

peacefully. Connected with the post office for many years, Major, since Lt.Col., L. J. O. Ducharme had endeared himself by his ready wit and genial manner to all of the staff with whom he came in contact, and, although with the colors since the outbreak of the war, we feel his loss keenly. A striking figure in his brilliant militia uniform as he paced the despatch floor after some state event, often unconsciously timing his step to the beat of a tin tray on the floor, he was at once the centre of interest and curiosity to the new-comer, who readily learnt the familiar chorus, "Dis bags, Major." A more fitting burial no man nor officer could wish for. A splendid pageant from the military point of view, the melancholy event brought many friends from near and far, while hundreds attended the cathedral service and waited for the sound of the "Last Post." The floral tributes, including a wreath from our own association, were many and magnificent, a glowing tribute to the memory of the dead. It was fitting that many of the staff who found it possible to attend were present to pay their last respects to their former colleague. Our sympathies are with those left to mourn his unexpected demise, yet comforted by the happy recollections of his useful, well-spent life.

A FEW WORDS FROM SASKATCHEWAN.

(By the Vice-President of that Province.)

It is very gratifying to be able to announce that according to the reports that have reached us from the various branches in this province all is well with Saskatchewan.

Every branch in the province has now elected its representative to the coming convention, and a good start has been made toward forming an addition to the agenda that will stand for clear businesslike ideas. The business of the branches is now being devoted to sending delegates to convention who will carry with them the best ideas of their branches, as well as the knowledge that the ideas that they are taking will be solidly backed up by the members of the branches they represent.

Saskatchewan firmly believes that the convention is the vital organism of the association, and we think that we have to thank the last convention for giving the branches of this province that vitalizing influence which has enabled them to progress and stand to-day upon a foundation that is stronger than ever before.

Speaking of the branches individually, Regina and Moose Jaw have tied the bonds of fraternity tighter than ever, and both branches are at the top notch of soundness,

both financially and numerically. Saskatoon is in a position that any branch might be proud of, while Prince Albert, with a small but enthusiastic membership, is working wonders.

Conditions such as these are splendid. They give encouragement to officers and members alike, and such encouragement tends to make every member more keen and determined to do his best.

The coming convention is going to be an important one; of that there is no doubt. It is the duty of every member to see that the delegate from his branch helps to place our association upon such a footing that when our boys return from the front they will find that the work that they left in our hands has been well performed.

Saskatchewan is doing splendidly, but Saskatchewan has no wish to stand alone in this respect. We want every province, and every branch in that province, to be able to say "in enthusiasm, numbers and finance, we are stronger than we were ever before, but we mean to do better yet."

If every branch in the Dominion can say this, then, when our boys return, no branch need say, "We couldn't carry on with the job that you left with us."

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL.

Constantly in these pages our readers are being reminded that our boys at the front appreciate letters.

Some little time back, Vancouver made a stirring appeal for more letter writing. Recently we quoted the words of Robt. Chambers, the novelist, upon this subject. Our members can often give good reasons for not accepting office in the association and for such like things, but, in the matter of letter writing, we have an opportunity which all can embrace. Just stop and think for a moment. Some regiment coming out of the trenches after several days or weeks of constant strain and peril. They go back to their rest camps, it may be, where, dead tired and weary, they get a bath and some good grub and a rest.

One of the first things that comes along, comes among the first because it is of such moment to the satisfaction of the troops, is the mail bag. Ask any man back from France and he'll tell you that the mail is the chief thing that counts, outside perhaps of good grub and lots of it. Most battalions have post office men among their ranks. Suppose that post office man fails to get a letter. Cannot you imagine how it must feel to be one of the few with nothing to do when all the rest have letters from home to read! Remember, that man has not been working in a peanut stand by himself. He's been working in a post office where dozens, scores or maybe hundreds of men are em-