

will believe otherwise than that a membership, solicitous for the welfare of all its widely scattered branches, will allow for one moment the mere trifle of monetary help needed to bar the way.

For the present our fight for the increase of remuneration which has been withheld so long, and at such hardships, especially to men on the lower grades, is being pushed to the limit. Our endeavour to secure a measure of recognition for the semi-staff — that most absurd and anomalous of all service distinctions — which shall be nothing less than their inclusion, where they rightly belong, within the scope of the privileges of city clerks is one in which the association must win. No argument on earth can justify the present illogical position which the Department appears to assume on this question. Finally, the equally illogical and equally unjust disability imposed by the Qualifying examination upon certain of our members must be lifted. Whatever may be said — and it's a great deal — for an entrance examination or one before appointment, requiring a good working knowledge of English or French, with the usual elementary subjects, in preference to the present system, no stretch of reason can account for the force of the present Preliminary examination, any more than it can justify the Qualifying where it now stands.

The moral, then, is plain. It is an Association with cent per cent membership, willing and anxious to facilitate, and loyal to support the work of the Executive as we "press towards the mark."

S. H. TEASE,
President.

POSTAL CLERKS INTERVIEW THE GOVERNMENT.

Since the last issue of the "Civilian" a delegation of Post Office clerks, representing the entire Service, visited Ottawa to lay before the Cabinet a number of resolutions adopted at their recent Convention held in the City of Winnipeg. The delegation consisted of the following gentlemen: Messrs. Crate and Gallagher, of Toronto; Messrs. Jacques and Hebert, of Montreal; Mr. J. W. Green, of Winnipeg, and Mr. W. J. Cantwell, of Ottawa. They arrived in the City on the 5th instant, and spent the morning of the 6th in consultation with Departmental officials.

On Tuesday they waited on the Cabinet when a number of very important suggestions were made with a view to the improvement of conditions in this important branch of the Public Service.

In addition to the question of increased

remuneration the delegation discussed with the Ministers the status of clerks in what is technically known as Semi-staff offices. In these offices the salary of a Postal clerk is determined by the revenue of the office, and is not fixed by statute as in the larger City offices, while a letter carrier employed in the same office is a full-fledged Civil Servant. In many instances the letter carrier is in receipt of a higher salary than the clerk.

Another matter which the Postal Clerks' Association is endeavoring to have settled is the case of Third Class Clerks who were appointed on and since April 1st, 1912. According to existing legislation these men cannot go beyond the maximum of this class without passing the qualifying examination. The Association considers that the academical barrier should be placed at the time of entrance to the Service, and the future advancement of a clerk should be dependent upon efficiency and satisfactory service. The present regulation, it is contended, removes the incentive to further effort on the part of the clerk affected, who may not be able to pass this examination, and works as much harm to the Service as to the individual concerned.

The members of the delegation spent three very busy days in Ottawa, during which they succeeded in interviewing nearly every member of the Cabinet.

They left for their respective homes on Tuesday very well pleased with the reception accorded them by the Ministers, who were most sympathetic, and with the feeling that their labors will bear fruit in the very near future.

THEY NEVER DIE

The Brave! who says they die?

Their deathless story

Rings 'cross the emblazon'd sky

Of England's glory.

He fought, and fell, and met

No tearful eye

To wet his nameless grave—and yet

He did not die.

She fought a martyr's fight, and fell

Without a cry.

Ah, sweet Cavell, all, all is well—

You did not die.

Only cowards die. The Brave,

Seeing beyond, with piercing eye,

Rest forever in a Nation's love,

And never die.

J. W. Barry.