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Democracy and Government Service

A remarkable speech was delivered by A. Lawrence Lowell, President of Harvard University, at Boston on December 11th, in connection with the annual conference of the National Civil Service Reform League. The utterance is so notable that the greater portion of it is hereunder reproduced:—

We have lived into a time when not those people alone, but the great masses of our population, are questioning whether representative democracy has, on the whole, been as much of a success as had been supposed that it would be. We are told, indeed, that some other formula, as yet untried, or not enough tried to know from experience what its results will be, will solve all the difficulties which we find in the old representative form of government.

As we look back over the history of the world we see that democracies everywhere have been a failure until these latest times. Until 100 years ago democracy all over the world appeared to be brilliant but short-lived. The democracy of Greece produced a greater flow of intellect than was ever produced in any body of men in any nation of its size, but it came to a rapid end. The democracy of Rome did more in civilizing the known world than any other body of men has ever done, but it came to an end, and it was overthrown.

I think, if we ask the reason why Greece and Rome were overthrown, we shall find the reason to be one which it would be ostentation to give anywhere else, but in this League we can say that it was because of the absence of civil service reform. By which I mean to say it was owing to the fact that their officials were all temporary officials, selected by popular vote for short periods, and that

they had no permanent civil service whatever in those countries.

Greece suffered defeat, and its government was destroyed. Rome came into conflict with no great exterior force, but she broke down of her own weight because amateur officials, changed every year, were incapable of ruling an empire. The result was that that system broke down, and the civilization of Rome was preserved for later times by the incoming of an emperor, whose chief work, perhaps, was the establishment of a system of permanent expert officials, built up, of course, not at once, but very gradually, and, curiously enough, to some extent inspired by the experience of Egypt.

Now, if Rome could learn something about civil service reform from Egypt, it is not wholly impossible that we may learn it from places a little less dark. We are in the habit of copying things, and only copying the exterior. There is said to be in Africa a tribe of monkeys who are extremely imitative. They build houses exactly resembling those of the natives, and then they live on the outside of them instead of inside. I have always felt that the imitator of political institutions was a little bit inclined to live on the outside of the institution when it had been copied.

I have seen many examples of this. One of them is the copying of the civil service principle from England. England is the country of modern

times which has made far the greatest success in uniting together the principle of popular government—for the government of England is quite as democratic and popular as ours—the principle of the direction of affairs by the general opinion of the people, with the use of permanent expert officials. Of course, England did not introduce that recently into her government; she did not set it up by any artificial process. She, in the main, inherited it.

It is true, as Governor Baldwin says, that it was the reforms of Lord Palmerston, and so forth, that introduced it in the form in which we have it now. But it goes very much further back, and behind this particular method of recruiting the permanent officials by means of examination, comes the fact of the permanent official himself, and his relation to the man who represents the public and who is elected.

You may see that running back through the system of English government, running back through it because, perhaps, it was, to some extent, an aristocratic system. As someone has said, the characteristic thing in England is the justice of the peace who is a gentleman, with the clerk who knows the law. And that same relation of the justice of the peace and his clerk runs all through the system of government in England today; the justice of the peace, representing the ignorant public, being the gentleman, and the clerk representing the knowledge of the law. You may find that running back through literature, as far back as the days of Elizabeth.

You are all familiar with the case which Dickens presents in the Pickwick Papers, where Mr. Pickwick is called up before the justice of the peace at Ipswich, and Mr. Jinks is clerk. Mr. Pickwick says:—

“First, I wish to know what I and my friend have been brought here for?”

“‘Must I tell him?’ whispered the magistrate to Jinks.

“‘I think you had better, sir,’ whispered Jinks to the magistrate.

“‘An information has been sworn before me,’ said the magistrate, ‘that it is apprehended you are going to fight a duel, and that the other man, Tupman, is your aider and abetter in it. Therefore—eh, Mr. Jinks?’

“‘Certainly, sir.’

“‘Therefore, I call upon you both, to—think that’s the course, Mr. Jinks?’

“‘Certainly, sir.’

“‘To—to—what, Mr. Jinks?’ said the magistrate pettishly.

“‘To find bail, sir.’

“‘Yes. Therefore, I call upon you both—as I was about to say, when I was interrupted by my clerk—to find bail.’”

Now, you can see that every day. If you study the government of England today, you find that all the time. You hear the minister coming forward and answering a question in Parliament. You know perfectly well that his statement was written by the permanent secretary behind him. When you hear the question: “What was the relative amount of Protestant property destroyed in the riot at Belfast?” and you hear the minister’s reply: “£6,542 of Protestant property and £5,420 12s 6d of Catholic property,” you do not suppose the minister knows that. Of course not. He gets it from his permanent secretary behind him.

The whole essence of the British Government is the fact of having behind every man who stands for the popular opinion of the public, another man who knows the expert way of doing the work.

In the administration of the law, you have the judge and the jury. What is that but the expert and the layman? You must always combine the expert and the layman in order to have successful government. We have the layman and we have no ex-

pert, and we are carrying the government by amateurs.

The United States is an empire. The problem of the government of the United States is at least as complicated as that of Rome ever was, and much more complicated than the government of Rome was when Rome broke down under the weight of her system.

Can we meet that difficulty? Can we develop a system of government by experts, controlled and directed by people who represent the public opinion at large? If we cannot, our system of government is inevitably doomed.

Now, as Governor Baldwin says, we have copied from England her system of examination. What was her system of examination? Governor Baldwin has very properly pointed out the difficulty which comes in a pure system of examinations. What was the system which we copied from England,—which was the system invented by Lord Macaulay for recruiting the civil service in India? It was that the examination should be solely for the purpose of testing the candidate's capacity as a man, and should have nothing at all to do with the special problems that he would meet when he got into his position. You were to examine him solely to see if he knew Greek, Latin, mathematics, or anything else. In other words, you were to make a rough test of his capacity. You simply took the Oxford and Cambridge graduates and selected the man who, on the whole, proved himself to be the best, and sent him to India to learn his job. That system was afterwards adopted for filling vacancies in all the first-class clerkships in England.

It would be absurd for us for a moment to try to get anything paralleling the examinations which selected the men from Oxford and Cambridge. We must do something else for it.

Then take the lower examinations

for the civil service in England; the examinations for the second division clerkships. Those to some extent used to test the man's capacity for clerical work; that has been given up. That merely tests the capacity of the boy from the public school, to see whether he is a bright boy, and not to see whether he has learned those things which he will require in his office.

Any intelligent business man will approve this method. He will say to you: "Give me some process for picking out the brightest boys, and I will teach them the business after I get them."

What we need, and what we have not got, is not a system for regulating entrance to the lower grades of the service. We have systems providing for entrance; we have tried them and they have worked admirably well. We want to emphasize the importance of having permanent officials in the higher grades of the service,—those positions in which there are discretionary powers to be exercised.

The public want a change of officials on a change of administration from Republican to Democratic. Do they? No, the public do not want that, but those people who have pulled all the wires, and can speak in the name of the public, want it. What the public want is the sound administration.

Do the public care what the political opinions of the postmaster at Boston are? No. But they do care whether the letters that they put in the mail are delivered promptly or not. All the public care for is that that duty shall be carried on well. They may or may not care for a parcel post; that is a question which shall be determined by the political power; but the question of whether that parcel post shall be efficiently carried out is the public fact. They do not care whether the letters are delivered in a Republican form or a

Democratic form so long as they are delivered on time.

How can we expect to have a proper method of promotion without permanent officials? How can you get a man who himself knows nothing about the business, and who cannot expect to stay there a great length of time, to promote his subordinates properly? In these days we hear a good deal of criticism of railroads, but how would any railroad manager attempt to run the road if all his local superintendents were to be selected by Congressmen and changed at every change of party? Should we dare to ride on those trains at all, or should we always ride in our own private automobile where our chauffeurs are not affected by the change of party?

We ought to try to get the idea into the minds of the country that the higher discretionary officers, all those who are not at the very top of the system, all those who do not decide political questions, must eventually be experts. Not until we do that can we possibly build up a really efficient, strong, vigorous and lasting civil service. And if we cannot do that, let us face boldly the fact that no democracy that has not succeeded in doing it has ever lasted for more than three or four generations.

A USEFUL RECORD.

