

## A KICK FROM THE UNDER DOG.

## NOTES BY THE WAY.

To the Editor of the "Postal Journal":

Sir,—I am a junior clerk in a city office and pay my dues to the Postal Clerks' Association, which I believe stands for fraternity amongst its members.

For about two years I have worked on the night shift from midnight to 8 a.m., and when requesting that a change would be very acceptable I was met with the impassable barrier that being a junior I could only expect the crumbs which fell from the senior men's "table." Upon debating the point I was told that "When I was a junior I had to do——" In fact I was almost led to believe that what they had suffered was deserving of an Iron Cross. Of course, my remark that if they had suffered these things was the more reason why they should now think of the junior man, fell on deaf ears.

In some offices I believe that all clerks change shifts once a month and that the arrangement works admirably. Thus a junior clerk does not for years have to bury himself from the light of day.

The question of holidays is another point upon which I fail to see eye to eye with the system of seniority. The seniority system carried to its logical conclusion would mean that for years and years a junior clerk would be taking his vacation either at the beginning or end of the year. It seems to me that by reason of his additional salary the senior has received all that is coming to him, and has no right to expect to claim everything merely because he was in the Service earlier than another.

However, my plea is that being a fraternal organization we should sacrifice a little one for another. Why could the Association not debate this question of holidays. Each local branch might take up the matter and endeavour to get the junior men at least one week at a decent time of year. Again, where it is possible our members could relieve one another on night work.

Of course this is impossible without that spirit of self-sacrifice which should be the backbone of our Association.

I would like to hear the views of others on this subject.

Yours fraternally,

"NIGHT HAWK."

You never can tell. Many a man whose clothes last him a long time will wear out his welcome with astonishing rapidity.

The rather incomplete list of delegates at convention speaks well for the results of their deliberations. We find many of the old faces, well known by now to many of our members, and intermingled with them quite a number of new men who should be able to bring the required touch of enthusiasm and perchance criticism. Looking down the list, one finds no less than seven local presidents and most of the others are either local secretaries or executive members,—altogether a truly representative crowd. Good luck to them.

This issue we publish an interesting letter by "Night Hawk." The question raised therein is well known to be a very sore one in the majority of the larger offices and is one which it behooves the members of this Association to work out for themselves to the best of their ability.

You won't mind us reminding you yet again that the present time is about the most critical through which this organization will ever have to go. Many organizations and businesses are to-day going to the wall. Are we to do the same! Some of our members have a splendid chance now to show their appreciation for what has already been done by others, many of whom are now at the war, by taking hold of the reins which others have been compelled by force of circumstances to let go.

We have been asked the reason why we are not writing these days upon the subject of recruiting, so we'll give you the answer. It is because we believe that in the branches of our organization there are only two classes of men left. Those who don't or won't think and realize their responsibilities to their country and to their fellow men, and those who do. No further words of ours, or hardly any others, will have the slightest effect upon the former class, and those in the latter, which, happily, are in the very great majority, don't require any recruiting speeches in order to show them where their duty requires them.

In order that the Civil Service list of casualties may be kept complete and as up-to-date as possible, you are earnestly asked to immediately notify the Editor or Box 484, Ottawa, of any that come to your notice.

Correspondents are requested to take note that the issue of August 4th will contain a full report of the convention proceedings, and that in consequence branch notes and all other matter will have to be left over. Please, therefore, make your contributions for the month of August as brief as possible so that they