

# THE CIVILIAN

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## To the Federation Convention—Greeting.

*The Civilian* extends the hand of welcome and felicitation to the Civil Service Federation, which is holding its annual convention in Ottawa as we come from the press.

The present meeting promises more in the way of solid business than any of its predecessors. There is a feeling, resting upon a solid basis of circumstance, that the first fruits of three years' agitation are about to be gathered. Little by little the outside service is coming into its own in the matter of salary increases, and the delegates now present in the postal, customs, canal, marine and other services, may almost certainly count on carrying away tangible evidences that the long-sought relief is at hand. For superannuation the outlook was never more hopeful,—and by superannuation is now meant a much more businesslike and helpful measure than the system thrown overboard in 1897. With these great issues out of the way, or in a fair way to their final solution, the Federation may settle down to the long career of usefulness for which it was originally planned and to which these preliminary campaigns have been an unfortunate though necessary interruption.

But it is not the business view of the convention, important though it is, we would care to dwell upon in this brief foreword. When a move-

ment can bring representatives from Vancouver, three thousand miles on the West, and from Halifax and Prince Edward Island in the remotest East—not to mention a score of points intervening,—it has clearly some general power of appeal. The appeal is not to selfishness alone. It is to the imagination and camaraderie of the service.

The great value of the Federation is in this class consciousness which it at once represents and helps to create. There is something of cheer in the mere knowledge that such a body exists. Much of its actual work must needs be imperfect; how can three days of meeting and a single secretary for correspondence hope to cover the multiplicity of interests that make up the civil service? It does much; *The Civilian* thinks it does exceedingly much. But it does something very worth while in enabling civil servants throughout the length and breadth of this great country to meet with a heartier handshake and in greater appreciation of their mutuality of calling and interest.

A fortnight hence we hope to print, as in previous years, the official record of proceedings. In the meantime, and by way of foretaste, we commend our readers to a further treatment of the subject in general terms which will be found in the next following article.

### A MOTTO FOR THE FEDERATION.

“Efficiency of Service  
and Sufficiency of Pay”