James G. Foley, Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, has prepared and issued a complete resume of all Federal general and by-elections in Canada since 1896. Tables are given of the varying representation of the different provinces and the votes of the different candidates in all the elections. Other tables show the proportion of voters on the list to votes polled, and the total party vote by Provinces and the whole Dominion. The book has required a great deal of compilation work, and will be of the greatest utility as a complete record of Canadian elections in the last seventeen years.

VENTILATION, LIGHT, ETC.

In consequence of the rapid growth of the Dominion, problems of an accumulative character confront our Government in regard to proper premises for the accommodation of the fast increasing personnel of the Civil Service. The importance of ventilation, light, and elbow room cannot be over-estimated. Dr. Hodgetts made the subject one of review from the standpoint of "conservation," and found conditions far from perfect. In view of the warm interest shown by the Postmaster-General, Mr. Pelletier, in the housing of his great staff in Ottawa, and the efforts being made to meet serious congested conditions, any exhibition of impatience would be intemperate and undesirable. However, it may be suggestive, in order to emphasize the importance of the subject, to reproduce the following order of the Department of Agriculture, as published in the *Canada Gazette*:—

Order of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries.

(Dated 25th September, 1913.)

REGULATION OF IMPORTATION OF HORSES, ASSES AND MULES.

(Ventilation.)

(vi.) All parts of the vessel in or on which horses, asses or mules are carried shall be sufficiently and suitably ventilated. All such parts, if below deck, shall, in addition to any ventilation obtained by means of the hatchways, be provided with sufficient and suitable ventilators for the removal of foul air and for the admission of a proper supply of fresh air to all the animals carried.

(Light.)

(vii.) All parts of the vessel over which the horses, asses or mules pass, or in which they are carried, shall be properly lighted, and arrangements shall be made for the provision at all times of adequate light for the proper tending of the animals.

(Overcrowding.)

(xvi.) A vessel shall not be overcrowded in any part or pen so as to cause injury or unnecessary suffering to the horses, asses or mules thereon.

A SUPREME COURT OF APPEAL FOR CIVIL SERVICE CASES

An interesting conference of public service associations was held in Sydney, Australia, in December last, all the states, as well as the Commonwealth and New Zealand, being represented. The conference was honored by the presence on the opening day of Sir Gerald Strickland, Governor of New South Wales, and the Hon. R. D. Hall, Minister for Justice, who both evinced, in speeches of considerable length, a keen interest in the service matters. As the "Court of Appeal" is becoming a moot subject in many of the services of many countries, the resolution passed by the conference in this regard is of interest:—

'That it is desirable that there should be constituted in each State an Independent Court of Appeal, such Court of Appeal to consist of three persons, of whom the chairman shall be a Supreme Court or District Court Judge, one shall be the representative of the Commission, who shall not be an officer of the Department in which the appellant is employed, and one shall be the representative of the division to which such officer belongs, elected under the regulations by the officers of the division to which such officers belong, in the State in which such officer performs his duties.'

TOY-STREWN HOUSE.

Give me the house where the toys are
strewn,

Where the dolls are asleep on the chairs,
Where the building blocks and the toys,
balloon

And the soldiers guard the stairs;
Let me step in a house where the tiny
cart

With its horses rules the floor,
And the rest comes into my weary heart
And I am at home once more.

Give me the house with the toys about
With the battered old train of cars,
The box of paints and the books left out
And the ship with her broken spars;
Let me step in a house at the close of day
That is littered with children's toys,
And dwell once more in the haunts of play
With the echoes of by-gone days.

Give me the house where the toys are seen,

The house where the children romp,
And I'll happier be than man has been
'Neath the gilded dome of pomp;

Let me see the glitter of bright-eyed play
Strewn over the parlor floor,
And the joys I knew in a far-off day
Will gladden my heart once more.

Whoever has lived in a toy-strewn home,
Though feeble he be and grey,
Will yearn, no matter how far he roam,
For the glories disarray;
Of the little home with its littered floor
That was his in the by-gone days
And his heart will throb as it throbbed
before

When he rests where a baby plays.

—Edgar A. Guest in Detroit Free Press.

THE MASHER.

Some bipeds wander down the street
 And ogle every girl they meet—
 That kind of lobster I despise,
 I'd throw red pepper in his eyes
 Were I a girl, instead of boy—
 T'would give me most ecstatic joy.
 The kind of ass who acts that way
 Has sauer-kraut for brains I say,
 He walks a-down a decent street
 And wears his brains around his
 feet.
 We cannot call that jay a man
 I'd like to take an ax and fan
 His wooden head—and mash his
 face—
 He is a sore and sad disgrace.
 I've seen them watch young girls go
 by
 And stare at them with bloodshot
 eye
 And pass remarks as they would
 stare
 On what she happened, p'raps to
 wear,
 Or ask if they could see her home
 Or take her to the Hippodrome.
 But thank God, every decent girl
 Will squash such fellows as they
 whirl
 About the town, and turn them down
 With just a chilly freezing frown.
 Were I a Policeman I'd arrest
 Each sickly jay who did his best
 To catch a glance from any eye
 Which happened to be passing by.
 I think our laws are very lax
 When knowing these disgraceful
 facts,
 Just stand aside and let them go
 Along behaving as they do.
 Each one of them should have the
 lash
 For every girl they try to mash,
 And she should be the one, I say,
 To flog the pale faced sickly jay.
 The town should give each girl a
 mallet
 With which to smite him on the
 palate
 Or chase him over dale or hummock

And paste him one upon the
 stomach.
 His type is getting common now
 And should not be allowed to
 grow.
 You know him by his up-turned
 pants—
 He lives upon his maiden Aunts,
 And wears a kind of "Willy" tie
 And looks just like a butterfly.
 He hangs around the poolroom
 door—
 His heart is rotten to the core
 He should not bear the name of
 dog—
 He is as useless as a log
 Of wood, he couldn't earn a cent
 No matter where the — he went.
 Girls: freeze him out, and slap his
 face,
 And he'll soon learn to keep his
 place.

"Low-rate."

AMENITIES OF THE "FREE" PRESS.

The Ottawa "Free Press," in its
 issue of Feb. 12th, makes the follow-
 ing editorial comment, in referring
 to an expression of opinion by a cor-
 respondent:—

"Optimist" voices the opinion of a
 large number of us. There is no objection
 to Civil Servants in an association of their
 own discussing their status and planning
 reform; there is no reason why Civil Ser-
 vants as a body should not make represen-
 tations direct to responsible ministers; but
 the constant airing of their grievances in
 the public press is, as "Optimist" says,
 rather "nauseating."

In its issue of Feb. 13th, the "Free
 Press" publishes a letter, in reply,
 from a Civil Servant, who signs him-
 self J. A. M. This letter and the
 second comment of the "Free Press"
 follow:—

Sir,—You say that "Optimist" voices
 the opinion of a large number of us."
 "Optimist" is not one of those "dis-
 gruntled Civil Servants" at all. "Op-
 timist's" is an inspired article, and no
 Civil Servant would take the responsibility
 for his conclusions, nor would any of them

agree with him. "Optimist" is a creation of the Civil Service Act of 1908. And so, Mr. Editor, you agree with him. Well, you are welcome to your opinion, and so it seems Civil Servants need expect no help or sympathy from "The Free Press" in this struggle to meet the ever increasing high cost of living.

You must consider, Mr. Editor, that the case of the Civil Servant is entirely different to that of the trade unionist. The trade unionist has only his employers to deal with, which is probably a small corporation or joint stock company. To them alone they needs must go to obtain redress and increase in wages. Often, however, they cannot obtain this redress without sympathy from the public, or by bringing the conciliation board into the conflict. They also have the privilege of going on a strike, which Civil Servants have not.

Civil Servants have no particular employers. Their employers are the people of Canada, represented at Ottawa by the members and senators of the whole Dominion. One's deputy minister or minister, or even the whole Cabinet, cannot increase their wages, nor very much redress their wrongs. The members of Parliament must be consulted and their sympathy and sense of justice obtained. These men, which are the public, must be educated and made familiar with the wrongs, apparent or otherwise, under which the Civil Servants suffer before redress can be ob-

tained, and there is no other method known to familiarize the public with this or any other subject than the public press. Hence a good deal of matter is appearing in the press on the subject of the Civil Servants' position.

How otherwise could the members of Parliament become sympathetic to the cries of the Civil Servants except by reading of them in the columns of the papers? Not from the blue books. We only trust, Mr. Editor, that you, too, will open your columns to the Civil Servant, and thus help him in his sore plight.

