

# THE CIVILIAN

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## MORE CHRISTMAS.

Students of history tell us that Christmas was superimposed upon an ancient Norse festival, and that the gift-making, feasting and gathering of families are survivals of that pre-historic celebration. Other historians point to the noteworthy fact that Christianity died or was smothered in its early home, Asia Minor and North-east Africa, while the so-called barbarians of Europe not only gave it a home and preserved it in greater or less purity, but have been the means of sending missionaries back to its birth-place and throughout the world.

Christmas is thus an annual representation, a drama, as it were, in which the course of the greatest movement in history is compendiously shown. Much, if not all, that is good in the old heathen customs of our virile, conquering ancestors, survives with us, but transfused with the light and warmth of a religion whose one word is Love.

That old errors are still existent, that the transformation of the barbarian is not complete, even after two thousand years, is all too clearly seen in the sickening light of the lurid skies of Europe and Northern Asia and South Africa. Nevertheless we feel and know that, if our civilization has lasted for two thousand years as against a thousand of the best that went before it; if its influence overspreads the world instead of being confined to a single city or to a number of subject provinces; if its strongest elements are shedding their dearest blood that men may be free and not dominated by institutions or by other men, it is because our civilization, whatever strength it may draw from the social customs of our heathen ancestors, is, in aspiration at least, a Christian civilization.

"Christmas as usual" is the word that comes to us from those who would lead the public thought.

In such a year as this it should be Christmas more than usual. It is the spirit of Christmas that must save the world, the spirit of good-will and universal brotherhood. However much that spirit may need—as the world generally seems to think it does need—the protection of the arm of power in order that it may spread its healing among the nations, yet nobody doubts that the world will succeed, when success shall come, not by universal war, but by universal peace. If we are not to be overcome of evil there is no way open to us but to overcome evil with good.

War, they tell us, brings out the highest qualities in men,—fortitude, self-forgetfulness, regard for the common good. It is a form of exaltation. But exaltation cannot last forever. This is not a world of sublimities but a world of commonplaces; for otherwise the farmer could never overcome his awe of nature sufficiently to go on with his work; the mariner would be so completely under the spell of the ocean that he could not steer his craft; the man of the city would be dumb and dazed in the presence of souls on their way from the unknown to the unknown.

After war must come peace—that is what war is for. Called down

from their mounts of vision or of sacrifice, millions of soldiers must return to the everyday and the commonplace.

To what shall they return? To a world which they have saved and whose progress they have tried to help. But they are few, while the people at home are many. Shall they find that they have been helped in their task?

Yes, if the course of history be not changed. Through weltering ages of strife, the spirit of Love has been working. At times it has seemed to be killed, at times it has seemed to despair, at times it has even seemed to change to the spirit of Hate.

But if we look back far enough to get a clear view, we see that progress has been made; the old barbarism has grown less and Love has grown greater; the heathen Yuletide has more and more been made Christmas.

And so let it be Christmas More than Usual: not more noisy, not more hilarious, but truer, more far-reaching, more as He would have it who gave it to us.

### ON THE GALLIPOLI.

Postmaster R. G. Macpherson, of Vancouver, has received a letter from Company Quartermaster-Sergeant A. Wyborn, 1st Battalion, Essex Regiment, British Mediterranean Expeditionary Force, formerly of the Vancouver post office staff. The letter was dated at Anzac, Oct. 21, and the writer says in part:

Anzac is one of the new landing places on the Gallipoli Peninsula, a mile from the firing line. We got a fine reception as soon as we came in sight, but luck was with us, and through the able steersmanship of the commander we reached shore quite safe. You would be surprised at the spirit of our men when under fire. Men who before we came here seemed nervous are now as cheerful as if they were at a picture show. You can hear them all day long singing "Here We Are Again" and various other ditties.

From my own experience I find that it is not the Turks' firing that unnerves a man, but the continual roar of our guns. It is like the continual rattle of pneumatic riveters on an iron tank; then about 100 yards behind us we have a battery of artillery, who let rip at intervals, and then at sea behind us is our fleet, which every night comes and gives them their supper. It is enough to unnerve the strongest.

We are all anxious to get a move on and every man is grumbling because we are not allowed to advance. The Turks have not the heart to come over and see us. Now and again one will manage to get into our trenches and give himself up. The first thing he wants is food, then he

will tell us that the German officers are no good, and use very profane language towards them.

I have read in papers in England of the cruelty of the Turks towards our wounded, also that they fired on our hospitals. I defy any man to say this has happened here. We have gone out at night to bring in our wounded and found them with a Turkish waterbottle by their side, which some Turk had given him who had been on the same job as we were on, and the hospital has never been fired on once. I firmly believe that if it were not for the German officers with them the Turks would give in to-morrow.

The weather is getting very cold, but up to the present we have had very little rain and we all hope we will be away from here before the winter sets in, as if we are not then we shall be in for it, because the soil is all sand and when that gets wet it is like soap; not only that but we are all dug in underground and it will be far from nice down there.

Supplies then will be harder to get than now. As it is, we are on one-half water rations, as all our water comes from Alexandria, and they keep sinking our water boats, but as luck will have it the boats with the rum get here safely. We get plenty of cigarettes and tobacco, but flour and vegetables are never seen. Plenty of men here would give twenty-five cents for a nice potato.

### Wilson Didn't Care.

President Wilson instructed Postmaster-General Burlison to reinstate George Burkitt, removed as assistant postmaster at Winnetka, Ill., because he criticized the President for his engagement to be married.

# The 'Roll of Honour.'

## THIRTY-SIXTH LIST.

- W. W. Macpherson, Customs, Vancouver, 11th C.M.R.  
 G. W. Addison, Customs Dept., Ottawa, 80th Battalion, C.E.F.  
 Clemon Bourget, Customs, Vancouver, 18th Field Ambulance.  
 M. C. Boutilier, Customs, Halifax, 88th Battalion, C.E.F.  
 Thomas Clarke, Customs, Toronto, 123rd Battalion, C.E.F.  
 A. P. A. Cooke, Customs, Halifax, No. 7 Stationary Hospital.  
 W. T. Denison, Customs, Port Arthur, 94th Battalion, C.E.F.  
 E. D. Glenister, Customs, Halifax, No. 7 Stationary Hospital.  
 P. A. Hills, Customs, Halifax, 88th Battalion, C.E.F.  
 R. F. Kennedy, Customs, Halifax, 85th Battalion, C.E.F.  
 W. T. Lauzon, Customs, St. John, N.B., 104th Battalion, C.E.F.  
 R. J. McDougald, Customs, Ottawa, 2nd C.M.R.  
 Thomas McKennell, Customs, Toronto, C.A.M.C.  
 G. R. McLeod, Customs, Halifax, No. 7 Stationary Hospital.  
 W. C. Macpherson, Customs, Toronto, 2nd Div. Train, C.A.M.C.  
 E. G. Patterson, Customs, Windsor, 2nd Pioneers.  
 J. L. Scatched, Board of Customs, C.F.A.  
 Walter Taylor, Customs, Halifax, No. 7 Stationary Hospital.  
 T. T. Tobin, Customs, Halifax, No. 7 Stationary Hospital.  
 W. L. Turner, Customs, Halifax, No. 7 Stationary Hospital.  
 Harold Walker, Customs, Halifax, No. 7 Stationary Hospital.  
 A. W. Webber, Customs, Halifax, No. 7 Stationary Hospital.  
 R. D. Webster, Customs, Toronto, 32nd Battery, C.F.A., C.E.F.  
 F. J. Wilson, Customs, St. John, N.B., 73rd Battalion, C.E.F.  
 J. Wilson, Customs, Regina, P.P.C.L.I.  
 H. Hogarth, Trade and Commerce, Fort William, 96th Lake Superior Regt.  
 S. McLeod, Trade and Commerce, Fort William, 52nd Battalion, C.E.F.  
 W. S. Eggleston, Trade and Commerce, Winnipeg, 79th Cameron Highlanders.  
 W. F. Shapton, Trade and Commerce, Fort William, 52nd Battalion, C.E.F.  
 A. Hodge, Trade and Commerce, Fort William, 52nd Battalion, C.E.F.  
 T. Law, Trade and Commerce, Fort William, 52nd Battalion, C.E.F.  
 J. A. Ross, Trade and Commerce, Fort William, 44th Battalion, C.E.F.  
 R. Green, Trade and Commerce, Fort William, 44th Battalion, C.E.F.  
 R. C. Deakin, Trade and Commerce, Winnipeg, 61st Battalion, C.E.F.  
 A. W. Holder, Trade and Commerce, Fort William, 44th Battalion, C.E.F.  
 G. Spence, Trade and Commerce, Calgary, 31st Battalion, C.E.F.  
 A. Beaumont, Trade and Commerce, Winnipeg, 78th Battalion, C.E.F.  
 F. Walters, Trade and Commerce, Fort William, No. 1 Field Ambulance.  
 F. Briden, Trade and Commerce, Fort William, Army Service Corps.  
 T. Masterson, Trade and Commerce, Fort William, 52nd Battalion, C.E.F.  
 H. Harris, Trade and Commerce, Fort William, 44th Battalion, C.E.F.  
 B. Drury, Trade and Commerce, Fort William, 44th Battalion, C.E.F.  
 S. Clarke, Trade and Commerce, Fort William, 52nd Battalion, C.E.F.  
 A. Oliver, Trade and Commerce, Fort William, 44th Battalion, C.E.F.  
 Cecil J. Dewar, Militia and Defence, Ottawa.  
 Gilbert R. Slack, Militia and Defence, Ottawa.  
 S. Herbert Short, Militia and Defence, Ottawa.  
 J. C. Denmark, Militia and Defence, Ottawa.  
 S. J. Cairns, Militia and Defence, Ottawa.  
 W. Johnson, Militia and Defence, Ottawa.  
 Eug. Roy, Militia and Defence, Ottawa.  
 J. Donovan, Militia and Defence, Montreal.  
 J. Ferrugia, Militia and Defence, Montreal.  
 J. J. Warren, Militia and Defence, Montreal.  
 T. Wallace, Militia and Defence, Montreal.  
 G. McCleary, Militia and Defence, Toronto.  
 G. Footit, Militia and Defence, Toronto.  
 E. T. Bovey, Militia and Defence, Gananoque.  
 W. R. Seale, Militia and Defence, Granby.  
 R. Cardew, Militia and Defence, Quebec, (killed).

