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Re-organization.

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The present moment is from many points of view the most fateful in the history of the civil service. In the space of two short weeks the service is to be given the form which, except for changes of an extraordinary character, it is to wear in the years to come. The heterogeneous mass of duties and offices which make up the service as we know it to-day are to be set forth in so many words — a thing that was never done before — and defined in the terms of a classification which at long last is to be a classification in fact as well as name. No longer, if the re-organization is carried out as it should be, will a clerk be found in the length and breadth of the service who is doing work for which he is not receiving the appropriate remuneration named in the law. Then, on September 1st, the new machine is to be set in motion, political appointments and promotions and the long, concomitant train of their abuses are to cease, and the era of reform will be ushered in. So much, at least, if the act fulfils the avowed intention with which it is promulgated. It is a spectacle which may justly invite the interest of the whole community, and of the entire service as well, for though the clerks at headquarters are the only ones who are at once affected it is inevitable that sooner or later

outside as well as inside employees will come under the change. It may well behove all, therefore, for their future if not their present guidance, to consider every movement that is being taken in the situation of to-day.

Interview of the Association With the Government.

With the moving forward of the date on which the act is to come into force to September 1st, there seems to have been an understanding, implied if not expressed, that the re-organization of the departments as contemplated in the measure would be completed by that time, so that the new conditions might be launched at a blow and without the indeterminateness which might have followed had the departments been left with an indefinite period for the work on their hands. Rumour, in consequence, has of late been very rife as to the nature of the action that was being taken. In some of the departments, it was stated, the matter was already finished; in others no visible sign had yet been given. Still more provocative of discussion was the report of diverse opinions among the different deputy heads as to the exact nature of what they were expected to do. One was quoted as contemplating a minute examination, and renovation where