J. A. M.

Ottawa, Feb. 12.

The writer of the above letter has no justification for his statement that "The Free Press is unsympathetic to the demands of the Civil Servants. This paper has merely questioned the wisdom of airing their complaints in the daily newspapers. "The Free Press columns have been always open to Civil Servants as to everybody else, and "The Free Press has on numerous occasions urged that the treatment of its servants by the Government was not by any means what it should be. The great majority of the men in the public service are hard-working, conscientious, and able officials, but unfortunately in too many instances their work goes unrecognized either financially or otherwise.—Editor F. P.

SONG FROM "RUY BLAS."

(Translated by W. S. H. Bernard.)

A quoi bon entendre
Les oiseaux des bois?
L'oiseau le plus tendre
Chante dans ta voix.

Que Dieu montre en voile
Les astres des cieux!
La plus pure étoile
Brille dans tes yeux.

Qu'avril renouvelle
Le jardin en fleur!
La fleur la plus belle
Fleurit dans ton coeur.

Cet oiseau de flamme
Cet astre du jour,
Cette fleur de l'âme,
S'appelle l'Amour.

I heed not the birds
In the trees that rejoice;
No music so sweet
As the sound of thy voice.

Let God show in space
The stars of the sky:
Stars far more pure
Shine in thine eye.

Let April display
Her flowers most rare:
There is in thine heart
A flower more fair.

The bird in the tree,
The star up above,
The bloom in thy heart,
All tell me of Love.

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Communications on any subject of interest
to the Civil Service are invited and will
receive careful consideration.

Ottawa, Feb. 20, 1914

"The law pertaining to the civil service should be honestly and rigidly enforced, to the end that merit and ability should be the standard of appointment and promotion, rather than service rendered to a political party."

* * *

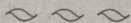
"Entrance to the civil service should be at the bottom, and the custom of securing men from outside the ranks and placing them ahead of old employees should be discouraged, and only resorted to when public interest demands. Civil service protects employees in their positions, but it holds them there in stagnation unless a method be found to not only secure the time of its employees, but to stimulate and reward their ambition."

A CIVIL SERVICE MINISTER.

The Minister of the Crown now specially in the public eye as the "Civil Service Minister," is the Honourable W. T. White, Minister of Finance. An expression of Mr. White's interest in a well-managed service is discovered not *alone* in his undertaking a Superannuation Bill, for he has coupled with that intricate subject the still more complex problem of a revision of the Civil Service Act. That he will go as far as may be possible in a single step to repair the machinery of the great administration workshop there can be no doubt. One of the first duties falling to Mr. White's lot in assuming charge of his public office was to make a presentation to one of the old members of his department, about to retire from active service. Those who read the report of his remarks on that occasion will recall the enthusiastic interest he expressed in the value of esprit de corps, to be attained by decentralization of authority and administration of public duties. A state of service congenial, if not congenital, appealed to him as a successful organizer of business.

The service does not desire paternalism or communism. It does not desire donatives such as ruined the Roman soldiery. As ardent lovers of Canada and jealous of her good name, the members of the service first and foremost desire a student in the person of a Civil Service Minister, who has the disposition and the patriotism to attempt a herculean task; a task involving the whole structure and contents of Canada's workshop, the method of acquiring new machinery the manner of disposing of each wheel and bolt in its most deserving and desirable place, and a daily, hourly supervision of the contexture. Mr. White is a student. That he has undertaken a magnificent task in addition to other emergent and absorb-

ing problems affords a hope that the servant of the Crown may well take to his heart with hoops of steel.



A BOND OF UNION.

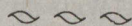
Civil servants often are made indignant by the slighting references to their calling made in the public press. These diatribes are usually nine parts ignorance and one part prejudice. But there is in them also of truth, a trace. It is true, unfortunately, that there are in the civil service people who owe their positions to personal or political favor; there are people who are inattentive or incompetent; there are people who really do no useful work. But these people are necessarily very few. The fact that hundreds of millions of dollars are handled in and out with accuracy and honesty, that millions of letters are carried safely and delivered promptly, that the public domain in all its vastness is explored, surveyed, cared for and managed, and all the other services carried on so well that there is no real complaint against the officers concerned,—this stupendous fact of the great mechanism of the public service moving smoothly and efficiently in all its myriad and complex details, is proof that the workers in the service must be workers indeed. It is not to be wondered at if civil servants resent the imputation that they are all political favorites or sine-curists, merely because a black sheep or two can be found in their flock.

But in this public prejudice, absurd though it may be, there lurks a great lesson for all in the service. The fact is that the public tends to consider the civil service as one body, and not to differentiate so nicely as we do between those of this or that department, this or that grade, or this or that degree of efficiency.

If this sense of unity could be made as clear in the minds of those in the civil service as it is in the

public mind, the effect would be most momentous. Small differences of place, or interest, or position would be at once forgotten and civil servants would be given a sense of solidarity which now they do not possess.

And in this, as always, the great public is right, and every civil servant, when he looks the facts squarely in the face, knows it full well. The civil service is one body. Its master so regards it, and all who belong to the service should learn that lesson and act upon it.



THE PROMOTION PROBLEM IN OTTAWA.

The executive committee of the Civil Service Association of Ottawa is giving the question of promotion authority deep study just now. Plans for a "promotion board," for promotions controlled by the Civil Service Commission, for promotion by deputy minister, and for a "court of appeal," all have advocates and supporters. Under instructions of the executive committee, the departmental representatives have held special meetings with their advisory boards, and the problem has been debated at a score or so of such sessions, with various results. A general convention of all the advisory boards, with the executive committee is contemplated, and will be held on the evening of Friday, the 20th inst. The earnestness with which this problem is being debated is an evidence of the vitality of interest in the work of the Ottawa organization.

RECOGNITION BY THE GOVERNMENT.

A correspondent in West Australia writes us to the effect that the Government in that State offers every encouragement to organizations in its Service. Not only does it preside at their social functions, but it acts on occasions in matters purely concerning differences between Associations.

NORTHERN ALBERTA CUSTOMS BANQUET.

If one may judge from the inaugural dinner of the Northern Alberta Customs Association, which was held in the dining room of the Hudson Bay Hotel, Edmonton, on Saturday, February 7, the institution, although only a few months old, is very much alive. Forty members gathered at the festive board, and this number was augmented by the presence of Inspector Graham (Calgary), Sub-Collector Rubbra from Wetaskiwin, and several of the Customs Brokers of Edmonton, who attended as guests of the Association. Mr. J. W. Shera, the collector of the port, occupied the chair, and under his able management not a dull moment ensued. His office was no sinecure, as the programme was of a lengthy character, and its discussion could not extend after the witching hour of night. Following that of "The King," the next important toast was "The Customs Service," and this was given by Mr. Shera in characteristic style. The response in the hands of Mr. Inspector Graham and Mr. A. B. Sowter (Surveyor) was listened to with every attention and interest. Mr. Graham congratulated the Port of Edmonton on being the first in Alberta and Saskatchewan to form such an association. He thought it a splendid move and one that would meet with success. These were days of united effort and co-operation, he said, and although he advised individual merit when applied to the work of the department, yet an association such as this should have far-reaching results. The inspector regretted that the Civil Service of Canada had not yet reached the high level it should have done, but he thought the remedy was in the hands of the Legislature and individual effort. He hoped his hearers would strive hard to uphold the dignity of

office by merit, and not allow themselves to be classed with those simply holding what was called a "Government job." Touching upon the question of provision for old age, or death, the speaker was of opinion that a scheme would soon be formulated which would benefit the retiring official or the bereaved family. The Customs Department was, he said, the most difficult of all, and he thought those working under it should receive due regard, their salaries, too, should increase automatically. Concluding his remarks, he wished the Northern Alberta Customs Association the highest measure of success. When the subsequent applause had subsided, Mr. A. B. Sowter said what pleasure it had given to all present to see and hear Mr. Graham. It had been at all times pleasant to have him amongst them, for he came as a friend to all, and if trouble arose, as, of course, it might, Mr. Graham was ever ready to help out in any way he could. Speaking of increase of salaries and other concessions, he was afraid the time had not yet arrived when the Government would extend a form of commission to the Outside Service; but he hoped, in the near future, that body would be incorporated with the same standing as the other branch of the service. He trusted that the new form of Commission would be on a different basis to that in vogue in the Inside Service, and hoped it would consist of members of the Civil Service, such as the Commissioner, the Assistant Commissioner and Chief Inspector, who, in conjunction with the professional section, would be in a proper position to deal with the needs of the various departments. He was proud of the fact that the Edmonton Customs ranked "A1," and he heartily thanked all the officers who had brought about such a result. Mr. John Rea, the Acting Chief Clerk, was next on the card, but before giv-

ing some facts about the Association, he had to undergo the fire of his colleagues upon his recent marriage. He was the recipient of a handsome easy chair, and the best wishes of the office, and the genial John accepted them with just the semblance of a blush. There were other toasts, including "The Visitors," to which Mr. Rubbra replied; "The Ladies." under the gentle care of Appraiser G. W. Elliott; "The Committee," comprising Messrs. J. E. Lee, W. Parish, and A. H. Elliott, to whom much credit was due, and the toast of "The Customs Brokers," responded to by Mr. W. A. Michael and Mr. William Ibbotson. A capital musical entertainment was given, showing the Custom Service out West to be the possessors of heaps of good talent.

