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**WORKING OUT OF
CIVIL SERVICE BILL**

**Two Commissioners will Control the Service—
Record of Servant's Career to be Kept—
Appointments to be Made on Merit—Inspection
of Departments by Commissioners**

Ottawa, June 30.—The Civil Service Reform Bill now in nearly through the Commons; a few changes remain to be made, but they are hardly likely that they will take very long. It bids fair to emerge a fairly good bill; limited of course, to the inside service, now enlarged to about 2,900 places, and to that extent imperfect, but otherwise a very fair bill indeed. Let us review its principal features.

1. It provides for appointment to the service on the merit system, as the result of open competitive examinations under control of the civil commission. A reservation which seemed necessary, is made in the case of certain officers who need special qualifications. To some extent appointments may be made to such post without examination. To some extent the commissioners may depart from the order of merit in the examination. There is some pledge that the commission is expected to make its examination practical rather than accidental, the standard set up for the Rhodes scholarships being a sort of model.

2. It leaves promotion in the hands of the minister and deputy minister of the department, subject to check, in form of a certificate of qualification, from the commissioners. This seems well judged, as Mr. Fisher was probably correct when he described the promotion examination, as distinguished from the entrance examination, as rather discredited. The effectiveness of this check depends on the strength and resolution of the commissioners. A somewhat dubious arrangement provides that lower officers shall be reported on four times a year by their deputy heads, and that this record will constitute a permanent record of a man's career. Adverse reports must be shown to the men on whom they are made. This will be a difficult provision to observe in complete good faith for a few years at all events. When a clerk is the appointee of a minister, say, of the prime minister himself, one cannot expect a deputy head to pen a very frank appreciation of his demerits.

3. There are to be two commissioners, one a French-Canadian, the other English-speaking. The number is awkward, and lends itself to deadlocks. It must be borne in mind in considering the actual conditions under which this commission must work that our French Canadian fellow citizens attach great importance to the allocation of civil service positions to men of their race in proportion to their numbers and influence, and that it may be a delicate task to arrange examinations so as to give French speaking candidates what will be considered an equal chance. Until the system has settled down, and an equitable way has been discovered of combining competitive merit with the demands of this special class, it is important to prevent discontent by giving the French element equal representation. What is of immense importance, the commissioners are to have the status of the auditor general, and of judges—that

considerable number of men—university graduates in all probability. In short there will be two examinations into the service; the lower for more routine clerks; the higher, for persons who on succeeding will be trained to executive work and expected to rise to high and responsible posts.

4. An important provision, upon which Mr. Borden insisted, and upon which Mr. Fisher yielded, after some consideration, is the matter of an inspection of departments by the commission. As originally drafted, a minister could ask the commission to investigate the work of his department, and on this request being approved by the cabinet the inspection could be made. After a good deal of argument by Mr. Foster and Mr. Borden, this was enlarged so that the commission can of its own motion go gunning after any department which violates the Civil Service Act. The government can give it powers of a departmental commission—such as Judge Cassels—to attain this end. Mr. Foster wished to add a right to look into the workings of the system, and this may yet be conceded.

5. Mr. Borden, Mr. Foster and other members of the opposition pressed hard to have what is known as the Lake resolution put into the act and so made statutory. This is a prohibition of civil servants taking part in political campaigns, either federal or provincial. As originally framed, Mr. Foster's proposal was: "An employee under the civil service act, whilst having a full right to vote as he pleases, and to privately express his political opinions, shall take no active part in party management or party campaigns." This is almost an exact transcript of an order by the post master general of the United States. Mr. Fisher withheld judgment, but expressed his sympathy with the idea. In a modified form this may yet find a place in the bill.

A proposal by Mr. Foster which did not meet favor, was to recognize the two party system and provide that one commissioner must be Liberal and one a Conservative. This is often done in the United States with good results. The government would have none of this, and several Conservatives balked at the idea. It may be noted that our special peculiarity of having two races and two languages would make it difficult to recognize in addition a two party division, at all events of a two-man commission.

