

for men who wish to enlist but are positively prohibited from doing so.

There are stalwart young men patiently enduring sneers and insinuations as to their personal courage who, in fact, were refused by the surgeons months ago. The man with the broken-down foot-arch, the man with varicose veins, the man with the ill-joined fracture of arm or leg, and the man with a darkened eye; seldom reveal these defects in everyday life, but the recruiting officer is not to be deceived. "Civilian life for yours" is his sentence. With every such sentence a certificate should be given, entitling the holder to wear a badge.

Then there are those who may be called "starred" men, *i.e.*, those who civil services are indispensable. There are men in every department whose peculiar training and acquired information place them in this class. When such men die it takes years to find and train their successors. It is hard enough to run a department in war time even with all its experts in their places. Their absence would surely involve confusion, trouble and loss. So these men cannot enlist. Certificates entitling them to wear exemption badges should be given to them by their ministers. Why should a man be shamed before his fellows merely because he is a specially valuable civil servant?

Yes, badges of some sort are needed, and at once. Their absence produces misunderstanding, suspicion and injustice. Their introduction would place every man in his true light and also stimulate recruiting.

Let's have badges.

If all the Ottawa civil servants who have already enlisted could be called home, they, with the new recruits now being secured, would just about fill up the 207th Battalion. What a corps it would be!

KILLED IN ACTION.

Mrs. A. Rachel Smith, 284 Madison street, St. James, Manitoba, has just received official notice that her husband, Ivan Smith, railway mail clerk, Winnipeg district, was killed in action, somewhere in France, on the 14th inst.

The late Ivan Smith, who was thirty-three years of age, entered the Service in May, 1905, and was looked upon as a very efficient clerk. He left Winnipeg in August, 1915, attached to 5th Company, Machine Gun Section. This machine gun was purchased by contributions from the railway mail service staff of Winnipeg, members of which staff along with Smith entirely manned it. Besides his widow three children mourn the loss of one who went forth and for Canada and loved ones made the supreme sacrifice.

A STORY OF HIGH PRICES.

In The Illumination of Joseph Keeler, Esq., or On to the Land, Dr. Peter H. Bryce, M.A., medical inspector, Immigration Branch, Department of the Interior, discusses a certain phase or phases of social and economic conditions here in Canada from a view-point quite different from that of most social reformers and students or teachers of economics. Dr. Bryce recognizes only too well the growing tendency in Canada for people to gradually go to the cities. He not only recognizes the error there is in this, but seeks to avert the stream, not so much by decrying the city as pointing out the advantages of "back to the land." The career of one Joseph Keeler and his life on the very familiar shores of Lake Ontario has woven around it the romance of life in both environments and teaches so clearly the lesson of lasting happiness only to be found away from the busy streets and thronging market places.