

from Louisburg to Dawson are ready. It only remains to carefully organize the collection of the contributions and to see that the full amount subscribed by civil servants is credited to the Civil Service body. All individuals and organizations in the Service are urged to await the instructions which will be issued for their guidance within a very short time. Be ready and wait for the word.

DR. LAROCHELLE'S ANALYSIS.

The interview with Dr. LaRochelle, Civil Service Commissioner, which is published elsewhere in this issue, is of both interest and value to the members of the Civil Service, inasmuch as it throws additional light upon the matters dealt with in Dr. LaRochelle's recently-published Memorandum to the Secretary of State, and also gives a fuller idea of the personal views of the Commissioner.

In this interview Dr. LaRochelle confines himself to a discussion of the Civil Service Act and the Regulations of the Commission. The conclusions which he arrives at are in accord with the broad principles which underlie the Act and which are followed in Sir George Murray's recommendations and in the Bill introduced at a recent session of Parliament by the Hon. Mr. White.

Dr. LaRochelle refers only incidentally to methods of administration, and this is a matter of vital importance. He states that fifty-eight per cent of the professional and technical appointments made since 1908 have been decided by competition. By "competition" he means, it is presumed, the mere comparison of the applications sent in by candidates. This system was explained in detail by Dr. Shortt in his speech at the Ottawa Forum some time ago. Its imperfections and utter inadequacy are so glaring that one wonders that the Commission,—that the Ministers

themselves,—have been content to permit it to be followed so long. "Competition" can only be applied to it in the broadest sense.

There seems to be no good reason for delaying the establishment of a proper system of competitive examinations for such appointments. No legislation is required. The Commissioners have the matter in their own hands.

Civilian readers and civil servants at large would be glad to have from Dr. LaRochelle a discussion of the *administration* of the Civil Service law and regulations, together with his views on the present and possible methods of "competition" for technical and professional appointments.

AU REVOIR, "LOW RATE."

"Low Rate" has gone,—gone a-flying,—flying over battlefields "on a thing made of string," looking for Huns with a machine-gun. Those who know "Low Rate" in person will appreciate that it means no small sacrifice for him to give up the ease and comfort of life in Ottawa for the hardships of the field and the stern discipline of army life. "I've a duty to do," says he,—and *The Civilian* knows he will do it well. "Low Rate" is one of *The Civilian's* best "finds." He is a front-ranker among those whose literary gifts have been made known through the columns of this journal. Of all the original contributions published since its inception, those of "Low Rate" have been the most widely copied and most earnestly discussed. "Low Rate" has neither feared nor favored anyone and the outspoken and unsparing character of his writings has earned him many critics. Such is the penalty of originality. "Low Rate" is now in England. On the bosom of the broad Atlantic he sang his "Swan Song." Readers will find it on another page, and will join with the editors in wish-