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MONTREAL, P.Q.

THE CIVILIAN

VOL. IX.

FEBRUARY 16, 1917.

No. 22

Post Office

Work of One Department for the Year 1916.

The snapshot philosophers who treasure the picture of a well-dressed young man lolling in an office chair and reading the leisurely newspaper as being a true representative of the Civil Service ought to look at the facts as they are presented in any government report. An instance is the report of the Postmaster General for the current fiscal year. This is chosen, not because it is more typical of the Service than any other, but because it deals with matters which come more closely and more intimately into the experience of the average man or woman than any other. To cite the report of Marine and Fisheries, or Interior, or almost any other, might lead to a discussion of many matters with which only experts are familiar. But everybody buys postage stamps, everybody sends and receives letters, and almost everybody has a more or less direct interest in some post office savings bank account or some government annuity contract.

The average man is not aware, for instance, that he posted an average of almost twenty letters every working day during the year 1915—the number for 1916 is not yet given. Yet that is the fact—685,000,000 letters posted in the year, or an average of 5.067 per head of the population, which, at 300 working days to the year, would be an average of over sixteen a day. In 1916 no less a sum than \$20,618,000 was paid for postage stamps. Cut this up into ones and twos and threes and consider how many transactions it makes. The

amount was much larger than in former years, which is to be accounted for, no doubt, by the war tax. While we are at it, let it be stated that the total post office receipts for the year were \$18,858,000, which was enough to pay all expenses and leave a balance on the right side of \$2,850,000. All this money had to be handled in and out in an almost unthinkable number of small transactions. But this was only a small part of the money that post office employees had to account for. They were entrusted with over \$105,000,000 to be paid on account of post office orders and postal notes. The post office savings banks took in \$8,540,000 and paid out within a fraction of \$9,000,000, and it holds to-day over \$40,000,000 for no less than 134,000 people. The Annuities Branch took in \$442,000 in the course of the year and paid out in annuities \$165,000. This Branch now holds \$2,315,000, which is accumulating to meet future demands under the 3,920 contracts already made.

The idea that business of this nature, involving these amounts, and covering half a continent, is to be transacted by any number of young men who spend their time in reading newspapers seems quite a joke.

But to make the joke more perfect, just consider the losses that have taken place. Every last cent of every loss that has been incurred anywhere in the system during the year is set forth in the report with a wealth of detail which the snapshot philosopher can hardly regard as less than meticu-

lous. Including all the stamps and money buried in the thousands of little shacks throughout the country that do duty as country post offices; all wrecks and other accidents; all burglaries, embezzlements and other crimes; all losses through error or delay; all registered letters lost or unaccounted for;—the whole grand total of errors in which the post office was either the culprit of the victim amounted to \$4,468.

Somebody must have taken his attention from his newspaper for a minute or two, or surely this great work could not have been carried on with such a merely fractional loss.

Nor is the post office merely a big unchanging machine which takes in material, post-marks it and gives it out again. It is the most modern, the most progressive, the most up-to-date business in the country. One of its latest ideas is the rural mail delivery route, by means of which the post office is brought right to the farmer's front gate. This means the closing of many small post offices, making in the aggregate a very noteworthy change in the general system. There were nearly three hundred fewer post offices at the end of the year than there were at the beginning. But almost three hundred and fifty new offices had been opened, mostly in the suburbs of big cities and in the newly developing towns of the west and north. The rural mail routes had increased by 462, and almost 24,000 farm homes were being served that formerly had to depend for their mail upon visits to the village post office.

These are only the big changes. Consider the number of offices made vacant by resignation, dismissal or death. Consider the number of appointments to be made not merely to fill these places, but to man the new services of every kind that are constantly opening. Consider the changes in location of post offices, the changes in mail routes, the extensions into newly-settled territory. All these things are accepted by the public as

commonplaces, as things that are operated by several forces, like the movement of the planets. But the men and women of the Post Office Department could tell a different tale. They could tell of nerves worn out in office worry or of hardships endured in the storms of our northern winters; of endless care in threading a maze of small detail or of downright heroism shown in the one object of life to them,—getting the mail through on time. In the midst of their work they, too, smile at the joke that all this combination of miracles is wrought by idlers who spend their time lolling in office chairs and reading newspapers.

THE PATRIOTIC FUND.

The response of the members of the Dominion Public Service, who have their permanent or temporary homes in the Capital, to the third call for contributions to the Canadian Patriotic Fund, is gratifying in the extreme. The campaign which was conducted on the 7th, 8th and 9th of February, consecutively with that of the Central Committee in Ottawa, was under the auspices of the Patriotic Affairs Committee of the Civil Service Association; Mr. A. DeB. Tremaine, chairman.

Profiting by the experience gained in a similar campaign in January, 1916, the committee organized itself and pursued its way along lines that the past had shown to be successful. In the face of many difficulties which presented themselves owing to the circumstances surrounding the public servants in Ottawa, as is also true elsewhere, the fact that at the final complimentary dinner which was tendered the campaign workers at Murphy-Gamble's the committee captain, Walter Todd, was enabled to announce a grand total of over \$137,000 as against the \$132,000 announced at the same time a year ago, speaks volumes for the people who had a part

in the glorious privilege of giving. They are indeed ready to see that insofar as it is possible the people left behind by the men of the fighting units do not suffer unduly because the bread-winner has gone away.

It must not be lost sight of that a great portion of this sum is made up by the contributions of the lower paid men and women of the Service, whose fixed salaries render it increasingly difficult, month by month, to meet the rapidly increasing cost of the necessities. Such may be really considered as "giving until it hurts." Then, too, over eight hundred men in Ottawa Public Service have enlisted, and almost without exception their previous contributions are withdrawn. These men's places are either unfilled, or being filled by temporary employees whose salaries are at the minimum and from whom little can be expected. An analysis of the lists shows, however, that these people did do extremely well. The Public Service at Ottawa may quietly and properly accept the tribute paid by the acting chairman of the Friday evening dinner, when he said: "The Civil Service has done remarkably well, and are a body of citizens we may well be proud to have in our midst." Unfortunately we are not able this issue to give details of contributions by departments.

WAR PERSONALS.

Flight Sub-Lieutenant Joseph Hobbs of the Royal Naval Air Service, who, in civil life, is a Public Works Department official at Sault Ste. Marie, has been having some lively experiences in England. He graduated from the Toronto aviation school and went overseas in November, 1915. He was attached to the Eastbourne flying station until May, 1916, and was then transferred to Great Yarmouth, Norfolk. The flyers there keep up a patrol of the British and Dutch coasts, looking out for sub-

marines, and also serve on sea-planes and mother ships, watching for zeppelins. In September his engine went wrong when he was in the air and he was forced to make a landing on rough ground. He received a shaking up which placed him on the invalid list for four months and he was allowed to come to Canada to recuperate. He has now returned to duty in England.

Brigadier-General Garnet B. Hughes, D.S.O., has been selected to command the new Fifth Division of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, and will be raised to the rank of Major-General. He is a son of Lieut.-Gen. Sir Sam. Hughes, and, in civil life, a Public Works engineer on the Pacific coast.

Edward G. Blaylock, who has been appointed to the Inland Revenue staff at Belleville, belonged to the noble First Division of the C.E.F. He enlisted on August 24th, 1914, with the 34th Battery, C.F.A., at Belleville, and was drafted into the 2nd Battery of the overseas force. At Ypres on April 25th, 1915, he received wounds that sent him through a series of hospitals in France and England and finally to a convalescent home in Canada. On his discharge he was temporarily appointed to the Inland Revenue office in Belleville and has since qualified for and received permanent appointment.

WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.

The new War Savings Certificates which have been created by the Government to encourage thrift and economy and to give everyone an opportunity to assist in financing our war expenditure, are now on sale at every bank and money order post office in Canada. The \$25 certificate sells for \$21.50, the \$50 for \$43, and the \$100 for \$86.

As an investment these certificates offer many attractive features—chief of which are the absolute security and the excellent interest return. For

every \$21.50 lent to the Government now, \$25 will be returned at the end of three years.

There are two other features which are especially interesting to small investors. First, the certificates may be surrendered at any time, if the buyer should need his money; and, second, each certificate is registered at Ottawa in the buyer's name, and, if lost or stolen, is therefore valueless to anyone else.

But while they are excellent from an investment standpoint, the certificates should appeal strongly to Canadians because they offer to those who must serve at home a splendid opportunity for a most important patriotic service. The person who honestly saves to the extent of his ability and places his savings at the disposal of the Government by purchasing these certificates, may feel that he is having a direct share in feeding, equipping and munitioning our Canadian soldiers, who are so nobly doing their part.

GET BRITISH COMMISSIONS.

Two members of the Canadian Civil Service who went overseas with the Canadian Expeditionary Forces and have done meritorious service in France, have recently been granted commissions in the British army.

Herbert H. McElroy, of the Department of Customs, Ottawa, went to the front with the 1st Brigade, C.F.A., saw all the hard fighting around Ypres early in 1915, was severely wounded and got his sergeant's stripes. Now he becomes an officer of the British army.

D. M. Dargie, a railway mail clerk of Vancouver, enlisted early in 1915 with a reinforcing company for the Princess Pats, and was wounded in the following September. He is now gazetted a second lieutenant in the Royal Artillery and posted to a 9.2 howitzer battery.

CIVIL SERVICE CASUALTIES.

CHAS. C. HEWSON.

Charles Clinton Hewson, a member of the staff of the Grain Commission, Department of Trade and Commerce, at Winnipeg, is officially reported as "missing, believed killed, January 5th, 1917."

FRED. D. WELSH.

Recent casualty lists contain the name of Sapper F. D. Welsh, formerly a railway mail clerk in the Calgary district. He is reported as "wounded, remaining on duty." Sapper Welsh, who is twenty-three years of age, was born at Howe Island, Ont., entered the Service in 1912 and enlisted in September, 1915.

OSCAR VENASSE.

Private Oscar A. Venasse has been wounded for the third time and is in hospital in France. He is a Public Works man who went to the front with the First Division. He was a recruit of the 43rd Regiment and went overseas with the 2nd Battalion. He was first wounded in October, 1915.

DOMINION LAND SURVEYORS.

A very fine reproduction of the Roll of Honour of the Dominion Land Surveyors has been sent to *The Civilian* by the Secretary, Mr. E. W. Hubbell. It bears the names of 106 men. When it is considered that the work done by these men is so important and covers such a vast area in the far-flung portions of this Empire; together with the fact of their comparatively small numbers, this is a splendid showing.

