

# THE CIVILIAN

---

VOL. VIII.

JANUARY 21, 1916.

No. 20

---

## Face to Face.

---

The Civil Service of Canada stands face to face to-day with the most serious question that has ever confronted it. That question is, "*How many more men will the Service give to the army?*"

The question, while it may be considered as addressed to the Civil Service as a body, demands a reply from every civil servant as an individual. On the words and tone of those replies will rest the reputation of the Civil Service with the people of Canada.

When the war broke out, nearly eighteen months ago, the response of the civil servants to the first call to arms was splendid. It sent a glow through the whole organization, and, with justifiable pride, the Service declared that it was "doing its bit,"—and doing it well. In the First Division of Canadian overseas troops it is morally certain that the men from the Civil Service formed a percentage much larger than the proportion of the whole Service to the whole population of Canada. In the second and third "contingents" this ratio was well maintained. The "Roll of Honour," published serially in *The Civilian*, has already given the names of more than fifteen hundred men of the public service of the Dominion who have joined the overseas forces,—and the roll is still growing. An incomplete record of casualties to civil servants shows forty-one killed, sixty-seven wounded and seven now prisoners in the hands of the enemy. Doubtless there are numerous other casualties to "our boys" of which information has not been received.

All this makes a splendid record,—but *it is not enough*. The question to-day is not "What have you done?" but "*Have you done all you could?*"

The Civil Service of Canada has *not* done all that it can do. True, enlistment from the Service goes on continuously,—and here let it be mentioned that the lion's share of credit in this regard belongs, geographically speaking, to the Western Provinces, and, if considered by Departments, to the Outside Postal Service. Strongest in numbers, the Post Office men are also foremost in patriotism and first in the spirit of service and sacrifice.

Conditions in Canada,—as in the world at large,—have changed of late. The task of the Allies looms larger and larger and the call to arms rings louder and more insistently each succeeding day. Great Britain adopts a form of national service; Canada calls one in sixteen of her total population to the colors. What, in this crisis, is the duty of the Civil Service? Surely it is