

THE CIVILIAN

Dr. Dougherty,
May '17
Archives.

A FORTNIGHTLY JOURNAL
DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS
OF THE
CIVIL SERVICE OF CANADA

FEATURES

- Outside Service Delegation to the Ministry.
- Orders in Council regarding Superannuation and civil pay in C.E.F.
- Civil Service War News.
- Inside Service War Bonus.
- The Roll of Honour.
- Women's Column.
- Dominion Customs Assn.
- Personals,—Appointments, etc.
- The Postal Journal.

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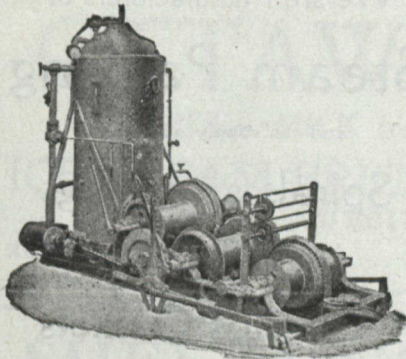
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THE CIVILIAN

VOL. XI.

MAY 10, 1918.

No. 2

Outside Service Delegation to the Ministry

On the evening of Tuesday, April 23rd, Mr. Walter Todd, President of the Civil Service Federation of Canada, introduced a delegation of about seventy-five representatives of the Outside Service to members of the Cabinet, and so initiated an event which will stand as one of the most strenuous and aggressive presentations of a Civil Service case in the history of Service organization. The Ministers to receive the delegation were: Hon. C. J. Doherty, Acting Postmaster General; Hon. A. K. Maclean, Acting Minister of Finance; Hon. F. B. Carvell, Minister of Public Works, and Hon. J. A. Calder, Minister of Immigration and Colonization. The Hon. C. C. Ballantyne also attended for a time. The delegates of the Service represented territory from Edmonton to Halifax. Particulars of the delegation are as follows:

During the early months of the year the attention of the Executive of the Federation was devoted to a close attention to the Government's attitude in regard to Patronage. As soon as the Order in Council of Feb. 13th was passed, coupled with the promise of legislation when Parliament met, the Federation turned its attention to the question of salary compensations to meet, to some extent, the increased cost of living due to the war. A series of articles in *The Civilian* furnished the data and set forth the situation from the Civil Service point of

view. The material published in *The Civilian* was utilized in drafting the memorandum presented to the Ministers. The Federation Executive, with a full realization of the distress existing in the Outside Service, decided not to send out a general call for delegates from all the associations on account of the expense involved, but rather to depend upon such delegates as might conveniently come to Ottawa from the area adjacent to the Capital. Fortunately the Federation has in its membership two lively and aggressive organizations—the Dominion Postal Clerks and the Dominion Customs Associations. The officers of these associations sent out a call for delegates, who arrived on April 22nd. A meeting of the Federation Executive was held on that evening in the Railway Committee Room of the House of Commons, attended by all the delegates who had arrived at that time, and discussed preliminary arrangements and adopted the outline of the memorandum to be presented to the Government. Delegates from other associations were also present, notably Public Works and Inland Revenue.

As stated above the delegation met the Ministers on the evening of the 23rd of April. The Railway Committee Room was the scene of the event. Mr. Walter Todd, President of the Federation, in a few well-chosen words, introduced the delegates and the subject. He then read the memorandum prepared for the purpose, as follows:

Memorandum on Behalf of the Outside Civil Service Regarding Adequate Salary Increases to Meet the Increased Cost of Living.

According to the figures authorized by the Department of Labour, the cost of living in Canada has increased 50 per cent between the years 1914 and 1917. Further than that the cost of living has increased between 1909 and 1917, 100 per cent. It must be pointed out that salaries were established, generally

speaking, about the year 1909, and that in many cases little or no increases have been granted, as only two of all the outside services have enjoyed the benefits of statutory increases. The consequence is that much distress and suffering exists among the Outside Civil Servants on account of the great

disparity between the present salaries and the increased cost of living.

Between 1913 and 1917 remuneration has been increased in other lines of work. For instance:—Electrical workers have had increases making a total of 33 per cent, Moulders about 20 per cent, Motormen 20 per cent, Newspaper Compositors over 40 per cent, Machine Compositors 33 per cent.

It is important to consider in this connection that the Government has recognized the increased standards of living in the remuneration granted entrants coming recently into the Service in Ottawa. No exception can be taken to a recognition of these new standards of living, due to the increased cost in the case of new appointments. We are making this appeal for consideration on similar lines for the Members of the whole Permanent Staff in the Outside Service, who as above mentioned are in a state of great distress.

As a precedent for action by the Dominion Government we beg to quote the action taken by the Government of the United States to meet a similar state of affairs in that Country.

There has come to hand the United States Post Office Appropriation Bill reported by the Senate April 2nd. It is pointed out that the increases granted by the way of relief will amount to \$33,297,000. The report further states:—"The salary increase provided in the House Bill, along with the proposed \$200.00 salary increase for the entrance grades for clerks, carriers, and railway postal clerks, will involve an additional expenditure for the Fiscal year ending June 30th, 1919, of \$40,433,000, approximately \$50,000,000 for the next succeeding Fiscal year, and about \$45,000,000 for the second succeeding Fiscal year."

As regards the remainder of the service in the neighboring Republic the latest report to hand is to the effect that—"The Appro-

priations Committee reported favorably to the House increases for all Government employees other than Postal, who get \$2,000 a year or less. The cost of this increase to the Government will be \$26,000,000, or a total of \$66,000,000 to the whole service of the United States as a bonus to meet the increased cost of living due to the war.

Some of the affiliated Associations have prepared memorials on their own behalf, some of which are attached hereto. The Federation desires to strongly represent the case of the whole Outside Service for adequate recognition of the increased cost of living and increase remuneration therefor. As it stands today many in the Outside Service are living on the edge of the poverty line. Unfortunate as this is for the adults in the family who work in the Government Service, it reacts in an even more serious degree upon the children of Civil Servants who cannot be sufficiently fed or warmly clothed under present conditions. It is sincerely to be hoped that the Government will see its way clear during the present session of Parliament to vote some measure of relief to Outside Civil Servants.

We beg therefore to state in specific terms the lowest sum which we consider under the circumstances will afford relief at this time,—*viz.*, a War Bonus of \$200.00, except that in the case of the postal clerks the request is for \$200.00 for clerks East of Port Arthur and \$100.00 for clerks Port Arthur and all points West thereof, in addition to existing allowances. Explanation of the difference in the request of the postal clerks is contained in a communication sent to the Prime Minister, copies of which will be furnished by Officers of the Federation.

Submitted on behalf of the Civil Service Federation of Canada.

F. GRIERSON,

Secretary.

WALTER TODD,

President.

Ottawa, Ont., April 23, 1918.

At the conclusion of the reading of the memorandum, Mr. Todd called upon the spokesmen chosen by the various organizations. Mr. Cantwell opened for the Dominion Postal Clerks' Association in a fine speech which was peculiarly fitting and opportune both as to the material used and the manner of delivery. He was followed by Mr. A. Jacques, of the Montreal association,

who delivered, as usual, an impressive and dignified address. Mr. T. H. Burns led for the Dominion Customs Association. Mr. Burns showed that his warm, sympathetic nature had been deeply touched by the messages he had received from customs ports as to the distress existing on account of the rapid increase in cost of living. The Ministers gave evidence of being impressed by the

warmth, the candour and the emphasis of the appeal of Mr. Burns, who, as the Organizing Secretary of the newly formed Dominion Customs Association, has been brought into close relationship with financial conditions in the Customs Service. Mr. A. J. Taylor (Winnipeg), President of the D. C. A., made an ornate and polished speech, congratulating the Government upon its policy in regard to Patronage and insisting upon the necessity of a recognition of salary conditions. Mr. F. G. Matheson, of the Public Works Association, Toronto, with energy and stern emphasis, made a very forcible speech, stating that street cleaners and teamsters were better paid than some men in the Government service. Mr. Coulter made representations on behalf of the Inland Revenue, and then followed a number of volunteer speakers. Mr. J. W. Green, Secretary of the D.P.C.A., made a number of effective points arising out of his abundant knowledge of conditions in the Postal Service. Mr. M. F. Mogan, of the Toronto Customs Association, made quite a hit in proposing that the salaries of Cabinet Ministers should be increased to at least \$15,000 and caused the Hon. Mr. Maclean to remark jocularly that he had struck quite a responsive chord. Mr. Mogan stuck to his point and coupled his proposal with an appeal for a similar reciprocal revision for Civil Service salaries.