### SLACKERS, READ THIS!

Ernest Durand, of the Prescott establishment of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, now with the 8th Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, writes, under date of October 8th, from "somewhere in France," to a friend in his old home town. His letter is of a character to stir the slackest of slackers and *The Civilian* is glad to publish it.

Dear Friend,—

Received your letter O.K., and glad to hear from you. I have been here about two months and a half, on the firing line. At present we are having a rest of five days, but still we have quite a bit of work each day, but it's to be expected no matter where we are.

I am with the 8th Battalion, the "Little Black Devils" of Winnipeg, and I am proud to belong to this regiment. When the history of the war is written it will be mentioned that this regiment is the one that held the line at Ypres, when the odds were probably 50 to 1, and that is something to boast about. There are only about 150 of the old boys left, and it is sad to hear them tell the story of how the boys at Ypres fought and fell. Yet Ypres is not the only place where they have done work. Every father, mother, sister and sweetheart in Canada should be able to say with pride, "I have one who is there at the front," for it is the glory of the Empire in line, and every class should unite to make it endless. I have had it thrown in my face that there were not ten Canadian-born men to every 100, in the Canadian army. Can this be true? Are there Canadian-born women in Canada that hide their sons behind them when their brothers here are calling for their help? *Jack Canuck* says it is. It hurts me when I am not able to say it is a lie, for there is only one-fifth of this battalion Canadian-born, and I think I stretch it when I say that many. Still, we are all sons of the Empire, and if there are cowards at home, let them stay there, for they are no use here, only a bother to others. I myself do not believe there are cowards at home, it is that the people do not realize what this war is. They should have a glimpse of the truth by being here. Picture the old town and the old country around, in ruins, families scattered to God knows where, some dead, some wounded, some buried in nameless graves, families that will never be reunited again. Think of the fields dug full of deep trenches, trees shot down by shell fire, the very dead blown out of their graves, and that will give you some idea of the firing line which extends, well, you can see on the map, and is anywhere from one to five miles in depth. God knows

what it is like back of the German lines. No one wants this to happen at home, so tell all the old boys to do their little bit by coming out to help us. You may cheer the boys when they leave home, but it is nothing to the cheers that greet them here. How glad we are to get them, for every one is a link in the chain that binds, and the chain had begun to tighten. We are driving the honourless Huns back. Yesterday things were quiet, but to-day the guns are thundering again and saying victory for our side. We must win, we've got to win, and we are going to win; that's why we are here. To be under German law would mean dishonour for every one of our sisters. When we were disarmed and defenceless, we would only receive a bayonet in the heart by protesting to their being raped. Do you think we don't hear of what goes on in and behind the German line in the conquered territory of Belgium and France! While reading an English paper the other day, it said the people of Holland wept tears of joy on hearing of our victory, as they know the common danger. Has Canada woke up to it yet? Every man who grafts on the Government in this time of danger may be doing his own family an injury. Every man who is physically fit, and has no one depending on him, is worse than a coward if he does not come to help us. It is a hard life here. I have known what it is to be tired, believe me, and I have known what it is to have narrow escapes that would raise the hair on the bald head that runs the Prescott *Journal*, but I would be worse than a coward if I didn't see it through. Well, Wilfred, look after your mother, as she has only you to depend on, but show this to George Mason and see what he will do for us. I would like to be home for Christmas dinner with you, but I would be sure to make a grab for a piece of turkey with my fingers, I have got so used to using them instead of a fork or spoon, and to crawl into the cellar to go to sleep for the night would be my delight just now, for it would put me in mind of my dugout. I don't believe I would make for a bed instead of going to the cellar, for I doubt if I could sleep in a bed now. It would be fun to see me ducking to come in a door. I have got so used to ducking to get into the dug-

outs that I could not help it. To go through the back yard I would be shouting "wire overhead" when I passed under the clothes line, in order to warn the ones behind, or shouting out "step down" or up, as the case may be, in coming in the door that's in the dark. You should see the meals I cook here in the trenches. I am going to advertise myself as a good cook when I get back, in order to get a wife. Well, I will say good-bye for this time. I remain as ever your friend,  
ERNEST DURAND.

### OUR DEAD AND WOUNDED.

#### S. B. RICHMOND.

Private Stanley B. Richmond, 3rd Battalion, C.E.F., has fallen in action. After nine months' hard service without a scratch, he met instant death. Details of the sad event are not received. Private Richmond was but twenty-two years of age and was a clerk in the post office in Toronto, which city was his birth-place and home. He has a brother in the army.

#### SERGT. J. H. GRAHAM.

Sergeant James H. Graham, a Toronto Customs man, is reported wounded. He, too, saw a lot of hard fighting before an enemy's bullet found him. He is twenty-six years of age and enlisted with the 9th Mississauga Horse for the First Division of the Canadian Expeditionary Force.

#### WILLIAM BURNS.

William G. Burns, of the Toronto Customs staff, another 3rd Battalion man, who was wounded, is partly recovered and is on the staff of the Canadian Record Office in London. Burns was one of six chums who went to the front when the war broke out. Of the six, only one, Harold Hall, another Customs officer, remains on the firing line. Two of the others are missing, one is on depot duty at Havre and the sixth, N. J. Jackman, the only son of J. Jackman, a veteran Customs officer, has been invalided home after being

hit in the leg by a bullet, hurt in the body by a shell and "gassed." Jackman's answer to one of his sisters who, when told he had enlisted for the war, asked if he was really going, is characteristic of the man: "Well, what do you think I joined the militia for?"

#### LIEUT. G. V. W. HOWARD.

That Lieut. G. V. W. Howard, of the "Sifton" Automobile Machine Gun Battery, was wounded in the wrist and was a passenger for England on the ill-fated hospital ship "Anglia," which was mined in the Channel, is the news contained in letters recently received from him. Extracts are published elsewhere in this issue. "Gat" Howard, as he is popularly known, is an employee of the Royal Mint and a son of T. A. Howard of the Post Office Department. He served with the Canadians in South Africa. Both he and his brother, Laurie, entered this war as privates and both have won commissions. "Gat" is now home on leave.

#### WM. HARDING.

A Saskatoon correspondent reports the death in action of William Harding, a letter carrier, of that city. No details are given. Harding was in a First Division battalion and ranked as sergeant. He was twenty-five years of age and had been a letter carrier since 1912.

#### F. R. SMITH.

From the same source comes news that F. R. Smith has been killed in action. He was a clerk in the Saskatoon post office, was twenty-nine years of age and had been connected with the postal service since 1909.

#### H. M. GOOD.

Harold Good, another Saskatoon post office man, is reported to be a prisoner of war in Germany. He is twenty-two years old and a clerk of four years standing.

#### CAPT. LEWIS R. ROWE.

Captain Lewis R. Rowe, an apprai-

ser of the Customs office, Winnipeg, was wounded last August in the fighting at the Dardanelles and is now in hospital in England.

### WAR PERSONALS.

W. H. Hewitt of the Geodetic Surveys staff is giving his services to the 77th Battalion, C.E.F., as instructor in military physical drill and gymnastics. Mr. Hewitt also takes a great interest in the physical drill class of the Governor-General's Foot Guards.