PRESENTATION TO MR. WENSLEY THOMPSON.

On Saturday, Feb. 14th, an event took place in the Immigration Branch, Canadian Building.

A hunting case gold watch was presented to Mr. Wensley Thompson, one of the members of the staff, who is being transferred to the Dominion Lands Branch of the Interior Department, by his fellow-officials. The presentation was made by Mr. Robert W. Fraser, amid much applause, testifying to the popularity of Mr. Thompson.

Mr. Thompson made a suitable reply. At the same time he made several comments on life in the Civil Service, with special reference to the Immigration Branch. At the conclusion all the staff wished him success in his new field.

It is generally supposed that a light and buoyant temperament tends to frivolity and to fickleness. But no man is so well qualified to discharge the duties of life as one who acts through a temperament that is glowing and genial.

CIVIL SERVICE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY OF MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA.

The following clipping gives an idea of what would be accomplished in Ottawa if our Civil Service would act with unity and stand by their own interests and enterprises:—

Readers will be interested to know that the Civil Service Co-operative Society, of Melbourne, has erected handsome and commodious business premises in that city. The society, which has been in existence for some ten years, secured a site just opposite the Central Railway Station some two years ago, and the new premises which they erected thereon were opened at the end of October last. I understand from descriptions of the building which have reached me that it is the last word in retail warehouse building as it is practised "down under." The lighting is by electricity, electric hoists and pneumatic cash tubes facilitate business, while every labour and time saving device which practice has shown to be useful is used to its fullest extent. Within the limits of the building are housed grocery, provision, bread, boot, drapery, millinery, tailoring, ironmongery, and jewellery departments, with workrooms and the offices of the society. On the first floor there is a handsome and commodious tearoom for the use of customers, with ladies' writing-room, telephone, etc. Altogether, it seems to be a model warehouse. The employees of the society number about 300, and fifty vans are kept busy delivering goods throughout the city.

Why not follow this example of our comrades of Melbourne, and in a few years surely we would be able to show as splendid results in the good City of Ottawa.

TACT.

In your struggle to climb up the ladder of fame,

Just remember that this is a fact,—
For the one who succeeds through ability's deeds,

Ninety-nine win success by their tact.

Ability helps in the struggle of life,
But this, my dear boy, is a fact,—
In this age of great greed, more fellows succeed,

Who are gifted with infinite tact.

"Low Rate."

THE TRAVELLING POST OFFICE.

The duties from day to day of the Railway Mail Clerks are the most onerous and not the least responsible of the multifarious services evidenced to the people of Canada by its army of servants. The nature of these duties have been sung by Jack Cadden in lofty verse, and stated by Garrett O'Connor in manly prose in the columns of *The Civilian*. The whole cause of the Railway Mail Clerks is based upon the right to state their case and depend upon ample consideration being granted. The postal service has never had a more sympathetic Minister than Mr. Pelletier. But the Postmaster-General is an excessively busy man, and it can only be by a reiteration of the phases of their service that they may attract his attention.

A circular letter, asking for improvements in the service, has been sent to all western members of the Dominion Government by the Western Railway Mail Clerks' Association. This letter lays special emphasis on the western allowance, and also takes up the matter of an increase in salary, and a vacation pass for the clerk and his family is also asked for.

At the present time railway mail clerks in the west receive on appointment \$500 per year salary and \$120 per year provisional allowance. At the end of three years this clerk will be drawing \$800 per year, but then his provisional allowance is cut down to ten per cent. of his salary, i.e., \$80, and it is not until this clerk reaches a salary of \$1,200 per year that he again receives the \$120 provisional allowance. To reach this amount the clerk has to make 90 per cent. each year for eight years in a case examination. If he fails to do this he does not receive his increase. But in the meantime every other postal employee in the west is receiving \$180

per year provisional allowance. The Railway Mail Clerks think they have a deserving grievance. The clerks are asking for the same as all other employees of the postal department are receiving, i.e., \$120 per year.

While employees of other departments receive \$100 per year annual increase, the Railway Mail Clerks receive only \$50 after passing the \$800 mark, up to until he reaches the maximum, \$1,400. They ask that the annual increase be \$100 up to the maximum.

The Railway Mail Clerks are a branch of the public service very little known. They are employed on trains at various points to handle the mails between these points, and are responsible, to a great extent, for the proper despatch of mails, and as the Post Office Department, in a recent circular letter to the Railway Mail Clerks stated, "they have a great responsibility in having money in registered packages and letters entrusted to their care during the time they are on the road." The object of the Railway Mail Clerks' Association is to bring before the various members of the Federal House, and the press, the grievances of the Railway Mail Clerks, and to discover the best way to clear these grievances.

At a recent meeting of the Manitoba Railway Mail Clerks' Association, the following were elected officers for the year 1914: President, W. McPherson; Vice-president, M. Cyr; Secretary, T. Kneebone; Treasurer, A. Hunt; Executive, Messrs. G. Grant, I. Glasgow and R. A. Borland; W. A. Heney is Manitoba's representative to the Western Federation of Railway Mail Clerks.

Probably nothing could have a more powerful effect upon social, domestic and individual welfare than the widespread diffusion of the spirit of truthfulness; it underlies all honest and faithful work.

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The Arrival of New Spring Stocks

THIS is the inspiring time for advanced dressers to evince an interest in spring styles, and we always exercise particular efforts to provide a showing of new season merchandise that will embody not only the novel and the new in every phase and stage of garment production, but to incorporate into the display the elements of conservation as well as novelty, so that every taste can be satisfied.

Make a point of seeing our special New York Tailor-mades at \$25.

And the special Canadian line at \$16.50.

They're both winners.

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PUBLIC SERVICE NEWS.

The first report of the Public Service Commission has been presented to the New Zealand Parliament. It will be remembered that the Commission, with two assistants, was appointed in accordance with the recommendations contained in the report of the Royal Commission appointed last year by the Mackenzie Government to investigate the administration of the public service. In calling attention to the absence of a proper co-ordination of the Departments, the Commissioner says:—

One of the most glaring examples is, or has been, the lack of co-operation between Departments and the Treasury. Although the latter Department is in sole charge of the accounts of the Dominion, it has not for a long time exercised its full powers. There has, for example, been no inspection by the Treasury, and no examination of the method of account-keeping of Departments, with the result that a mass of work is unnecessarily duplicated at considerable expense and to the great detriment of efficiency.

President Wilson has made it so very plain that he will not sanction the removal of assistant postmasters from the protection of the Civil Service law that the Democratic leaders in Congress are running to cover on the Moon rider to the Post Office Appropriation Bill. The President has chosen this time to take a firm position on the question of civil service protection to employees and to prevent the possible further raids upon that class of the Government service. The fight over the assistant postmasters has brought about a mild revolution among the Democrats in the House, and they are now clamoring for an amendment to the Civil Service law that will prevent the President from covering into the service large numbers of employees by executive order. Many of the Democrats are demanding a real civil service test for all Government positions, with a provision that the first man on the list shall be appointed, and that there shall be publication

from time to time of the eligibles. In other words, the members who are finding that it is impossible to break down the Civil Service law entirely propose now to make it a real and bona fide protective institution. "Consider the functions which are imposed on a post office today. It not only does postal business and money order business and postal savings business, but it does express business also. And we all know it is the assistant postmasters who conduct the post offices and who direct the men in the performance of every detail of their many and complicated duties. In view of all this, would any sane man insist upon having assistant postmasters removed from the Civil Service.—New York Chief.