Hon. Mr. Doherty and Hon. Mr. Calder replied to the delegation, and both spoke of the deep impression that had been made upon them by the representations they had heard, and promised that the claims made would be carried to Council with their hearty recommendations for a satisfactory solution.

ORDER IN COUNCIL REGARDING CIVIL PAY WHILE IN THE C.E.F.

The text of the Order in Council (P.C, 811) dated April 5th, cancelling civil pay of Civil Servants in the C.E.F., is as follows:

WHEREAS by the Order in Council of August 11th, 1914, the Order in Council of August 21st, 1914, the Order in Council of September 19th, 1914, the Order in Council of February 10th, 1915, the Order in Council of March 9th, 1915, the Order in Council of

November 1st, 1915, the Order in Council of April 18th, 1916, the Order in Council of December 8th, 1916, and the Order in Council of March 12th, 1917, it is in effect provided upon certain conditions that any person in the civil employment of the Government absent upon service with the forces of His Majesty, or of any of His Majesty's Allies, shall be paid the whole or a part of his civil pay or salary in addition to his pay and allowances for such service;

AND WHEREAS by the said Order in Council of February 10th, 1915, it is further provided that "officers and employees whose civil pay or salaries are permitted to be paid during military service shall upon the conclusion of the latter service be restored to their civil positions if they remain qualified to discharge the duties appertaining to those positions."

THEREFORE, His Excellency the Governor General in Council is pleased to order and it is hereby ordered as follows:—

1. After the thirtieth day of June, 1918, the above mentioned Orders in Council shall be void and of no effect and no person in the civil employment of the Government absent upon service with the forces of His Majesty, or of any of His Majesty's Allies, shall receive any portion of the pay or salary which after that date would otherwise accrue in respect of such civil employment.

2. Any person in the civil employment of the Government absent upon service with the forces of His Majesty, or of any of His Majesty's Allies, shall be entitled, upon the conclusion of the latter service, to be restored to his position in the civil employment of the Government if he remains qualified to discharge the duties appertaining to that position.

SUPERANNUATION BY ORDER IN COUNCIL.

Order in Council No. 804 of April 17th, provides for means to superannuate certain individuals in the Public Service. The text of the orders is as follows:

WHEREAS there are employed in the Inside and the Outside Service a number of officials who, owing to advanced age, failing health or lack of experience and ability, are not capable of rendering efficient service to the State;

AND WHEREAS owing to conditions created

by the war resulting in the cessation of work in several branches of the public service, numerous officers are now employed whose services are not required;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable in the public interest, as well as in the interest of the public service, that provision be made for the retirement of such of these employees as may be deemed advisable;

AND WHEREAS the provision made by Statute for the superannuation or retirement of employees is not in all cases sufficiently wide to include certain classes of officials who should be retired;

AND WHEREAS it is advisable to take steps to make certain that no undue hardship shall result in the case of any of the said employees who may be retired;

THEREFORE His Excellency the Governor General in Council, for the purpose of arranging for the retirement of such employees and of making reasonable provision for such as may actually require assistance, and under and in virtue of the powers vested in His Excellency in Council by the War Measures Act, 1914, or by any other enabling authority, is pleased to Order and it is hereby ordered as follows:

1. The Civil Service Commission shall prepare and submit to the Governor in Council for approval a list of all officers to be retired and the dates to be fixed for their respective retirements.

2. The Civil Service Commission are hereby authorized to report to the Government in Council for approval, the conditions under which each such employee should be retired, including the provision, if any, that should be made for any such employee.

3. In case any special provision is to be made for any such employee, it shall be confined to one or more of the following forms:

(a) The granting of an annuity.

(b) The granting of a lump sum gratuity.

(c) The granting of a lump sum gratuity and an annuity.

(d) The granting of an annuity or a lump sum gratuity in addition to the amount an employee may be entitled to from the Retirement Fund.

(e) The granting of a superannuation allowance.

4. The necessary legislation to carry out the purpose and intent of these recommendations to be prepared by the Minister of

Finance for submission to Parliament during the present session.

* * *

Note.—In reference to the foregoing, the following views passed in debate in the House of Commons on April 17th:

Mr. P. MCGIBBON (Muskoka): If there is anything this Government cannot afford to do, it is to break their pledge to the valiant men who are fighting for them. I think it is an absolute—I was going to say, disgrace—that the Government after giving a pledge to these men who went over there voluntarily to fight for this country, should now go back on its pledge after the men have gone “over there.”

Major-General MEWBURN: Perhaps this might better be discussed by the Premier under the War Appropriation vote. I certainly think the proposal should be reconsidered.

CIVIL SERVICE CASUALTIES.

PERCY W. JOHNSON, of the Dept. of Customs, overseas with the Signallers, has been gassed.

LIEUT. EDWIN C. HULL, Royal Flying Corps, killed in an accident in Scotland on March 17th, was on the civil staff of the Militia Dept. before he enlisted with the 8th Mounted Rifles. He was a native of England.

JOHN BALCHIN, wounded and missing, is another old member of the 8th C.M.R. Prior to enlisting he was in the Dept. of Railways and Canals. He has been serving with a cavalry unit in France.

MAJOR ALLAN T. POWELL, D.S.O., killed in action, went overseas as Adjutant of the 23rd Battalion, but was afterwards with the 14th Royal Montreal. He was thirty-two years of age, a son of Dr. R. W. Powell, of Ottawa, and a graduate of the Royal Military College. He was a civil engineer and had been engaged on many important undertakings under the Dept. of Public Works. He was wounded in 1916 and was home on furlough last year. During that visit he married Miss Parmalee, of Quebec. He is also survived by his parents, a sister and five brothers—Capt. R. W. Powell (M.C. and Bar), Lieut. W. D. Powell, M. G. Powell, Grant Powell and J. M. Powell.

FLT. LT. A. D. POPE, previously reported wounded and missing, is now officially listed as a prisoner of war.

TERENCE McCADDEN, of the Printing Bureau, is home in Ottawa, minus a leg, which he lost in a shell explosion when supplying the guns in battle of Passchendaele. Out of twenty-two men in his party very few escaped. McCadden was a recruit of the 77th Battalion, but transferred to the Ammunition Column.

LIEUT. EDWARD T. MENNIE, wounded on April 26th, belongs to the Dept. of the Interior staff. He was originally with the 207th Battalion, but transferred to another Ottawa battalion in France.

FLT. LT. E. D. PERNEY, reported missing in November last, is now reported to be a prisoner in Germany.

WAR PERSONALS.

Sergt. S. T. Vickerman, of the Parks Branch staff at Jasper, who returned to Canada last January, has been rated as unfit for further service. Sergt. Vickerman joined the 49th Battalion in January, 1915, and saw hard fighting at the front. He was wounded in February and again in May, 1916, and has been in various hospitals and convalescent units for two years.

Lieut. A. H. McLachlan, R.F.C., wounded, was formerly on the House of Commons staff.

Ottawa Civil Service officers recently returned include Brig. Gen. W. St. P. Hughes, Lt.-Col. H. B. Verrett, D.S.O., and Lieut. G. H. Watsford.

Col. C. A. Hodgetts, C.M.G., has been appointed to a position in the Royal Army Medical Corps. At a reception given by Lady Perley he was presented with a costly silver service by the Canadian Red Cross staff in London.

Here is the Order that tells why Lieut. Harold Alexander Robertson (formerly of Trade and Commerce) got the Military Cross: "*Although wounded, he took his objective and remained with his men for twenty hours and held out against at least three counter-attacks, greatly encouraging his men to hold their own against overwhelming odds by his wonderful pluck and coolness.*"

C. E. Dodwell, district engineer of Public Works at Halifax, received notification that his youngest son, E. L. Dodwell, was in hospital at Rouen, severely wounded in the chest. He also was informed that his third son, C. G. Dodwell, a prisoner since May, 1915, had been released to Holland for internment.