H. H. S. Nutting, formerly of the Department of Trade and Commerce and a well-known athlete, has enlisted with the 32nd Battery, C.F.A., C.E.F., at Kingston.

Donald McKinnon, of Priceville, formerly of the Railway Mail Service, has gone to the front as a lance corporal in a signalling company. He was a lieutenant in the Army Service Corps but resigned his commission in order to get right on the firing line.

Lieut. R. S. Raby, of the Department of Railways and Canals, who was prevented by illness from going overseas with the unit to which he was attached, has fully recovered his health and is again on active service.

Private W. A. Cunningham, C. A. S. C., who is leaving for England shortly, was presented with a silver cigarette case, tobacco pouch, pipe and unbreakable shaving mirror by his late associates in the map engraving department, Government Printing Bureau.

### MAJOR W. W. MACVICAR.

Owing to the sudden death of Lieut.-Colonel (Dr.) Kelly, commanding the Lambton county battalion, C.E.F., the temporary command devolves upon Major W. W. Macvicar, of the Railway Mail Ser-

vice, whose former run was between Sarnia and London. It will be an honour to the Mail Service if Major Macvicar is promoted to the permanent command of the Lambton battalion, which does Ontario great credit owing to the fact that, according to the *London Advertiser*, 84 per cent of the men are native-born. The high percentage of natives in the Lambton battalion gives it a distinction of a most desirable character; it is doubtful if any county in Ontario can show a greater number of native patriots doing their duty. Good luck to them and their commander!

### FAMOUS MEN WILL ATTEND.

Charles W. Eliot, president emeritus of Harvard University, will be a visitor to Ottawa next June, on the occasion of the convention of the National Civil Service Commissioners. That is the information which Dr. M. G. LaRochelle, Civil Service Commissioner, and Wm. Foran, Secretary of the Commission, who attended the National Civil Service Reform League convention in Philadelphia, brought back.

Dr. Eliot, who was the principal speaker at the Philadelphia convention, promised to come, and among the other distinguished Americans who are expected to be here, are Charles W. Dana, President of the Civil Service Reform League; George W. Norris; Samuel Ordway, President of the New York Civil Service Association; Cardinal Gibbons, and many others.

Dr. LaRochelle expected to meet ex-President Taft, but he was unable to be present. An effort will, however, be made to have him attend the Ottawa convention.

Don't fuss about it; it may solve itself if you sit tight and just stay on the job.

**CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION.**

The Civil Service Commissioners will receive applications from candidates qualified to fill the following position: An Assistant Engineering Chemist in the Mines Branch of the Department of Mines, Sub-division A of the Second Division, initial salary \$1,600 per annum. Candidates must be graduates of recognized universities, who have specialized in chemistry. They should have proved their ability to carry out original research, and should have had at least two years practical chemical experience since graduation. Familiarity with the methods of analysis of solid and gaseous fuels and of ores, and with fire assaying is required. Evidence of reliability and accuracy in work should be submitted.

Applications must be filed not later than the 27th day of December.

**A SPECIAL CENSUS.**

The Customs and Statistics Office of the Department of Trade and Commerce is about to undertake a census of the manufacturing industries of Canada. Their number, character and amount of product, number of employees, wages paid, proportion of plant and wages devoted to the production of war material and many other details will be covered by the schedules which will be sent to the manufacturers by post and which they will be required to complete and return. This census will be the most thorough investigation of its character ever made in Canada.

**A "FLOW OF PROMOTION."**

Following the death of Customs Collector B. H. Smith at Nanaimo, H. L. Good, second in charge of the office, has been promoted to the vacancy. All the members of the staff have been moved up one. Mr. Good has been in the office for twenty-three years. The method of promotion has been well received by the Nanaimo public.

**OTTAWA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION.**

The Dramatic Club of the W. B., C.S.A., which was so successful last year, is to be revived and it is hoped the girls will take a keen interest in this branch of the Social Committee.

The club will be organized immediately after the New Year, and in order that the members may get down to work without unnecessary delay, those desirous of joining are asked to send in their names to Miss M. D. Doyle, P. O. Dept., as early as possible.

Regular subscribers to *The Civilian* are appealed to by the Women's Branch to assist the work as much as possible by mentioning to their friends those matters of interest to all members of the W.B., C.S.A.

As a means of promoting its social and beneficiary work, the Social Committee of the Women's Branch of the Civil Service Association of Ottawa is preparing to hold a masquerade dance in the Y.W.C.A. building on the evening of January 20th. A "grand march" will open the ball and, before the unmasking at the witching hour, prizes for the prettiest, funniest and most original costumes will be awarded. A limited number of tickets will be sold by members of the Executive and Social Committees or may be had on application to Miss E. L. Inglis, Auditor-General's Office, East Block.

**MAKING MISTAKES.**

Nathan Elliott fell down some stairs in New York and when picked up he was pronounced dead. That was four days ago, and at last reports he was said to have a fair chance for recovery. We just ran this one to show that editors aren't the only ones that make mistakes.

# THE CIVILIAN

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## THE NATIONAL DUTY.

*One cannot but wish that those persons who are spending money so freely and so gaily at the present time should be placed under the necessity of answering the questions of how the country's great national expenditures are to be met in the absence of private economies.*

—The Statist.

*There is but one thing to talk about and to work about these days. The business of all is the big business of the time: getting behind the war with every bit of our energy and every bit of our endeavour. Those of us who are not at the front must be doing our bit for recruiting and for the patriotic funds to back up those who are doing the fighting at the front.*

—Dr. Michael Clark, M.P.

*All our works, even the greatest, are so little in relation to the world's need; all our works, even the least, are so great in relation to the doer's faithfulness. There is the secret of self-respect. Oh, go take up your work and do it. Do it with cheerfulness and love.*

—Phillips Brooks.

## OUR BOYS

Previously reported:

Dead .....	38
Wounded .....	64
Prisoners .....	6

### DEAD.

S. B. RICHMOND.

W. HARDING.

F. R. SMITH.

### WOUNDED.

J. H. GRAHAM.

LIEUT. G. V. W. HOWARD.

CAPT. LEWIS R. ROWE.

### PRISONER.

H. M. GOOD.

## "ALL HOPE ABANDON."

There are people in the Civil Service of Canada who feel that they have been tricked into a life which really means deprivation of life. "Life is hope," says the seer. One in whose breast hope has died does not live—he merely endures.

The Civil Service of Canada is older than almost any of its members, and it seems the embodiment of experience to the youngster who has the opportunity to enter its ranks. It is controlled by men chosen for their wisdom and public spirit, men whom at least the majority of the people acclaim as truly patriotic and capable of leadership.

The public utterances of these great men, whether by words or by those deeds which speak louder than words, are to the effect that the Civil Service of Canada offers a career to the man of brains and industry.

And the first rewards of that service, those which naturally attract the attention of the young, are high. There are always young people ready to enter the Service.



But, after a time, when promotion has been earned and is reasonably expected, the young civil servant may learn of conditions of which he had no previous knowledge. He may learn, for instance, that there is some person ahead of him in the ranks whom it is impossible to promote because of inefficiency or some special cause, and that because of this he himself cannot be given promotion.

The situation is one not of his own making, nor can he mend it, however he may try. He feels aggrieved, but that feeling is only a canker eating away his own heart. His only defence is to get through his duties with as little wear upon himself as possible, and to center his interest outside his work.

Thus injustice reacts against the Service. Instead of enthusiasm, we have routine.

Justice to the individual in the Service and the public interest demand that there shall be in every department the "flow of promotion" of which Sir George Murray spoke in his report. In no other way can the Service be saved from the stagnation which, when it reaches its utmost depth, means general indifference and utter inefficiency.

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### WHAT IS A JIBE WORTH?

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Probably no class is quite so much injured by the cheap jibe as the Civil Service. The public tries a laugh at the expense, let us say, of the builder, the doctor or the lawyer. But it finds the value of the laugh—with interest—charged in its next bill, and has the satisfaction of paying for its own enjoyment. But when the public laughs at those whom it directly employs, the civil servants, the cheapest kind of a jibe is apt to show in restricted salaries and bad conditions for the unfortunate victims of the jest.

If this were understood, we should

be spared many a slighting remark and scoffing allusion concerning civil servants and their work, for these jokers are thoughtless rather than ill-natured.

On general principles, it is better to laugh than to be too solemn. Nevertheless, we do not settle public questions by jokes.

The Civil Service problem in Canada is a matter for statesmanship, not for jest. The difficulty is, not that the Civil Service does not do its work well, for the record is there for all men to see, and no man can deny the plain facts. The difficulty is that conditions are made hard, unpleasant and, in some cases, almost impossible for those who do the work. Justice to the workers as well as to the public makes necessary serious consideration of means of reform.