The original, a really beautiful piece of work, comes from the artistic hand of Mr. W. J. Moule of the Topographical Surveys Branch, Department of the Interior.

The Roll of Honour.

Men of the Public Service of Canada enlisted for active military service.
Names in previous lists—2,897.

SIXTY-SIXTH LIST.

- B. Harvey, Royal Mint, Ottawa, Signallers.
G. Stevens, Royal Mint, Ottawa, Signallers.
- The following additional list from the Welland Canal staff:
Lieut. L. Battle, 176th Battalion.
J. Fairfield, I.A.S. Corps.
N. Houston, 3rd Cyclist Corps.
E. R. Bradley, 176th Battalion.
Lieut. R. H. Reid, 74th Battery, C.F.A.
Lieut. I. H. Dawson, 49th Battery, C.F.A.
T. L. Watt, 215th Battalion.
A. R. Grass.
Lieut. J. F. Pringle, Canadian Engineers.
Lieut. O. W. Ross, 176th Battalion.
John F. Rees, R.C.H.A.
F. N. Waite, 71st Battery, C.F.A.
R. A. Bradley, 71st Battery, C.F.A.
Lieut. C. W. Tillbrook, Canadian Engineers.
Lieut. A. G. Riddell, Canadian Engineers.
Lieut. S. Hustwitt, Canadian Engineers.
A. J. Brame, Motor Boat Patrol.
- The following from the Dept. of Railways and Canals staff at Port Nelson:
Lieut. J. D. Winslow, 10th Field Battery (Militia).
J. Landells.
Lieut. H. L. McInnes, Flying Corps.
F. J. Lawlor.
J. R. S. Sutherland.
Lieut. M. J. King.
J. C. Crease.
Geo. A. Wilson.
Lieut. T. C. Creaghan, 73rd Regiment.
Lieut. R. D. Ridout.
F. J. Lane.
- The following additional list from Forestry Branch, Dept. of the Interior:
Peter Mars, New Westminster, B.C.
A. W. Bentley, Ottawa.
A. E. Haycock, Salmon Arm, B.C.
E. Beatty, Battleford, 44th Battery, C.F.A.
O. Calverley, Pas, Man.
F. Fischer, Pas, Man.
George Halerow, Pas, Man., 238th Battalion.
H. Harvey, Winnipeg.
R. Harvey, Winnipeg.
F. Haworth, Clearwater, 143rd Battalion.
J. S. Holt, Sturgeon Reserve, 232nd Battalion.
Lieut. J. A. Hutchison, Mountain Park, Royal Flying Corps.
D. C. Inman, Duck Mountain, 107th Battalion.
Sergt. George Martens, Pas, Man., 238th Battalion.
T. A. Miller, Brazeau, 143rd Battalion.
Lieut. C. H. Morse, Calgary, 224th Battalion.
N. Nackaway, Norway House, 203rd Battalion.
J. A. Ringer, Revelstoke, 7th Battalion.
J. W. Smith, Long Lake, 172nd Battalion.
Lieut. L. C. Tilt, Winnipeg, 230th Battalion.
J. H. Vicars, Roblin, 107th Battalion.
W. Waddell, Kamloops, 54th Battalion.
J. S. Wade, New Westminster, 224th Battalion.
T. Woodman, Sawridge, 138th Battalion.

THE CIVILIAN

Devoted to the interests of the Civil Service
of Canada.

Subscription \$1.00 a year ;
Single copies 5 cents.

Advertising rates are graded according to position
and space, and will be furnished upon appli-
cation.

Subscriptions, MSS intended for publication, and
all other communications should be addressed
to:

THE CIVILIAN, P. O. Box 484, Ottawa.

Ottawa, February 16, 1917



THE NATIONAL DUTY.

*Threats of further outrage upon
public law and the common rights of
humanity will but serve to steel our
determination more.*

—George V, R. and I.

*There have been epochs in the his-
tory of the world when in a few
raging years the character and des-
tiny of the whole race have been de-
termined for unknown ages. This is
one. Then let us not be weary in well
doing, for in due time we shall reap if
we faint not.*

—Lloyd George.

*The war is increasing daily in scale
and intensity. It may last one or it
may last two years. No one knows
how long it will last. The supreme
effort lies ahead of the allies. The
financial strain and stress are always
the greatest in the closing years of a
war. With Great Britain financing
not only herself, but also her allies,
the burden will be increasingly heavy.
Finance will play a great part in
winning this war, and the basis of
national finance must be national
saving and national credit. I say that
it is the patriotic duty of all good
citizens of the Dominion to exercise
economy and to save as much money
as they can for investment in war
issues and other securities of the Do-
minion Government. We can do a lot
better than we are doing.*

—Sir Thomas White.

OUR BOYS

Previously reported:

Dead	153
Wounded	224
Prisoners	13

WOUNDED

F. D. WELSH.

O. A. VENASSE.

MAKE YOUR SAVINGS SERVE.

Next to the practical impossibility of having no debt at all, the ideal situation for a nation is to owe its debt to its own people. The people of France have twice frustrated the careful calculations of Germany by their readiness to lend their savings to the government of their country. The French peasants and townsmen face the foe in the field, the women and children till the fields and fill the workshops, while the little hard-saved treasures of both classes go to replenish the national war-chest.

Canadians to-day can follow no finer example than that of the consistently patriotic French. We are giving men (not as rapidly as we might), our women (most of them) are doing some useful war work, but our money is not being turned over to national use as rapidly as it might be. We read, with foreboding, of tremendous annual interest charges to be met by the Government after the war. If that interest were to be paid to Canadians and to be spent in Canada it would hold no terrors for us. The only danger is from the tremendous drain of interest to foreign creditors.

The only way to avert further enormous borrowings abroad is to furnish the money right at home. The Government will sell its securities at prices from \$21.50 up, free of taxes and exchange charges. Every person

who has that or any larger amount available can help save Canada from debt and depletion. Buy now,—at any bank or post office.

plain to the uninformed whenever opportunity offers.

ESTIMATES,—NOT STATISTICS.

Statements have been made that there are seventeen hundred unmarried, physically fit men of military age in the Ottawa Civil Service. They have been heard in the lobbies of Parliament and trumpeted abroad by newspapers. Coming close after the taking of the census of the Service by the Public Service Committee of the National Service Board, they have been credited as official, and it has been declared (by members of Parliament, if press reports are correct) that the Civil Service should raise a full battalion for active service overseas.

As a matter of fact, the statement that there are seventeen hundred men of the class mentioned in the Ottawa Service had no official origin. Up to the end of last week the Public Service Committee had not made any analysis of the returns of its census. In fact it could not do so, for several departments had not completed their returns.

The "seventeen hundred" story was purely an estimate,—and not an official estimate at that.

In connection with the Public Service Committee's census it must be remembered that it covers *every Dominion Government employee in Ottawa*, including both Inside and Outside Services, and all temporary employees. The thousand persons in the Government Printing Bureau are covered, also the staffs of the Public Works shops and the men of the shipyard.

The Inside clerical Service is suffering in public estimation because estimates which refer to a vastly greater number of persons are not generally so understood. All civil servants should take care to make the matter

TWIN SUCCESSSES.

The annual reports of the Civil Service Mutual Benefit Society and of the Post Office Department Mutual Benefit Association, both of which are summarized in this issue, are of a character that cannot but give great satisfaction to the respective memberships. Both organizations have been placed on an actuarial basis; their assets are conservatively valued and their liabilities fully estimated in the annual statements. Both are eminently sound and in no danger of those financial difficulties which have overtaken so many fraternal and benefit societies during the past few years. The Post Office Department M. B. A. has a cash surplus above all requirements and is dividing it among its members in the form of policy bonuses; while the Civil Service M. B. S. aims to continue its enrolment of new members until it can increase its policy value from \$250 to \$500. New members are not needed to bolster up the old personnels. Either organization could now close its membership and pay every policy in full as the deaths of present members occurred. The membership solicitation is purely for the purpose of extending the beneficent work to a larger number of men and women of the Civil Service and of making possible the granting of greater benefits than are now provided. Every eligible civil servant should belong to one of these organizations.

Win the war.

Make your dollars fight.

Every dollar that the Government can borrow in Canada means one less to be borrowed in a foreign country.

In discussing the Third Division question, particularly with persons outside of the Civil Service, care

should be taken to make evident the fact that *the Third Division question is not a salary question*. It is merely a matter of securing the restoration to certain civil servants of rights that they had earned and possessed prior to 1908, but of which they were deprived by regulations of the Civil Service Commission. These regulations, made under authority of Order-in-Council, can be amended by the same authority. No legislation is required. The granting of the whole petition of the Civil Service Association on the Third Division matter would not entail one cent of expense to the Government or the country. The Government would not thereby authorize one single promotion or increase of salary. These points must be kept to the fore all the time.

THANKS FROM RAILWAY MAIL CLERKS OVERSEAS.

Scores of letters have been received from the men of the Railway Mail Service who are on active service, expressing their gratitude on receipt of the Christmas boxes sent them by Mrs. Armstrong and friends of the Service in Canada.

In reading these one is struck by the cheery optimism of the writers

and their universal expression of the hope to be back in Canada soon, but not until opportunity has been given them to have a part in the glorious fighting 'somewhere'.

Special mention is often made of the enclosed maple leaves and the poem from Jack Cadden, whose works are so well known to readers of *The Civilian*. A few quotations from the letters are appended.

"I met several mail clerks in France, and the fact that the few I know of hold posts in the Infantry, Army Service, Medicals, Postals, Artillery, Cavalry and Records, ranking from private to major, appears to refute the statement or accusation so often made that civil servants 'always remain in a rut.'"

"There are others, though, who I am sorry to say will not be with us when we return; they have given their all and lie under the blood-stained fields of France or Belgium. They died nobly, fighting for freedom, never flinching in face of overwhelming odds, always cheerful and knowing full well that in the end there would be victory. Many a story could I tell of the gallant deeds performed by the boys of the R.M.S."

"The contents were very much appreciated and the maple leaves brought my thoughts back to 'The Land of the Maple' with a bang."

"In our daily work here we see many cases where the contents of boxes are ruined, owing to their being so poorly made up. I want to congratulate the person who made up the parcel received by me. It was a model of what we appreciate over here."

Civil Service Mutual Benefit Association

Reports of another year's substantial progress and prosperity were received at the forty-fifth annual meeting of the Civil Service Mutual Benefit Society of Ottawa. President A. G. Kingston congratulated the members on the advancement made and urged a continuation of the effort to increase the membership. It is planned to increase the value of policies from \$250 to \$500 as soon as the state of the membership warrants such a step. This is an inducement to every present member to go out and get another.

