

# THE CIVILIAN

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## The Civil Service Profession.

It has long been a theory of *The Civilian's* that perhaps the chief need of the civil service profession is a process of judicious advertising. The welfare of the individual civil servant of the better class is bound up with the obtaining of a just and proper system of civil service administration. The adoption of such a system in turn depends upon public opinion, and public opinion will not speak in such a matter until it is fully seized that the issue is one of importance.

With the idea of helping in however small a way to achieve a consummation so devoutly to be wished, *The Civilian* some time since endeavoured to arrange for a series of articles on the different Departments and branches of the service which might describe in as readable a manner as possible the highly interesting and important work which these Departments and branches carry on. It is all in the blue books of course, but the idea of *The Civilian* was to present something that could be read. For example: what more interesting field of labour is there than that of the Department which is grappling with the problem which the Indian presents? Or what more interesting machine is there anywhere than the organization which carries on the postal business of the country? Yet when visitors come to Ottawa they show them Booth's and Eddy's.

Well, it was a large order for amateurs, and though many plans were laid, the fruits thereof are as yet light. However, in another column, Mr. A. C. Campbell makes a beginning. His subject is the work of the Senate and House of Commons staff, which should be a timely one. Yesterday the guns boomed out the opening of another Parliament. All Canada heard them, and is discussing and describing the event in a hundred sheets to-day. In none of them, it is safe to predict, will there be mention of the men who are serving these servants of the people and making their labour possible. Yet, as Mr. Campbell shows, the work of the civil service here is an integral part of the whole proceedings, and none but efficient and highly trained men could perform it. When we secure real and final appreciation of this and other kindred facts which should be self-evident, we shall have started fairly on the way to the solution of some of our greatest difficulties.