

## Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed under this heading.

"Aurea Mediocritas."

To the Editors of *The Civilian*:

I would like you to submit through your columns to the Civil Service Association of Ottawa, for discussion, the following suggestion:

Would the Association submit to the Government the recommendation "that civil servants after 30 years' service be granted the maximum salary of their respective classes."

After that length of time an employee is getting up in years and may have a large family to support; he may have been, under the old régime, years and years at the then maximum of his class, and struggling through life paying for the education of his children, and unable to lay aside any amount for contingencies or old age, except perhaps a life policy for a few thousands. He has had to pay superannuation rates — deducted from his monthly salary — and may never get any return for such deduction should he die before his 35 years of service.

The Government, I think, should amend the Civil Service Act in this respect and grant the maximum salary so that their old and faithful servants may, in their last years of service, enjoy the "aurea mediocritas" sung by Horace (ode vii., l. II.)

Yours truly,

CONSTANT READER.

The failure of the names of Mr. Caldwell and Mr. Bailey to appear in the list of those successful in the recent examinations for admittance to the Second Division has caused some speculation. Mr. Caldwell and Mr. Bailey were the two clerks of Division IIIA who essayed the examination. Notwithstanding rumour to the contrary, both were successful, and have received notice accordingly.

The growth of the free delivery postal service has kept pace with the development of Canada, and the reports show that within this generation the number of letter car-

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riers has increased from 163 in 1880 to 1,130 in 1910, or about sevenfold. The greatest strides, of course, have been made within the past ten years. In 1880 there were only eight cities in Canada which had free delivery of mail. These were Montreal, Toronto, Halifax, St. John, Ottawa, Quebec, London and Hamilton. In 1895 the number of cities with free mail delivery had increased to 11, and additions being Kingston, Winnipeg and Victoria. To-day, 38 cities have free mail delivery, and the policy of the post-office department is to extend this privilege to all cities which reach a population of 12,000 and produce a postal revenue of \$20,000 a year. The census next year will be watched with care by those growing communities which have not yet been extended this privilege because they lack the necessary standard of population. Certainly one of the greatest conveniences of modern life is the free delivery of mail. The number of postmen engaged in the free rural delivery branch are not included.

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