During 1916 eighty-one new mem-

bers were received, four retired and five were removed by death, leaving a net gain of seventy-two and bringing the total membership up to 554.

The deaths included a charter member (F. R. E. Campeau) and two others who had been members for more than thirty years. One member was killed in battle.

To guard against any disturbance of the funds by further losses of members in war, a special reserve has been established. Old members are kept in benefit, even if they enlist, but new soldier-members are on a different basis.

STATEMENT
For the year ending 31 December, 1916

ASSETS.	LIABILITIES
Bonds and debentures, (value Dom. Gov. Standard for Ins. Co.'s.....)	Liability to members on account of death benefits, calculated on N.F.C. 4% basis.....
\$10,326.08	\$9,087.00
Assessments Overdue.....	Special reserve for war risks....
48.91	750.00
Interest accrued on bonds and debentures.....	Death Benefits Payable.....
133.18	450.00
Interest overdue.....	
54.73	
Cash in bank.....	Excess of assets over liabilities.
2,172.65	2,448.55
Total.....	Total.....
\$12,735.55	\$12,735.55
RECEIPTS	DISBURSEMENTS
Cash balance, 31 Dec. 1915....	To beneficiaries of deceased members:—
\$1,087.85	Deaths in previous year \$200.00
ASSESSMENTS:—	Deaths in 1916.....
Monthly.....	650.00
\$2,740.76	850.00
Annual.....	Expenses of Management.....
176.85	205.00
2,917.61	Purchase of Bonds.....
Entrance fees.....	1,312.50
26.00	Refunds.....
INTEREST:—	6.64
On bonds and deb's	Cash in bank, Dec 31, 1916....
\$500.00	2,172.65
On deposits.....	Total disbursements.....
15.29	\$4,546.75
515.29	
Total receipts.....	
\$4,546.75	

The meeting passed a resolution of thanks to the auditors, Messrs. Brödeur, Dechene and St. Laurent, and re-elected them.

A resolution of thanks to Mr. A. D. Watson for his valuable services in placing the Society on an actuarial basis and in giving expert advice to the board on many occasions was unanimously approved. Mr. Watson will be presented with a souvenir of

the members' appreciation of his assistance.

The officers are elected at a later date by the new board of departmental representatives.

Within one week after the general meeting the secretary, Mr. W. J. Lynch, I.S.O., received thirteen new applications for membership.

The annual financial statement (condensed) is given herewith.

Post Office Dept. Mutual Benefit

A further policy-bonus of \$3 (making \$7 to date) was voted at the annual meeting of the Post Office Department Mutual Benefit Association.

The 38th annual statement showed the Association to be in a flourishing condition, the surplus amounting to \$6,258.73 after allowing for a special reserve of \$2,000 to cover war risks,—forty-seven members having enlisted

for overseas service since the beginning of the war. Within recent years the trustees have invested the funds of the Association in bonds, with the result that the interest accruing now amounts to over \$1,000 annually. The purchase price of these bonds was \$23,188.14 and the par value estimated at \$24,848.59.

During 1916 twenty-four new mem-

bers were added, two died and thirteen withdrew owing to their having left the Service or for other reasons. The membership at 31st December was 461.

Mr. W. T. Wilson was re-elected president and Mr. W. A. Code secretary for 1917.

Dr. R. M. Coulter, Mr. E. J. Le-maire and Mr. F. E. S. Grout were re-elected trustees, and Messrs. C. R. Robertson, Sr., D. G. Courtney and E. P. V. Maguire elected an Application Committee for the present year, these elections taking place at a subsequent meeting of the new Board of Management.

The Association is again indebted to Mr. A. D. Watson, B.A., actuary of the Insurance Department, whose continued interest in its progress is a source of much satisfaction to the membership. Mr. Watson was tendered a hearty vote of thanks at the annual meeting for his services so unselfishly rendered.

The newly chosen Board of Management consists of: President, W. T. Wilson, and Messrs. F. E. Jolliffe, C. R. Robertson, Sr., F. O. O. Seguin, A. S. Pothier, L. Durocher, Geo. R. White, D. G. Courtney, E. P. V. Maguire, I. M. Morgan, F. A. Knauf, J. H. Preston and E. G. Blackadar.

STATEMENT

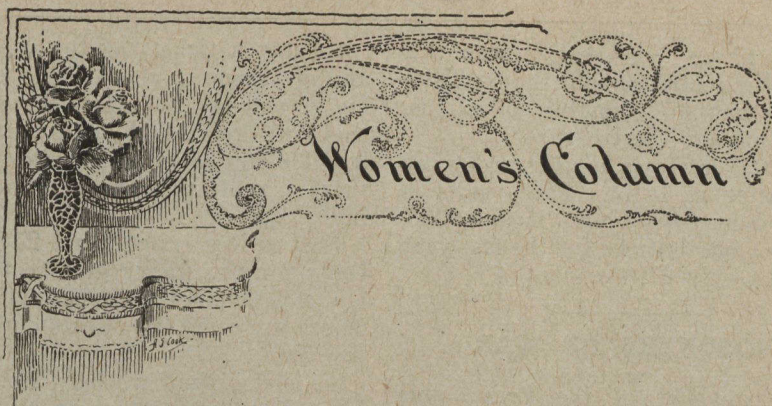
for the year ending 31 December, 1916.

ASSETS	
<i>Bonds and Debentures:—</i>	
(value Dom. Govt. Standard)	\$21,483.48
<i>Assessments Overdue</i>80
<i>Interest Accrued:—</i>	
On bonds	\$530.96
On bank deposit	10.93
	541.89
<i>Cash:—</i>	
In Bank	\$831.18
Deposit C.S.S. & L.S.	1,000.00
In hand	23.50
	1,854.68
Total	\$23,880.85

RECEIPTS	
Cash balance, 31 Dec., 1915	\$ 974.67
<i>Assessments:—</i>	
Monthly	\$ 2,069.19
Quarterly	211.73
	2,280.92
<i>Interest on:—</i>	
Bonds	1,072.38
Deposits in bank	20.19
Deposits in C. S. S. & L. Society	47.85
	1,140.42
Other receipts	19.50
Total receipts	\$4,415.51

LIABILITIES	
Liability to members on account of death benefits, calculated on the National Fraternal Congress Table of Mortality, 4% interest	\$15,596.00
Special reserve for war risks	2,000.00
<i>Other liabilities:—</i>	
Contributions paid in advance	25.92
Surplus	6,258.73
Total	\$23,880.85

DISBURSEMENTS	
To beneficiaries of deceased members	\$ 508.00
Expenses of management	65.25
<i>Purchase of bonds:—</i>	
Price paid	2,959.23
Accrued interest at date of purchase	25.40
	2,984.63
Other disbursements: Bank chg's	2.95
<i>Cash balance, 31 Dec., 1916:—</i>	
In bank	\$831.18
In hand	23.50
	\$854.68
Total disbursements	\$4,415.51



EMERGENCY AND RED CROSS FUND.

It is some time since a report of the Emergency Fund contributions has been published, and since interested inquiries are frequently made both by men and women who sometimes say they haven't had a contribution box presented to them for months, it is considered advisable to publish the following report:

REPORT of Red Cross and Emergency Fund to Feb. 8th, 1917.

	Rec.	Paid.
Balance on hand,		
Nov. 1st, 1916.	\$ 95 69	
Agriculture	64 19	
Audit Office	30 80	
Archives	1 00	
C. S. Comm.	2 98	
Com. of Conser-		
vation	45	
Finance	44 29	
Interior	32 90	
Indian Affairs... .	5 41	
Inland Revenue.	10 80	
Insurance	6 01	
Labor	2 75	
Marine	12 31	
Mines	9 07	
P. O. D.	53 64	
Public Works	1 53	
Sec. of State	1 32	
Trade and Com.	10 79	
Balance of pay-		
ment for nurse		
at front		100 00

Asst. at O. W.		
Bureau, Nov.-		
Feb.	60 00	
Canadian Club		
ovation at		
Folkestone	50 00	
British Sailors'		
Relief Fund	100 00	
Soldiers' Aid		
Comm. (brass		
plate)	3 00	
Motor Boat Pa-		
trol Service... .	15 43	
Balance on hand.	57 50	
	\$385 93	\$385 93

Where a department is not listed, no funds were received from it.

THIS MEANS YOU.

You who have read the above report know whether your department or your branch of the department has contributed or not.

If no sum appears as the gift of your branch, make it your business to find out why.

Not all the departments are organized and some that are organized appear to have fallen down on the work. In either case it is the business of the reader to call the attention of the branch to the deficiency and have it remedied.

You may do so by communicating with the treasurer, Miss F. E. Snelling, of the Auditor General's Office

(house 'phone No. Q4043), who will give you directions about the requisite box, the manner of making collections, and returns to the treasurer.

Don't delay any longer in taking the matter in hand. Five cents a month from 4,000 clerks means \$200, and the contributions for the last year averaged only \$100 a month.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

The convener of the Programme Committee of the Women's Branch is frequently asked why the committee doesn't institute a series of teas, entertainments, and so forth, to raise funds for patriotic purposes.

The subject has been thoroughly gone into and the concensus of opinion is that the Women's Branch can produce a greater result for a less effort by supporting the efforts of other organizations along those lines.

Such was the result of our co-operation with the Women's Canadian Club in the Polish Relief Benefit, and just now we have an opportunity of co-operating again with the same club for the benefit of Prisoners of War.

A vaudeville for the benefit of the Prisoners of War is to be given at the Russell theatre on Thursday, March 1st. Mrs. R. H. Coats and her energetic committee have charge of all the arrangements and they promise an excellent programme of songs, dances, military skits and a one-act farce produced by Olive Garret.

By patronizing this entertainment one will have not only a pleasant evening but will contribute to a fund that requires our financial aid.

It may not be generally known that the parcels that the Red Cross headquarters in London deems it necessary to send to a prisoner of war cost seven dollars a month. When one considers that the latest estimate of Canadian prisoners of war puts the number at 2,373, one readily sees that a large sum is needed to steadily finance the scheme.

So buy a ticket for the vaudeville and by packing the theatre make a big return for the effort the committees and free talent are putting into it. The only expenses will be the theatre rent, printing and advertising.

Seat prices range from 25 and 35 cents for the upper gallery to \$1.50 and \$1.00 for the orchestral chairs. There are some good seats downstairs for 75c.

