

It will do us no harm to loosen up in our conversation about this war, to own up to our duties one to another, provided always that we do not think our duties accomplished when we have confessed their existence. While it may be well to

“Refrain

From talk of battles loud and vain  
And brawling memories all too free,”

there is some need of attaining that frame of mind which the poet Browning, who was not a jingo by any means, found himself in when he sailed past Cape St. Vincent, and “full in face of Trafalgar Bay.” The call of his heart was true when, compassed about, as it were, with so great a cloud of witnesses to his nation’s struggles, he exclaimed,

“Here and here did England help me; how can I help England?”

The crop of heroes in the world may be scanty, but we would be in a bad way if there were not quite a few genuine helpers around.

So let us own up that we are willing to help, and not grumble at the tax on sugar, and not fret if the estimates next session are not so liberal as heretofore. As one said to me recently, when there was talk of an increase in the price of coal on account of the war: “Well, I can shiver a lot more if I were in Belgium.”

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### BRAVO, STATISTICS!

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The Statistical Branch of H. M. Customs is to be represented at the front by three members of the staff, Messrs. F. A. Smith, Byron Wilson and Hector Filion. That their patriotism was appreciated by their fellow employees is shown by the enthusiasm evidenced at their departure for the continent.

On Saturday afternoon Messrs. Wilson and Filion were presented with wrist watches and pipes, and on Monday afternoon Mr. Smith received the same tokens of fellowship. The staff gathered in one of the large rooms and gave vent to their loyal feelings in much hearty cheering and singing. Patriotic speeches were contributed by Messrs. MacMillan, Smith (Tom), Hanlon and Fraser. The interest shown in the departure of these “service heroes” certainly foreshadows the “more to follow” spirit which is rapidly being developed in the Civil Service of Canada. The Customs Statistics will supply more if the Empire needs them.

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### POSTAL CLERKS IN U. S.

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Plans for legislation to be worked for in the coming year on behalf of servants of the United States were outlined at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Federation of Post Office Clerks at the Kaiserhof Hotel, Chicago, July 8th. The paramount issue of the year will be the reduction of night work. Support also will be given to the Lewis reclassification bill. This calls for an increase of the maximum from \$1,200 to \$1,400.

Another matter to be pushed is one the Canadian Federation has already initiated in its bulletin published in *The Civilian* in July, viz., publicity. “We want the public to know about conditions under which postal clerks work,” said Mr. Flaherty. “We are going to inform it through the press generally, and especially through the labor press and labor organizations.”