

# THE CIVILIAN

Devoted to the interests of the Civil Service  
of Canada.

Subscription \$1.00 a year:  
Single copies 5 cents.

Advertising rates are graded according to position  
and space, and will be furnished upon appli-  
cation.

Subscriptions, MSS intended for publication, and  
all other communications should be addressed  
to:

THE CIVILIAN, P. O. Box 484, Ottawa.

Ottawa, October 12, 1917

## THE NATIONAL DUTY.

*Any peace worth having cannot be found in a cessation of active hostilities followed by a process of territorial bargainings to be embodied in protocols and pacts, and still less in an agreement imposed either by victors or vanquished which sets at defiance the historic traditions, aspirations and liberties of the peoples affected.*

—Herbert H. Asquith.

*Peace is not for us yet. The time is not yet ripe. We of the Dominion have a primary desire for peace, but not for a peace that will plunge us body and soul in preparations for a military future. Such a peace is only for those too indolent to fight, or craven enough to hope that the renewal would not come in their generation. We are in it now. Never again will we have such an opportunity to win the war. We are fighting with all our might, and with everything in our power. Our sacrifices must not be in vain.*

—Hon. W. A. Holman, Premier of New South Wales.

*"I doubt if we even yet have taken fully to heart the dangers, perils and difficulties that confront us. Nor do we fully understand the strong call that is now made upon us. We are called upon for every service we can render."*

—Hon. W. H. Hearst.

## TIME FOR CONVENTION?

There is evidence of a desire in various quarters for an early convention of the Civil Service Federation of Canada. The last convention was held in 1915 and it appeared to be the opinion of the delegates that another gathering should not be held until the war was over. In 1916, there was a meeting of the Executive committee and the same view was expressed by various representatives.

A few months ago there was some expression of a desire from the Outside service that a convention be called without delay. The time appeared to the officers to be not propitious. Parliament was in session and various Civil Service organizations were dealing direct with different Ministers on salary and other matters. A convention might easily have jeopardized the success of those negotiations.

But conditions have changed,—they change rapidly now-a-days. Parliament is dissolved and a new House will be elected shortly. The slate is clear. It is time for a new start. Perhaps a Dominion-wide conference would be the best preliminary to fresh operations. The new national organizations of Postal Clerks and Railway Mail Clerks should come to a convention full of new ideas and new enthusiasm. They are the live wires of the Outside Service just now.

The Federation has to elect a new president and some amendments to the form of organization are desirable. There is a free opportunity for discussion of the whole salary problem. Superannuation has a better chance just now than it will have for years to come. The income tax problem is pressing,—and there are other questions for a Federation convention to take up.

On the other hand, the holding of a Federation convention involves heavy expense for distant organizations and a large expenditure of time and labor by officers and delegates. The officers naturally hesitate to