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Young man, are you in khaki? If not, why not? You need to have a good reason nowadays.

\* \* \*

Military duties and personal mishaps have sadly reduced the working force of *The Civilian's* editorial committee during the past few weeks. With the New Year all members of the staff may be back in harness.

\* \* \*

Make a New Year's resolution to keep your *Civilian* subscription paid up and to send in, promptly, all the items of Civil Service news that come under your notice. *The Civilian* is fighting the battle of every civil servant in Canada. When you help *The Civilian* you help yourself.

\* \* \*

The Postal Clerks' Association of the Dominion of Canada is an organization which deserves the whole-hearted support of every right-thinking public servant between the oceans. The men and women of other departments can but wish the association well, but the employees in the Outside Service of the Post

Office Department have the opportunity to make a movement which is all their own and for the benefit of every one of them, a great success. Attention is directed to "An Invitation" which appears in to-day's "Postal Journal." Read it.

\* \* \*

The editor of the "Postal Journal" suggests that subscribers to *The Civilian* send their copies, when they have read them, to "our boys" overseas. Good. Any one of the seven or eight hundred civil servants in Canadian divisions now in England or France would be glad to receive a *Civilian*.

### THROUGH MANY PERILS.

(*The Civilian is indebted to Mr. E. G. Ironside for the following account of the thrilling experiences of Corporal E. E. Cecil of Calgary.*)

Corp. Edgar E. Cecil, who was in the office of the Superintendent of the Railway Mail Service in Calgary before he enlisted for active service when war was declared, has been invalided home. He is a South African veteran and was five years in service as a soldier in India.

He was in the front rank in the charge at St. Julien and just before reaching the German trenches was struck in the thigh by a bursting grenade. Hastily twisting a cord around the wound to stop the rush of blood, he struggled to the rear. He was taken in charge by two "first aid" men, who had just started to dress his wound, when a stray bullet passed through his lips. Deeming this place unsafe, he arose and went further to the rear and after 24 hours his wound, which was a severe one, was properly dressed. He remained one week in the hospital in France and was then sent to Reading Hospital, England, and after six months there, was invalided home. He will be in the Convalescent Home here for

some weeks yet and is able to walk fairly well.

He has some wonderful experiences to relate. About the tightest place he was in, is as follows: Under a captain, he and four privates were reconnoitring between the British and German trenches, which were about 175 yards apart. In the darkness, they were cut off from their own trenches by about thirty Germans, who carried branches of trees before them and were thus disguised, making them appear as willow bushes, which abounded there. The British saw the Germans first but dare not shoot at them, as that would draw the fire from both trenches. Knowing they could not succeed in a bayonet charge, the captain planned to boldly march past them in single file, eight to ten yards apart. They did this, and the Germans, thinking it was some "extended order" movement and not knowing the small number of British, cautiously withdrew, thus allowing the British to gain their trenches. The British were within seven or eight yards of the Germans.

### "GAT" HOWARD'S STORY.

"Gat" Howard, of the Royal Mint, lieutenant in the Sifton Machine Gun Battery, whose name appears among "Our Dead and Wounded" in this issue, writes of his experience in the sinking of the hospital ship "Anglia." In a recent letter he says:

"I have one more experience to add to my long and varied list. But this one is unique and somewhat unusual. Our hospital ship, the Anglia, was blown up by a mine, when we were only three miles from Dover. She sank in fifteen minutes. There were about 100 ill and wounded on board and of these about 200 were cot patients. I was not a cot patient. There were 13 officers, five of whom were in cots. About 85 patients were killed or drowned, the majority of them within the first two or three minutes. About two minutes before the end I went over the rail and took to the water.

"There were dozens of boats around and I was picked up quickly. When we pulled

alongside the destroyer, we were loaded to the water's edge and we capsized. However, in a very few seconds I was hauled aboard. Of course, I lost all my brand-new officer's kit and all of my belongings. I have not felt any ill effects from my involuntary bath although my arm for a while afterwards pained rather more than usual, owing, I suppose, to the fact that I used it unconsciously while swimming.

"This is a splendid hospital and we get the best of everything. The surgeons are noted Harley Street specialists. The building is the town house of Lady Meynell.

"Two days ago I received by telephone a special message from the King, extending his sympathy and stating that he regretted his inability to come and see me. You know he was thrown from his horse in France and rather seriously injured, not long before my trip.

### MAJOR RORKE'S OBSERVATIONS.

Some interesting and inspiring observations on his experiences in the war are contained in a letter written by Major H. V. Rorke, of the 20th Battalion, C.E.F., to Alex. Ogilvy, of the Department of Customs. Major Rorke wrote to express, for himself and other Customs men at the front, appreciation of the packages of "comforts" sent to them by the members of the Department staff at home.

Major Rorke had the honour of commanding the detachment of the 20th Battalion which was inspected by the King and the Prince of Wales in October. Following is a paragraph from the letter:

"Your description of the good crisp Canadian fall weather, with its attendant robes of red and gold, make one feel a longing that finds response only in one word—CANADA. England, France and Belgium are all beautiful in their own particular features, but none of them compare with our own Canada and its healthy dry climate. If the censor permitted I should like to give you a full description of our present location. However, I can say that now we have alternate periods in and out of the trenches and the "outs" are alternately in brigade or divisional reserve,—the latter a little farther back

from the trenches than the former. At present we are in brigade reserve and the weather has been rather wet and unpleasant. Our dug-outs are so much under ground that the water usually gets in from the surface, to say nothing of the dripping through the roof which one has to try and dodge by moving his bed from one spot to another. The change of spots is so frequent that one feels like a leopard; but I believe gopher or groundhog would better describe our way of living under war conditions. As I look out over the fields to red-tiled farm buildings and some beautiful rows of tall shade trees along the main road which in times of peace must have been a place of joy to the many tourists for motoring, my vision is arrested by a military cemetery—not yet a year old—in which, if you could see it, you would realize how Britishers the world over are ready to do and die "for the right." We have our representatives there too, good fellows who have "done their bit," contributed to the uplift of humanity and participated in the greatest glory this world affords to mankind. Despite the rigours of weather and the hostilities of the enemy, our men preserve good heart and are as keen as ever to "get into grips," in fact they rather welcome return to the trenches. They are always cheery and like typical Canadians show to better advantage on duty "roughing it" at the front, than in ceremonial through city streets. I have not yet met any of our Customs officers except Herb McElroy and Stewart Bleakney. The latter I met in Hythe, England, on machine gun duty as a lieutenant and Herb I met out here about three weeks ago. He looks well, is hard as nails and was expecting a transfer to Records Office at London, if all went well."

### CANADIAN TREES TO MARK CANADIAN GRAVES.

A meeting of the forest rangers in the employ of the Forestry Branch of the Department of the Interior in the Revelstoke district was held recently at Revelstoke, B.C. Various matters concerning the efficiency of the work were threshed out and decided upon.

The loyalty of these rangers stationed at the very outposts of the Empire was evinced in the following resolution relating to a collection of the seeds of all the trees native to the

region made for the purpose set forth:

"This meeting respectfully requests the Director of Forestry to forward the collection of seeds of Revelstoke trees collected by Ranger Smythe to the Minister of Militia with the request that these be forwarded to the proper persons in France who will undertake to plant them on the graves of Canadian soldiers who have fallen in the defence of the Empire."

Though the staff of the Dominion Forestry Branch is comparatively small, it has given twenty-two of its permanent and four of its temporary men as recruits for the Canadian Expeditionary Forces.

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### **SOLDIER-BOWLER "WATCHED" BY CLUB.**

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An event of more than usual interest to the members of the Civil Service Lawn Bowling Club took place the first day of this month, the occasion being the presentation of a handsome engraved wrist watch to Mr. George Addison, the Chairman of the Bowling Committee, who has recently been appointed Quartermaster-Sergeant of the 146th Battalion, C.E.F. To Mr. Addison, who is one of the most prominent lawn bowlers of the city, is due a great share of credit for the very successful season enjoyed by the club during his term of office, and it was to show their appreciation of his efforts that the majority of the members of the club gathered that day to bid God-speed and a safe return to their comrade who had answered the call of King and country.

Before the presentation took place, the various prizes won on the bowling green during the past season were presented to the winners by Mr. Addison, who in his address gave a brief resumé of the activities and victories under his regime and, while

taking no credit to himself, complimented the club on its success and spurred the members to greater efforts next year. After the distribution of the prizes, Mr. S. L. T. McKnight, one of the oldest members of the club, in a few well-chosen words expressed the deep appreciation of the members for Mr. Addison's efforts in looking after the welfare of the club during the year and asked him to accept the wrist watch as a slight token of the esteem in which he was held by his comrades. Mr. McKnight also expressed the wish that the watch might be a constant reminder to Mr. Addison, while he was doing his bit, that the thoughts and best wishes of each member of the club would ever be with him.

