

This has appealed to the President as an excellent argument for the plan. He has said that he does not wish to try to put into effect any plan which does not please the clerks, but he cannot see how they could object to it if it brought them higher salaries.

Both the President and the cabinet are convinced that they cannot put through Congress legislation for a straight civil pension list. The

expense of this would be enormous, and Congress would not stand for it, according to representations made to Mr. Taft by the chairmen of the House and Senate committees on appropriations. For this reason, Mr. Taft has made up his mind that, if anything can be done to retire the superannuated clerks, it must be by the contributory annuity plan. He will have a thorough grasp on the subject long before he is ready to write his message to Congress.

Would it not be good policy for the Government of Canada to take at once like President Taft the preliminary steps towards a thorough understanding of this important question?

ESPRIT DE CORPS AMONG MONTREAL CIVIL SERVANTS.

The following invitation received by the Editor of *The Civilian* speaks for itself:

The Officers and Members
of the
Montreal Customs Association
request the pleasure of your Company at the
Moonlight Excursion
on the Str Three Rivers
Monday the 15th August 1910
The boat leaving Victoria Pier at 8 P.M.

R. S. V. P.

M. J. McGOLDRICK, Secretary.