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The Katipo.

A Breeze From the Antipodes.

It is unlikely that many of the readers of *The Civilian* have heard of the Katipo. It is not an engine of destruction as the appearance of the word might suggest. On the contrary it is an instrument designed for the purpose of promoting the co-operation and protecting the interests of an important body of civil servants within the British Empire.

The Civilian has a long list of exchanges dealing with civil service affairs the world over. There has now for the first time made its appearance the Katipo, the organ of the Post and Telegraph Officers' Association of New Zealand. Coming from a state admittedly the foremost in social and economic reform movements and experiments, it is but natural to expect something a little out of the ordinary. Members of all organizations of the Canadian service will be directly interested in a brief review of the copy of the Katipo now to hand, and individual members of the service will find an interest both direct and indirect.

The Katipo reports the annual convention or conference of the association. The meetings of the conference extended over seven days. An immense number of resolutions were presented relating to every imaginable subject in the administration of the department. The government of New Zealand evidently welcomes the suggestions of the conferences which are the result of splendid organization and an immense amount of interest and study of many problems. An undoubted evidence of the appreciation

of the government of the aid and advice of the conference is apparent in the following incident at the conference which indicates an example the Canadian government could with great advantage follow:—

The Chairman expressed to the Secretary the thanks of the delegates for the leave granted to enable them to attend the Conference, and for the concessions in respect of railway fares; also for the promise given to grant extended leave or special leave later on to enable the delegates to interview the Postmaster-General.

The Secretary said he was glad to do anything he could to meet the Association's wishes.

The unlimited scope of the discussion of the conference will appeal to the delegates to the federation meeting shortly to be held in Ottawa. The following resolutions will illustrate this point and also indicate the freedom from discretionary limitations so common to the deliberations of Canadian bodies of public servants:—

Inspection of High Tension Wires:—That where high tension wires are strung (by arrangement) on Departmental poles this Conference is of opinion that the insulation should be regularly tested.

Acting Appointments:—That acting appointments are viewed with disapproval, Conference urges that permanent appointments should be made without delay.

The question of classification is dealt with fully and the necessity of "designation in accordance with duties." The following resolution exemplifies:—

Expansion of the Service:—That it is desirable that the creation of executive posi-