Although taken wholly by surprise at the change in the programme, Mr. Addison quickly regained his composure and in his inimitable style, replied briefly to Mr. McKnight's address. Mr. Addison said he was deeply gratified at the manifestation of good-fellowship between the members of the club and himself and that while differences had at times arisen between them, such matters were quickly cast aside and forgotten when the welfare of the club was at stake. He said also that while he had made many sacrifices during the year, he had the interests of the club at heart and had no thought of intrinsic gain.

When Mr. Addison resumed his seat, Mr. McKnight called for three cheers and a tiger which were given with a gusto that left no doubt as to their sincerity. The gathering then broke up as Mr. Addison had to catch the train immediately for Belleville, the point of mobilization.

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### **MOVED.**

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The Land Patents Branch of the Department of the Interior has been moved from the Langevin Block to the Canadian Building, Slater street.

### PATRIOTIC FUND.

A new contribution to the Canadian Patriotic Fund will be one of the first important matters to be taken up by the Civil Service of Canada in the new year.

The new sub-committee on Patriotic Affairs, appointed by the Ottawa Executive, has already taken up its work and will have a definite program to lay before the full board shortly.

While nothing definite has been decided upon, it is probable that an appeal will be made to the Service just as soon as a general appeal is made by the National Executive of the Canadian Patriotic Fund Association. In anticipation of this, arrangements will be made, if possible, for a member of the Ottawa committee of the fund to appear before a general meeting of the Service in Ottawa to explain all the details of the organization's work.

### OTTAWA C. S. CLUB.

Departure of many members for the war and other causes have lately seriously reduced the regular income of the Civil Service Club, and a special meeting of the friends of the institution was held last week to consider the situation. The club started without capital, has expended, in all, about \$5,500 on furnishings and, in addition to paying large rentals and salary lists, has had to make up \$2,500 of unexpected deficits in assets and revenues. To facilitate successful and economic administration, it was decided to inaugurate an assessment system and to prosecute a vigorous campaign for new members. Present members and others interested who desire further information regarding the new plans should communicate with the officers at once. D. Ewart is President and E. A. Miles (Customs Statistics) Secretary of the club.

### MANITOBA RAILWAY MAIL CLERKS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the association was held at Winnipeg Dec. 4th. W. McPherson was elected chairman pro tem. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved; the Secretary read the correspondence.

The Secretary read details of the money subscribed for the purpose of sending Christmas presents to our boys at the front; \$77.75 was collected and expended in sending twenty-two parcels away.

The Secretary read his first annual report explaining in detail the important business transacted during the year, and asked for the support of every member during the coming year. (This report is presented in full elsewhere.)

Mr. Theobald, in moving the adoption of this report, suggested an amended way of balloting for officers next year and spoke very highly of the Secretary's work during the year. Mr. Hunt in seconding the motion made expressions of appreciation along the same lines as Mr. Theobald. Carried.

Mr. Theobald moved and Mr. Swinford seconded a "vote of thanks to the Executive for 1915." Carried.

Mr. Swinford moved and Mr. Theobald seconded "That check be kept on mail cars without storm windows and weather strips on the doors."

Mr. McPherson moved and Mr. Borland seconded "That Mr. Hunt be asked to put up a notice regarding the twine left in the office."

The meeting adjourned.

A special meeting of the Association Executive was then held for the purpose of electing the officers for 1916, with the following result:

President, R. A. Borland (acclamation).

Vice-President, L. C. Chislett, moved by W. McPherson and seconded by R. E. Hammill. Carried.

Representative to the Western Federation, M. Cyr (elected at the August meeting).

Secretary, C. A. Hives (acclamation).

Treasurer, F. Swinford, moved by R. E. Hammill and seconded by P. Theobald. Carried.

Executive, Messrs. McPherson, Hammill and Theobald.

### Annual Report for 1915.

As this is the first annual report that I have submitted to the association I hope you will excuse me if I have neglected to mention all the important business that has been attended to during the year.

As you know the British Empire is engaged in the greatest war in the history of the world, and for that reason we are affected in the first place by our inability (for the present) to rectify the injustice done to every railway mail clerk by the Senate throwing out Bill No. 147, which provided for annual increases of \$100 until the maximum is reached; in the second place by so many of our clerks serving with the army. Of twenty-four clerks now serving, there are only two who were not active members of this association.

Early in the year we interested the North Bay division clerks in our association and after forty of them had joined with us, they formed an association of their own in August, and intend affiliating with the Western Federation.

I have recommended to the Federation that they change their name to the Dominion Railway Mail Clerks' Federation, so that it may include every division in Canada in one organization.

We had two reports presented to us during the year, one referring to Accident and Sickness Insurance, presented by C. A. Halladay, of Ottawa. After a great amount of work accomplished by him, we have now one of the strongest insurance companies in Canada at our service, who have made their rates within the reach of all, and I hope all of you who have not yet taken out this insurance will do so at your earliest opportunity.

The next report is from Mr. Beausoleil of Montreal relative to the formation of a Benevolent Association. I have from time to time presented the large amount of correspondence on this subject at the meetings, and hope to receive information of its inauguration in the East early in the new year. This association will undoubtedly be a great benefit to all clerks, and I think will be worthy of our support when established.

In April a ballot was taken to decide what sport should be adopted for the summer, the final result being in favour of football, and I am pleased to say that our team won the championship of the Post Office League, and were well supported at all times by a good number of fellow clerks.

In July we made an offer of a machine gun and crew to the Department which was accepted by the Hon. T. C. Casgrain, P.M.G. Every clerk and member of the staff of the whole division contributed to same the sum of \$1,565.00. The surplus over the cost of the machine gun was donated, on the advice of Hon. Mr. Lougheed, to the Soldiers' Disablement Fund.

*The Civilian* in a recent article praises the R. M. S. for their generosity in contributing to the various funds, particularly the Western divisions, and I am pleased to say that this division has the best average for the number of men enlisted and money subscribed.

Last month we started a subscription list for Christmas presents for our boys on military duty, and succeeded in raising \$78.00 for this purpose, with which twenty-two parcels have been despatched to those whom we could ensure delivery to.

I might say here that Clerk Meunier has not been heard from for some time and is in all probability deceased. Clerks C. Brown and W. Currie have been wounded, the former very badly in the groin and the latter has been wounded twice, but I believe will be back in the trenches again shortly, and H. Cameron has been decorated with the Distinguished Conduct Medal for bravery in the field.

New by-laws were drawn up and approved at the May meeting and have been distributed to all members, and I hope you will read them in order to be conversant with them during the year.

Your new officers elected to their respective positions yesterday, will from time to time take up any reasonable question for the efficiency of the service, but to do this they must have the support of every clerk. We require well attended meetings, to thoroughly debate any subject arising at our meetings.

I would respectfully ask that every clerk pay his just dues with a little more promptitude in the future, early in January and July of each year. There are a few clerks who have not yet procured their 1915 card, and as the association is doing all in its power to promote the best interests of the Service to the advantage of every clerk, it is the duty of every clerk to support the same.

Respectfully submitted.

C. A. HIVES,  
Hon. Secretary.

### THE OTTAWA EXECUTIVE.

The first meeting of the Executive of the Civil Service Association of Ottawa for 1915-16 was held on the evening of Tuesday, December 7th, for the purpose of organizing and preparing for the work of the year.

About twenty-five members were present which is some improvement on the attendance at recent meetings. Several Departments have not yet elected their representatives, the only additions to be made to the lists published in *The Civilian* being C. J. Evans, Department of Inland Revenue, and R. W. Warwick, Department of Insurance, both re-elected.

The President, in opening the meeting, disclaimed any intention of making an inaugural address; he welcomed the new members to the Executive as well as those who had been re-elected, expressing the opinion that while the old members would prove of great assistance in carrying on the policies of last year's Executive the new members would be able to offer further suggestions in perfecting these and other activities during the year. He dwelt particularly on the need of completing the organization of the Executive by seeing that representatives were elected from all the Departments and all organizations, such as the Messengers' Association, which have interests in common with the Civil Service Association, in order that the Executive might continue to represent as nearly as possible the consensus of opinion of the Service on all occasions. He suggested that the Executive should formulate its policy as soon as possible with regard to the legislation already introduced or which might be introduced so that we would be able at any time to lay our ideas before the Government when we should be called upon. Finally he outlined the present position in regard to a further contribution to the Patriotic Fund which should be initiated without delay by the Executive.

A few changes were made in the standing committees for the year in order to deal effectively with the conditions we shall have to face. The changes involve the dropping of the sub-committees on Reorganization, Superannuation, and the Civil Service Bill, the last two to be succeeded by a sub-committee on Legislation while a new sub-committee on Patriotic Affairs has been appointed.