In order that we may have some idea of the support given by the service, buy your ticket from Miss Burt or Miss Inglis or any member of the executive of the Women's Branch.

DOING HER BIT?

Lately it has been brought to our attention that some young girls in Ottawa who are not in financial need of it have taken positions in the Civil Service under the impression that they are "doing their bit."

Such procedure is to be highly deprecated. There are many girls who need such positions and have been training through collegiate and probably business college to fit themselves to hold Civil Service positions only to find them filled by girls who are not trained and haven't the financial need as an incentive to become efficient clerks.

If these girls of the leisure class could only realize what an opportunity is theirs! They have a day from nine in the morning to five in the afternoon of daylight for doing things that their less fortunate sisters in the Civil Service have to do from five on into the evening hours. If they would only employ those daylight hours in making shirts, pyjamas and other sewing for the Red Cross! One wonders what the think of the women of the permanent Civil Service who put in a strenuous day's work at their offices and then at five o'clock rush off to the Red Cross rooms or the Canadian Club rooms and on a light tea sew till eight or nine o'clock.

We wonder which class is doing its bit, and which is wasting its opportunities.

PLACING RETURNED SOLDIERS.

The immediate placing of returned soldiers in some kind of position is a subject that is being discussed not only in the daily papers but at every street corner and in every drawing-room where a few earnest people are gathered together.

It should be no great problem in Ottawa where at present a large number of temporary positions in the Civil Service are being filled by unskilled women clerks, who either have never before been wage earners or have been lured from their old occupations in almost every line of work by the apparently higher wages paid by the Government.

These temporary positions could be filled just as well by returned soldiers who also may not be skilled in clerical work, and except in the case of a soldier's widow or daughter it seems that the soldiers have the first claim on the positions that have been created by the war.

Such an arrangement could be only temporary, but any arrangement to place the returned soldiers immediately is bound to be temporary. However, it has this advantage, that the returned man would have an opportunity to get his bearings. When the war is over and conditions are normal again, if he has regained his strength or has benefited by the Government's vocational training scheme, or both, he will be able either to take his old place at his former occupation, or to choose a new place at the work he is best fitted to perform.

Another advantage in getting the returned soldiers into these positions would be that while the work is not arduous it is routine, and a year or so of routine work would be the very best antidote to the restlessness that is bred in the army and that we all fear so dreadfully for our men when they return.

Let the women who are occupying some of these positions with the mistaken idea of doing their bit, do their bit in reality by giving up the positions to returned soldiers.

R. S. WHITE.

Mr. R. S. White, President of the Civil Service Federation of Canada, is retiring from the office of Collector of Customs of Canada's greatest port, Montreal. Among the many tributes paid to him for his extraordinarily able administration of his important and difficult office, none has been more hearty or spontaneous than that of Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux in the House of Commons. The words are all the more noteworthy because Mr. White, when in politics, was a leading opponent of the party of which Mr. Lemieux is so prominent a member. Mr. Lemieux said:

"As regards the Customs, I think the Government and the country have sustained a real loss in the resignation of Mr. White, who was for many years the member for Cardwell in the House of Commons. For twenty-one years he has been collector of the largest port in Canada and everybody agrees that he has fulfilled his duties to the satisfaction of the minister, of the Government, and of the public in general."

LETTER CARRIERS.

In the course of the debate in the House of Commons referred to elsewhere, a plea was made for increased pay to the letter carriers. The subject was introduced by Mayor Mederic Martin, who represents one of the Montreal divisions in the House. Mayor Martin said:

"I would ask if it would not be possible for him (the Minister of Finance) to put an item in the estimates increasing the salaries of the letter carriers, not only in Montreal, but all over Canada. He knows very well that the cost of living has increased,

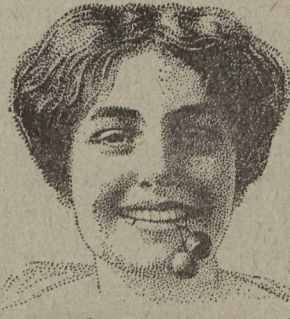
and that those letter carriers get a salary of \$900 a year. There is no better class of employees in the Government service. They work 365 days in the year, working on New Year's Day and on Christmas Day. I think that these men are deserving of an increase because the cost of living to-day is so high, being more than 100 per cent in different articles than it was before. The man who is getting \$900 a year to-day is really not getting more than \$450. If the big salaries have to be increased the small ones ought to be increased also, and those who are getting \$750, \$800 and \$900 should receive the consideration of the Minister of Finance. I am not speaking only for the letter carriers of Montreal, but for all the letter carriers in Canada. Their wage is a small one, and it should be increased at this time. They have asked the Government to do so, but have received no answer yet.

"SIR THOMAS WHITE: The matter to which my hon. friend refers comes more particularly under the jurisdiction of the Postmaster General, whom I have not consulted in respect to it. There is nothing further that I can add to-night. The representations have been made by the hon. member will no doubt receive the best consideration of the Postmaster General."

Later in the debate ex-Judge McKenzie, of Cape Breton, endorsed Mayor Martin's position. He said:

"I have no letter carriers in my constituency, but I am pleased to support the suggestion made by the hon. member for St. Mary, Montreal (Mr. Martin) in that connection. There was a petition circulated on behalf of the letter carriers and they sent their representatives around in various counties. One of them was sent to me from a branch of the association in the city of Sydney, and I replied saying that if the matter came up in the House of Commons I would give it my sympathetic support. As has already been pointed out, the pay of these men

was fixed some years ago when the cost of living was about half what it is to-day. These men have been in the business for quite a while, and as it is not so easy for a man to get away from a position in which he has established himself, I think that, having regard to the fact that the cost of living for these men and their families has more than doubled, they deserve the consideration of the Government as to whether or not some further remuneration should be given to them."



Minty's Tooth Paste

Will keep your teeth in the condition nature intended them to be—pearly white, without bleaching or scouring. It is not an ordinary Tooth Paste, but a scientific preparation in concentrated form, designed to accomplish maximum results for the least cost to you. IT

"Is Delightfully Refreshing"

"Cleans and Whitens the Teeth"

"Sterilizes the Mouth and Brush"

While its positive bactericidal action destroys decay germs and counteracts the gasses and acids of the mouth. It is most economical because it contains no useless fillers, and "Half an Inch is all you need."

25c. at your Druggists.

Send four cents for 10 days sample to
Department "G"

Palmers Limited,
100 Latour Street,
Montreal.

WAR WORK AT "THE FARM."

(Out at the Central Experimental Farm offices the girls of the staff have been carrying on an independent "war work" of no small importance, but concerning which little has been heard "uptown." Their location, so far from the centre of usual Civil Service activities, has made their co-operation with the other women of the Service almost impossible, but their enthusiasm is in no way damped by their isolation. They have not courted publicity of their labors and it was only after repeated solicitation that the editors of The Civilian were able to secure the following modest story.)

Man after man had left the Farm to go out to fight for the Cause,—our Cause,—and yet we girls, as a unit, had accomplished nothing! Something, we all felt, ought to be done, and yet we tarried along in indifference until one intrepid member, fired with ardour, got us together and made us understand that it was up to us to do something. What were we to do? As business women we had little time to make garments that required much work, nor had we, as civil servants of the lower classes, much to give. We also felt that we did not want to burst out with ardour and then have it all evaporate long before the need had subsided.

We finally overcame this perplexity by determining to ask everyone on the Farm to give a certain small amount every month,—that sum to be whatever he could honestly give. A quarter was, we all thought, not an out-of-the-way monthly contribution, but, of course from those who could we were glad to get more; while we quite realized that by no means everyone could even give this amount without stinting themselves unduly.

It was arranged that two of us should do the canvassing, and so we started off. The reception that we got was more than generous, and, in cases

where they really could not give, they told us with genuine regret,—quickly and to the point, with no palavering. The result was that we found, on counting over our gains, that we would have quite a nice little sum to send and that we would be able to keep this amount up every month.

That there were many needy associations we could give our mite to, we quite realized,—it was a question of choosing. Our Ardent Member had recently heard an address by Mrs. Herridge, who pictured the needs of the Canadian Club at Folkestone which looks after the wants of many of our men in that place, and as she graphically repeated much of what she had heard, determined that our little bit should go to that cause. And how we one and all have thanked our Ardent Member for starting the ball rolling and giving us at least a small place among that great army who are working to hasten the downfall of tyranny and injustice!

Miss Burt has been the recipient lately of a new honour and the Women's Branch Association has every reason to be proud of its president.

The president, Lady Borden, and the executive of the women's committee of the Red Cross have invited her to become a member of the executive and represent the Civil Service Association thereon. The work done by the Women's Branch has been so satisfactory that the Red Cross Society desires it to have a representative and an efficient one it will have in Miss Burt.

Call to-day at our Red Cross rooms in the Hope Bldg. and take some sewing home.

The main difference between a man's responsibilities and a woman's is that a man usually chooses his while a woman's are forced upon her.

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed under this heading.

Re Patriotic Fund.

Editors *The Civilian*:

Sirs,—We meet the extremes in this business, as in all others. I heard to-day of a male clerk and a female one, in the Civil Service, probably unknown to each other, who each contributed one-tenth of his and her salary to the Fund. Bravo!

Now listen to the other side. I was informed by a clerk in the Statistical Branch of the Customs that there was an official in that office who was recently raised \$100 in salary. When his card came in for the Patriotic Fund he put himself down for 25 cents per month! But, wait. My friend also told me of another clerk in the same Branch who is known to be worth about \$40,000 (seems incredible in the C.S., but I have investigated the case). When this gentleman was approached for his subscription he flatly declined to contribute one single cent. You can judge what nationality these two worms belong to.

INDIGNANT.

“1,700.”

Editor *Civilian*:

The statement appeared in our city papers a day or two ago to the effect that the Patriotic Committee of the National Service Commission has ascertained that there are 1,700 unmarried male civil servants of military age at Ottawa. The statement may be correct, as I assume the information was collected carefully, but the inferences drawn from this bald statement are decidedly misleading. Members of Parliament have suggested that a Civil Service Battalion might be formed. They have failed to take into consideration just three things:

- (1) How many of these 1,700 are physically fit for military service?
- (2) How many have families dependent upon them? It does not follow that because a man is single he has no dependents.
- (3) How many of these 1,700 can be, or will be, spared for military service by the Government? _____ is a case in point. His Minister positively refused to permit him to go. Doubtless there are others. How many?

