

pleted to make a suitable presentation to each of these patriotic men.

The following communications were received and taken into consideration:

Dear Sirs,—

As President of the Railway Mail Service Association for 1916, I was requested by the association at the last regular meeting to address a letter to the clerks outlining what we have done, and intend to do in the future towards making our conditions better.

You are no doubt aware that the association has been handicapped by the great war in which our country has taken such a noble part, and it would be foolish for us to approach the Government in any matter pertaining to monetary considerations. On the other hand the association has aimed to assist every patriotic proposal, and, I am sure, the Government recognizes what we are doing.

I wish to call your attention to the fact that through our association, linked with the Civil Service Federation, railway mail clerks may now get a very cheap and satisfactory accident insurance policy, notice of which you no doubt have received through circular letter.

It is my intention to get in touch with other associations to find out what efforts are being put forward for the restoration of permits or some other means of transportation, also as to what can be done for better conditions, as I stated above it is no time for monetary considerations, but it may be a good time to secure improved conditions.

Last but not least, I wish to draw your attention to the fact that the association has not let any clerk that has enlisted for active service leave the country without showing him that our hearts are in the right place. It has been our aim to present them with a wrist watch or its equivalent in cash. We now have eight clerks who have enlisted and have not been presented with anything, as you will have noticed by the last financial statement that we were in no shape to do so without calling for the membership fee of one dollar for this year's card. I am well aware of the many calls that are being made, but I am sure you will not fail us at this particular time.

Do your best to boost the association and I am sure we will succeed. I will be very pleased to hear from you regarding any suggestion and will see same are brought up at the next regular meeting.

Thanking you for electing me President for the ensuing year.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

(Signed) J. W. STEWART,
Can. J. and St. Thos. R.P.O.

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Office of Supt. R.M.S.,

Feb. 5th, 1916.

Members of Railway Mail Service,
London, Ont.

As there is a general feeling among the members of the Railway Mail Service of this district that they should continue subscription to one of the many funds for patriotic purposes, I am asked to have each member express his opinion as to the most suitable fund to which to subscribe and whether you are prepared to contribute a certain sum each month for the year 1916.

It has been suggested that a sum equal to 2½ per cent. of each member's salary be given, payable each month, or otherwise, as may be considered most convenient. Such a sum would not be an excessive tax on any clerk's salary; and I am of the opinion that no more necessary or deserving object can be found than that for the care of Canadian soldiers who have been rendered incapable, either through illness or wounds, of supporting themselves.

This district has already subscribed to the Canadian Soldiers' Disablement Fund the sum of \$1,053.52, which has been very much appreciated.

It appears that some statements have been made to the effect that the Civil Service as a whole has not borne their share in contributing to funds for patriotic purposes. Judging from what has been done in the London district this statement is not warranted from facts, but the impression has no doubt gained credence from the fact that the Civil Service has not been given full credit as a body for their contributions, so many members having subscribed to local organizations; and it is felt that in justice to ourselves, and as an example to others, we cannot afford to "hide our light under a bushel," but rather should contribute as a body, so that those who are inclined to question our patriotism may have no grounds for their assertions.

Will you kindly let me have an expression of your opinion of the above suggestion. If satisfactory, sign and return to this office, or, if not, please state your objection.

R. G. MERCER,
Supt. R.M.S.