

## The Superannuation Issue.

The culmination of the long process of preparing and stating the case of the civil service for Superannuation came during the past fortnight.

The Superannuation issue as now defined by the Government is one which affects the entire service in every branch, from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The presentation of the final case accordingly fell most appropriately to the Civil Service Federation, and the Convention of April 20-21 was made the occasion of the formal interview for that purpose with the Honourable the Minister of Finance, within whose jurisdiction this phase of administration falls. The Federation it will be remembered had previously, in its interview with the Prime Minister held in January last, presented its case in general terms, Sir Wilfrid replying favourably and referring the delegates on to Mr. Fielding.

In the deputation which waited on Mr. Fielding at noon on Friday, the 21st ultimo, excellent evidence was offered in the personnel of the delegates of the unanimity and extended nature of this demand. The delegation was headed by the three officers of the Federation, resident respectively at Windsor, Ont., Montreal and Ottawa, and in addition representatives were present from every province, with the exception of the prairie provinces, and from practically every branch in the service.

The memorial which has already appeared in draft form in *The Civilian*, was presented, together with an extended and careful memorandum of cost prepared by Mr. A. D. Watson at the request of the Ottawa Civil Service Association. The speakers at the interview were the President and Secretary of the Federation, with the Hon. J. F. Whear, of Charlottetown, and Mr. O. Higman, Chairman of the Superannuation Committee. Mr. McGiverin, M.P., kindly acted as sponsor.

Mr. Fielding spoke at some length in reply to the deputation. The inconveniences and injustices of the present situation from the standpoint of the Government as well as the civil service were analysed with great frankness by the Minister. On the subject of the proposed legislation it was with equal frankness admitted that the chief need was the education of the people. From Mr. Fielding's further remarks the deputation was able to gain some valuable hints as to the further steps necessary on the part of the service, and the probable course of events. On the whole, it is felt that the outlook is favourable and that the ground in this great campaign has been broken under very favourable auspices.

### AFTERNOON SESSION, APRIL 21st, 1911.

The meeting was called to order at 1.45 p.m. Several members of the committee appointed to meet Hon. W. S. Fielding gave verbal reports of the interview, and on motion of Mr. R. Holmes, seconded by Mr. Greer, their report was received.

The motion with reference to the Out-

side service coming under the Civil Service Act was then considered and carried.

Mr. R. H. Coats moved, seconded by Mr. F. T. Pattison, that the committee consist of Messrs. Alex. MacMillan, J. M. Macoun, E. E. Stockton and the mover.

The election of officers was then proceeded with.