

# THE CIVILIAN

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THE EDITORS,  
THE CIVILIAN,  
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Communications on any subject of interest to the Civil Service are invited and will receive careful consideration.

Ottawa, Dec. 16th, 1910

## A PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE IN A NUTSHELL.

Principal Jowett's eleven maxims have been called the "Balliol Scheme of Life," and many an Oxford man has used them with advantage. They will serve equally well for the readers of this journal and the class it appeals to. Jowett, in this group of "Maxims for Statesmen and Others," summed up his practical philosophy of life — and he was one of the wisest philosophers of his day. Here are his eleven sayings of power:

1. Never quarrel.
2. Never explain.
3. Never hate.
4. Never fret.
5. Never disappoint.
6. Never fail.
7. Never fear.
8. Never drudge.
9. Never spare.
10. Never tell.
11. Never detract.

It is obvious that any statesman carrying out these rules must infallibly be great. It is just as obvious that any "others" who follow them will be living toward success. Lord Curzon, whose rise has been remarkable, and Mr. Asquith, are both credited in England as living by these eleven maxims, and the "Balliol spirit" is known in many quarters through lesser examples.

Two of them, perhaps—numbers 2 and 9—are suitable for statesmen only. In ordinary life many must and ought to explain seeming mistakes, and where public affairs are not involved ought to spare those who are in the wrong. The rule, "Never drudge," is one of the best. The man who puts full spirit into every task and refuses to consider anything as drudgery, is bound to rise. The man who neither quarrels nor detracts, who frets at nothing, who refuses to hate anybody—he is embodied power, for he has conquered the worst possible obstacles in his own career. A sound philosophy of life lies in these twenty-two words—and any person, anywhere, can use them to advantage.

## LETTER CARRIERS PETITION THE GOVERNMENT.

Messrs. A. McMordie, Toronto, and R. Guy, Hamilton, representing the Letter Carriers' Association of the Dominion, waited recently on Dr. Coulter, deputy postmaster general, with several matters of importance to their organization. The postmen are asking that the proposed Superannuation Act as it affects them be applicable after twenty-five years' service and at the age of fifty-two, instead of at 65 and 70 as is intended. They also asked the deputy that changes be made in the uniforms, so as to allow lighter clothes and a lighter helmet for summer wear. Consideration was promised to the requests.