Flight Lieut. W. E. Dexter, who, while flying on the western front last December, received a gunshot wound in the left shoulder which disabled his left arm, is now in Ottawa convalescing at the Fleming Convalescent Home. Mr. Dexter is of the head office staff of the Forestry Branch.

Sergt. B. R. Morton, of the 2nd Eastern Ontario Depot Battalion, is now assigned to the British-Canadian Recruiting Mission in Maine. Mr. Morton, who is an officer of the Forestry Branch, was twice rejected for overseas service owing to physical unfitness.

C. S. BILL No. 53.

The Editors have been favoured with the following additional memo from Mr. Gisborne in regard to the new classification in Bill No. 53:

In my memo on the Civil Service Bill, I omitted one explanation that I think would be useful.

In the present Act the lowest grade in Class 2 is \$1,000 to \$1,600. This has been divided into two, \$1,000 to \$1,300 and \$1,400 to \$1,600. The reason is that when a person is first appointed no one can be sure of his or her capacity. After the time has elapsed that is necessary to reach the maximum of \$1,300, this will be known; if a good clerk, promotion will follow, otherwise he or she will be stopped at \$1,300 instead of going on to \$1,600. The probability is that a person stopped at \$1,300 will seek some other more suitable employment. At the present time there are many cases of persons in the public service who are unable to do the work that was expected of them, and they failing, others have been brought in to do the work.

With an annual inspection of the departments by the Commission, the position of highly paid incompetents will be perilous.

Yours very truly,
FRANCIS H. GISBORNE.

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Ottawa, May 10, 1918

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—Lloyd-George.

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Prisoners	19

DEAD

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MAJ. A. T. POWELL, D.S.O.

WOUNDED

JOHN BALCHIN.
P. W. JOHNSON.
T. McCADDEN.
LIEUT. E. T. MENNIE.

PRISONERS.

FLT. LT. A. D. POPE.
FLT. LT. E. D. PERNEY.

THE BILL AND ITS ENEMIES.

At the moment of writing, it appears to *The Civilian* that aside from the prosecution of the war nothing is so important to the welfare of Canada as the passing of Bill No. 53 into law. The bill is not perfect but the great reform in regard to Patronage gives it moral and ethical status. It is not proposed to discuss the details of the bill at the present stage for a reason that will be noted below. We desire, however, to express to the Government and especially to the Prime Minister and the Hon. Mr. Maclean the feelings of satisfaction, of warm appreciation and hearty congratulation at the bill as it stands at this moment after its first reading. Mr. Maclean accepted many of the suggestions offered by the various Service delegations whom he frequently took into his confidence and his counsels. Among the reforms accepted by the Minister and incorporated in the bill may be mentioned Re-organization, the future status of private secretaries, and an initial step in the direction of the ultimate attainment of a Court of Appeal. That Mr. Maclean is a man of action is testified by the fact that, although he informed our delegations that Superannuation could not, for various reasons, be placed on the statute book at this session of Parliament, yet he has given in Order in Council No. 804, published on another page, by means of which temporary measure it is possible to do all that a Superannuation Act may do.

We now proceed to state the reason mentioned above for omitting at this time a fully analytical discussion of the new features of the bill. In the Ottawa Journal and other Government papers of May 3rd, and again on May 6th, appeared newspaper items to the effect that the Civil Service bill would be left over until next session. Those of us who were not born yesterday and who have breath-

ed the political atmosphere of Ottawa understand the sinister significance of this news item which was not issued officially by the Cabinet. While the item is not a cryptogram, it is cryptic. Here is the interpretation of the system. The game is an ancient and not always a dishonourable one. The opponents of a certain legislative measure send out a news item presumably governmentally inspired to the effect that such a measure is to be carried over to the following session. If no protests are brought to the attention of the Prime Minister, the manipulators can point out that such an item appeared in the press and no commotion was aroused, and so the leader of the Government can be induced to allow the bill concerned to stand over. *The Civilian* is convinced that the promoters of patronage deals and the enemies of reform are working this clever play upon the Union Government and upon the people and the public service of Canada on the present occasion. The situation is at this moment believed by competent judges to be extremely hazardous for the passing of the bill.

The Service organizations, however, are alive to the situation and messages received by the Prime Minister in regard to the press notice of postponement of the bill will give him the necessary assurance that there are strong fighters for the bill as well as powerful enemies against it. The Civil Service is again indebted to the *Ottawa Citizen* for its advocacy of reform. In its issue of Monday, the 6th inst., it carried a full column leading editorial upon the subject of "no postponement" of the Civil Service bill. Published as it is in *Ottawa*, where it is read by ministers and members, the good effect of *The Citizen's* stand in regard to a clean administration of Canada's public service cannot be too warmly appreciated by the members of the Service in all parts of Canada.

The occasion is serious, for it is un-

likely that a Patronage destroying bill will have a chance to pass at a future session of Parliament, or at least as good a chance as at the present moment.

The occasion demands from Mr. Todd, as President of the C. S. Federation of Canada, the most aggressive attitude and immediate action in the way of the strongest possible protests to the Prime Minister against the malign influences which by newspaper propaganda is attempting to prepare the public for a further, and this time a fatal, violation of the honour of Canada's national leaders.

INSIDE SERVICE WAR BONUS.

Wisely or unwisely, it was decided some weeks ago that the two great divisions of the Service—Inside and Outside — should as separate units bring each its special plea for compensation on account of the cost of living before the Government, and the President and Secretary of the C. S. Federation, with Mr. E. F. Drake, Vice-President, and Mr. E. Lisle, Secretary of the Civil Service Association of Ottawa, have interviewed Ministers of the Crown on various occasions. The reason for the separate appeal is that it was originally supposed that there would be some difference in the nature of the proposition put before the Cabinet by the two divisions of the Service, and indeed the Association did draw up a request based upon the percentage principle. At the time of writing, the officers of the Ottawa Association have not been able to meet Mr. Maclean to put before him their final decision, but *The Civilian* is authorized to state that the request from the Ottawa Association will be made for \$200 war bonus on the same grounds and to meet the same conditions as set forth in the Memorandum presented to the Cabinet on April 23rd, a copy of which appears in our opening article in this issue.

THE OLD PERMANENT SERVICE.

There is a good deal of satisfaction to the people of the Service in the action of several Ministers who have entrusted especially important undertakings to their permanent staffs instead of seeking outside "specialists." Hon. Thos. Crothers testified in the House to the valuable work in the Cost of Living inquiry performed by Miss McKenna, of the Department of Labour. When Hon. Frank Carvell wanted plans for his mammoth office building, he told the architects of his department to get them out. Other instances of similar character have been noted recently. When the staff of a department get a chance in a big undertaking they almost invariably make good. Too often, when high-priced outsiders are called in for special work, the permanent men do the big end of his work, but Mr. Outsider gets all the kudos.

The story of the Finance Department will be told in days to come and the facts will come to light in regard to the quantity of gold brought to Ottawa, refined and shipped abroad to protect our rate of international exchange without the loss of a penny-weight.

The story of the Victory Loan will be told with its 800,000 subscribers and its seventy-two different kinds of issues. The story of the Militia Department will take a volume by itself and there is no doubt that the old permanent Service will reveal a record, a creditable performance absolutely and especially as compared with the results attained by the mushroom departments and commissions.

PLEDGES AND PLUNDER.

Old evils always die hard and some of them are well-nigh immortal. So is it with patronage.

We are told that patronage is dead, but there is evidently a widespread belief in the country that it is not.

Witness the recent action of the executive committee of one of the old party organizations in a populous Ontario municipality.

There are vacancies on the staffs of two departments in that place. The political executive met to consider appointments to fill them. According to the report in the party newspaper, the committee was of the opinion that, whereas its party had a majority of members (?) in the present Government, "following the old custom, the new appointments would naturally go to the ——— party." However, the committee, being full of gratitude to the fighting men of Canada, adopted a unanimous resolution that the positions should be filled by men who have seen "*active service on the fighting front.*"

The action taken by the committee is most commendable, but that body showed a startling disbelief of the solemn declarations of the Ministers of its own party in regard to patronage. Ministers have announced that patronage is no more, but the committee clings fondly to its belief in the "old custom" which it would patriotically depart from on this occasion.