I venture to say that if this list of 1,700 so-called “availables” were sifted, not twenty-five per cent would actually be *available* for service.

D. E. F.

(This matter is dealt with in the Editorial column in this issue.—Ed.)

Editors of *The Civilian*:

It is rumoured that there is to be no Second Division competitive examination in May next, and there also appears to exist some doubt regarding the intention of the Civil Service Commission to hold a Second Division promotion examination.

As you are no doubt aware there was no promotion or competitive Second Division examination held in November last, and unless the departments impress upon the Commission the necessity for holding in May next a promotion examination for clerks appointed prior to September 1st, 1908, it is probable that the outcome will be as it was last fall and the unfortunates who have been for several years at the maximum of their class will again be delayed in an attempt to better their positions and will have had another injustice heaped upon them.

I am writing this in the hope that those interested will make an effort immediately to have the deputy heads of their departments request the Commission to hold the promotion exam-

ination. I feel certain that there would be a sufficient number of promotion candidates to warrant the holding of the examination and that number would no doubt be increased if definite information could be obtained at a sufficiently early date to give those desirous of trying time to prepare.

ONE WHO IS INTERESTED.

To the Editors *The Civilian*:

Gentlemen,—I am just going to deal with my own case *re* farming. I purchased a farm 28 miles from Toronto that I might have healthy recreation during the summer.

So much has been said about the farmers not doing their duty that, when the Hon. Mr. Burrell, Minister of Agriculture for the Dominion (whom I have a personal friendship for), also the Hon. Mr. Duff, Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, pleaded with the farmers to grow more wheat. I gave orders to put in 55 acres of fall wheat. In the fall of 1914 and in the spring I put in all the oats that I had land ready for and no one in Ontario had a better looking crop of wheat or oats than I had. They were cut about the latter part of July and ready to haul into the barns about the beginning of August, when it began to rain and it rained and rained until the grain began to grow in the stooks and was not fit for flour, only fit for pig feed.

Last year heat set in when the grain was in the milky state, and from the 1st of July to the end of August the heat was excessive and dried up the grain and again it was no good for sale. It was also too dry for roots to grow, and feed of all sort dried up last year.

I planted 18 bags of potatoes and did not produce one bag, then "wise" people blame the farmer for not producing more.

I have every foot of land that I can spare under cultivation, say about 160 acres out of 200 acres. I am raising

cattle, hogs, poultry and horses, and along with others am doing everything possible, but we certainly cannot direct the elements nor bring forth sunshine or rain, nor stay the frost or wind.

Again I have never had an offer of assistance from any of these people who clamour for the farmer to do more. The farmer who now rises at daylight and whose toil is only over when he cannot drag one leg after the other.

We want help on the farm, we need it badly. Let the men who cannot go to the war offer their services to till the soil or forever hold their peace.

Yours truly,

H. R. FRANKLAND.

P.S.—I am one of the many Civil Service servants and am proud of the fact.

ANSWERS.

EXAMINATIONS. — Apply to Civil Service Commission for old examination papers and reports. If the ones you want are not available you can consult the Commission's annual reports at the Library of Parliament.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.—Reginald W. Broek was Deputy Minister of the Department of Mines before R. G. McConnell. Believe he is now an officer of the C.E.F.

M.F.C.—The enterprise was more highly successful than ever before. No publicity was necessary or desirable. Send your address or 'phone number and the editors may tell you more about it.

MORE HONORS WON.

Royden V. Cummer, mentioned in a recent Gazette to receive the Military Medal, is a civil servant. He joined the staff of Calgary post office in 1910, when in his eighteenth year. He is at the front with a machine gun company.

ASSISTANT AUDITOR GENERAL

There has been recently created by the Government the position of Assistant Auditor General and the salary of the position fixed at \$4,500.

The person selected to fill this position is E. D. Sutherland, Chief of the Exchequer Division of the Auditor General's Office. Mr. Sutherland has been in the employ of the Government since 1871 and has been continuously in the Audit Office since July 1, 1875.

Not only on account of his long services, but also because of his wide knowledge of every feature of the work in the office, not to mention his many personal qualifications, he is well equipped for filling the position to which he has been promoted.

It will be gratifying to the Service in general to know that merit in the Service has been recognized by the Auditor General. It will also be gratifying to Mr. Sutherland's many friends not only in the Audit Office but in other departments to learn of his promotion.

At present he is in England where he will probably be engaged until the end of the war on the audit and supervision of our war expenditure accounts and system there.

HOSPITALS ON WHEELS.

From the Moncton shops of the Canadian Government Railways there has recently been released the first hospital car in Canada to be used for the transport of returning wounded soldiers. One of the easy-riding sleeping cars has been converted into a hospital on wheels.

The seats on one side of the car, ordinarily used as lower berths, and the men's smoking compartment, have been removed and five regulation hospital cots installed. The beds, braced so as to be perfectly rigid, afford better opportunities for the more skilful handling of the patient than the ordinary sleeping car berths and are of such a height as to permit the occu-

pant to have a view of the country through which he is passing without any unnecessary exertion.

There are double doors in the centre of the car, opening inward, thus permitting stretcher cases to be carefully handled. There is also a small buffet where hot water can be readily provided, and equipped for the serving of light meals.

The name "Military Hospital" in prominent letters and the insignia of the Red Cross are displayed each end of the car. This is the first of a series which the Government Railways have been called upon to provide. Another car to be used in conjunction will be an "all bed" car. Each car will have a nurse and an orderly and one doctor will be in attendance to every five cars. The work has been undertaken at the request of the Military Hospitals' Commission.

The C.P.R. has also transformed six sleeping cars into ambulance cars. This will make a total of sixteen hospital cars in the Commission's service. The Canadian Pacific cars will be used between Winnipeg and the Pacific Coast while the Government cars will run between Atlantic ports and Winnipeg. Through trains will also be run if necessary. The C.P.R. cars, like the Government ones, will be in pairs, one car containing eight cots, kitchen and accommodation for medical officer and nurses, while the other will be fully occupied by sixteen cots.

NEW CANADIAN PATRIOTIC SONG.

We have much pleasure in calling the attention of our readers to a new Canadian patriotic song, entitled "The Recruit's Farewell," which is written and composed by Mrs. Emmeline Stuart Godfrey, wife of Mr. Ernest H. Godfrey of the Census and Statistics Office. The song is dedicated to the memory of Mrs. Godfrey's nephew, the late Hugh Howard Lindsay, of the Ontario Agricultural

College, and the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, who joined the first Contingent and fall during the battle of Langemark on April 22, 1915. The circumstances under which this gallant young soldier made the great sacrifice were described under the title of "Hugh Lindesay's Story" in *The Civilian* of August 6, 1915.

The song, which is meeting with considerable success both in England and Canada (the first impression being quickly sold out) is published by Escott & Co., 64 Newman street, London W., England, at the price of 2s. per copy, or 35 cents per copy in Canada. It is on sale to the general public at McKechnie's Music Store, 75 Sparks street, Ottawa. Mr. Ernest H. Godfrey, Census Office, Ottawa, will be glad to supply copies to Canadian friends.

A proportion of the proceeds from the sales will be devoted by the authoress and publishers to Lady Jellicoe's Fund for Wounded and Disabled Sailors.

THE RECRUIT'S FAREWELL.

Dear little girl I love you,
More than my heart can show,
With your face so fair and your sun-kissed hair

And your dimples that come and go,
I'd give the world for the right, dear,
To play with that wayward curl,
Or to press my lips to your finger tips,

For I love you, dear little girl.

Dear little girl, I'll miss you,
With your form of fairy grace,
And your hazel eyes in their shy surprise,

Looking up to my pleading face.
Let me but labour to win you,
Win you and wear you, my pearl,
For the wide world through, there's
no one like you,
And I love you, dear little girl.

Right through the gun's loud thunder,
On 'mid the screaming shell,

In the wild delight of the glorious
fight,

Your soldier will bear him well.
Give me a thought, little maiden!

Give me a prayer, a sigh!
Hark! the bugle call from the old drill
hall,

Good-bye, little girl, good-bye!

Chorus:

Wind through the branches sighing,
Breathe to my darling of me,
While the shadows play, through the
golden day,

On the seat by the maple tree.
Tell her, her boy in khaki

Treasures her memory sweet,
Till he comes again from the battle
plain,

To lay his love at her feet.

GIVEN WRIST WATCHES.

The Central Registry Branch of the Department of Militia and Defence was the scene of a pleasant event when Joseph Messinger and Oliver Shaw were the recipients of military wrist watches, donated by members of the staff in honor of their enlistment in the 72nd Queen's University Battery. Mr. H. N. P. Chesley, chief of the branch, gave a short address and a most fitting reply was given by Gunner Shaw.

A PRIZE WINNER.

The filet crochet yoke, worked by Miss A. M. Slinn, of the Patent Branch, Department of Agriculture, and raffled on Feb. 1st in aid of the Red Cross, was won by Miss Laura McKinnon, of the Patent Branch, and the proceeds, \$25.00, has been forwarded to the Red Cross Branch of the Women's Canadian Club.

PATRIOTIC IRRIGATORS.

The latest statement of the Patriotic and Red Cross Fund raised by the men of the Irrigation Branch, Department of the Interior, at Calgary, is summarized as follows:

Collected.

From Oct., 1914, to Nov. 30, 1915	\$3,511 40
From Dec. 1, 1915, to April 18, 1916..	757 60
From April 19, 1916, to Dec. 31, 1916. . .	1,055 37
Total.....	\$5,324 37

Disbursed.

To Red Cross	\$3,084 11
To Patriotic Fund ..	2,239 21
Total.....	\$5,323 32

Forty-nine members of the staff of the Irrigation Branch have enlisted for active overseas service; six of these were from the Ottawa office and forty-three from the Calgary staff. It has been necessary to replace some of these officers in order to satisfactorily carry on the work of the branch, but in a good many cases the vacant positions have not been filled. The contributors are therefore fewer in number at present than during the earlier stages of the war and the contributions for that reason are less in amount. This record of enlistments and voluntary contributions is highly creditable.

RAILWAY MAIL CLERKS' CONVENTION.

It is with no little pleasure that *The Civilian* is able to report a really successful organization of the Railway Mail Service into a Dominion Federation. There has been a Western Federation, comprising the divisions in the Service west of the Great Lakes and more or less live associations in the eastern portion of Canada. The personnel of the Railway Mail Service is of a very high order, and as the men of the Service come into more or less intimate and daily contact with the representative citizens of all communities, their influence as a body

Toute la bonté et la vertu du
Raisin est concentrée dans le
Cognac.

