

Our attention has been called to an item in the supplementary estimates which is quite in keeping with the foregoing: Vote No. 437: Retiring allowance to Staff-Sergeant _____, member of the Non-Com. Staff of H.R.H. the Governor-General. This official was not entitled to superannuation, yet the Government out of compassion gave him \$1,000 as a retiring allowance. *The Civilian* was glad to see him get it, and the Government were fortunate in making the arrangement. As a provision for the declining years of the individual, the total inadequacy of the allowance is at once apparent when it is known that his salary prior to retirement was \$800. What is necessary in case of each employee is an adequate allowance for every year of life, and for his dependents after he is gone. And that allowance depending not on fortune or favour, but granted as the due right of the individual, as part remuneration for services already rendered.

The C. S. Co-operative Supply Association.—Second Annual Meeting.

The second annual meeting of the members of the Civil Service Co-operative Supply Association was held in the Carnegie Library Lecture Room on Tuesday, April 30, at 8 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. McNeil, and the minutes of the last annual meeting were read and approved.

The report of the directors was made by Mr. McLeish, the managing director. He explained very fully and clearly the printed financial statement which accompanied the notice of the meeting. In spite of organization expenses and the difficulties under which the business had been carried on at first owing to lack of capital, etc., the statement showed that the Association had a balance on the right side. Mr. McLeish stated that all that was required to make the business a decided success was more hearty support by the members and more capital.

Following this report was a discussion as to ways and means of increasing the business. It was the general feeling of the meeting that for the first year the store had made an excellent showing. It was moved by Mr. Hoey, and seconded by Mr. Labby, that the report of the Directors and the accompanying report of the Audi-

tors be received and approved.—Carried.

The President's Address.

After paying a compliment to his fellow-directors for their industry and self-sacrifice in connection with the Association, the President, Mr. McNeill, proceeded as follows:—

Co-operation is really a new thing in Ottawa. Many of our members, of course, have read popular articles on co-operation in other places, and a few of our members are familiar with co-operative methods in the Old Country. Beyond this, the great bulk of our members know nothing practically of co-operation or co-operative aims and ideals. I deem it, therefore, not out of place to say a few words upon this particular topic, hoping that in the incoming year there will be efficient means taken to start a propaganda at home,—a sort of home missionary society.

Holyoake, one of the founders of co-operation, has the following: "The object of co-operation is to conduct trade and labor without competition, fraud or meanness for the equitable advantage of all concerned in distribution and production."

This definition, though very much condensed, will show that "co-operation is a new force in industry, whose