The parties will not lightly relinquish their old privileges and the Ministers will be under secret pressure for many a day to come. Upon their fidelity to their public pledges rests the fate of patronage and the future of the Civil Service of Canada.

Win the war.

Wars are won by work.

There's work on the battle-field and work on the home-field.

Those who can't possibly strive for victory overseas must strive with all their might at home.

There is need for a League of Total Abstainers — abstainers from white bread, sugar, beef and pork, whenever other foods can possibly be substituted therefor.

Join the League *right now* by taking the pledge, "*I will not eat food that a soldier needs.*" Commence your service in abstinence at your next meal and see how quickly that *guilty feeling* will leave you.

In regard to an editorial in these columns in the issue of April 12th, entitled "Utterly Untrue," the editors have to announce that the matter of the slander of the Ottawa Service by a member of the Manitoba legislature is being taken in hand by the officers of the C. S. Association of Ottawa.

If ever you feel a little bit "blue," just turn to the column of "Decorations Won" in this issue and read how *our boys* have won their medals. If it doesn't make you proud to be a Canadian civil servant, you're hopeless.

The action of the editors in devoting the last issue of *The Civilian* almost exclusively to the new bill has been warmly approved in the Service. The Ottawa newspapers practically ignored the most important piece of Civil Service news that has appeared in years until *The Civilian* printed the whole bill. It was noticeable that certain of those who say it is not worth while to subscribe for *The Civilian* were very eager to beg or borrow a copy of that issue.

If the fakirs of Patronage, at present very busy, succeed in defeating the passage of Bill No. 53, it will only remain for us to make a strong protest by blowing up the Chateau Laurier, the hotbed of intrigues, and the East Block, and crowning A. G. Acres with a crown of laurel and setting him up on the Plaza as the emblem of Canada's new morality derived from the war.

DECORATIONS WON.

News comes from London concerning many decorations granted to members of the

Canadian Expeditionary Force, including several civil servants. In some instances the award was previously reported in this column, but the Orders were not then available.

A decoration not previously reported is that of the Military Cross to Captain (Acting Major) John Pollands Girvan. This officer belongs to Toronto post office staff and went overseas with a unit from the 48th Highlanders. He has been wounded and was awarded the Croix de Guerre some time ago. The Order in connection with his Military Cross says: "*Throughout an attack he led his company with the greatest skill and courage, continually going forward into our own barrage at great personal risk in order to check men who were advancing too fast. He directed his men amidst the fiercest shelling, and it was due to his gallant personal example that the hostile counter-attacks were fruitless. His reports were invaluable and it was largely due to him that the enemy were held back from the captured ground.*"

Lieut. Gerald Wallace Guiou, who won the Military Cross in July, is awarded a Bar to his decoration "*for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in command of a party ordered to establish a block in an enemy trench. When formed up for the operation, the party was heavily shelled and suffered heavy casualties. He kept them together, successfully blocked the trench and held it against the counter-attack, although his right flank was in the air.*"

Lieut. Melville Gordon Anderson's Cross was awarded for the following exploit: "*During an assault on enemy trenches he led his platoon to the capture and destruction of two hostile guns and their crews, and, although severely wounded, showed great courage later in the day by personally directing his men in repelling an enemy counter-attack. His complete disregard of self and his coolness under all conditions were of the greatest possible value in steadying his men.*"

Lieut. (Acting Captain) Paul Emile Côté (died of wounds) won the Military Cross as follows: "*He led his men in the attack with great determination, and, regardless of*

danger under heavy barrages, he consolidated his line and inspired his men with the greatest confidence at critical moments. He succeeded in repulsing heavy enemy counter-attacks by his excellent leadership."

Lieut. Warren Earncliffe Keyt won his Military Cross thus: "During an advance, when a party for the consolidation of a strong point had been practically wiped out by enemy shell fire, he led his own party to the spot, and, with the survivors of the other party, constructed the strong point and wired it. All this work was done under heavy artillery and machine gun fire, during which he displayed exceptional coolness and fine leadership."

The decoration awarded to Sergt. Anthony McL. Blaikie, of the Machine Gun Corps, who fell in the recent fighting, was the Military Medal and not the Distinguished Conduct Medal, as previously stated. The Order for the decoration says that it is "for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in command of four machine guns, his officer and other n.c.o.'s being casualties. Under very heavy shelling in the open he repaired slightly damaged guns and kept them in action and helped and dressed the wounded."

How a knowledge of German earned Lieut. Rolsa Eric Smythe, of Welland, the Military Cross is officially related. Advancing with a scout patrol, he encountered nine Boches and challenged them in their own language. Receiving the reply that they were an infantry relief, he ordered them to advance and got them under Lewis gun fire. He then called upon them to surrender. When they refused, Smythe personally killed the leader, two others being killed and five captured. Smythe, who is aged 23, had been in France 18 months when he was wounded. He belongs to the Welland Canal engineering staff and went overseas with the 98th "Lincoln and Welland" Battalion.

Posties Demand Action.

The letter carriers of Toronto, at a meeting in the Sons of England Hall, Wednesday evening, May 1st, adopted a resolution protesting strongly against further delay in granting them increased salaries.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION OF CANADA.

The Civil Service Commissioners advertise the following positions:

1. A Postmaster for Lethbridge, Alta. Candidates must have had a good education, business experience requiring executive ability, and be qualified to take complete charge of a large staff of employees. The salary is at the rate of \$2,200 per annum.

2. A Forester in the Forestry Branch of the Department of the Interior, initial salary \$1,200 per annum. Preference will be given to a graduate of a school of forestry.

3. A Forest Ranger in the Forestry Branch of the Department of the Interior, initial salary \$1,000 per annum.

In connection with the above positions, qualifications being equal, preference will be given to men who have served overseas and been honourably discharged.

Application forms, properly filled in, must be filed in the office of the Civil Service Commission not later than the 13th day of May next.

Also the following:

1. A technical clerk for temporary employment in the Topographical Surveys Branch of the Department of the Interior, at an initial salary of \$1,300 per annum.

2. A male forest clerk on the Porcupine Forest Reserve, Department of the Interior, initial salary \$1,000 per annum.

Application forms, properly filled in, must be filed in the office of the Civil Service Commission not later than the 31st day of May next.

W. FORAN,
Secretary.

Well Named.

"What's that you call your mule?"
"I call him Corporation," answered the old colored man.

"How did you come to give him such a name?"

"F'um studyin' de animal an' readdin' de papers. Dat mule gits mo' blame an' abuse dan anything else in de township, an' goes ahead havin' his own way jest de same."—*Washington Star*.

The Roll of Honour.

Volunteers from the Public Service of Canada for active military service.
Number of names previously published,—4,334.

NINETY-FOURTH LIST

Lieut. W. Taylor, Customs, Halifax, C.A.M.C.
T. R. Cameron, Public Works, Ottawa, British Army.
Lieut. C. J. Steers, Public Works, Ottawa, Canadian Engineers.
Lieut. E. H. Pense, Public Works, Ottawa.
Miss A. E. Geach, Parks Branch, Edmonton, V.A.D. Nurse.
M. J. O'Leary.
F. H. Bindon.
James Bonfield.
D. Dellagana.
E. A. Hawley.
A. T. Ross.
W. R. Cunningham.
G. C. Farnworth.
W. J. Bramhall.
W. H. Burgess.
B. H. Duff, Signallers.
J. E. Hawes.
J. D. Jette.
E. E. Barrington.
R. H. Vickers, Ammunition Column.
A. Godbold, Royal Flying Corps.
J. S. Rainford, Royal Flying Corps.
S. J. Perkins, R.N.C.V.R.
C. R. Hodgetts.
C. A. Warnock, Civil Service Siege Battery.
Fred. Taylor, Civil Service Siege Battery.
Wm. Kirby, Civil Service Siege Battery.
W. E. Sarazin, Civil Service Siege Gattery.
M. H. Chapman, Civil Service Siege Battery.
A. J. MacDonald, Civil Service Siege Battery.
R. W. Smith, Civil Service Siege Battery.
E. K. Erskine, Civil Service Siege Battery.
G. R. Preston, 3rd. Division Cyclists.

Thespians Triumph.