These seem to be such characteristics of the bill as will interest the outside public. There are other matters, such as classification, which are of immense importance to the service itself, and which must be carefully considered, alike to do justice and to secure efficiency. But discussions on these points which are very technical, are not of special interest outside. One very odd circumstance was the question of the servants of parliament as distinguished from the servants of the government. Hitherto the Commons and the Senate have each had officials, clerks, etc., under the control of each house, and not part of the civil service, and in addition the Library of Parliament, with its staff, has been under the joint control of both houses. The proposal now is to bring all these public servants under the Civil Service Commission. Upon this an honorable distinction was made. To what extent the house was open to the taint, which Mr. Fisher threw out, that it was ready to strip the government of patronage, but very slow about abandoning its own patronage. This was not wholly just, as perplexing constitutional questions were involved, as there is a valid distinction between the servants of the house as such and the servants of the executive, and as it is important in these days of cabinet encroachment, to surround any powers of parliament as such. With the aid of Mr. Borden, whose service as a draughtsman are exceedingly valuable to the House, the matter is apparently arranged. The solution substantially is that the commission shall furnish the Houses with recruit for their services, obtained by competitive examinations, even as it will furnish recruits to the government for its departments; and then the House, by resolution make the appointments, and exercise control over the offices so supplied. Some special arrangement may be made to cover the Hansard staff, whose position is peculiar.

It must be noted that the draughting of the bill was hasty and imperfect, and that it has needed extensive changes. Some of these were matters of policy, such as the omission to make the commissioners independent, to prohibit civil servants taking part in politics, to inspect departments, etc. Others were matters of expediency, such as the failure to distinguish between parliamentary and governmental officers, just noted, which runs right through the bill, and means the changing of several sections. Mr. Borden and Mr. Foster gave great help in re-framing the bill.

It is also just to note that the help almost wholly came from the opposition. The two Liberal members from Ottawa, naturally showed solidarity for the specific interests of the civil servants, such as one or two occasions. Mr. Fielding also helped, though very little, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier spoke only once. The bulk of the Liberals showed little interest

**ALBERTA
CANDIDATE**

**C. A. Magrath Opens His
Campaign at Taber—Stands
for Rights of Province.**

The many friends of Mr. C. A. Magrath in Regina, will read with interest the following from the Taber (Alta.) Free Press.

"The campaign for the coming federal elections was opened at Taber on Monday evening, (29th ult.) when Mr. C. A. Magrath, the Conservative candidate, and Mr. W. C. Ives of Lethbridge, addressed the electors of Taber in the opera house.

"There was a large turn-out of ladies and gentlemen to bear the questions of the day discussed. Mr. Alex. Primrose filled the position of chairman and after a breezy little speech introduced Mr. Ives, who is accompanying Mr. Magrath on his tour.

"Mr. Ives after a few introductory remarks in reference to the candidate and the constitution and duties of parliament, took up the question of provincial rights, in which he claimed that the province of Alberta and the sister province of Saskatchewan, should be treated the same as the other provinces of Ontario and Quebec and given free control over their coalfields, forests and fisheries. He stated that Mr. Borden if returned to power, had pledged himself to return to Alberta and Saskatchewan the public domain to which they were entitled.

"The chairman then introduced Mr. Magrath, who on rising was warmly received. Mr. Magrath did not particularly deal with any public questions as this was only his initial meeting. He went into the matter of his candidature and said that, it was contrary to his wishes to come at the earnest solicitation of his friends. He accepted the nomination only on the condition that he should run as an independent candidate, and if elected he should be free to use his own judgment and support either party that stood for legislation in the interests of the banner province of Alberta. Alberta is a new province and needs much and he was prepared to do all in his power for its advancement. Having been a resident of Alberta for many years and closely associated with its growth he was conversant with the needs of the country. In making his appeal to the people he placed honesty and duty first, and on these he would stand or fall. Before taking his seat he paid his respects to the people who had turned out in such large numbers to meet him, and also to the ladies present, and on resuming his seat he was loudly applauded.

"The meeting was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem."

Gazette Appointments

The following appointments have been gazetted:

Justices of the Peace:
Wm. Wright of Fillmore.
Jos. Lawson of Lawson.
J. J. Friesen of Hague.
Geo. Firth of Fartown.
Henry Ikin of Lloydminster.
Jas. M. Geddie of Ruddell.
Jas. H. Moore of Marshall.
Edf. Outhwaite of Yorkton.
Lawren A. Shank of Foote.

Notaries Public:
John Cumming, of Mandal.
W. R. Grant Wright of Nokomis.
G. A. W. Braithwaite, of Wolseley.
Walter Starkey of Star City.
Commissioners for Ombuds:
Jos. A. Snell of Regina.
J. A. Leslie, of Stoughton.
Jno. Brady of Stoughton.
C. E. Butler of South Qu'Appelle.
Franz J. Kaufmann of Melville.
C. E. Emmerson of Kenlis.
Sam. Meek, of Blackwood.
Walter Bailie, Sr., of Kenlis.
T. A. S. Campbell of Saskatoon.
J. N. Mertz of Yellow Grass.
Nap Ausant of Gravelbourg.
Wilfrid Leggett of Halbrite.
Jas. Mann of Shell Creek.
L. H. Hoopes of Craven.
N. J. Rutledge of Regina.
J. W. Matthews of Rosemont.
John J. Gunn of Wilkie.
Christian Devenbough of Tivy.
F. L. Screech of Shebo.
W. L. Hall of Regina.

