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A DOMINION POSTAL CLERKS' ASSOCIATION.

The following interesting letter was written by Mr. J. W. Green, the real, live Secretary of Postal Clerks' Association of Western Canada, and addressed to the secretaries of all Postal Associations in Eastern Canada:

Dear Sir,—

At the Convention of the Civil Service Federation of Canada, held at Ottawa in January, there were present representatives from the Postal Clerks' Associations of Montreal, Kingston, Ottawa, Toronto and Winnipeg, who, during the course of the Convention, met in committee on three occasions, and one of the subjects under discussion was the formation of a Dominion Postal Clerks' Association. On behalf of the Western Association, I made an earnest request to the representatives present to give this question their careful consideration, which they promised to do; also inviting me to issue a circular to the various associations in Eastern Canada, asking their co-operation in this respect. I say Eastern Canada, because in Western Canada all associations are affiliated with the Postal Clerks' Association of Western Canada, and are therefore in a position to join forces with the East at any time. We have branches at the following points: Port Arthur, Winnipeg, Brandon, Regina, Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, Prince Albert, Medicine Hat, Calgary, Lethbridge, Edmonton, Vancouver, Victoria and New Westminster.

It was generally agreed by the delegates present at the convention that it was most desirable that such an association be formed, with as little delay as possible. One of the principal reasons why such action was advocated was the fact that although several

hours were spent in discussing certain questions pertaining to the interests of postal clerks only, it was found practically impossible to deal with more than three or four of the most vital points, and even when decisions were arrived at we were, after all, not in a position to make any recommendations on these particular questions, as being the voice of the service.

The Civil Service Federation can never take the place, or serve the same purpose as a Dominion Postal Clerks' Association, for even were it possible for every branch association to send a delegate to their convention it would be found that each delegate would probably hold different views on each subject under discussion, and as far as questions directly affecting postal clerks were concerned, it would take up the whole time at the disposal of the convention for these representatives to arrive at a unanimous decision, or a decision of the majority.

We have had absolute proof of this, for we have already held two conventions: one at Calgary in June, 1913, and the other at Edmonton June, 1914. The first convention lasted for four days, but this was due to the fact that one day was entirely devoted to drawing up a Constitution and By-laws. The second convention lasted three days, and I can assure you that very little time was wasted.

Another urgent reason why we should unite our forces is because of the increased activity of the political party in the matter of patronage. If this be allowed to continue, we shall eventually find ourselves in the same position as the country postmaster. By forming one strong association we