter carriers working in a sub-station or customs officers in a parcel post office, etc. A section shall consist of all employees of a branch of a department in a given district; *e. g.* all post office clerks in Vancouver or all veterinary surgeons in Edmonton, etc. A departmental group shall consist of all employees of a department of the Government, in a given district; *e. g.* Post Office Dept., Immigration Dept., Board of Works Dept., etc. A district council shall be composed of one or more delegates elected by each departmental group in the district. The national council shall consist of a national representative for each department of the Government, such representative to be elected nationally by the employees of his own department.

This is the plan of organization. The duties and scope of each of the above-named sections will be covered in a subsequent issue. A committee is working on a sample constitution, which will be brought before the Federal civil servants in some manner. It is not the intention of the organizations formulating this plan to secede from their present organizations, but to attempt to place before the civil service of Canada a feasible plan to bring order out of chaos, and to replace weakness by strength. Quit talking — get together — act! What

ye sow ye shall reap. Unity is strength.

"WESTERNER."

### PROTEST RE-CLASSIFICATION

Brantford, Ont., Oct. 17. — The Brantford branch of the Dominion Postal Clerks' Association has filed a formal protest against the re-classification schedules. It is declared that under the new system only two chief clerks will receive an increase, while actually most of the others will receive less money than formally for while the salaries were increased the war bonuses were cut to a great deal more than the new salary increase. The local men stated formally that they were greatly dissatisfied with the new schedules.

### THE JOYS OF POSTAL SERVICE

Editor *The Civilian*—

Every postal clerk ought to be a subscriber to *The Civilian*. It is the one paper where he can have his views presented adequately. Of all Government positions a job in the outside service as a postal clerk has the reputation of being the worst, and returned soldiers will not take such a position if they can get anything else. The postal clerk has to work evening all night and on Sunday without extra monetary compensation. He must in fact cover the 24 hours. He also is required to work on statutory holidays, but he is paid extra for this. He wears out his clothes handling bags, many of which physicians will condemn, on account of their unsanitary condition. If he has been in the service any length of time he has had to pass a qualifying examination on French History and the niceties of English Literature. He had to work formely, including Sunday, almost 54 hours per week, but after a hard fight he has had this reduced to 44 hours, which is still a much longer period than any civil servant in a similar position is called upon to work. He has to lift and pile up bags like a stevedore, and for all this he is paid wages that an Italian laborer will turn up his nose at. If there is any civil servant, and especially any postal clerk, who, after seeing how organized labor has improved working conditions for the worker, and with the fact in view that there is a Labor Government in power in Ontario and perhaps eventually in Ottawa, if, after this, he refuses to join organized labor it is clear that he has a head on him thicker than the hide of a prehistoric rhinoceros.

H. WALPOLE.

### UNION OF FONCTIONNAIRES

The special correspondent of *The Times* states that in France the Union of Fonctionnaires (civil servants), which is conducting a campaign against the Government, which declares it illegal for fonctionnaires to belong to the General Confederation of Labor, has just scored a point by becoming the owner of two buildings. One was formerly the Hotel du Conseil d'Etat, and is now to be renamed the Hotel des Fonctionnaires. It is difficult to see quite how the authorities are going to checkmate the fonctionnaires in this matter, as the buildings have been taken in the names of the leaders of the rebellious union in their private capacity. There is to be a co-operative restaurant and bedrooms for "provincial comrades," besides the usual union office and halls for union meetings.

### Useless Griefs

An hundred years ago and more,  
Men wrung their hands and walked the floor,  
And worried over this or that,  
And thought their cares would squash them flat.

Where are those worried beings now?  
The bearded goat and festive cow  
Eat grass above their mouldered bones,  
And jay birds call, in strident tones.

And where the ills they worried o'er?  
Forgotten all, for ever more.  
Gone all the sorrow and the woe,  
That lived a hundred years ago!

The grief that makes you scream today  
Like other griefs will pass away;  
And when you've cashed your little string,  
And jay birds o'er your bosom sing,

The stranger, pausing there to view,  
The marble works that cover you,  
Will think upon the uselessness,  
Of human worry and distress,  
So let the worry business slide;

LIVE WHILE YOU LIVE,  
And when you've died,  
The folks will say, around your bier:  
"HE MADE A HIT WHILE HE WAS  
HERE!"

—PUBLICITY.