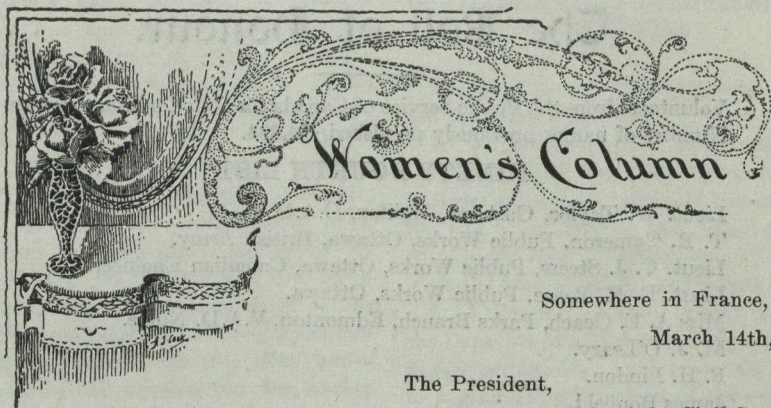
A splendid dramatic and popular success crowned the venture of the Civil Service Association of Ottawa in staging the Greek play, "Pygmalion and Galatea," at the Russell Theatre on the evening of May 1st.

It was the first enterprise of the sort under the auspices of the Association, and in carrying it out the committee in charge had to overcome difficulties of which the

smoothly-running presentation gave no hint. The excellence of the cast demonstrated that there is an abundance of dramatic ability in the ranks of the Service. All the actors and actresses were members of departmental staffs.

The presentation was for the benefit of the Prisoners of War fund and the crowded house assured that the donation would be substantial.

There is expression of a strong desire that the performance should be repeated.



Letters of Appreciation.

The following are a few letters chosen from the many that have come to the Women's Branch acknowledging receipt of Christmas boxes that apparently did not reach their destination till some time in March:

Military Hospital,
Canterbury, England,
15th March, 1918.

Dear Miss Reynolds,—

I received to-day a parcel through you from the Women's Branch C. S. Association. Will you please thank all the girls who so kindly sent me the box. You have no idea what a treat it is to get good Canadian candy in a land where sugar is a luxury and candy is sold by the ounce! You sent me such a beautiful Xmas parcel also, and this second one came as a great surprise.

I hear you have had a terribly cold winter at home, while we have had an exceptionally mild one—no snow at all in this part of England, and hedges and grass so green and the daffodils and spring flowers are blooming in the gardens.

We have not been very busy in the hospital lately, but are all ready for large convoys which are expected in any day. I like my work so much, in the surgical wards, and also in the operating theatre sometimes.

Will you please thank all the girls for me for the candy and give them all my best wishes for every success to the Association in 1918.

Very sincerely,
MURIEL WAINWRIGHT.

Somewhere in France,
March 14th, 1918.

The President,
Women's Branch of the Civil Service,
Ottawa.

Dear Madam,—

I cannot express to you the great pleasure it gave me to open the box you sent. It came as a surprise and was, perhaps, all the more appreciated on that account. Everything was in good condition. I gave the Minto cigarettes and stories to the men in my ward. The powder, tooth brush, etc., have just come in time for my 'leave.' The little silver pencil I love and will find very useful. My room-mates have enjoyed with me the candy and nuts, and I have asked three Canadian sisters from a nearby Canadian hospital to come to tea with me on Saturday when we will sample the cake. I am sure you will agree with me that your box has done much 'over there,' and yet it is the thought which the parcel implies that gives much more pleasure than any of the contents.

I have enjoyed my year and a half of nursing, and yet I will be happy to get back to dear old Ottawa and see all the old faces which I have 'lost a while.'

I think there have been some reforms in the Service since I left, but at this distance one cannot really grasp their full import.

Will you heartily thank all who helped pack my box, and I hope before very long to be able to thank them in person, and,

Believe me,

Very sincerely yours,
ALICE HOUSTON.

15th March, 1918.

The Secretary of the
Women's Branch of the
Civil Service, Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Friend,—

I wish to thank you heartily for your kindness in sending me the choice box of good things that reached me yesterday. Whoever was responsible for making up the box is to be congratulated upon knowing so well what a soldier out here likes to get. Everything was useful,—the 'sweets' were exceptionally welcome. Again thanking you, believe me to be,

Sincerely yours,

ARTHUR WEBSTER.

343007.

Field, March 17th, 1918.

Dear Madam,—

Please accept for yourself and extend to the ladies of the Civil Service of Canada my sincere thanks for your Christmas parcel, received yesterday, the 16th instant.

Although, owing to a change of address, your parcel was too late for Christmas, its arrival was timely, as the day previous I had lost my kit. The shaving material, soap, etc., will be very useful.

Wishing the Ladies' Branch of the Association the best of luck for the year 1918, I am,

Yours sincerely,

E. L. SMITH.

(Trade Statistics.)

An Appeal for Greater Production.

At the meeting of the Women's Branch which was held on the evening of Tuesday, April 16th, Mr. F. E. Buck, of the Experimental Farm, delivered an able address on the present food situation and made a strong appeal for greater production this year. Quoting what some of the foremost speakers in the United States have said on the subject, he added his own particular personality to an appeal that left us no alternative in the choice of gardening this year. Praising what the Women's Branch had done last year in their garden on Argyle avenue, Mr. Buck suggested that work should be carried on on a much larger scale this year.

The views of different gardens in Ottawa were intensely interesting, showing as they did what had been accomplished in one season's work.

The women of the Post Office Department were in charge of the programme, which besides Mr. Buck's address included piano selections by Miss Lebel and a solo by Miss Walsh. Both artists were generous in responding to encores. The usual routine of business preceded the programme and the Red Cross Committee kept everyone busy with hand sewing.

The last meeting of the year will be held in the lecture hall of the Y.W.C.A. on Tuesday, May 14th, when the annual reports will be read and the election of officers will take place. Also any amendments to the constitution will be voted on.

Send In Your Name.

Miss Burt, who is convener of the committee on gardening, again this year will be glad to receive names of those wishing to help in the work. Send in your name or 'phone Q. 1273.

Red Cross War Output, Feb. 14 to April 11.

Socks, 268 prs.; pyjamas, 113 suits; handkerchiefs, 18 doz.; towels, 99; pillow slips, 4½ doz.; stretcher caps, 38; ward shoes, 4 pr.; ties, 27; personal property bags, 32; sundry articles, 39.

The Halycon Club.

Unfortunately lack of space prevents us giving much news of the Civil Service Women's Club in this issue. Suffice it to say that work at the Club is progressing steadily and the membership conveners hope that their objective of five hundred members will be reached shortly.

One member now is worth three at Christmas, so don't delay—send your name to Miss Burt or Miss Doyle.

The fee of five dollars will be due June 15th.

Dominion Customs Association

That the general meeting, the first in its history, of the Dominion Customs Association, would accomplish something, was the idea of its promoters, but the success of the whole affair was beyond the wildest expectations of those who have been interested in this body since its formation, four months ago.

When President Taylor called the meeting to order in the Russell Hotel on Tuesday, the 23rd, thirty-five delegates of the Customs Outside Service, representing local units from Edmonton in the West to Halifax in the East, answered the roll call. The reason for the call to Ottawa, at the date above mentioned, was explained early in the session by the Secretary-Treasurer. Other branches of the Service were working in connection with their interests regarding the new Civil Service Bill now before the House.

On Tuesday night about one hundred representatives of the Outside Service had the pleasure and privilege of meeting four Cabinet Ministers, Hon. C. J. Doherty, Acting Postmaster General; Hon. A. K. McLean, Acting Minister of Finance; Hon. F. B. Carvel, Minister of Public Works, and Hon. J. A. Calder, Minister of Agriculture. To the members of the Outside Service, those gentlemen were presented by Mr. Arthur Todd, President of the Civil Service Federation, who, after explaining the object of the meeting and the gravity of the situation, read a memorial upon which the delegates were to speak. The memorial asked that \$200 be granted the Outside Service as a measure of relief, pending reorganization and a new salary schedule, to tide over the urgent needs of the Outside Service. Messrs. Taylor, Winnipeg and Burns, Ottawa, spoke on behalf of the Outside Customs.