The sub-committees were named as follows, the first named member in each case being the convener; some additions will be made later when other Departments have elected their representatives:

Audit — Messrs. Lindsay and Doyle.

Legislation — Messrs. McVeigh, Grierson, Tremaine, Billings, Todd, Drake, Alexander, McGillivray, and Miss Dewar.

Third Division—Messrs. Birtch, F. J. O'Connor, Evans, and Miss Reynolds.

Patriotic Affairs—Messrs. Todd, Coats, Drake, J. C. O'Connor, Baudry, Grierson, McVeigh, Plant, Robillard, Doyle, Fauteux, and Miss Leyden.

Sanitation — Messrs. MacCormac, Kinsman, and Alexander.

Insurance — Messrs. Warwick, Grierson, Hann, and Miss Dewar.

Co-operation—Messrs. Doyle, Fauteux, Nunnick, and Misses Dent and Leyden.

Membership and Representation—Messrs. Baudry, Birtch, Dr. Carter, Tremaine, Evans, and Miss Dent.

Constitution — Messrs. McInnes, McGillivray, Lindsay, Tremaine, and Misses Dewar and Reynolds.

Publicity—Messrs. Todd and J. C. O'Connor.

An invitation was received from the Women's Branch to a general meeting on Thursday, 9th instant, for the purpose of hearing an address by Mrs. Stewart on relief work and to decide how the emergency fund should be expended this winter. The invitation was accepted

and Messrs. Todd, J. C. O'Connor, McVeigh, Fauteux, Tremaine and Plant were named as a committee to attend.

An invitation to a conference regarding the affairs of the Civil Service Club was also accepted and Messrs. Todd, Drake, Tremaine and McVeigh were chosen to present the views of the Executive.

Some accounts in connection with the annual convention were passed and the usual formal motions regarding auditing and payment of small disbursements were agreed to. It was decided to have a monthly meeting on the first Tuesday in each month and special meetings as required.

A meeting of the committee on Patriotic Affairs was held on Wednesday, the 15th instant, and a report will be presented to the next meeting. The other committees are also getting their ideas in shape and a full order of business will probably be ready for the January meeting.



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## ABRAHAM KNECHTEL DEAD.

Abraham Knechtel, B.Sc., Chief Forester of the Dominion Parks Branch, Department of the Interior, died on December 10th after an illness of only one week.

Mr. Knechtel was fifty-six years of age and was born in Brussels, Ont. He was one of the pioneers in scientific forestry on this continent. From Michigan Agricultural College, he was graduated in 1900, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Science. He then took a special forestry course at Cornell University, receiving the degree of Forest Engineer. For seven years prior to his coming to Ottawa to take up work in the Forestry Branch, he was attached to the Forest, Fish and Game Commission of the State of New York, and in that connection laid out the first forest plantation established by the State. In 1904 he was sent to the St. Louis Exposition to lay out a forest nursery there for the Commission. In recognition of his services there he received a special medal. In the same year he was sent by the New York Commission to Europe to study forest conditions and practice there. For several years Mr. Knechtel also delivered lectures in New York under the auspices of the New York State School Board.

Since becoming connected with the Canadian Civil Service in 1908 he had been widely known, not only in his official capacity but also as a popular lecturer. He was one of the men whose great work it has been to arouse interest and pride in the Dominion's priceless forest reserves. His early death is widely regretted.

A widow, two sons and two daughters survive.

## DOESN'T WANT HIS PAY.

Brigadier - General Garnet B. Hughes has declined to accept his salary as an engineer from the Department of Public Works during the war.



**LATE T. R. BURPE.**

Thomas Richard Burpe, formerly Deputy Commissioner of Dominion Lands, who died in Ottawa on December 1, was for many years a resident of the Capital, though for some time previous to his death he had made his home in Toronto.

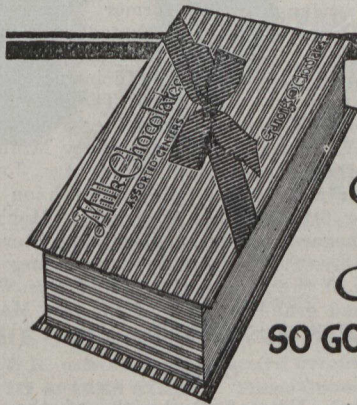
Mr. Burpe was born in Burmah, in the year 1848, and was therefore 67 years of age at the time of his death. His father was the Rev. Richard Burpe, the first missionary who went to Burmah from Canada.

At the age of sixteen Mr. Burpe was appointed secretary to Mr. (afterwards Sir) Sandford Fleming, who had just undertaken the historic surveys for the Intercolonial Railway. The young secretary had many stirring and interesting experiences as he made his way with his chief through the valleys and forests of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, much of it at that time a practically unexplored wilderness. In later years he always looked back with pleasure to those youthful experiences in railway building and invariably spoke in terms of the highest appreciation of his famous chief. He used to say that his very first duty was to draw up a list of those engaged on this railway work and that the first name on that list was that of Mr. Collingwood Schreiber, Canada's famous railway engineer.

Later, when Sir Sandford Fleming made his headquarters in Ottawa as Chief Engineer of the Intercolonial, and afterward of the Canadian Pacific Railway Surveys, Mr. Burpe continued with him as secretary. Some years later he was transferred from the Railway Department to the Interior Department, and in 1882 became Deputy Commissioner of Dominion Lands, with headquarters in Winnipeg. In 1897 he was moved back to Ottawa and continued as Deputy Commissioner until his retirement from the Service in 1908.

Mr. Burpe made good use of the leisure allowed him by his retirement and enjoyed life to the full. The summers he spent at his island in the Rideau lakes and in the winter he was fully engaged with religious and philanthropic work in Toronto. For several years previous to his death he was treasurer of the Church of England Deaconess and Missionary Training House in that city and as such bore the chief share of the executive work of that institution. He was also greatly interested in the work of the Bible Training School of which his son-in-law, Rev. John McNicol, who is an Ottawa boy, is principal.

Mr. Burpe was a member of the Church of England and during his residence in Ottawa attended St. George's church. He married in 1871 Annie Tilley, daughter of the late Sir Leonard Tilley, Minister of



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Finance in the cabinet of Sir John Macdonald. Besides his widow he leaves two sons and two daughters: Sandford A. Burpe, of Winnipeg; William C. Burpe, of the Bank of Ottawa, Montreal; Laleah Burpe, a deaconess in charge of that work in St. James Cathedral, Toronto, and Mrs. McNicol, wife of the Rev. John McNicol of Toronto. Mr. Lawrence J. Burpee, Secretary of the International Joint Waterways Commission, and Mr. F. D. Burpee, Superintendent of the Ottawa Electric Railway, are nephews.

The funeral took place from St. Bartholomew's church to the family plot in Beechwood cemetery and was conducted by Rev. Canon Snowdon, rector of St. George's, and Rev. W. H. Stiles, Secretary of the Diocese of Ottawa, an old friend, and was attended by personal friends and by the Deputy Minister and heads of the different branches of the Department of the Interior.

### MISS GRACE CRAWFORD.

The news of the death of Miss Grace Crawford, who passed away recently in Toronto, came as a shock of personal bereavement to her many friends in Ottawa. For nineteen years Miss Crawford had been connected with the Department of the Interior as one of the Secretaries to the Minister, and was held in the very highest esteem by all with whom she came in contact. Possessed of a brilliant mind and very high principles, she proved herself a most valuable public servant, while her buoyancy of spirits, even during her physical sufferings, was remarkable. Through several changes within the Department, she kept her place and was regarded by all with the deepest affection and respect. Miss Crawford, who was born in Toronto, was a niece of Judge Mosgrove, and had other relatives in Ottawa, besides a very wide circle of friends. She went to Toronto a short time before her death for medical treatment, which was, unfortunately, unavailing. She was an Anglican in religion, was keenly interested in all questions affecting public welfare, and was a strong supporter of the cause of woman suffrage. The funeral took place in Toronto.

## Personals.

### General.

Miss Wright, of the Department of Trade and Commerce, has returned to England. When the war broke out, Miss Wright was on the staff of Trade Commissioner Just in Germany and was interned for a time. After her release she came to Canada and has since been on the Private Secretary's staff of the Department.

The marriage of Jocene, daughter of W. J. Lynch, I.S.O., of the Patents Branch, and Mrs. Lynch, to Major James G. Galbraith of Winnipeg will be celebrated at Saskatoon on December 28th.

Arthur S. Bourinot, whose volume of verse, "Laurentian Lyrics" is referred to elsewhere in this issue, is a son of the late Sir John Bourinot. He is a clerk in the Department of Indian Affairs but is at present serving as an officer in the Canadian Expeditionary Force.