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is the purest distilled from Cognac Grapes and very highly recommended as a tonic. Taste it —it has a particular, pleasing, mild aroma. . .

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Agents - - - - Ottawa

"I see you've headed this article, 'One More Veteran Less.'"

"Yes; anything wrong with it?"

"I'm not positive; but don't you really mean: 'One Less Veteran More?'"—Boston "Transcript."

WOMEN'S COLUMN.

Women's Branch of the Ottawa Association.

On Tuesday, Feb. 3rd, there was launched in Ottawa a movement full of promise of a future of educative co-operation in the personnel of the service. On the evening of that day 200 women of the Ottawa service met at the Y. M. C. A. and formed the Women's Branch of the Civil Service Association of Ottawa. The new spirit aroused among the ladies is encouraging in every way, as is indicated by the large membership (300) already enrolled. The assistance of the Women's Branch in the counsels of the Ottawa Association will, no doubt, be gladly welcomed, the problems of the rapidly increasing personnel of the Civil Service offering a field of unlimited study and debate.

Miss F. N. Burt, in a brief speech, answered some of the objections which had been put forward in opposition to the proposed Women's Branch of the Civil Service Association. By forming a new branch, Miss Burt pointed out, they had not as their object the withdrawing from the general association. It was their wish to work within that body. Behind them they had the good-will and support of the executive of the association.

Miss Tremblay, the convenor of the drafting committee, who has contributed greatly to the success of the new organization, submitted the proposed constitution of the Women's Branch, and pointed out the objects embodied in the constitution. Primarily, the association is to promote the interests of the Civil Service, and more especially the women public servants. It would also aim to keep its members in touch with each other for their mutual benefit. Provision for official representation on the

executive of the Civil Service Association was also made an objective.

The following officers were elected at the meeting: President, Miss Doyle, Post Office Department; Vice-President, Miss Grace Reynolds, Auditor-General's Department; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss A. E. Wilson, Department of Mines, Canadian Museum.

The Constitution.

The constitution of the new branch is as follows:—

1. Name.—The Association shall be

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PROF. LAING has opened his Dancing Academy at St. Patrick's Hall, and is prepared to give Private Lessons by appointment. Special club rates given on application for old and new dances—Tango, Tango (Maurice), Tango Parisienne, Maxixe, Evelyn Schottische, Hesitation Waltz, One Step, etc. Phone Q. 2036

PROF. LAING, St. Patrick's Hall, Laurier Ave. W.

La Meilleure Méthode

"Je vais essayer d'introduire votre méthode, car j'en connais la supériorité sur toute autre."
Sr.M., Couvent N.D. de l'Assomption, Arichat, N.S.

"Please forward 22 copies of the De Brisay Latin Method". Sr.M., Sacred Heart Academy, Calgary, Alta.

Latin, French, German, Spanish, by mail.

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TO LARGER PREMISES.

THE **GOWLING**
Business
COLLEGE.
OTTAWA, ONT.

in order to accommodate the rapidly increasing attendance has moved to larger premises. Nearly double the room. The school will be open all summer. For particulars see the principal—

W. E. GOWLING,
Cor. Bank and Wellington Sts.

known as the Women's Branch of the Civil Service Association of Ottawa, hereinafter called the Women's Branch Association.

2. Objects.—The objects of this Association shall be:—

(a) To promote the various interests of the Civil Service, more especially those of the women of the service.

(b) To keep the women of the Civil Service in touch with one another.

(c) To provide official representation for the women members of the Civil Service Association of Ottawa on the executive committee of that Association.

3. Membership.—Membership shall be open to all women members of the Civil Service Association of Ottawa.

Membership may be obtained by an application to the Secretary-Treasurer and by payment of any fees which may, from time to time, be prescribed by the Women's Branch Association.

4. Officers and Executive.—The officers of the Women's Branch Association shall be a president, a vice-president and a secretary-treasurer, all elected by ballot at the annual general meeting provided for in Section 7.

The executive shall consist of the officers elected at the annual general meeting, the past president and five other members chosen from and elected by the advisory board. (See Sec. 5).

Five members of the executive shall form a quorum.

The duties of the officers shall be those defined in Secs. 10, 11 and 12 of the constitution of the Civil Service Association of Ottawa, 1912-13.

Executive Work.

5. Advisory Board.—The Advisory Board shall consist of the officers of the Executive and one representative from each department elected annually by the members of the Wo-

men's Branch Association in such department within two weeks after the annual general meeting provided for in Sec. 7. Any department having over 200 members of the Women's Branch Association shall be entitled to two representatives on the Advisory Board; any department having over 400 members shall be entitled to three representatives.

6. Executive Representative.—One representative on the executive of the Civil Service Association of Ottawa from the Women's Branch Association shall be elected by ballot by the executive of the Women's Branch Association from among the

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members of the executive of the Women's Branch Association any others required shall be elected by ballot by the Advisory Board.

One representative at the annual general convention of the Advisory Boards of the Civil Service Association of Ottawa from the Women's Branch Association shall be elected by ballot by the executive of the Women's Branch Association from among the members of the executive of the Women's Branch Association; any others required shall be elected by ballot by the Advisory Board.

7. Meetings.—The annual general meeting for the election of officers, etc., shall be held at a date in October, to be fixed by the executive. Two other general meetings shall be held in January and April on a date to be fixed by the executive. Special general meetings of the Women's Branch Association shall be called whenever considered desirable by the President or Executive Committee, or upon requisition to the President of twenty

members of the Women's Branch Association.

Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called from time to time when deemed necessary by the President, and in his absence by the Vice-President, or in the event of the absence or refusal of these officers, by five members of the committee.

8. Sub-committees.—The executive shall have full power to appoint sub-committees.

The convener of each sub-committee must be a member of the executive.

9. Constitution.—An amendment to the constitution may be made by the annual general meeting, provided notice of the same has been forwarded in writing to the secretary of the executive two weeks before the date for such meeting.

In all cases not specifically provided for herein the provisions of the constitution, 1912-13, of the Civil Service Association of Ottawa shall be followed.

“UNION IS STRENGTH”

The Civil Service Co-operative Supply Association

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Offers, by co-operation in buying and selling, the greatest power to reduce the high cost of living. It is the only store in Ottawa where all profits are distributed among the purchasers and the profits of the middleman saved; therefore, there is no need of the bargain day, for every purchase made at current prices is a bargain.

Goods of British Co-operative Wholesale Society are also kept in stock—every package guaranteed. Try them.

Co-operation is the way to obtain maximum results by the minimum of effort, and to make one dollar go a long way to do the work of two.

CO-OPERATORS, STEP INTO LINE!

**REPRESENTATIVES OF WOMEN'S
BRANCH ON THE OTTAWA C. A.
ASSOCIATION.**

Miss M. Tremblay.

Miss M. Darcey.

Executive Committee—Miss M. D. Doyle, Miss Grace Reynolds, Miss Alice Wilson, Miss M. Tremblay, Miss M. Darcey, Miss E. Jukes, Mrs. Dr. Macarow, Miss M. LaFleur, Miss M. Leyden.

Advisory Board of Women's Branch of C. S. A.—Miss G. Hawley, Interior Department; Miss M. Darcey, Post Office Department; Miss M. C. Russell, Auditor-General's; Miss M. Hunter, Militia and Defence; Miss M. Bastedo, Naval Department; Miss M. Leyden, Agriculture; Miss L. Jones, Mines Department; Miss McPhee, Labour Department; Miss Johnson, Conservation Commission; Miss O'Grady, Indian Affairs; Miss S. E. Wright, Inland Revenue; Miss E. Jukes, Finance Department; Miss M. LaFleur, Marine and Fisheries.

Names of Delegates to the Convention of Advisory Boards, to be held Feb. 20th:

Miss M. T. Kealy, Interior Department; Miss Bentley, Mines Department; Mrs. Macarow, Outside Service; Miss Landon, Post Office Department; Miss Inglis, Justice Department; Miss Dewar, Agriculture Department; Miss M. C. Doyle, Marine and Fisheries.

CO-OPERATIVE NOTES.

The Ottawa Situation.