On behalf of the Cabinet, Hon. Mr. Doherty voiced the sympathy of his colleagues and explained that while those present could rest assured of the sympathy and support of his colleagues who had just listened to the telling points made on behalf of the Outside Service, yet beyond this he could not declare himself, as considerations, financial and

others, had to be dealt with in matters of this kind. He concluded by saying that he would promise to do all in his power to obtain some measure of relief. The meeting then adjourned. On the following morning, the meeting of the D.C.A. was resumed, and the matters of interest to the Association were thoroughly discussed. An interview with Hon. Mr. A. L. Sifton, Minister of Customs, was held in the morning, and Messrs. W. J. McKenna, Montreal; A. Lovett, Halifax, and T. H. Burns, Ottawa, were the speakers, who were introduced by Mr. A. J. Taylor, Winnipeg, the President of the D.C.A. Many matters of interest to the officers of the Customs Outside Service were discussed, the speakers taking in turn different subjects. At the conclusion of the presentation of the various questions, a request was made on behalf of the delegates, that no deductions from leave or pay be made for absence on this convention. It was shown that in other countries the Governments recognize the advantage, educational and otherwise, of such gatherings of conventions. Full allowance for travelling and hotel expenses are made, as well as the pay of the delegates so employed. It was further stated that not one man was present on his own affairs; that many had made financial sacrifices to be present. The Hon. Minister of Customs very graciously and unhesitatingly gave his consent to authorizing the delegates to report to their collectors that no deduction of salaries or holidays were to be made as a consequence of their absence on this occasion.

The meeting of the D.C.A. was resumed after lunch, and adoption of the constitution was completed. Two important features were included. First, the per capita tax, which was 25 cents per member, was fixed at fifty cents, this change to go into immediate effect. Secondly, the appointment of a special committee to represent the D. C. A. on matters pertaining to the reorganization, etc., that are expected to come up in the near future. The increased fees will, it is expected, take care of any expenses in connection with this committee.

This, in brief, although it may not appear so to the reader, was the work of the delegates to the first general meeting of the D.C.A.

In conclusion, it may be remarked, that each and every delegate, and there were thirty-five of them, was canvassed for his opinion as to the result of the meeting, and the unanimous verdict was that it was a magnificent success. The Dominion Customs Association is now a stable, permanent body, with almost two thousand members. It has a simple and effective constitution, with a splendid body of executive officers, and the loyal enthusiastic support of the representatives who have been eye-witnesses as to its possibilities, as well as many others who sent their regrets for non-attendance.

There still remain a number of the members of the Service who have not had the advantage of learning at first hand something of the D.C.A. and its objects. A line to the Secretary-Treasurer will soon put them in possession of the information re-

quired, and also the nearest delegate to the recent great meeting will be asked to supplement the letter of the Secretary-Treasurer, and there is no doubt whatever as to the practical results.

MEETING NOTES.

Toronto was the first on deck. Monday morning, the day before the meeting, six men, good and true, were on the job bright and early, and were conspicuous by their activity and interest all through their visit. Montreal was next. The good old port was on deck with seven men, a fine body of representatives. Halifax, St. John and the others were all in for the next morning. The Montreal and Toronto representatives had the opportunity of being present at a meeting of the executive of the Civil Service Federation on Monday evening, and obtained, in advance, a general view of the local situation.

Mr. B. C. McCann, of London, received a wire from headquarters announcing that

MURAD

S. ANARGYROS

SPECIAL TOBACCO CO OF CANADA LIMITED, TORONTO

Everywhere Why?

Finest Quality

Anargyros

his son, a flyer in France, was declared missing. Only a few of those present were aware of Mr. McCann's sorrow as he was present and took active part at all the meetings, and "carried on" like the true and courageous soldier father that he is.

Mr. Geo. Watt, of Chatham, who successfully disputed the claims of other delegates as to seniority in attendance at conventions where Customs representatives were concerned, declared that he never attended a more interesting meeting nor met a finer body of men than on this occasion.

A very thoughtful and graceful action was performed by the delegates, who, upon hearing of the severe illness of the son of the Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. T. H. Burns, had flowers sent daily to the sick boy while the meeting was in session.

Mr. Frank Grierson, Secretary-Treasurer of the Civil Service Federation, was in attendance at the meetings, as often as his duties permitted, and the appreciation of his valued services to the Outside Service were frequently and warmly touched upon.

Secretaries are invited, while awaiting the formal report and the constitution, which is in the printer's hands, to arrange for the early payment of the other quarter per capita tax. It is such a small item that this notice or hint is all that is expected to bring in a silver flood. It will be money well expended as you shall hear presently.

The death of Mr. John Burns, of Montreal, the father of the Secretary-Treasurer, necessitated his hasty departure to the bereaved home, and correspondents who are expecting replies will please accept this explanation as cause of any delay in reply to letters.

HERE AND THERE.

When tenders for the new, big office-building for the government, on O'Connor street, Ottawa, were opened, the amounts so far exceeded the estimated cost that work was suspended, the plans modified and new tenders called for. The building will not be reduced in size but the style will be less ornate.

The Inland Revenue office is to be moved from the Windsor post office building, where it has been for thirty years, to Walkerville.

Personals.

The following list includes changes in the personnel of the Civil Service during the months of February and March as far as obtainable:—

Appointments.

Agriculture Dept.—Norman Stanfield to Div. 2A at \$1,900; Annie T. Kerrigan to Div. 3B at \$700.

Auditor General's—Nellie Brown.

Customs—R. L. Eaton, prev. officer; P. W. Davidson, sub-collector, Kentville; Leslie J. Norris, prev. officer.

Finance Dept.—I. Cody to Div. 3B at \$700; G. R. Lefevre to Div. 3B at \$700.

House of Commons—W. B. Northrup, Clerk of House.

Interior Dept.—Theresa W. Beehler, Div. 3B; Ruby F. O'Neill, Div. 3B at \$800; Ada F. Johnson, Div. 3B.

Justice—Jane K. Alton.

Post Office—M. J. A. Cousineau and J. J. B. A. Lalonde, sorters; W. Sylvestre, messenger; A. G. Acres, postmaster, Ottawa.

Privy Council—Jos. A. Lachaine, messenger.

Trade and Commerce—Gertrude B. Evans to Div. 3B at \$900; Thirza E. Lewitt to Div. 3B at \$650.

Promotions.

Customs—Percy D. Stone to senior clerk, Medicine Hat; W. F. Reid to appraiser, Vancouver; Wm. G. Burns to asst. appraiser, Toronto.

Interior Dept.—Wm. B. Armstrong to Div. 2A.

House of Commons—W. H. Bowie to Div. 1A (Sergeant at Arms).

Post Office (Inside)—Geo. Herring to Div. 1B; P. D. Bentley and F. E. Joliffe to Div. 2A; Lucy Robinson to Div. 2B.

Post Office (Outside)—The following to Class 2A, Vancouver: James Andres Corcoran, James Renwick, Herbert Sciarine, Francis Thompson, Ernest Harold Whitehead, Roderick MacLeod, A. J. Oben, Nicholas Williamson, T. H. Haworth, F. Evans, J. J. Murray, F. S. Parker, E. C. Parker, Miss J. D. Ronald, G. M. Elam, F. M. Davidson, E. C. Murray, C. S. Ogilvy, A. W. P. Walker, R. Clements, J. A. Charbonneau, F. L. Wooldridge, Alex. Learmonth, F. W. LeMessurier. The following to Class 3A, Vancouver: Cecil MacLean and Frank B. Nichol. Wm. Rippingale to Class 2A, Saskatoon. The following to Class 2A, London: R. S. McKay, Daniel McArthur, O. K. Elson, A. B. Callahan. The following to Class 2B, London: G. W. Calhoun, S. W. Reid, F. R. Anderson, Arthur L. Bowden and Thure Storme (on active service), New Westminster, to Class 2A. The following to Class 2B: Miss M. E. MacDonald and

Miss G. M. Jenkins, Calgary; Henry Louis O'Leary, St. John; Clayton D. Colpitts, St. John; Miss Helen Mortimer, Supt. R.M.S., Calgary. The following to Class 3A: Harold Lees and G. T. Johnson, Winnipeg; George H. King, Moose Jaw; Miss Eirene Hillocks, Calgary.

Mines Dept.—Gladys L. Robertson to Div. 3A.

Transfers.

Minna Kyaer from Agriculture (Inside) to Post Office (Outside).

