

not able to make a living outside, he is brought back at a greatly enhanced salary.

"The staff of this office feel that this position should have been filled by promotion,—a point strongly advocated by the late Postmaster General,—as in this case there is a competent man quite capable of filling it. Needless to relate, a great deal of dissatisfaction has been created amongst the clerks.

"Such an action as the reappointment of an ex-clerk in preference to any of the clerks who have devoted all of their time and work to the Service is, we feel sure, not conducive to the best interests of the Service.

"We shall be glad to feel that we have your interest in this matter, as we think that an injustice has been done."

Is it not nearly time that the recommendations of Sir George Murray were given some consideration? It is true, in some respects, that the Postal Service offers a little more inducement in the way of more rapid promotion at the present time than when Sir George Murray made his report, yet the plums are still in the possession of the politician, to be held out as prizes for votes and active partisanship. The positions carrying a salary of over \$1,400 per year are still locked against the man with no "pull," or who, should he possess this most essential qualification, is too honourable to use it.

It is very evident that these positions, or, rather, the power of appointment to same, will not be relinquished by either "party" without a stiff fight. In the event of paragraph 91, page 28, Bill 217, being passed without amendment, all the higher positions in the Outside Service will again be forfeited to the use of the "party" or the man with "pull." With regard to the latter, his very presence amongst any body

of Civil Servants invariably breeds dissatisfaction. He seldom does his duty, takes liberties which other men would neither care nor dare to take, and walks around the office as if he owned the place, relying on his political friends to obtain for him that which his own endeavour would never get in a thousand years.

Not only does the politician hold the strings to the higher positions, he also has it in his power to stop a clerk's promotion in the Service, even after the clerk has passed all necessary examinations and has been recommended for promotion. Such interference has been proved beyond a shadow of doubt, and it is up to the men in the Service to put their backs against the wall and fight this question to a finish.

NEVER HEARD OF US.

To the Editors *The Civilian*:

Kindly find enclosed one dollar for one year subscription to *The Civilian*. I wish I had known sooner of this valuable publication, that I consider indispensable to members of the Civil Service. Your editorial taught me what I should have known. The Belgian Mother is one of the best poems that one can peruse, and I should say everything printed in *The Civilian* is highly inspired as a whole, but the most striking is "A Plum Pudding Empire." To the writer of this article please let me say that it will be surprising if the harmony that exists between all of our dear Mother's Colonies were not united towards Her in this present conflict.

If my English writing is not perfect the heart that dictates the foregoing expressions is true.

NAP. OSTIGNY,
Sub-Agent Dominion Lands.
Bonnyville, Alta., Jan. 27, 1915.