Permission was given by the members of the Ottawa Civil Service Co-operative Supply Association, at a special meeting, held in the Carnegie Library on February 4th, to issue additional debentures to the amount of \$15,000, maturing in fifteen years, the proceeds to be used either for acquiring new premises or for the general purposes of the business.

* * *

The attendance out of a membership of about six hundred was woefully small, only thirteen being present. It is not very encouraging to the directorate, who give fifty to sixty hours a year to the supervision of the Association's business, to receive such meagre support from the membership when general meetings

are called. In many co-operative societies members absenting themselves from general meetings are fined, the fines being deducted from dividends. Our Association's need of capital may be met, in part, in such a way. Who will bell the cat?

* * *

The report of the Directors' Committee on Premises was submitted to the meeting. Several offers of building sites in the neighborhood now served by the store were made, each being in the vicinity of \$20,000. Other proposals to rent stores in other localities were received. In the absence of the Treasurer, Mr. John McLeish presented the Auditor's report for the nine months of the present fiscal year. The expenses are heavier than last year, the profits being reduced by the cost of auditing, which will be about \$200. The sales in the last few months have shown a heavy advance over those of the previous year.

* * *

Those of the members present who expressed themselves in the meeting advised against any immediate investment in a building site, and it was stipulated in the resolution that any contemplated purchase of property must be sanctioned at a general meeting.

* * *

The debenture account of the Association is in this condition at present: The issue of one thousand five-year debentures, or \$5,000, has been authorized, and six hundred of these have been sold, realizing \$3,000. The by-laws require that each member shall own at least one debenture, so the remaining 400 will likely all be absorbed by the members, who are applying a portion of their dividend to the payment of their debenture. The new issue of 3,000 fifteen-year debentures, just authorized, will bring the total debenture capital up to \$20,000. The task now before the

Association is to have this amount subscribed.

* * *

Application has recently been made to the Provincial Secretary of Ontario for the incorporation of The United Farmers' Co. of Ontario. It is proposed to run this company largely upon the lines of the Grain Growers' Grain Co., which is operating so successfully on co-operative lines in Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Tide the birds over the winter storms by feeding them and next summer they will more than pay you back.

VACANCIES.

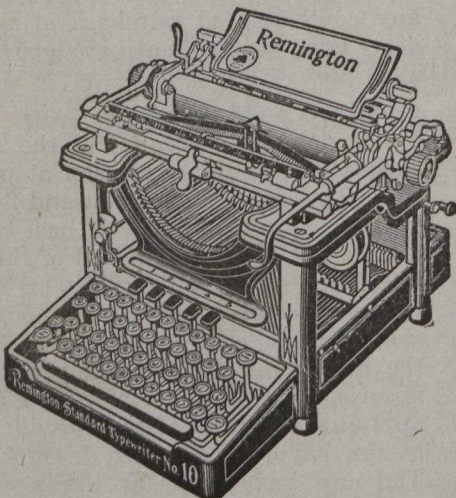
The C. S. Commission is advertising for applications for two positions in the Inside Service, the last day for filing applications being March 2nd. An assistant to the Dominion Cerealist in the Experimental Farms Branch, at a salary of \$1,600, and an assistant to the officer in charge of the general correspondence of the Marine Branch of the Marine and Fisheries Department, at a salary of \$1,300, are the two positions vacant.

There is a false modesty which is vanity; a false glory which is levity; a false grandeur which is meanness; a false virtue which is hypocrisy, and a false wisdom which is prudery.—La Bruyere.

YOUR LITTLE ONES REQUIRE PURE WATER

Fathers and Mothers should remember that their children really require plenty of good safe drinking water. Give your little ones a glass before breakfast, and as much as they want all day long—then you will see the bloom on their cheeks and the sparkle of health in their eyes.

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CIVIL SERVICE MUTUAL BENEFIT SOCIETY OF OTTAWA FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Carnegie Library, Metcalfe street, on Monday, the 26th January, 1914, at which were present:—A. G. Kingston, Chairman; W. J. Lynch, I. S. O., Secretary; A. W. Grant, Treasurer, and the following members: Richard Devlin, A. M. Dechene, J. J. McGill, H. Sherwood, L. J. R. Steckel, C.E.; F. C. Lightfoot, C.E.; J. C. Howard, A. H. Swinburne, J. B. St. Laurent, P. E. Gagnon, W. F. O'Regan, C. H. Jones, F. W. Addy, J. H. Byrne, E. L. Brittain, G. Emond, C. W. C. Bate, D. L. S.; Geo. Childs, C. E. D. Chubbuck, S. A. Dunlevie and others.

The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary read the report of the Board of Management as follows:—

To the Members of the Civil Service Mutual Benefit Society:

Gentlemen,—As will be shown by the reports of the Treasurer and the Auditors, the year 1913, while otherwise uneventful for this Society, has resulted in a very satisfactory increase in the assets. These have grown during the twelve months from \$7,878.95 to \$9,324.89.

In view of the prospective amendment of the Constitution, involving important changes in the rates and manner of levying assessments, it was not thought advisable to make any strenuous efforts for the introduction of new members until after the amendments alluded to should have been brought into force. There has consequently been a slight decrease in the number of members, and accordingly the income from members' fees shows but very little advance over the figure of the previous year—that for 1912 having been \$2,276.60, and that for 1913 \$2,277.71.

In March last your Board found themselves able to take advantage of the favourable condition of the investment market by purchasing for the Society two Bonds of the City of Calgary. The nominal value of these bonds was two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00), and the nominal rate of interest 4½ per cent. As the actual price paid for them, however, was only \$1,844.00, the guaranteed interest will be equivalent to 5 per cent. on the sum invested, or an annual gain of \$36.88 over the interest receivable from the same sum, while on deposit in savings bank. Owing to the fact that the City of Calgary Bonds bear date 1st February, and interest is payable only once a year, no revenue from this investment appears in the Treasurer's Report for 1913. This will account for the apparent falling off in receipts from interest. Twelve months' interest on these bonds will be collected within a week of

the present date. Had it been possible to have brought into the accounts for 1913 the proportion which had accrued during that year the total receipts from interest would have been increased to \$384.13.

The Committee charged with the revision of the Constitution has found it necessary to devote a longer time to that work than was anticipated at the last Annual Meeting. Their report will, however, be presented today. The draft constitution prepared by the Committee, while embodying the principal of actuarial assessments, decided upon at the last annual meeting, makes but few other changes in the organization of the Society. It is commended to the earnest consideration of the members now present, and the Board venture to express a hope that no further postponement may be thought necessary, but that the present annual meeting, after discussing and making whatever amendments may be deemed advisable, will adopt it as the future Constitution of the Society.

A. G. KINGSTON,
Chairman.

W. J. LYNCH,
Secretary.

Treasurer's Report for 1913.

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand January 1,	
1913..	\$2,071.59
Contributions of active members	2,069.49
Contributions of retired members	208.22
Interest on deposits	25.85
Interest on bonds	285.00
	\$4,660.15

EXPENDITURE.

Beneficiary of J. N. Deslaurier	\$ 200.00
Beneficiary of J. A. Belanger	200.00

Beneficiary A. G. D. Taylor.....	200.00
Beneficiary of T. A. Cafarati.....	200.00
Beneficiary of J. F. Dionne.....	200.00
Refund to retired members.....	14.62
Allowance to Secretary.....	60.00
Allowance to Treasurer.....	60.00
Bond in Guarantee Company.....	5.00
Registration fee.....	3.00
Purchase of City of Calgary bonds.....	1,857.06
	<u>\$2,999.68</u>
Cash on hand December 31, 1913.....	1,660.47
	<u>\$4,660.15</u>

MEMBERSHIP.

Number of members January 1, 1913.....	365
New members during 1913.....	3
	<u>-368</u>
Number of members deceased in 1913.....	5
Number of members resigned in 1913.....	2
Number of members on December 31, 1913.....	361
	<u>-368</u>

The Assets and Liabilities are as follows:—

Cash in bank.....	\$1,660.47
2 Port Arthur Bonds.....	2,983.09
City of New Westminster Bonds.....	2,824.27
City of Calgary Bonds.....	1,857.06
	<u>\$9,324.89</u>
Less salaries.....	120.00
	<u>\$9,204.89</u>

A. W. GRANT,
Treasurer.

After a careful audit of the books, pay sheets and vouchers of the Treasurer, we have found them correct in every particular.