T. T. Trumpour from Outside to Inside Inland Revenue.

Superannuations.

Interior Dept.—H. H. Turner.

Post Office Dept.—J. A. Gouin, Postmaster, Ottawa; W. J. Ramsay, railway mail clerk, Toronto; Major John Theakston, letter carrier, St. John.

Privy Council—E. B. Wood.

Resignations.

Agriculture Dept.—Wm. Green.

Conservation Commission—Lorna Burwash.

Customs Dept.—The following prev. officers—A. G. Deighton, Vananda; C. E. Pierce, Niagara Falls; A. W. Marshall, Welland; D. C. Ritchey, Riverport; F. S. Gammon, Fort William.

Indian Affairs—Chas. McGibbon.

Inland Revenue—J. R. Seguin, messenger; Wm. Henry Harris, Vancouver.

Interior—Rodolphe Lariviere.

Justice Dept.—Amy O'Connor.

Post Office (Inside)—P. S. Dodd.

Public Works Dept.—B. Chene and Thos. Sawyer.

Railways and Canals Dept.—A. L. MacKendrik.

General.

James Lawler, B.A., of the Forestry Branch, was the winner of the competition inaugurated by "The Canadian Churchman" for the best essay on "The Mission of Religious Journalism and How to Make it Effective." Mr. Lawler has had a varied journalistic career and is a forceful writer in both prose and verse. Several of his poems have been first published in *The Civilian*.

Trade Commissioner L. D. Wilgress, who was cut off from communication in Omsk, Russia, is safe and on his way home.

R. H. Campbell was elected President of the Ottawa Y.M.C.A.

R. M. Stewart, M.A., has been appointed Assistant Chief Astronomer at the Astron-

omical Observatory in Ottawa. Mr. Stewart has been on the Observatory staff since 1902.

Lieut. Lester B. Husband, appointed to a position in the Militia Department, was overseas with the 72nd Highlanders and won the Military Cross.

Obituary.

Edward G. Malcolm, formerly of the Dept. of Customs, died on April 22nd, aged 62 years. He leaves a widow.

John Bain, of the Dept. of Public Works, died on April 22nd, in his thirty-ninth year. The funeral was held in Woodstock.

Harold Stone, C.F.A., killed in action, was a son of C. F. Stone, collector of inland revenue at Perth.

Mrs. C. D. Milton, mother of Miss Maud Milton, of the Post Office Dept., died on April 22nd.

Edward Bell, a former Ottawa civil servant, died in Lennoxville, Que., aged 74 years.

John Burns, an old-established and prominent merchant of Montreal, who died on April 29th, was the father of T. H. Burns, of the Customs, Ottawa.

Mary A., wife of A. W. Moody, of the Topographical Surveys, died on April 27th, in her 72nd year.

Edmond Dansereau, an official of the Dept. of Public Works for sixteen years, died on May 2nd.

Lieut.-Col. Audet, once a well known civil servant in Ottawa, died in Montreal on May 1st, aged 77 years.

Properly Located.

An English "Tommy," suffering from wounds, was brought into the hospital for examination. They stripped him to the waist and the nurse noticed that on one side of his chest he had a picture of King George tattooed, and, on the other side, one of Queen Mary, while on his back he had the Union Jack. The nurse couldn't forbear a smile as she said, "You're very patriotic." Then "Tommy" smiled, too. "O, you haven't seen all of me yet, miss," said he, "I'm sitting on the Kaiser and Von Hindenburg."

“OVER THERE.”

(The following is part of a letter from Corp. C. L. Harris, of the Parks Branch, to Commissioner Harkin, and is of special interest in its references to his own and other civil servants' experiences across the water):

I enlisted June 18th, 1915, left Canada (Halifax) Oct. 27th, 1915, and arrived in England on Nov. 4th. We had a long and weary wait in England and thought that we would never cross to France. However, August 11th, 1916, saw us (50th Canadians) actually on French soil. We were in the line for instruction within seven days and then settled down to the thing in real earnest. After six weeks or so, during which time we were made acquainted with the pleasures of trench warfare, including the rats, and made friends with all sorts of little things that never left us, night or day (especially at night); we took our packs and walked, so it seemed, all over France,—and what we did not walk over we carried in our clothing and on our boots. We arrived at a place (for obvious reasons I cannot mention names) and the battalion had a hard time of it, but came through.

Towards the end of 1916 it was discovered that there were other places that we had not visited in our travels, so we packed off again and soon found that everything we had seen before had nothing on that which was mapped out for the future. I was extremely fortunate in getting a position in

the battalion orderly room, and I only missed one trip in the line for seven months, during which period I had several adventures, pleasant and otherwise. In August, 1917, after exactly twelve hard months of it, I was sent to the base, to carry on the duties of orderly room sergeant at the assistant adjutant general's office. I am, at present, orderly room clerk, with rank of corporal, and expect promotion to sergeant shortly. I had the pleasure of seeing Lieut. Stronach up the line in February, 1917. He was looking fit and was with an engineers' unit. I also saw poor Kay, whom, you remember, was in the office at Banff. He was killed on March 1st, 1917, whilst going “over the top.” He had previously been wounded in November, 1916. I last saw him a few days before he was wounded. I tried to find out where his body was buried, and searched all one day, without success. His unit, the 54th Canadian Battalion, does not seem to have any record of burial, although he was actually seen to be killed. From all accounts he was shot through the head and never knew what hit him. That is the most merciful death of any. We were all glad to see conscription get going in Canada, as she has a great name among the nations. You cannot better the best, can you?

Yours sincerely,

No. 43269. CORP. C. L. HARRIS,

Canadian Section,

3rd Echelon, G.H.Q.,

B.E.F., France.

LATEST NEWS RE BILL NO. 53.

Owing to the doubt and anxiety aroused regarding the fate of Bill No. 53 on account of certain news items, the Executive of the Federation, in conjunction with the officers of the Inside Service Association, met in Mr. Todd's office at the House of Commons, on Tuesday evening last, to discuss the situation. Action to offset the newspaper propaganda was decided upon, and as a first step a small delegation left the meeting and interviewed several Ministers who gave assurances that the bill was to be introduced for its second reading after the Budget debate. At 12 o'clock the Premier, hearing of the anxious enquiries, gave out an item to the Press Gallery expressing annoyance at the press items referring to the C. S. Bill, and stating that the bill would be introduced for its second reading and *proceeded with*.

THE POSTAL JOURNAL

Edited under the auspices of the Postal Clerks' Association of the Dominion of Canada.

VOL. III.

MAY 10, 1918.

No. 9

ORGANIZATION.

Branches have been formed at London, Quebec and Charlottetown. And the good work continues.

SEMI-STAFFS, ATTENTION.

The convention of 1918 is close at hand, and in view of the present conditions in semi-staff circles it can reasonably be assumed that the convention will be the most important ever held in the history of the Association. The General Secretary has asked for resolutions to be submitted as early as possible. There will be no necessity for any branch to bring up any resolutions which have been dealt with at previous conventions. I have special reference to such resolutions as elevation of clerks employed in semi-staff offices to the Civil Service, and resolutions of a like nature. The semi-staff question generally has been taken up very thoroughly with the Commission and Ministers, and the outlook is very bright for an early settlement of this vexing question. However, if there are any resolutions of general interest that you wish to bring forward, by all means do so, and as early as possible. I would much appreciate copies of such resolutions. I would also esteem it a favour if branches sending delegates would be good enough to advise me as early as possible. The past year has been a very eventful one in the history of the Association and a very harrassing one for all men employed in the semi-staff offices. The high cost of living has tried our patience and our pockets. Low wages has caused a depressed feeling to prevail amongst us. Thanks, however, to the ever growing, well organized Postal Clerks' Association, the outlook is much brighter, and we can now

see an early end to our trouble. The ball has started rolling our way, boys. Keep it going. Show your appreciation of what *The Civilian* has done to help us by subscribing to *The Civilian*, the best value for a dollar you have had for a long time.

H. L. DOYLE,

Semi-staff Representative on the Executive Board.

THE CONVENTION.

