commendation in reference to patronage appears to be limited to the purchase of supplies for the Department of Marine. His Lordship, it would appear, lost an opportunity to assist in a general reform when he omitted to admonish the public-minded upon the desirability of removing the outside service out of politics as has already to some extent been done with the inside. In respect of this much to be desired consummation, we are already twenty-five years behind the United States and over thirty years behind Great Britain.

The civil service of a country is a massive piece of machinery, to whose huge wheels the administrative functions of government are tightly mortised. Should not the best machinery be used, and when put in place should it not be kept in the most effective and efficient state? As a matter of fact, the ministry does not make the nominations to the public service under the patronage system. The ma-

jority of nominations are made by men whom the minister never sees, - the politicians of the wards in cities and of the backtownships in the country. The nominations pass through many hands and finally to the local member and thence to the minister. The aforesaid hanger-on may be of good or bad character; it is, nevertheless, true that he commands largely both appointments and promotions under the patronage system and thus it is that the ranks of the public service are frequently filled with men of poor character and of no ability, often placed over the heads of worthy and deserving clerks of long standing. Mr. McGiverin might make a national instead of a local reputation as a civil service reformer by directing the attention of the government to the importance of Dominion as well as Ottawa civil service reform, first as regards salaries, in which respect the outside service is in a state of starvation, and secondly as regards status

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