RICHARD DEVLIN,
A. M. DECHENE,
H. V. RORKE,
Auditors.

Report of Committee.

Ottawa, 26th January, 1914.

The Committee originally appointed at the annual meeting in January, 1912, to prepare a plan for placing the affairs of the Society upon an actuarial basis, and which received a renewed instruction a year ago to complete its investigations, and to report within two months, regrets to have to acknowledge that the duty entrusted to it has taken much longer

time than was at first expected.

The actuarial tables were, indeed, completed at an early date, but there remained the task of framing such an amendment to the existing Constitution of the Society as would these tables without inconsistency or clashing with any of its parts. This was found to be a somewhat difficult operation. So many minor changes and readjustments showed themselves necessary in various parts of the Constitution that it was finally thought advisable to reconstruct the whole. This has now been done, and the result is appended to this report in the form of a "Proposed New Constitution."

In carrying out this work your Committee has endeavored to keep three things in view:—

(1) To provide, for all future entrants, a scale of assessments based solely upon age at entry, and which shall for each such member stand unchanged throughout life.

(2) To protect the rights and preferences of all former members, giving to each one perfect liberty to remain under the old system or to adopt the new.

(3) To make as little change as possible in the existing provisions for the organization and government of the Society.

The draft Constitution now submitted is believed by your Committee to embody an accomplishment of these ends. It has been the object of much labour, having been reviewed and retouched a number of times. In laying it before the annual meeting, your Committee trust that it may be found satisfactory to the views of the members.

A. G. KINGSTON.
E. L. BRITTAIN.
A. M. DECHENE.
A. W. GRANT.
W. J. LYNCH.

The new Constitution, with some slight amendments, was unanimously adopted.

PERSONALS.

Alfred Alphonse Couvrette has been appointed inspector of gas and electricity for the Ottawa district in succession to the late H. G. Roche. Mr. Couvrette was formerly assistant inspector.

Dr. Hodgetts, of the Canadian Commission of Conservation, and Dr. McCullough, medical health officer of Toronto, will contribute papers before the Imperial Health Conference at the Imperial Institute in London, Eng., in May, which has been arranged by the Victoria League.

Thomas Ahearn, formerly a well known Montreal newspaper man, and latterly of New York, has been appointed as private secretary to Hon. C. J. Doherty, Minister of Justice. Mr. Ahearn succeeds Mr. John Hackett, who resigned to practice law in Montreal.

A. H. W. Cleave, Superintendent of the Royal Mint, has invented a life-buoy, which has great superiority over the ordinary buoys. Its advantages were amply demonstrated at a recent test exhibition before Government officials in Ottawa.

Robert F. H. Bruce has been appointed Superintendent of the Ottawa River Works, under the Department of Public Works, in succession to the late George P. Brophy.

Robert James Fraser, son of John Fraser, Auditor-General, and Mrs. Fraser, was married by Rev. J. H. Turnbull on February 11th, to Miss Muriel Gordon Campbell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Campbell.

In the list of appointments, etc., in the last *Civilian* an error was made in reporting Mr. F. J. Colwell, of the Toronto Customs, as having been appointed a preventive officer. It

should have been "promoted to senior clerk."

Mr. Wensley Thompson, of the Immigration Branch, Department of Interior, has been transferred to the Dominion Lands Branch of the same Department.

In referring to the annual dinner of the Argonaut Club, held last week, the *Toronto World* has this to say:—

"Much of the success of the evening was due to Mr. Gordon Rogers (Department of Agriculture), one of Canada's most versatile entertainers. He made a decided hit in his character costume impersonations of Albert Chevalier and Harry Lauder, and in his dramatic recitations of Robert W. Service's Yukon verse."

Robert E. Harris, Department of Justice, has been promoted to Division 1B, and to be Secretary to the Deputy Minister.

* * *

OBITUARY.

John Purcell, for many years on the Dominion Police Force, died on February 11th, aged seventy-two years.

Whitney Ball, an officer of the Canadian Immigration Service, met a tragic death in the course of discharging his duties on January 26th. While attempting to board a moving train at North Troy, Vt., he fell beneath the wheels and was ground to pieces.

Mrs. William King, wife of William King, Chief Mechanical Engineer of the Department of Public Works, and mother of R. P. King, of the House of Commons staff, and Walter C. King, of the Auditor-General's office, died on February 8th,

after a brief illness, aged seventy-four years.

Melville Deschene, C.E., son of the late Senator Deschene, and brother of Arthur M. Deschene, of the Department of Railways and Canals, died at Saranac Lake on February 11th. Deceased, who was but thirty-one years of age, was born in Quebec and educated at Ottawa University. Exposure and privation, while engaged in Government survey work, were the primary causes of his fatal illness.

James Hogan Kenning, the oldest Government employee in Windsor, Ont., and one of the oldest officers in the service of the Inland revenue Department in Western Ontario, died on February 10th, following an illness of nearly two years' duration. Mr. Kenning was in his 79th year, and had been in the Government service since before Confederation, his last post being that of Inspector of Inland Revenue for the Western District of Ontario and Inspector of Distilleries for Canada.

News of the death of Mr. Douglas Mitchell Gibson at Partree, Scotland, on January 8th, has been received by Lieut.-Col. A. P. Sherwood. Deceased had many acquaintances in Ottawa, having been Secretary to the House of Commons Quebec Tercenary Committee in 1908. He had also been engaged in the Auditor-General's Department.

Dr. A. Synek, Crown Lands Agent for the Dominion Government, died on February 7th at Gracefield, P.Q. Dr. Synek had been in the employ of the Government for the last fifteen years. He was born in Poland in 1842, and obtained his degree from Paris University. He first practised at Curran, Ont. Thirty-five years ago he removed to Gracefield, where he lived until the time of his death. It was greatly due to his influence that Gracefield was incorporated as

a town, and he was elected its first mayor.

Leonard Desmarais, a resident of Ottawa for over sixty years, who died on February 12th, aged eighty-one years, was the father of Harry Desmarais, of the Ottawa Post Office staff.

George F. Campbell, son of James J. Campbell, of the Department of Customs, died on February 9th in New Mexico.

Athletics.

The C. S. Hockey League of Ottawa is progressing most favorably this winter, the only drawbacks being the difficulty experienced by some of the teams in obtaining ice space for their games, thus holding back the schedule somewhat. This will be straightened out shortly, and a close finish may be looked for. The Interior representatives are leading the race at this stage, and as they have a large number of good players on their list, they look strong favourites for a top position at the finish of the season. Customs started out the season in strong fashion, but illness and injuries to their players have handicapped them badly. Post Office look as though they will be well up in the race, as they have a large number of strong young players on their list. Although getting a bad start, West Block and Printing Bureau have strengthened, and may be depended upon to upset the calculations of some of the leaders. Following is the standing:—

	Won	Lost	Tied	Pts.
Interior	4	1	1	9
Customs	2	1	2	6
Post Office	1	1	1	3
West Block	0	2	1	1
Bureau	0	2	1	1



WEST BLOCK HOCKEY CLUB.

Top Row—Percy Foy, Sec. M. Skuce, Pres. H. R. Sims, Manager and Treas. J. McGillis, Assist. Manager S. Ogden.

Centre Row—Capt. J. Davis, L. Doyle, L. Purvis, H. Merkley, H. Chowan.

Bottom Row—Bob Lang, W. Bradley, J. LeBlanc, T. Stewart, W. Acton.

Ottawa Civil Service Bowling League statistics up to and including game played Monday, February 16th, 1914:—

Team Standing.

	Won.	Lost.
Interior No. 1.....	39	6
Railways	32	13
Mint.....	30	15
Bureau	26	19
Observatory.....	21	24
East Block.....	22	26
P. O. D. and Agr.....	19	29
Customs	17	25
Interior No. 2	10	32
Railway Lands	9	36

Team Average.

Interior No. 1.....	3026
Railways	2921
Mint	2885
Bureau	2859
Observatory.....	2828
Customs	2764

P. O. D. and Agriculture	2758
East Block.....	2710
Interior No. 2	2699
Railway Lands	2561

Grand aggregate leaders to date are as follows:—

H. L. Edwards	1427
S. Dawson	1380
Geo. Shore.....	1344

The leading singles are as follows:—

Open Class.