PELLISSON

Le Cognac par Excellence.

Le déguster une fois, c'est
l'adopter pour toujours.

Pourquoi ne pas demander le
PELLISSON—vous êtes certain
de consommer le plus pur et le
plus agréable de tous les Brandy
et il ne vous en coûte pas plus.

cannot help but be felt, and will naturally reach its zenith when every clerk from Prince Edward Island to British Columbia is a live active member of his Association; each Association has its representative in the Dominion Federation, and that in turn is affiliated with the Civil Service Federation of Canada.

Long steps towards the consummation of this ideal have been taken as the result of the indefatigable efforts of Mr. C. A. Hives, Winnipeg, when delegates from all over the Dominion were called to Winnipeg January 22-25. Uncontrollable circumstances prevented the attendance of some, but they were represented by well instructed proxies. Those in actual attendance were C. E. Power, Halifax; W. F. Griffith, St. John; W. G. Jessop, Toronto; F. D. Sharman, London; C. A. Hives, Winnipeg; M. H. McLellan, Moose Jaw, and R. L. Cumming, Saskatoon. Proxies were

held for Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa and North Bay.

The major portion of the business done was perfecting of organization, devising Constitution and By-laws and lengthy discussion of the best way to improve conditions of service and so improve the service itself. Next meeting will be held in Ottawa.

The following officers were elected: President, C. E. Power, Halifax; first vice-president, W. G. Jessop, Toronto; second vice-president, W. F. Griffith, St. John; third vice-president, F. D. Sharman, London; treasurer, M. H. McLellan, Moose Jaw; secretary, C. A. Hives, Winnipeg; executive, R. L. Cumming, Saskatoon; W. H. Brownell, North Bay; H. S. Ferguson, Ottawa; A. P. Audet, Quebec; A. Methot, Montreal, Auditor.

SALARY INCREASES.

At Least the Lower Grades to be Considered.

Questions relating to the Civil Service were considered in the House of Commons on the 6th of February. The immediate subject under discussion was the proposed expenditure for the remainder of the current year, and as no special question was before the House, and as there was haste because of an intended adjournment the following day, the debate was hasty and uninforming. Fortunately, however, at its very close, a few words were said on the general question of salary increases, a matter of such intense interest to so many in the Service to whom the high cost of living has meant sacrifice and actual hardship. The subject in this form was brought forward by Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, former Postmaster General, and Hon. Sir Thomas White, Minister of Finance, in replying, made a promise of more than the usual "favorable consideration." The speeches of these gentlemen were as follows, as reported in "Hansard":

"Mr. LEMIEUX: May I ask my hon. friend the Minister of Finance if any decision has been reached in regard to the increase, more or less promised, but hinted some years ago, to the Civil Service? I understand that lately the Government received a delegation from the Civil Service Association, which laid a request before the Government. I know that we are passing through hard times and that the expenditures of the country are high, but the man who suffers most in these days from the high cost of living is really the man who has nothing to depend upon but his fixed salary.

"Has my hon. friend considered the position in which the Civil Service is to-day? And does he intend to do something about it? Three years ago, just before the war, he had a tender spot in his heart for the Civil Service. Perhaps, in his anxiety about the war, he may have overlooked the poor civil servant. I cannot forget that I am the son of a civil servant myself, and I know what the anxieties of the poor civil servants are. We all expect a word of hope from the Minister of Finance on behalf of this class of employees.

"SIR THOMAS WHITE: In the midst of a war such as this, and with the burdens that are thrust upon the public, the time is not very opportune for considering a revision of the Civil Service salary list. But we are all aware that the cost of living has gone up during the past few years, especially since the outbreak of the war. It is altogether probable that when the House resumes after the recess we shall deal with the questions of the salaries at least of the lower grades of the Service. The matter has been under consideration."

Investigation by Department of Agriculture experts has shown that both fixed and volatile oils and cattle feed can be obtained from the cherry pits thrown away by canneries of the United States.

Personals.

Appointments.

Agriculture—Robt. C. Berry, 2A.
 Auditor General's Office—E. D. Sutherland, Assistant Auditor General.
 Commission of Conservation—Lillian I. Dozan, Div. 3B.
 Customs Dept.—Samuel T. Tippett, prev. off., St. John; M. A. Sawyer, prev. off., Beebe Jet.; Geo. L. Flint, prev. off., Toronto; Wm. B. Smith, Asst. Inspector Customs.
 Finance Dept.—Willibald Viens, messenger.
 Inland Revenue—Joseph M. A. Bouchard, prev. off., Quebec; F. X. Traversy, prev. off., Quebec; Jos. G. Pageau, prev. off., Montreal; Alexander Ruel, prev. off., Montreal; Geo. S. Warren, prev. off., Montreal; Wilfrid Brossard, prev. off., Montreal; Jas. F. Smith, prev. off., Hamilton; M. J. O'Connor, Deputy Collector, Ottawa.
 Interior—Mary C. Maloney, Div. 3B; Jessie E. Robertson, Div. 3B; Robert Douglas, Div. 2A; Joseph Greaves, messenger; Ruby Wright, Div. 3B.
 Library of Parliament—Herbert D. Throop, Div. 3B.
 Mines Dept.—Edgar Stansfield, Div. 1B; Robt. J. Traill, Div. 2A.
 Naval Service—Annie L. Campbell, Div. 3B; Dorothy J. Robertson, Div. 3B; Marie E. A. Desilets, Div. 3B.
 Post Office Dept.—Katherine G. Harty, Harold V. Hibbard, sorters; T. J. M. Robillard, messenger; Wm. F. Ball, Div. 2B; Harry Caldwell, Class 3A, Toronto; Eva C. McGovern, Div. 3B.

Promotions.

Customs Dept.—Mabel M. Bennet to Div. 3A; Harkcourt A. Howard to Div. 3A.
 Inland Revenue—Edward McNally, special exciseman, Prescott.
 Interior—Odilon G. Bazinet to Div. 3A.
 Marine and Fisheries—J. A. Breen to Div. 3A; M. E. Lanthier to Div. 3A; E. McCullough to Div. 3A.
 Post Office Dept.—George Booth, 2A to 1B, Toronto; George E. Pelton, 3B to 3A. The following letter carriers of Montreal: A. Aubry, D to E; J. B. Poirier, D to E; O. Joly, D to E; E. Archambault, D to E; A. Gagnon, D to E; P. Carragher, D to E; A. Fremault, D to E; A. Robert, D to E; L. Crepault, D to E; A. Lafontaine, C to D; E. E. Avon, C to D; T. Fontaine, C to D; J. F. Bernard, C to D; L. Gendron, C to D; Robert Alleric, C to D; E. Deslaurier, C to D; Joseph Houde, C to D; Paul St. Jacques, C to D; Athanase Boileau, C to D; François Beauvais, C to D; Oliver

Desjean, C to D; Benoit Turcotte, C to D; John Glesson, C to D; Albert Renaud, C to D; Edward McAram, C to D; Edward Pauze, C to D; F. X. Coderre, C to D; J. A. Beauregard, C to D; Osias Page, C to D; J. H. Leveille, B to C; J. A. Mongeon, B to C; Arthur St. Jean, B to C; James Last, B to C; L. Desrosiers, B to C; Phil. Madgin, B to C; E. Guevremont, B to C; G. Canniff, B to C; Emile Poitras, A to B; Ernest Davin, A to B; Rene Pepin, A to B; E. Dempey, A to B; W. David, A to B; V. Perras, A to B; W. Laurin, A to B; J. P. Benoit, A to B. The following porters of Montreal: P. Robitaille, D to E; W. Bouvier, D to E; J. E. Lacasse, C to D; Gatien Robert, C to D; P. Laverge, C to D; J. Castelleti, C to D; E. Fauteux, C to D; Antonio Bordeau, C to D; E. A. Rinfret, C to D; A. Taillefer, C to D; N. Plouffe, B to C; A. Plouffe, B to C; J. A. Desgres, B to C. The following letter carriers of Ottawa: Isaac J. Brown, D to E; E. Chateauvert, D to E; J. J. White, D to E; E. Bordeleau, D to E; Edmond Lemire, C to D; G. McGuire, C to D; Wm. E. Palen, C to D; S. J. Irvine, C to D; E. Lefebvre, B to C; J. A. St. Amand, B to C. The following porters of Ottawa: F. W. May, C to D; Albert Gareau, C to D; J. H. Williams, C to D; J. W. Dagenais, C to D; C. G. Stainforth, C to D; W. J. Hornidge, B to C. The following letter carriers of Quebec: H. J. Moisam, D to E; Aug. Parent, C to D; Rene Lefebvre, C to D; E. Duchesneau, C to D; Louis Poliquin, C to D; J. A. Z. Huot, C to D; Blackburn, C to D; L. N. Rousseau, B to C; J. B. Paquin, A to B. The following porters of Quebec: J. A. Charlebois, C to D; Telesphore Poitras, C to D; F. X. Cloutier, B to C. Adlard Robert, letter carrier, Three Rivers, D to E; Ovide Raymond, letter carrier, Three Rivers, C to D; L. Massicotte, M. T. agent, Three Rivers, D to E; J. A. Savard, M. T. agent, Three Rivers, D to E; I. W. Hunn, letter carrier, Sydney, B to C; G. W. Gilvear, letter carrier, Moncton, B to C; Wm. Nicholson, messenger, money order ex. office, C to D; J. H. Drolet, porter, Montreal, C to D; M. O'Brien, messenger, Ottawa, D to E; A. Rodrigue, letter carrier, Sherbrooke, C to D. The following of Toronto from 3B to 3A: S. C. Mitchell, Wm. G. Downing, P. B. Crowe, Thos. J. May, Ed. A. Fahey, R. S. Bartlett, A. E. Kitson, Geo. H. Mulligan, P. K. Goold, F. C. H. Kirk, F. E. Hunter, Chas. McLean, Geo. R. Long, Jas. Colledge, M. J. Harnett, Wm. S. Simpson, O. J. Hennings, Fred. Taylor, S. W. Benneyworth, Chas. S. Wilson, A. C. Northcott, L. Edwards, Chas. V. Berrini, Jno. T. Clarke, Percy Davison, Jas. Sweetman, G. H. Harris, A. T. C. Burgess, Edward Brett, Lionel Hobbs. The following of Vancouver from 3B to 3A: L. E. Draper, T. C. Blair, R. A. McIntosh, D. F. Ferguson, D. C.