Process Issuers:
E. W. Schell, of Tisdale, in the Judicial District of Prince Albert.
O. D. Bowby, of Lanigan, in the Judicial District of Saskatchewan.
Hugh Hastings of Rouleau in the Judicial District of Regina.
Acting Registrar of Land Titles:
Wilmot G. Haultain, Regina.
Deputy Registrar of Land Titles:
Ernest T. Bucke, of Regina.
Issuers of Marriage Licenses:
Robert Cain of Foam Lake.
G. W. Zilinsky of Beresford.
G. W. Bilbrough of Swift Current.

Official Auditor:
H. Butcher of Westmoor.

Pound Keepers:
G. W. Ward of Quill Lake.
Joseph Lauziere of Leveille.
A. Leitch of Wilcox.
Hubbard Lee of Leveille.
C. W. Keuff of Leveille.
Jno. Sanderson of Oliver.
W. J. Trahair of Rosetown.
Geo. Puffer of Willow Bunch.
A. S. Gee of Cupar.
Geo. Robb of South Qu'Appelle.
August Jahneke of Bethune.
Theodore Ancell of Nokomis.
Andrew Glendinning of Glenhurst.
A. J. Riley of Glenbrae.

Game Guardians:
Alex. Cameron of Rocanville.
Robt. Kitchner of Rocanville.
Wood Inspectors:
A. L. Smith of Weyburn.
R. W. Anderson of Mileston.
R. H. Blackmore of Davidson.
W. J. Adams of Balgonie.
Thos. Sales of Lanigan.
P. F. Friesen of Lanigan.
A. Chislett of Glenlogan.

Resignations and Retirements:
Wm. Ashley of Drinkwater, justice of the peace.
Wm. Milburn, Swift Current, justice of the peace.
Jas. Wiggins of Manor, herd pound keeper.
Victor Mueller of Annabehn, herd pound keeper.

Canadian Magazine.

Although apparently making no pretension to being a Quebec Tercentenary number, the July issue of the Canadian Magazine contains much that bears in a direct and indirect way on the great pageant that is to take place at the ancient capital. There is an excellent article by Jno. A. Ewan, entitled "The Quebec Tercentenary" with illustrations, and is followed by another timely and valuable article entitled "Pitt, the Empire Builder" by A. H. U. Colquhoun, Deputy Minister of Education for Ontario. The latter gives credit to Pitt for the policy that led to the taking of Quebec by Wolfe. There is an excellent poem in blank verse entitled "Wolfe and Montcalm," by John Boyd, another entitled "The Plains of Abraham," by A. L. Fraser, and a third poem breathing the atmosphere of Ancient Canada under the title of "The Daughter of the Sieur le Sieur." Owing to the concentration of troops at Quebec, an article entitled, "The Canadian Militia," by G. Fredrick Hamilton is of special interest. One of the stories entitled "In Rupert's Land," by Roland Horn, is also reminiscent of French occupation. In other respects the number is unusually interesting, with articles by Goldwin Smith, Lady Edgar, Emily P. Weaver, Thos. E. Champlion and poems by Isabel Ecclestone Mackay, Jean Graham, J. Edgar Middleton, Archie P. McKishnie and others. The cover shows an artist's conception of Champlain dreaming of the future Quebec. Altogether the July number of the Canadian Magazine is one of the best issued of this publication.

Manitoba this year has 2,850,840 acres under wheat, 1,216,632 under oats, and 658,441 under barley. This is an increase of 81,097 acres wheat, 3,038 oats and 8,871 barley.

Lord Kitchener's prolonged term of command in India expires in November, and the usual crop of rumors as to what will be the next employment for him is already springing up. It is well known that the King is a great admirer of Kitchener's ability and has had more than one discussion with the secretary of war regarding his future employment on leaving India. It is generally believed that the king will promote him to an earldom, but this, of course, from an army point of view, will be merely a decorative advancement. It was naturally proposed that he should be promoted to the rank of field marshal, but Kitchener himself is believed to have asked that the field marshal's baton be withheld for a time. Except in time of actual war an officer of the rank of field marshal is barred from accepting certain posts at the War Office or elsewhere, and Kitchener is a man who wants to be always doing. Meanwhile one of the latest rumors is that he will succeed the Duke of Connaught in the Mediterranean, the post of Commander in Chief of the British Army, in abeyance since the retirement of the late Duke of Cambridge, being revived for the time.

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