S. Dawson	267
H. L. Edwards	264
J. H. Stewart.....	248
H. J. Cooper	247
E. A. Thomas.....	246
Geo. Shore	241
J. L. Payne	235
S. H. Shore	234
S. L. McKnight	233
R. Harvey	232
Joe Howe	232

J. Reardon	232
C. Jordan	231
A. J. Baker	229
J. B. Hutton	229
E. H. Allen	225

Novice Class.

J. Arbogast	230
J. Bradley	228
B. Fairburn	216
T. Gillespie	216
C. Bennett	202
H. Powers	200
A. McDonald	200

The leading cross alleys are as follows:—

Open Class.

S. Dawson	632
H. L. Edwards	619
C. Chapman	598
J. Reardon	593
G. J. Artz	582
Geo. Shore	582
J. L. Payne	577
J. H. Stewart	577
L. Pinard	576
I. Jobin	574
Joe Howe	573
J. B. Hutton	572
E. J. Foley	572
J. A. Armstrong	570
E. A. Thomas	570

Novice Class.

J. Bradley	561
J. Arbogast	557
B. Fairburn	534
B. Foley	526
C. Wallace	518
A. McNeil	516
C. Bennett	515

To date 87 bowlers have taken part. Only those who have competed the required number of games in each half are counted in the average.

The averages of the leaders in the novice class follow:—

C. Wallace	477
B. Fairburn	474
A. McDonald	471
L. Wallace	465
J. Bradley	460
A. French	457
A. McNeil	450
H. Powers	450
T. Gillespie	447
B. Foley	444

The averages of the leaders in the open class follow:—

H. L. Edwards	544
Geo. Shore	521
J. Reardon	508
J. H. Stewart	507
J. B. Hutton	504
Joe Howe	502
B. Hibbard	502

I. Jobin	501
C. A. E. Clendenin	499
G. J. Artz	497
E. Foley	496
E. A. Thomas	494
C. Chapman	494
E. H. Allen	493
L. F. Edey	493
A. Archambault	491
J. Foran	490
L. Pinard	485
T. Burns	483
W. Hull	482

THE PROSPECTS.

Of the great bulk of the Service the following words ring true: "The Civil Servant is a human man, and in entering a Government office he casts away for ever all chance of many a human man's prerogative. He dooms himself to 40 years of hopelessly uninspiring work—work in which it is impossible to take a genuine interest, work which frequently consists in ticking lists of things one never sees into books which appear to have no possible object. Again, he throws away all chance of brilliant success. His salary is certain, and it will rise by steady increments to a moderately decent figure. But there it will stop, and it is almost as sure as anything can be that nothing—not even the most brilliant talents, the most unremitting work will enable him to bridge the gulf that separates him and his kind from power.—*C. S. Gazette.*

EXAMINATIONS.

The attention of the public is invited to the fact that general competitive examinations for positions in the Third and Second Divisions of the Inside Service will be held, beginning on the 11th May, 1914. Successful competitors at these examinations are guaranteed permanent positions as clerks, stenographers and typewriters. An examination for positions in the lower grades of the Inside Service and the regular Preliminary and Qualifying Examinations for the Outside Service will be held at the same time and places.

—Canada Gazette.

CIVIL SERVANTS AND MUNICIPAL POLITICS.

The suggestion of Mr. E. N. Rhodes, member of Parliament, that "in the interests of the service" Civil Servants should, in future, be debarred from taking any part in municipal politics, is one which, we believe, is not worthy of serious consideration.

Every community of any size in Canada numbers among its citizens men on the pay-roll of the Dominion Government. Very often these men are among the most intelligent and progressive in the place. Is it in the public interest that they should be debarred from giving what time they can spare from their duties to the task of bettering conditions where they may happen to live? And on the ground of simple justice, is it right that an intelligent man who has given his life, usually for small remuneration, to the service of the State should in return be treated like an Indian, a State ward without voice in matters of great importance to himself?

It is easy to understand the objection to allowing Civil Servants to take an active share in party politics. But it is a question whether, in the great majority of cases where Civil Servants do so offend, the professional politician, the "man higher up," to use a threadbare phrase, is not really the one to blame. Political war-

fare may present some attractions to the man appointed to the public service, more particularly where he owes his position to active partisanship in the past, but the punishment for indulging in it after his appointment is certain, given enough time, and, if he were allowed to follow his own inclinations, he would probably leave politics strictly alone. Very often, however, he is allowed to do no such thing. Politics is essentially a game of quid pro quo and the appointee is, in far too many cases, expected to keep on "delivring the goods" even after he is supposed to have severed all active connection with things political. The more obscure and far removed from the public eye his position is, the more often is this the case.

In Canada, happily, the party spirit has extended very little, if at all, into municipal politics. It is quite possible for anyone to take part in them without getting himself branded as Liberal or Conservative. With this objection—if it be an objection—averted, we confess we cannot see where the danger lies in allowing the Civil Servant to take an intelligent practical interest in what is going on in his own city or town.—Montreal "Herald and Telegraph."

Hetty Green says the secret of health is in eating onions. Blest if we see how it can be kept secret.—New York "American."

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FRIENDS.

(Contributed.)

It was a "grey" day in April. A thaw setting in overnight was responsible for the wet, icy streets and dirty, soft snow-banks bordering the city's sidewalks, while a leaden grey sky overhead gave ominous warning of future rain, and wet, chilly days to come. Inside the office quiet reigned, save for the scratching of multiple pens, and that indefinable "hum" that characterizes the busy room.

Oblivious to all else, I bent over my plan, my mind completely absorbed in its interesting details, and was rather startled, you may well suppose, when awakened to real life once more by a mellow beam of light that glanced across the desk, and rested on the "bloc" title of my plan. Looking hastily up, my gaze encountered a cherubic shape, an elfin being of another world—so I thought. A little pair of wings of palest blue—green gauze, lay close to his shoulders; fairly golden hair hung in curling ringlets over his slender bust, and in spite of the dampness of the day his attire was nil. Fearful, yet curious, I ventured to ask the strange apparition: "Who are you, little stranger, and where is your home?"

"I," answered the elf, in dulcet tones, "I am every man's friend, and my home is in No Man's Land, in the green bowers and forest nooks of which you know naught—you and your kind, who spend your lives in rooms. I have for so long so wanted to help men, so wished to be friends to all, especially to the Knights of the Civil Service, but up to now my wish has always been balked. At last, at last, have I been allowed to visit your earth, to speak with men, to see their work!" Here he seated his slender form on the edge of my desk, and stretched forth his tiny hand. There was no mistaking the

impulsive friendliness of the simple gesture.

"Let us be friends," he went on; you want me as much as I want you! I," he concluded, his pent-up emotions bursting forth uncontrollably, "I am your Two Hundred Dollar Salary Raise!"

When I recovered from the blackness of the swoon that overcame me I glanced fearfully about; only the accustomed forms met my gaze; only the familiar sound of pens, scratching ceaselessly my ear.

G. L. K.

5,000 FACTS ABOUT CANADA.

Do you know Canada? A novel and unique mine of information is found in the popular booklet, "5,000 Facts About Canada," just issued for 1914, and compiled by Frank Yeigh, the well-known statistical authority on things Canadian. This new edition shows a marked advance over previous issues in an increase of new data, a handsome cover, a revised map, and improved paper. The publication contains all the essential facts of Canada's progress in a year, under such chapter heads as Agriculture, Area, Banking, Census, Mining, Manufacturing, Trade, etc., while striking tables of comparisons present a measuring rod of our national development. Its wide circulation is easily understood when its value is realized, for it presents the Dominion in a nutshell a ready reference encyclopedia of facts and figures. It may be had by sending 25 cents to The Canadian Facts Publishing Co., 588 Huron St., Toronto, or from news dealers.

OTTAWA CUSTOMS OFFICERS.

The following officers were elected at the annual meeting of the Ottawa Customs Association on January 28th:—Honorary President, F. N. Journeaux; Hon. Vice-President, R. A. Clarke; President, R. Spittal; Vice-President, T. A. Hood; Secretary, J. L. McCullough; Treasurer, W. J. Fairbairn; Delegate to Civil Service Federation, T. H. Burns; Auditors, A. C. Whittier and F. Lapointe.

A recent expedition from the Smithsonian Institute to eastern Siberia confirms the results of the famous Morris K. Jesup expedition, as to the close resemblances between the natives of Siberia and the American Indians.