

icy with regard to the administration of the Canadian civil service. We shall then be able to build up for this great and growing country of ours a civil service perfectly adapted to its needs, capable of flexible expansion as occasion requires, steadily advancing in efficiency, and in every way equal to the great and increasingly important demands which will be placed upon it as the years pass. We shall——"

But here just as we were warming to our peroration, a hand was laid upon our shoulder, and awaking with a start we saw nothing below us but the silent and untenanted House — the Speaker left the chair, the page-boys vanished, and the clock pointing accusingly to a quarter past six. It was the gallery policeman, and his words were not kind. He gave us to understand he had seen men in that condition before. Nevertheless, as we came out beneath the frosty stars, we glowed as with the consciousness of good performed; for had we not spoken so as to please ourselves and yet compelled no man to listen!

A NEW FIELD FOR THE SAVINGS AND LOAN SOCIETY— EXTENSION OF ITS USEFULNESS IMPERATIVE.

The past week has witnessed considerable activity in the shape of a campaign against the usurers of this city. At the time of writing, cases have been made out against a half-dozen of the most notorious offenders, and these cases will doubtless be decided by the magistrate during the present week. The determination of the Crown to drive these noxious parasites out of business is in the highest degree commendable, and the

unanimous body of public opinion, openly sympathetic as it is to the prosecution, is certain to impress the law-breakers with a conviction that their unclean business can no longer be carried on in this community. For the present, therefore, it may safely be assumed that these gentry will seek cover with all despatch; some of them, doubtless, hoping that he who fights and runs away may live to fight another day. When that other day arrives, if it should arrive, it is to be hoped that the money-lenders will be confronted with the same conditions, namely, a resolute intention of enforcing the law, backed up by an indignant public opinion.

The Civil Service Association was invited to co-operate with the provincial authorities in procuring evidence of infractions of the law. The Association, very wisely as we think, came to the conclusion that the matter was not one in which it could properly intervene. The matter obviously required very delicate handling, and the Association believed that a committee of the Loan Society could deal with it much more appropriately than could the Association itself. For these and other reasons, accordingly, the Association passed the invitation on to the Loan Society, and that body, whether officially or otherwise we do not know, has been instrumental in procuring evidence against the money lenders which, it is hoped, will materially increase the chances of successful prosecution.

At all events, there is a very general expectation that the day of the usurer in this community is about to close. For many years he has taken huge toll without let or hindrance. In the civil service he has had a clear field, not because civil servants are more improvident than others, but because the burden of living has of late years pressed with peculiar sever-