Lieut. Wm. G. Addison, of the Canadian Field Artillery, who is home from the front on furlough, was presented by his colleagues of the Topographical Surveys Branch with a silver tea service on the eve of his marriage. The presentation was made by Thos. Shanks, Assistant Surveyor-General, with well-chosen remarks, to which the recipient made appropriate reply. The marriage of Lieut. Addison to Gladys, daughter of former Mayor and Mrs. Hopewell, was celebrated on December 8th at Dominion Methodist church, Rev. Wm. Sparling, D.D., officiating, assisted by Capt. the Rev. B. W. Thompson.

Lieut. Collingwood Schreiber Jones, son of L. K. Jones, Assistant Deputy Minister of Railways and Canals, and Mrs. Jones, was married in All Saints church on December 6th by Ven. Archdeacon Mackay, to Margaret Agnes, eldest daughter of Major A. T. Phillips, Superintending Engineer of the Rideau Canal, and Mrs. Phillips, and granddaughter of the late Major-General Frederick Phillips.

### Obituary.

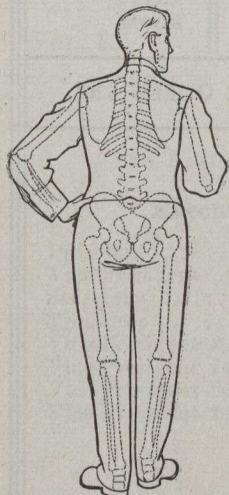
Joseph Edward Beckwith, of the Imperial Pension Office, died at his home in Ottawa South on December 12th, aged sixty years. He was a native of Canning, N.S.

The wife of A. C. Beach of the Customs of Blairmore, Alberta, passed away in St. Joseph's Hospital, Chatham, where she had been in a helpless condition for two years from two paralytic strokes. Her body was brought to Ottawa for burial. Mr. Beach was married in Ottawa 49 years ago, the 26th December, 1867.

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**PARCELS GO CHEAPER.**

The Postmaster General has found a way to free the soldiers' parcels of the heaviest part of the post office tariff. Canadian friends of soldiers at the front will appreciate this concession on the part of the Dominion Post Office. By having to spend less over postage, people will now have the pleasure of putting more into the parcels of good cheer.

In future parcels from Canada for the Expeditionary Forces may be sent to France and Flanders at the same rates as parcels from the United Kingdom. Instead of the former Dominion rate of 48 cents on a parcel weighing three pounds, the new rate will be 24 cents. For parcels weighing over three pounds and not more than seven pounds the new rate will be 32 cents. For the present, the weight of parcels is limited to seven pounds.

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# THE POSTAL JOURNAL

VOL. I.

DECEMBER 24, 1915

No. 6

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

## Executive Board of the Postal Clerks' Association.

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## The Association Aims.

1. To obtain for all Post Office clerks one day in each week for a day of rest.
2. To impress upon the Government our desire that eight hours shall constitute a day's work, such eight hours to be completed within twelve hours and to consist of not more than two attendances.
3. That seven hours constitute a day's work between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m.
4. To obtain time off for all overtime worked or payment in lieu thereof.
5. To secure equal conditions for all Post Office clerks, whether employed in semi-staff or city offices.
6. To abolish, by any and every means in its power, the patronage system, at the same time bringing all possible pressure to bear upon the Government in order to obtain the adoption of the merit system throughout the entire Civil Service.
7. To secure, as a reward for merit and long and faithful service, the higher positions in the Postal Service, knowing that such positions can be filled more advantageously from the rank and file of the service than by the appointment of individuals having no knowledge of Postal work.
8. To stimulate and foster organization among Post Office clerks, believing, as we do, that by this method only is it possible to obtain justice at the hands of the Department and equal rights for all.

All correspondence, matter for publication, etc., should be addressed to the Editor, A. Venables, Calgary, Alberta.

## EASTWARD HO!

The formation of a Postal Clerks' Association which would embrace all Post Office clerks in the Dominion of Canada, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, is a subject which has been given much thought and earnest consideration by all those who are sincerely interested in the Association movement. It may perhaps come as a surprise to our Eastern colleagues to be informed that no further back than a year ago, the proposal was

strenuously opposed, chiefly by the most westerly offices, who believed that the formation of such an association would result in the "balance of power" being transferred to the East and that the Western offices would be left voiceless when any serious question was submitted to the association as a whole, owing to what was called the "controlling vote" being considered all powerful. Why such an opinion should have been entertained it is difficult to say, because the constitution of what is now

the Postal Clerks' Association of the Dominion of Canada allowed for representation according to numerical strength, and it is only logical to conclude that large branches which indicated a certain opinion on any subject were in a way voicing the sentiment of the members of the association as a whole. This brings us to the question of what our sentiments or opinions might be, and it was argued by those in favour of confining our activities to the West that the Eastern and Western interests were divergent and their viewpoints dissimilar, and that any amalgamation would result in disaster for the West. Let us examine, for an instant, this statement upon its merits. All postal clerks in Canada are employed by the same Department, and are subject to the same rules and regulations. We enjoy the same privileges, suffer from the same hardships, and share alike the common hope that in the future much of what we have set out to attain may be accomplished. Why then this talk of divergent interests when all our ideas coincide?

The conventions of this association have proven to the members that while there may exist slight differences of opinion (due in most cases to local conditions) on questions submitted for consideration, the general opinion on those questions which concern us all is practically unanimous. Would not the same hold good were the convention representative of all offices from Halifax, N.S., to Victoria, B.C.? Let anyone who imagines otherwise examine the platform of this association as set forth in the numbers of the "Postal Journal," and reflect for a moment whether such would be distasteful to himself or to his fellow clerks, or if an association exists at his office, whether such association would not endorse the policy. And having reflected, let him consider whether more good would be accomplished by

having his ideas submitted as his own, or as those of a single association, or as representative of the Postal Clerks of Canada as a whole. Again let us remember that any views put forward would be submitted for the consideration of every office, and that nothing but what met with the entire approval of the majority would ever be considered as a plank in the platform of our association. We want our platform to be representative. For this reason we need to "pool" all our opinions, and having sifted the chaff from the grain, the grain will be served in very delectable form to those concerned.

This is our ORGANIZATION YEAR. During our short life we have accomplished much and with a more representative membership we hope to accomplish more.

As far as our activities are concerned, we do not consider this an opportune time to make any requests which at other times would be considered quite legitimate. Let us set our house in order so that when the time comes and we require our energies and wisdom to solve the problems laid before us, we may not be weighed in the balance and found wanting. All the great men of our Empire are agreed that after the war is over things can never be the same again. All the world is under the war cloud, and the thoughts of men are turning into different channels from that in which they ran before the mailed fist struck. We have seen that we cannot live for ourselves alone. We must be prepared to do much for others, and the signs are not wanting that the trend of public opinion is slowly veering round from one of innate selfishness in its own affairs to a more healthy outlook upon the welfare of the community and the world at large. With such a different outlook will come reforms and not the least of these will be Civil Service

Reform. Much has happened in the Dominion of Canada since the outbreak of war to call the attention of the people in no measured voice to the need of such. We have seen corruption exposed in high places and think that the general public will demand in course of time, a Civil Service which shall be maintained by the people and for the people, in which every British subject shall have equal rights, irrespective of his political opinions, and in which such corruption would be rendered impossible. When such reforms come all Civil Service Associations will require the best talents their members can offer and this association requires that we shall be prepared to represent the whole of the class named in the title which we assumed at last convention. In unity there is strength and if the individual members of the various Postal Associations will carefully consider what would best satisfy and represent their interests, they will no doubt come to the conclusion that a Dominion Association, acting in unison for all offices, would best serve such a purpose.

For these reasons we cry "*Eastward Ho!*" Not in any spirit of bravado, for the invitation has come to us from the East and ours is but the answering call, in which we have responded with all our might. So far we have been cheered by one application and we can truly say that our members now include both those who hear the Atlantic's mighty road and the Pacific's murmuring swell. We need more and are confident that we shall get more. It may be that some are standing out because our association is still controlled by the West. This is a condition of affairs which could not be avoided and if the other associations decide to throw in their lot with us, no doubt next year's convention would solve matters satisfactorily to everyone concerned—both as regards officers,

fees and representation. We need to get together to talk matters over. Drop all hesitancy and let us see what we can do. We need each other's help and can gain nothing by standing aloof. One has only to look at the example of the United Kingdom, where, after years of strife the Postal Association found it beneficial to join together into one harmonious whole. In the United States, the postal clerks suffer through having a divided camp and it is apparent to the observer that better progress would be achieved could they meet on a common ground and advance as a co-ordinated force.

With the help of all the postal clerks in the Dominion of Canada we shall have attained an object which will place our association in a position to gain one of the aims for which it exists, namely, the bettering of the conditions of the postal clerks of Canada.

