

capital, £4,884; bonus on purchases, £8,351; written off as depreciation, £5,580. While there has been a loss in trading during the last 18 months the Civil Service Co-operative Society is expected, now the business is centralized and branches abolished, to overcome its difficulties by the assured trade its large clientage affords.

### **The Co-operative Credit Bank of Victoria, Limited.**

As an adjunct to the above Society, a Co-operative Credit Bank came into operation two years ago with a nominal capital of £5,000 in shares of £1 each. The paid-up capital in August, 1909, was £2,501, all of which had been loaned; and an endeavour is being made to increase the capital to provide funds for those whose legitimate necessities exceed their credit. Loans negotiated in the last half year varied from £2 to £140, indicating the widespread influence of the Bank and the beneficial purpose which it is fulfilling. After two years' experience, the manager of the co-operative stores found that the strictly cash basis upon which the sales were made induced many civil servants who had hitherto made their purchases on credit to become ardent advocates of the cash principle. On the other hand, a considerable number owed storekeepers and others sums averaging from £10 to £20 which they were unable to pay off. An examination of their accounts proved that the prices charged them by the storekeepers were, in some cases, from 15 to 20 per cent. higher than the Society's standard rates. It was also ascertained that a number of civil servants were in the hands of money-lenders, a fact which, through worry and anxiety consequent upon years of struggle, decreased the efficiency of the services rendered to the State. The bank advanced the money to pay off the storekeepers and money-lenders, and in this way secured customers for the store.

Great care is exercised to avoid making advances to unworthy persons and to give practical encouragement to good men who are struggling against temporary adversity. The Bank paid interest at 4 per cent. to its shareholders. There is little expense in conducting its operations as the office is in the Co-operative Store. The services of the Board of Directors (all civil servants) are purely voluntary and without fee or reward. The Bank has justified its existence and only requires more capital to extend its usefulness.

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## **Personals.**

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### **General.**

Mr. D. J. O'Donoghoe, popularly known as "D. J." bids his friends in the Customs Department good-bye this week, and is followed by best wishes for success. He intends to engage in the lumber business.

Mr. A. M. Lafontaine of the Customs, who has been confined to the house, through illness has returned to his duties.

The sympathies of a wide circle of friends are extended to Mr. G. J. McGill of the Customs Dept. in his recent sad bereavement.

Mr. L. B. Cahoon, of the Finance Dept., has returned to his duties after several weeks absence, due to an injury to his shoulder caused by a fall.

### **Appointments.**

Customs—C. H. Kullbeck and G. O. Kemp, to Division 3 B.

Edward A. Ghysens and Gordon L. Crichton, to Division 2 B.

Post Office—J. S. C. A. Pigeon, sorter, and J. A. E. Hebert, messenger.

Victor Gaudet, to be Inspector at Montreal, vice J. W. Bain, deceased.

### **On Approbation.**

Customs—P. A. Nood of Toronto, and J. E. Derry, as stenographers.

### **Transfers.**

Customs—Albert Campeau, from outside to inside division.

### **Superannuations.**

Post Office—W. E. McNair, Letter Carrier, Toronto, has retired on superannuation from November 13th.