

portant, among the items being the passing of resolutions to be carried to Convention, the election of a treasurer, the appointment of a "Sick" committee. (Don't misread this, it is a real live committee appointed to look after our sick members), and last, but by no means least, the election of delegates for the coming convention at Toronto.

The branch resolved to send two delegates, and Messrs. C. Gardner, and G. Grant were elected to go. Neither of these gentlemen require any introduction to the majority of our members, and our branch rests assured that they will both acquit themselves well at "The Postal Clerk's Parliament."

A JUST REQUEST FOR AN INCREASE.

(An Editorial from "The Regina Daily Post," Feb., 16, 1918)

The Postal Clerks throughout The Dominion are seeking an increase in pay. It is a request to which the Government should heed, for it can be justified without the slightest difficulty.

Since 1912, the wages paid to Postal Clerks have remained stationary, with the exception of one bonus, of \$100 a year, which expires within a few weeks now, and which may not be renewed. During that time the cost of living has grown immensely. Statisticians say that in Saskatchewan the cost of living has advanced 70 per cent within the last three years. That is to say, the postal clerks are getting 70 per cent less in wages than they were five years ago, expressing their wages in the terms of the things that money will buy,—rents and clothes and groceries and so forth.

If the postal clerks were receiving ordinary wages the increase in the cost of living would not be so important. But as a matter of fact, a great many of them were receiving only \$65 a month five years ago, and they are getting the same to-day with the exception of eight dollars a month as a bonus. On the basis of 1912 prices, they are now getting only \$25 a month. It isn't enough.

The postal clerks are not asking anything unreasonable.

Their claim is for a minimum salary basis of \$1,000 per year, with a maximum of \$1,400 after several years service. The minimum salary as proposed of \$83 per month, is not excessive for the sort of work that the postal clerks have to perform, with the cost of living what it is. They have been reasonable in their dealings with the Government too. They have asked that a board of arbitration be appointed, as has been done in regard to other occupations, to determine what a fair wage would be. So far the Government has not acceded to this request, though it admitted the justice of their claim for an increase by the bonus given last year.

Parliament should see to it that a fair wage be established in the Post Office Department,

and in other departments of the Government service as well.

MORE OFFICES.

The great congestion in many government office buildings in Ottawa during the past few months has been a source of discomfort and sickness to many employees. Announcement that steps are being taken towards securing a large increase of accommodation—and that not by the time-honoured custom of renting buildings wholly unsuitable for offices, is greeted with satisfaction throughout the Service in the Capital.

The Public Works Department is preparing plans for an office building to have a frontage of two hundred feet on O'Connor street and one hundred feet each on Queen and Albert streets, to be nine stories high and to contain seven hundred rooms. The old Fisheries Museum will be razed. In addition, the wings of the new Parliament Buildings, which contain numerous office-rooms, will be rushed to completion.

RE-ESTABLISHED.

The Princess Patricias Canadian Red Cross Hospital, to the establishment of which the Civil Service in Ottawa and elsewhere contributed many "beds," has moved to Cooden Beach, Bexhill, and its capacity will be increased from 600 to 2,250 patients. The former location at Ramsgate was too exposed to German air raids and the institution was closed some months ago.

REASONS FOR SUPPORTING PATRIOTIC FUND.

51,865 families are now being supported by the Patriotic Fund throughout Canada, the monthly expenditure being upwards of \$920,000.00. This great work must be maintained. Be generous! Play the game!