Grantham, E. W. Sutton, Winnipeg, 3A to 2B; J. B. Manson, Toronto, 3A to 2B; Walter O'Hagan, Toronto, 3A to 2B; A. Fleming, Toronto, 2B to 2A. The following of Toronto from 2B to 2A: R. Edmondson, Wm. Leake, C. E. Swait, H. Lettau, W. Corp, Thos. Armstrong, A. H. Ashby. Raoul Sylvain, Montreal, 3A to 2B; Michael Cadrin, Quebec, 3B to A3; Edouard Foisy, Montreal, 3B to 3A; J. P. Malo, Montreal, 3B to 3A; C. B. Ireland, Montreal, 3A to 2B; George S. Maxwell, St. John, 3B to 3A. The following from Grade B to Grade A of the Third Class: Harold Limerick, Fredericton; Miss Edna Smith, Toronto; Miss Kathleen E. Brown, Toronto; William Francis Sutor, Vancouver. The following letter carriers of Toronto: F. J. Gray, D to E; W. T. O. Scholes, D to E; W. J. Seamen, D to E; R. A. Marshall, D to E; J. A. Beard, D to E; W. N. Mitchell, D to E; C. A. Jollow, D to E; Chas. Donnelly, D to E; W. G. Falcour, D to E; J. G. Milligan, D to E; W. Williams, D to E; T. Hilton, D to E; A. Debson, D to E; R. F. Stone, D to E; T. H. Heard, D to E; A. N. Godard, C to D; N. D. Thomas, C to D; C. H. Turner, C to D; A. Coupland, C to D; J. Thorburn, C to D; T. Hunter, C to D; W. G. Hester, C to D; Wm. Morrison, C to D; J. Nesbitt, C to D; J. W. Fullerton, B to C; F. L. Durnan, B to C; H. G. Pedlar, B to C; C. H. Alcook, B to C; W. E. Rodgers, B to C; E. V. Browning, A to B; T. Clark, A to B; B. Potter, A to B. The following porters of Toronto: R. L. Gregory, D to E; H. W. Smith, D to E; W. Owens, D to E; H. Jones, D to E; H. Baker, D to E; W. J. Gallagher, C to D; H. Skerratt, C to D; B. F. Scott, C to D; J. Trowbridge, B to C; D. S. McLachlan, C to D; Wm. Scarborough, C to D; Geo. Courtney, C to D; J. Armstrong, B to C; Geo. Wright, A to B; W. H. Miles, A to B; E. Allen, D to E. The following letter carriers of Kingston: Geo. Lawes, D to E; J. H. Allmark, D to E; S. Pickering, D to E. The following porters of Kingston: F. P. Murray, C to D; F. Hebert, J to D. The following of London: P. J. Fraser, letter carrier, D to E; W. H. Tuffield, porter, D to E; F. W. Brooks, porter, C to D; J. W. Sargent, porter, C to D; A. H. Gillett, porter, C to D. The following of Windsor: J. E. Gates, letter carrier, D to E; A. Meloche, letter carrier, D to E; A. H. Curtis, letter carrier, B to C. The following letter carriers of Hamilton: J. S. McIlwraith, D to E; J. J. Young, D to E; J. J. Hein, D to E; D. J. Gilbert, C to D; A. G. Sheldrick, C to D; J. Maguire, C to D; M. Hardeastle, C to D; E. J. Rock, B to C; H. R. Woodman, A to B; R. A. Lentz. The following porters of Hamilton: F. C. Wildman, C to D; H. F. Rieger, C to D; C. F. Mietzner, C to D. W. R. Hinchey, porter, Belleville, C to D. The following of

Kitchener: M. A. Kuenemann, letter carrier, D to E; S. J. Wellheuser, letter carrier, C to D; J. B. Brown, letter carrier, A to B; A. A. Pinke, porter, C to D. G. S. Strickland, porter, Brantford, C to D; W. W. Beatty, porter, Brockville, C to D; F. Brundage, porter, Chatham, C to D; Wm. McDaid, letter carrier, Port Arthur, D to E; R. T. Doty, letter carrier, Niagara Falls, C to D; C. W. Hatt, porter, Niagara Falls, C to D; J. P. Brown, porter, Owen Sound, C to D; Jas. Tennant, porter, Sarnia, C to D; H. Diehl, porter, Stratford, C to D; H. McPherson, letter carrier, St. Catharines, D to E; C. Hensinger, porter, St. Catharines, C to D; A. N. Vail, letter carrier, St. Thomas, D to E; W. G. Greer, letter carrier, Sault Ste. Marie, B to C; S. J. John, porter, Sault Ste. Marie, C to D; R. W. Robertson, letter carrier, Fort William, D to E; C. P. Roach, letter carrier, Fort William, D to E; H. A. Moore, letter carrier, Fort William, C to D; A. E. Wyatt, porter, Fort William, C to D; F. C. King, porter, Guelph, C to D; H. L. Porter, letter carrier, Galt, C to D; A. E. Van Every, porter, Galt, E to C; J. H. Sims, porter, Windsor, C to D; E. J. Leboeuf, porter, Windsor, C to D; C. H. Taylor, porter, Windsor, C to D. William Frederick Lough, Winnipeg, 1B to 1A; Thomas Roberge, Montreal, 2B to 2A; Napoleon Arthur Prendergast, Winnipeg, 2B to 2A; W. W. Charbonneau, M. O. Exchange, 2B to 2A; L. w. J. Gosselin, Montreal, 3B to 3A; J. L. Rouilliard, Montreal, 3B to 3A; L. O. Paquet, Quebec, 3B to 3A; Miss Eleonore Bourgault, Ottawa, 3B to 3A.

Public Works—C. S. A. MacKay, Div. 1B; J. A. Thivierge, to Div. 2A.

Railways and Canals—Jas. Lyons to Div. 3A.

Superannuations.

Marine and Fisheries—Vivian H. Steele, Div. 1B.

Resignations.

Agriculture Dept.—Olaf Johnston, Div. 3B.

Customs Dept.—Albert L. Acton, Div. 2B; Alex. R. Revill, prev. officer.

Inland Revenue—Hugh McCutcheon, dep. coll., Greenwood, B.C.

Interior Dept.—F. M. Hewitt, Div. 3B; E. G. Arnott, Div. 3B; F. H. Burgess, Div. 3A; H. A. Plant, Div. 3A.

Marine and Fisheries—G. W. York, messenger.

Post Office Dept.—Beatrice Lees; Vernon J. Lachance, Div. 3B; Grace H. Harris, Div. 3A; Raymond LaHaye, 3rd Class, Winnipeg; Henri Picard, Grade B, Montreal; Max Schechter, porter, Grade D, Montreal; Miss Stella Veronica Hawkins, 3rd Class, Grade B, Sherbrooke.

Secretary of State—Mary K. Molloy, Div. 3B.

Transfers.

Andre Jobin and Dominique Monette from letter carriers to 3rd Class A, Montrea; Arthur P. Fillman from messenger to Class 3A, Ottawa; Edmond Leprohon from porter to Class 3A, Montreal; W. Masse from letter carrier to Class 3A, Montreal; John Corcoran from R.M.C. clerk to 1st Class B, Ottawa; John Bannerman to 3rd Class A, Regina; John T. Mollard from R.M.C. Clerk to 1st Class, Toronto; Jas. C. Burke from messenger, Inside Service, to 3rd Class B, Ottawa; Sam. Segal from letter carrier to 3rd Class B, Montreal; Seraphin Choquette from Inside to Outside Service, Post Office. The following letter carriers, Grade E, Montreal, to 3rd class clerks, Grade A: Sylva Cloutier, Albert Fredette, Stanislas Major, Norbert Monette, Albert Regimbal, Jos. Jacques, W. F. Cordeau, Francis Darche, Adolphe Brazeau, Arthur Yelle, J. A. Lavigne.

General.

S. H. Waggoner, of the Department of Customs, has been on special duty at Iroquois, installing new officials at that port.

Harry R. Whitehead, of the Department of Militia and Defence, was married in St. George's Church, on January 30th, by Rev. Canon Snowdon, to Florence Jephcott, of Coventry, Eng.

B. O. Schwartz, of the Post Office Department, was married, by Rev. D. M. Finnegan, in St. Joseph's Church, on February 5th, to Gertrude Lorraine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Burnie, of Stratford.

Obituary.

James Alfred Clayton, of the Department of Finance, passed away on February 10th, surviving his wife but a few days. Deceased was in his seventy-ninth year and was the son of the late Commodore James Clayton, R.N. He had been a civil servant for forty-six years.

Mrs. Lucy Berton, of Ottawa, widow of the late Wm. S. Berton, died at St. Johns, Que., on February 10th, under tragic circumstances. Though seventy years of age, she made the midwinter journey to St. Johns to bid farewell her son, Frank G. Berton, who belongs to the staff of the Department of the Interior at Dawson, and is on his way overseas with a Western battalion. John S. Berton, of the Department of Customs, another son, is with the 38th Battalion.

Jessie Blackburn Christie, wife of W. G. Parmalee, L.S.O., formerly Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce, died on February 4th. Before her marriage, Mrs. Parmalee

was on the staff of the Department of Customs.

Annie Jane Ross, wife of James A. Clayton, died on February 1st, at the age of seventy years. She was the only child of the late Lieut.-Col. Thomas Ross, the first commanding officer of the Governor General's Foot Guards.

Joseph Gideon Horace Bergeron, Postmaster of Montreal, has passed away at the age of sixty-two years, after a distinguished career. Born at Rigaud in 1854, he was called to the bar in 1877, entered parliament in 1879, sat continuously until 1900, and again from 1904 to 1908. In 1913 he was appointed solicitor and secretary of the Indian Commission in British Columbia and in 1915 became Postmaster of Montreal.

Alfred G. Lowen, of the Department of Militia and Defence, died on February 4th, after two weeks' illness.

Sergt. Henry Sandfield Maclean, of the 88th Battalion, "Victoria Fusiliers," killed in action in France on January 17th, was the youngest son of the late Alex. Maclean, Canadian Trade-Commissioner to Japan.

Isaac Phillips, of North Bay, father of Capt. Edmund Phillips, C.A.S.C., died in Montreal on February 4th, aged sixty-eight years. The funeral took place at Brockville.

Joseph Richard, for forty-six years an employee of the Department of Public Works, died on February 6th, aged seventy-six years.

William Chitty, an old employee of the Department of Public Works, died on February 4th. He was born in Bytown eighty-three years ago and was a Fenian Raid veteran.

