

# THE CIVILIAN

Devoted to the interests of the Civil Service of Canada.

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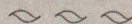
## SIR ROBERT BORDEN IN HALIFAX PLATFORM.

*A thorough and complete reformation of the laws relating to the Civil Service should be put into effect, so that future appointments shall be made by an independent commission acting upon the report of examiners after competitive examination. I am convinced that we shall perform a great public duty by establishing in this country that system which prevails in Great Britain, under which a member of Parliament has practically no voice in or control over any appointment to the Civil Service.*

*To use the power of filling positions in the public service as a reward for party service and without regard to the character and capacity of the individual selected is a gross breach of a solemn public trust. A private trustee so dishonouring his office would be subject to punishment by the criminal law.*

## THE WAR AND THE SERVICE.

The war will affect every civil servant in Canada. Prices will go up, loan money will be scarce, and rates high, and the relative power of the dollar will go down. Other classes will suffer more than the civil servants. The civil service salaries, if lower than they should be, are, at least, secure. It is not improbable that the civil service bills may be indefinitely postponed. Canada's national debt will be enormously increased by the expenses of the army, and the interest on this increase will be an additional charge on the revenues. The revenue from all sources will probably fall very low. In short, the country will be "hard up" in just the proportion that the people are "hard up." Under such circumstances it would not be surprising if the Government should decline to pass legislation involving immediate increases of expenditure except in absolutely unavoidable necessities. The officers of the civil service organizations have a task of delicate diplomacy before them. The service is most unfortunate in the series of remarkable and unforeseen events that have postponed the sorely-needed legislation. The country at large had years of prosperity in which to prepare for these hard times, while the service has been struggling along on salary scale of the days of cheap living. There are many circumstances and many arguments worthy of consideration, but just now the service must "mark time" and await developments.



## A CATECHISM.

Here are a few questions which every permanent civil servant in Ottawa should ask himself:—

1. Are you a member of the Civil Service Association of Ottawa?
2. Are you a member of the Civil Service Loan and Savings Society?