

THE TESTIMONIAL TO MR. FIELDING.

To the Editor of "THE CHRONICLE."—On page 601 of your issue of April 29th, I note a reference to the acceptance of the Honorable W. S. Fielding of "A handsome compliment from his friends and admirers in Parliament in the form of investments valued at more than \$100,000."

I understand from the papers that Sir Wilfrid Laurier declined to make known the names of the donors and the amounts of their subscriptions to the fund, but this really does not make much difference, as the whole transaction seems to me most improper. Your comment appears to approve Mr. Fielding's acceptance of the fund, and I am very much surprised that you should take this view of an incident or transaction, which, I believe, would not be tolerated for a moment in Great Britain.

While everybody will readily admit that the salary paid Mr. Fielding is far less than his services to the country warrant and less than he could earn in a private capacity, yet as a matter of principle, it does not appear right or seemly that a Cabinet Minister should condescend to accept a 'compliment' taking the form of cash or securities.

Yours, etc.,

SUBSCRIBER.

Toronto, May 9th, 1910.

We publish the above communication not because we agree with it, but because we wish to give our readers every opportunity for the freest expression of opinion. We quite agree with our esteemed correspondent that Mr. Fielding's salary is far less than his services to the country warrant, and are pleased to know that the inadequacy has been made up to some extent by the recognition of his friends and admirers. Nobody who knows Mr. Fielding will question the propriety of the gift or of its acceptance.

ED. CHRONICLE.

MARYLAND CASUALTY'S CHARTER AMENDED.

The stockholders of the Maryland Casualty Company held a special meeting on April 23rd, for the purpose of taking action upon the amendment to the charter of the company recently enacted by the Legislature of Maryland, which gives the company the right to transact the Fidelity and Surety business.

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