"*Eastward Ho!*" until our chain is forged from coast to coast and we shall be united as one in a brotherhood which will aid us both materially and fraternally.

"Let us then be up and doing, with a heart for any fate,  
Still achieving, still pursuing, learn  
to labour and to wait."

#### NOTES BY THE WAY.

No apology to our readers is considered necessary for the amount of space we are using in connection with our campaign for a Dominion wide association. This is our organization year and we are after recruits in real earnest.

It is to be hoped that our colleagues in the Ottawa post office enjoyed themselves upon the occasion of their ball held last month. Moreover, in view of the fact that it was held in order to raise funds for their per capita tax to our association, it is earnestly hoped that it was a tremendous financial success.

An apology is extended Vancouver for the omission of a large quantity of branch notes from our issue of the 26th November. A satisfactory explanation has been forwarded that branch.

Our branch notes in this issue would indicate that the Christmas rush was on

at the time of writing. Nothing but a shortage of these interesting items could be expected at such a time.

May 1916, which is practically upon us now, see our Empire and her allies so well organized that the cause of right may overwhelm the enemy. May 1916 see our association so well organized from coast to coast, that the cause of right may—make itself felt, at all events.

“Don’t lend your copy” is one of *The Civilian’s* mottos. That does not mean that your copy wouldn’t be welcome in the trenches. By sending your copy, when read, to France you will be helping your association to keep in touch with its members on active service. DO IT NOW.

It is intended to start a correspondence column, in which letters to the editor or questions of general interest may appear. Now boys, let’s hear from you.

We learn from a recent order that the Department consider the lighting bills too heavy. While this is doubtless true in some cases, we feel that if, when some of the post offices were built, more glass and less electric wire were used, the Department would probably save some money and their employees some eyesight.

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#### AN INVITATION.

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The majority of Eastern post offices have an organization of some description. This invitation is addressed to the clerks in these associations. The Postal Clerks’ Association of the Dominion of Canada is appealing to you for your co-operation. Our General Secretary, whose headquarters are in Winnipeg, has written you on the matter. Start the new year in our midst. It may be that you elect your officers and hold your annual meeting in January, in which case it makes it all the more an opportune time to affiliate with our association. There may be reasons, perhaps big reasons, why you should hesitate to join our ranks without considerable thought. We ask at least, that you write and discuss these hindrances, if they exist, with our Secretary, when you will learn what we have repeated so often, that we are willing to meet you a very fair half way on any point that may arise. No harm will be done by writing our Secretary on these questions and you are likely to find that your obstacles are much smaller than possibly you realize. Our association, during its three years existence, has done much for the benefit of its members but if we can say that we represent a large majority of Canadian postal clerks a big hindrance to our progress will disappear to YOUR BENEFIT as well as our own.

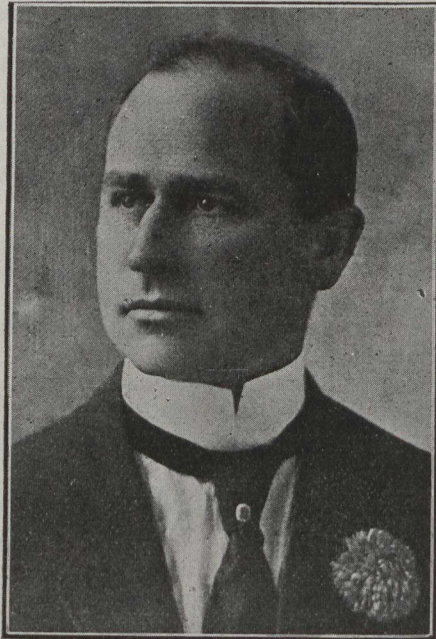
#### BRANCH NOTES.

##### Vancouver.

Postmaster R. G. Macpherson was elected President of the St. Andrew’s Society.

Sergt. J. C. Lucas and Sergt. R. A. McIntosh of the Vancouver post office staff, who have had charge of the Vernon field military post office during the summer, have returned to Vancouver.

The post office employees gave \$100 from their patriotic fund to the Vancouver



R. G. MACPHERSON,  
Postmaster of Vancouver.

Women’s Patriotic Fund. This organization of women supplements the work of the Canadian Patriotic Fund by caring for the wives and families of enlisted men during the interval between the breadwinner’s enrollment and the receipt of the first aid from the national fund. Very often this is a period of great distress for the dependents of the soldiers, left penniless and without resources. During October a hundred such cases were handled.

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##### Calgary.

The monthly meeting was reasonably well attended and the business disposed of in good time. The latter part of the evening, which was devoted to cards, was not supported as well as it should have been, but those who were there seemed to en-



joy themselves pretty well, and all were wiser than previously. It was found that cups were a very good substitute for glasses and somebody learned that Octavius could play a good game of crib.

Is there any truth in the rumour that the P. N. branch may have to make application to be moved further away from the G. D.? What's all this Lena stuff about anyway!

#### Edmonton.

Our annual meeting was held on the 8th inst., at the Blue Moon Tea Rooms. The election of officers took place at this meeting with the following result: Hon. President, G. S. Armstrong, Esq., Postmaster; President, H. D. Talbot; Vice-President, G. Duckworth; Secretary, E. Crossland; Treasurer, E. H. Mitchell; Committee, D. McPherson, J. Cook and G. E. Goodall. The Secretary read the annual report of the proceedings during the past year. Our Postmaster was our guest of the evening and in an inspiring address expressed great pleasure at being with the boys at their meeting. Our President in a few well chosen words thanked the speaker for his kind sentiments and moved that a hearty vote of thanks be tendered the Postmaster, which was carried unanimously. Our co-workers put in a welcome appearance and some matters of vital importance to our Stratheona members were put through in quick style. The reports of the officers was the next item, which was passed by unanimous approval. The National Anthem closed the enjoyable evening.

One of our members is wearing the "big smile" these days. It's a girl. Congratulations Leslie.

The Edmonton branch sends heartiest Christmas and New Year greetings to all the Postal Clerks' Association branches throughout the Dominion.

#### Moose Jaw.

Ten members of the Regina branch, including Messrs. Gardner and Beauchamp, President and Secretary, respectively, were the guests of our branch at a banquet held at the Royal George hotel on November 24th. The Regina members arrived at 1 o'clock and were taken up to the post office where views were exchanged of the different ways of working the two offices. At 5 o'clock they were taken to the Rex theatre and about 8 o'clock to the Royal George. After a very enjoyable evening they left on the Tri-City train at 10 p.m.

#### Saskatoon.

Our branch, notwithstanding the fact that we have sent 15 members away to the war, is still progressing. We have never been in a better position either numerically or financially. During the year, in co-operation with the Letter Carriers' Union,

we have been successful in obtaining for the use of the clerks a recreation room. The thanks of the staff are due to the Postmaster, Mr. M. Isbister, for his efforts to bring our endeavours to a satisfactory conclusion.

In the field of sport, too, our boys have been successful in winning the premier position in the Mercantile League Football competition, only losing one match in the whole series.

Officers elected for the coming year are as follows: President, W. Rosson; Vice-President, H. W. Gibson; Secretary, S. W. Foster; Treasurer, R. D. Torbet; Executive, Messrs. Anderson, Howarth, Francey, Mellis and Simpson.

We are hoping to run a series of debates at the conclusion of the monthly meetings and we feel that this will create further interest in the association and its work.

Out of a total staff of about 75 men, we have sent no fewer than 26 to the King's army. Our casualties to date are as follows: Killed, Sergt. S. M. King, Sergt. W. Harding and Pte. F. R. Smith. Pte. H. M. Good is a prisoner of war in Germany.

#### Regina.

Regina notes will appear next issue. My correspondent is getting married.—Editor.

### POSTAL CLERKS' ASSOCIATION OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 22nd, 1915.

Editor of the "Postal Journal," Calgary:

Dear Sir,—In the issue of the "Postal Journal" of the 12th November, 1915, there appears an article setting forth resolutions regarding letter carriers and the Service generally, which were passed at the Trades and Labour Congress held at Vancouver, B.C., Sept. 20th to 25th.

Its inclusion in our pages has given rise to questions concerning the attitude and relation of the association towards trades unionism, and in reply to these queries, I wish to state that a proposal to affiliate with the Trades and Labour Council was defeated by a large majority in the year 1914. Also, this association is entirely independent and has no connection with any other body. Its only intended affiliation is with the Civil Service Federation.

I might also state that the association does not agree with all of the resolutions outlined in the article in question.

A. S. BLACK, President.

NOTE.—Our readers will find that Branch Notes always conclude the matter contained in the "Postal Journal." The above letter is therefore published in case there are any who imagined that the article referred to was published as part of the "Postal Journal."—Editor.

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