

# THE CIVILIAN

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## The Civil Service Association.---Its Work and Objects.

Résumé of an interesting correspondence — A Report on  
Progress, and a Declaration of Principles.

Prior to the Federation Convention of April 29 and 30, the secretary of the Ottawa Association brought the matter of the proposed formation of a more comprehensive organization within the service before Mr. Fisher, as the minister of the government who has been most closely associated with the recent legislation affecting the civil service. Mr. Fisher expressed approval of the work which the Ottawa association is doing for the service, and of the proposed Federation, but added a warning that the association should not identify itself entirely with the movement for higher salaries, lest it incur the reproach of being greedy, and only greedy. Mr. Fisher added that the activity of the association in other directions was seldom or never advertised, and that it would be well if this were otherwise. In connection with Mr. Fisher's letter it was thought advisable by the local executive to state more fully to Mr. Fisher the exact objects of the organization and the different steps that had been taken in the attempt to realize them, and the secretary was accordingly authorized to send the following statement. The letter is to a degree a report on

progress by the executive, as well as a declaration of principles. As such, THE CIVILIAN was requested to publish a copy for the information of the membership at large:

Ottawa, April 17, 1909.

Dear Mr. Fisher:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of March 30th, in reply to mine of the 24th ultimo, re the proposed Civil Service Federation, and to express to you our very cordial appreciation of your statement approving the work of our association. We assuredly think that the suggested organization will accomplish good for the service, and it is in that hope alone we have undertaken it.

With regard to your remark that the activity of our association has been confined thus far to the securing of larger salaries, and with reference generally to the concluding portion of your letter, may we be permitted a word of explanation:

I can assure you we have been very sensible of the fact that our movement for a general increase in salaries has not been calculated to place us in a wholly agreeable light. That movement, however, was not a matter