

ing the leadership of the Ottawa Association, whose representatives have given these measures most painstaking and capable attention, the Convention was able to reach sound and businesslike conclusions. The conclusions with regard to the Superannuation Bill were definite, but as to the Civil Service Bill, it was rightly decided that every part of the Service should have opportunity to lay its views and wishes before a central committee before a conclusion should be reached upon any matter of detail. The means afforded by the organization thus to concentrate upon such an important measure the best thought of the best men and women of every branch of the Service form a justification of the Federation's existence, and make well worth while all the heavy labour that has been performed in order to bring it to its present perfection.

The changes in the organization are noteworthy. In deciding to elect a Vice-President for each province, the Federation offers the same answer as many other societies have offered to the difficulties presented by the immense distances within the Dominion. The change will not reduce the mileage from coast to coast, and so it will not wholly overcome the difficulty. But it will put the influence of the whole body more directly behind the acts that have to be done locally, and so will make the work more uniform and more effective.

The Federation was called upon to accept a change in its officers by the retirement from the presidency of Dr. Smith, of Windsor, who has been at the head of the society from the beginning. Dr. Smith carries with him the good-will and thanks of every person who has taken part in the work of the Federation. Without the leadership of such men as he the organization could never have been carried on. He hands over to his successor a splendid membership

splendidly organized, and with it an opportunity to do good work for the Service and for the public.

The new President, Mr. R. S. White, Collector of Customs, Montreal, will be a tower of strength to the Federation. His position is such that if he were called the leading Civil Servant of Canada few would find fault with the expression. As an ex-journalist—he was for years editor of the Montreal "Gazette"—and as an ex-member of Parliament, he is a man of quite unique experience. His ability as a Public Servant is further proven by the fact that he has held his present position during years of Canada's greatest expansion, when the metropolitan port of which he is the guardian developed many new problems of customs administration, and has made a record of complete success. Few men in Canada are more widely known, and no man in Canada is more popular than R. S. White. Under the leadership of such a man the Federation may look forward with hope to a year of splendid achievement.

The opportunity to elect Mr. White to the presidency was gladly acted upon by all the delegates. It meant that the representatives of the Post Office and other Departments, who had hoped to put men in the field with good chance of securing the chief office of the Federation, had to put aside their personal wishes for the time, but this they did with true esprit de corps.

In the haste which must always attend a gathering with so much to do and so little time for doing it, some unfortunate misses were made. Not that the officers chosen were not good ones,—that was the trouble, there was more good material than could be used. But had more time been given for consideration it is practically certain that a place would have been found on the Executive for a representative of the Department of Inland Revenue, one of