H. W. Sherwood, who died on February 7th, was the father of H. C. Sherwood, of the House of Commons staff.

James Burk, of Cantley, who died on January 26th, aged seventy-six years, was the father of M. G. Burk of the Royal Mint and W. A. Burk of the Dominion Police.

Alexander Moffatt died at Pembroke on February 4th, aged eighty-seven years. His father was the first postmaster of that town and was succeeded by deceased, who was succeeded in turn by his son, W. A. Moffatt, the present postmaster.

A Greek sponge fisherman's dive to a depth of 262 feet in the sea is believed to be the world's record for a man unprotected by any sort of diving apparatus.

In Scotland 23.8 per cent of illuminating gas is made in municipal works to 51.4 per cent in Ireland and 30.6 per cent in England.

THE POSTAL JOURNAL

All communications, matter for publication, etc., to be sent to "Editor of Postal Journal," Calgary, Alta.

VOL. II.

FEBRUARY 16, 1917.

No. 10

TO OUR READERS.

Office of the President,
Regina, January 30th, 1917.

Your delegation has returned from their visit to the East, where they waited upon the Deputy and Asst. Deputy P.M.G., the interview with whom extended into a day and a half.

Montreal and Toronto postal clerks were also officially visited, with splendid results, which will be made known to you through your branch secretary.

We also interviewed two cabinet ministers, who promised their support.

The hearty thanks of the Association are due to the clerks of Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto, each of which splendidly entertained your delegation while there. The treatment accorded them has to be seen to be appreciated.

Undoubtedly the results of the visit will be to create a more friendly and brotherly feeling between the East and the West than ever there was before, their interests are identical, and when we are all one grand organization think of the power for good we shall be.

The net results of the representations made to the department will be sent out to each branch secretary, and you will all have a chance to learn exactly what has been done. Give everything your closest attention, and be represented at the next convention which will be the best and most representative yet, with your mature deliberations on what has been done and what remains to be done.

The results should be a stimulus to you all in your Association work; make yourself a booster. And in this respect, especially, try and increase your office subscriptions to the Journal, which has done and is at present doing a great work in educating readers in Association work.

Attend your branch meetings from now on; it is there you will fully learn of the work the Association is doing, and your branch in particular. And it is there you will get a full report of the deliberations and concessions received at Ottawa through your delegation.

I may say everyone interviewed admits the necessity and justice of a war bonus, and I believe you may look forward to a very early realization of our request in regard to same, if not already granted when this is read.

CHAS. GARDNER,
President.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

Has your branch paid its per capita tax yet! If not, are you behind with your dues. If so, that may be the reason. Pay your own dues and then find out why your branch is behind with headquarters.

We learn that city postmasters in the U.S.A. are to be placed on the regular Civil Service list, and that, henceforth, these positions are to be strictly non-political.

In Edmonton a league has been started under the name of The Public Service Association, the object of which is to use every influence toward placing the Provincial Civil Service and the Outside Service of the Dominion Government, upon a thoroughly merit system with a commission to make the appointments after an examination.

All power to their elbow is, we know, what all our members will say. The public has some idea of the curse of the present pat-

ronage system, but it takes the men in the Service to really appreciate it. Were such an association to be formed in every city and were they to work as zealously as many did for prohibition, we believe that patronage would soon disappear from all Government appointments. Further, there is no reason why the same amount of energy should not be put into this cause as into prohibition, seeing that, if not the physical, the moral wreckage to the community in general is every bit as bad as in the case of excessive drinking.

Our next convention will be held in Winnipeg in July. There is no legitimate excuse whatever why every city office should not have, at the very least, one representative present. At Regina last year the opinion was expressed by a semi office delegate, that semi offices should work out their own way of attending without necessarily relying upon help from the larger centres. In either case, NOW is the time to be looking into this matter, so that should your branch not be able to see their way clear to attend you can devise ways and means in good time which will make it possible.

Winnipeg is ideally situated for a coast to coast convention and such a convention we must have at all costs. Get the way paved now—now; don't start in to think about it two weeks before the time.

The result of our delegation's journey to Ottawa, whether it be measured by attainments or by failures, it matters not, should be to convince one and all of the necessity for a continually stronger organization. What had been accomplished has been done through the power of organization. What has not been accomplished has been because we are not sufficiently organized in all details. If you feel satisfied with what was done, the more reason for you to continue to be a 'live wire' in your association. Should you feel dissatisfied, so much the more reason for your even better effort in the future. Which goes to show surely that it's organization; then organization, and, after that, still more organization, that is necessary if we are to accomplish that which we have set out to do.

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.

(S. H. Tease, Vice-President.)

A letter from France is always interesting and welcome, even though the soldiers dare not tell us all they would like to tell, still their epistles take the premier place when happily they come to hand.

The Xmas season has naturally been productive of much letter-writing by the absent members of our Association, and many and varied are the themes embraced. Besides,

they repay in ample fashion for any remembrance we may have sent them at the festive season.

Ranking high in points of interest with regard to conditions in France, and what their thoughts are of us we may mention a letter dated December 27th, 1916, received by the Secretary, Winnipeg Branch, from Pte. J. T. Bowie, "In the Field."

After thanking the branch for Xmas parcel received, and a long descriptive account of doings in France, he continues:

"Although I have not sent you an earlier expression of appreciation for the work you are doing, in the getting of better conditions, and even for holding those privileges already won, it is not because I have forgotten about them. We can't all get to the front, but we can all do a little to help, and when we are helping others we are helping ourselves. We are often too apt to think that all we do is being done for the other fellow. Here's wishing the branch and the Dominion Association a bright and successful New Year. Keep up the good work."

Such an expression of appreciation is only what would be expected by those who knew Pte. Bowie for what he always proved himself, and proves still to be an ardent Associationist. Nevertheless, there is food for thought in that communication. Read it again; it is worth it. Note, particularly, the phrase, "the work you are doing in getting better conditions," and, again, "and even for holding the privileges already won." Finally, and most important of all, "read, mark and inwardly digest" this richest of all morsels of advice, "keep up the good work," and when you have finished reading his message give it your earnest reflection.

Could any more eloquent appeal to the honour, integrity, and, if we may use the term here, chivalry of the body politic of postal clerks be penned than this. To our honour, because they left their interests in trust with us; to our integrity, because they deem us worthy to carry on the work, and to our chivalry because, consistent with the abnormal conditions that prevail, we dare not, even if we would, allow one jot or tittle of the efforts already made by them equally with us to fail of success, nor allow the escutcheon of our Association that desuetude that would dull, perhaps forever, the lustre they helped it attain.

Our position then is one of trust, and we should be proud of the honour. We do not know, and can appreciate only in part the trials, hardships and misery with which they have to contend in whatever field of activity they may be. Apart from the temporary sacrifice of all the amenities of civilization, they are constantly being called upon to face dangers and difficulties as a result of which, even in the most favourable circumstances,

many of them will never get even in their banking accounts with nature, nor clear the mortgage now being incurred against their future equipment, mentally and physically, for the battle of life.

Surely any sacrifice we may make for a cause as dear to them as it is to us, and vitally affecting everyone, must pale by comparison into sheer insignificance.

Look well, then, to your position in the matter, and face resolutely, as they are doing in larger things, the smaller tasks that lie to your hand.

“Keep up the good work.”

BRANCH NOTES.

Prince Albert.

Hello, Brothers! That was sure a busy Christmas; we were almost caught in an unusual conglomeration of parcels, etc., but thanks to the tenacity of our “Grandfathers’ Brigade” we kept balanced. We have to record that a very generous spirit prevailed from the public and cigars were numerous. Hugh Parks, our latest recruit to the King’s Army, is back again with us. Hugh, passing between the lines of the local medical board, was told he had a beautiful form, but—Hugh came back to us sadder and wiser.

Since our last notes, our memories are blank with regard to our Whist Club. We are truly thankful for this, however, and in the meanwhile, one can hear questions like this, “But, say, supposing you found a newspaper to contain a pair of gloves, prepaid one cent for four ounces, what would do with it?” Our latest recruit says, “Send it on at glove rate.”

We are anxious to hear Christmas news from Calgary and Edmonton, etc.; the celebrations at these offices are usually rich around that season. Edmonton is not the only place boasting an orchestra, one being liable to germinate here at any moment. Secret practices are going on here, we hear, and we may expect ‘Dock’ to make an announcement presently.

Winnipeg.

The January meeting of this branch was held on the 9th of the month, the attendance, by which the importance of a meeting is usually gauged, was decidedly disappointing, even allowing for unfavourable weather conditions. Granting the hardship of travelling downtown from the warm fireside, once a month, surely it is one that might be borne for the sake of the common cause. Little short of the impossible should keep members from being present, but when it is merely a question of ‘pool’.—Good-night!!

New ideas are often useful and a member facetiously requests that we endeavour to secure a corner of the “Strand” for future meetings because it really is a pity that our boys should have to forego their game and, incidentally, save 40 cents.

The balance sheet for the past year was read, showing that Winnipeg has a lot of leeway to make up before the month of June. Let everyone do his ‘bit.’ The large number of Christmas cards received from other branches and from members on active service were on display. The disposition of the fund for soldier’s parcels was gone into and a vote of thanks to the committee in charge was passed unanimously. Letters, expressive of their appreciation, continue to come in from our boys in the firing line. More of this later. The rest of the business was of a general nature, while the election of an entertainment committee afforded a keen contest. The passing of the Christmas rush finds many of our boys rushing into uniform, etc., and congratulations are due to Charlie Phillips. The event will be long remembered by many on Despatch. The call for more men and more men is being answered, and we congratulate Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Green upon the arrival of a young soldier. Bill Scott looks as good in breeches as Jim Berry in deck sweaters, and while we wish them both back soon, we hope the one will ride the broncho as successfully as the other will the rolling waves. Don’t forget the roll, Jim. While they and those who are about to go are doing their big things abroad, let us do our little at home, so that they come back and find us here in a better position than we are even now in. We want effort and more effort to make the association a living organization. It’s yours for good, if you will surmount your self-centred individualism. Be a little open-minded and open-handed in the New Year. You can better afford it now than five years ago and you did it then ungrudgingly. Why!

A POSTAL SERVICE HERO.

Roland Campbell, employed in the winter mail service to the sparsely settled region between Vermillion and Peace River, is a hero of this unusually severe season. On a trip late in January his horses went through the ice when crossing a river and he had to shoot them and go on foot. With both feet frozen and ready to drop from exhaustion and suffering, he reached the next village, but *he delivered the mail safely.*

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