The sixth annual convention of the Postal Clerks' Association opens in Toronto on Monday, July 8, 1918, and will continue for three or four days. It is fitting that the Queen City should be the meeting place. Several new branches have been formed in Eastern Canada during the past twelve months, and opportunity is with them as it is with older branches never before represented in the "Postal Clerks' Parliament," to send delegates to the Toronto convention, and so obtain a fund of information regarding the Association and its work. A policy for the future of the Association will have to be determined, warranted by a large membership and importance of the Association's function. Such a policy will necessarily be formulated principally upon what the Government does or does not provide for postal clerks in the Civil Service Bill. A stern front will have to be shown if the merit system is to be even allowed a fair trial. It is with no small measure of regret that we learn that the Railway Mail Clerks' Federation have made a determined effort to influence Parliament to declare that positions such as assistant post office inspectors, field officers (rural mail delivery) shall be filled by railway mail clerks, *and not by promotion within the offices where such positions may be vacant.* The status of temporary em-

ployees, a large number of whom are returned soldiers, is a matter that has already claimed a place on the Agenda. There will be sufficient business to keep delegates intensely interested throughout the sittings. It is essential that the convention shall be representative of the whole Dominion. The expenses of delegates will be heavy for many branches, but we urge branches to do all that is possible to be represented.

TIME TO STUDY.

If the Government insists that a clerk after a few years of service shall overcome that obstacle known as the qualifying examination ere he may obtain further promotion, it surely is not asking a favour when the proposal is made that every facility and encouragement be afforded those studying the subjects of the exam. It is regretted that no provision is made in this regard. Indeed, some local authorities have seemed to do much to retard the progress of members of their staffs known to be endeavouring to overcome the barrier. If the qualifying examination is not to be placed where it rightly belongs—at the gateway to the Service, then the Department again lacks moral obligation in not insisting that help and not hindrance be given those employees who are striving to fulfill the requirements of the Service prescribed by law.

WOMEN CENSORS.

The latest, and, to a woman, the most attractive profession in England, is that of postal censor. The pay ranges from \$7.25 a week, while learning, rising by increments of \$1 to \$15 a week, the maximum for an examiner, with additional war bonus. There are at least fifty women earning more than \$1,000 a year, supervising thirty or forty examiners each. They have all risen from the ranks.

BRANCH NOTES.

Brandon.

On the evening of the 15th March, the postal clerks and letter carriers entertained

the wives and relatives of the staff who had gone overseas. The evening's entertainment proved a complete success and reflected credit on the committee who worked very hard, so hard in fact that one member took sick,—Oh, you Barney. The only complaint lodged was that more such functions had not been held. The first part of the evening was spent in a whist drive, Mrs. Hoare and Mrs. Reid being the winners of the first prizes, and many were the congratulations showered upon Mr. Jno. Davies for his able winning of the "special" prize. The latter part of the evening was taken up with a short musical programme. Such postal talent had never been heard before in Brandon. After the concert, Miss Barton, ably seconded by Mr. Jno. Davies, served the ices and cake so nicely that everyone missed the last car home. The National Anthem brought to a close one of the most successful socials ever held by the postal clerks and carriers of this city.

Winnipeg.

The regular monthly meeting of the Winnipeg Branch was held on Tuesday, April 9th, in the Labour Temple, and was fairly well attended.

It was decided to send four delegates to Toronto for the convention this year. The following were elected as delegates: Messrs. R. Neill, F. R. Sutton, J. Atkinson and C. H. Johnston. Messrs. Sutton and Atkinson were delegates at last year's convention, and Messrs. Neill and Johnston will no doubt be heard from when they get to Toronto.

"How to live on the salary of a postal clerk" is the most important problem which is before the majority of our members at the present time, and it appears to be an exceedingly hard problem to solve. Rents are still going higher in Winnipeg, and many of our members have had to pay their small "war bonus" in extra rent.

Some of our boys have started chicken farming, as it seems to be one sure way of getting a few eggs, and it's a certainty that when they kill a few of their feathered stock later on in the year they won't keep them in cold storage until they are unfit for food like some of our patriotic citizens have done in the past.

We are still asking the question, "what about that war bonus?" It's about time that we got an increase of some kind on our salaries, without having to do so much waiting for it. We certainly have been excellent waiters in the past. It is with pleasure that we note the entry into our Dominion Association of the branches at Peterboro and Charlottetown. To these new branches we extend a hearty welcome, and though far distant from Winipeg, we say in true Western spirit, "put it there," and don't forget to have your delegate at Toronto in July.

Kingston.

William G. McCullagh, a former clerk in this office, who was awarded the Military Medal a short time ago, has been recommended for a commission, and when last heard from was undergoing training at Bexhill on Sea. Since the German offensive started he has not been heard from and it may be that he has gone to France again.

Mrs. M. B. Harraway has been transferred from the Public Works Department, Ottawa, to duties in the Kingston Post Office.

Lewis Sugarman, railway mail clerk, Kingston and Sharbot Lake R.P.O., has enlisted in the Royal Canadian Horse Artillery here for overseas service.

All the amateur gardeners in the office may be found these evenings "doing things" to the soil with a fork or a spade. Whatever goes down must come up.

Miss Annie Hiscock, Nursing Sister of the A.M.C., passed away last week after an extended illness. She was a sister of Sergeant E. C. Hiscock, of this office, at present in the Canadian Army Postal Corps, London, England.

For the past thirty years or more the people of Kingston have been accustomed to meeting a genial Irishman in the uniform of the Canadian postal service. On Saturday, March 30th, he handed in his uniform, and the Postmaster and staff took advantage of the occasion to present Mr. Morrissey with an address and an easy chair. It is rather hard to get an Irishman off his guard, but he was caught this time. However, he collected himself and thanked the staff for the gift and their good wishes. Mr. Morrissey

has been placed on the superannuation list at his own request after more than 31 years' service as messenger in the Kingston P.O. He has been succeeded in the office of messenger by a Scotsman—Mr. George Gordon—who has been for several years performing the duties of messenger in the office of the district post office inspector, Kingston.

C. Stockdale and J. Halliday, returned soldiers, the latter a veteran of the Somme campaign, have been added to the clerical staff as temporary clerks during the annual leave season.

Regina.

The April meeting of this branch was not as well attended as usual, this, no doubt, being partly due to the fact that the staff of this office is being sadly decreased owing to clerks leaving the Service for various causes. The higher salaries that are being offered outside of the Service are certainly a great inducement to clerks to leave the Service and seek employment in other fields where the reward for a fair day's work is a fair day's wage.

In spite of the lessened attendance, our April meeting was a busy one, and much of importance was accomplished.

The "Sick" Committee is continuing in its good work, and many visits to our sick members were reported. The report of the treasurer showed that our funds are in a very satisfactory state, which is gratifying in times such as these. It is interesting to note that our branch has now considerably extended its interests in order to embrace several questions of importance to a citizenship generally. Such interest has particularly been noticed by the Trades and Labour Council, which body has invited affiliation. Owing to the resignation of our Vice-President, Mr. C. P. May, and the election of Mr. J. T. Smith to the vacant office, a gap was caused in the ranks of the Executive Committee. Mr. W. Osborne, of "Simpson's," was elected to fill this gap, and the branch believes that a very wise choice was made.

At this meeting our President produced some tabulated figures upon the high cost of living in the West, and proved conclusively that we here have the privilege

of residing in the most expensive city in the Dominion.

The meeting tendered its congratulations and heartiest good wishes to Mr. Rideout, who has now left us in order to take a more lucrative position at Moose Jaw. Dame Rumour is also whispering that we are to lose the services of our worthy Secretary, Mr. G. Grant, who is contemplating a move to Victoria, where the sea is salt, the rents are cheaper, and everything is altogether lovely.

At the moment of dispatch of these notes comes the sad news of the reported death of the eldest son of our President, who has been missing for some weeks. The deepest feelings of sympathy and respect are tendered by this branch to Mr. Redman in this instance of his loss. Mr. Redman had four sons with the colours, two of whom have now made the last, best sacrifice.



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G. J. DESBARATS,

Deputy Minister of the Naval Service.
Ottawa, January 8, 1918.

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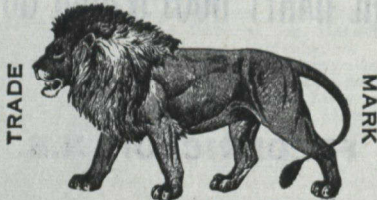
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