

service wholly lacks, and no criticism can be made of the general principles on which it manages its affairs. But the government should aim higher. It should aim to offer in the civil service a model to the whole community for perfection of organization and adaptability. And the most powerful means to this great end will be through the raising of the status and prestige of the service so that it may become at once a credit to the country and a credit to itself.

As we have said, we believe the changed conditions of the past few years offer something not unlike a challenge to the civil servant. He has been prone in days past to think that his help is from without. So it is, but not wholly. In all living organisms (and the civil service must be permitted sometimes to think of itself in a corporate capacity) growth proceeds from within. It is an unfortunate thing that the present issue should be so largely and so directly one of salaries. It will be a thousand pities if the average civil servant allows his needs to dwarf his judgment, and measures the whole of civil service reform by the amount by which it may immediately increase his wages. No one can be more convincing than we of the crying necessity of a readjustment of salaries to the changed economic conditions and the real functions performed by the civil service; but, let us say frankly, no one would more regret to see the present situation yield nothing more than this. Let us emerge into a larger air. Let us take a broad and sane view of things. Let us appreciate the problem of the government as well as our own case as individuals. Who should be the expert on civil service reform from every view-point if not the civil servant? Let us remember that if we seek the greater things first, the lesser will be added to us.

With the present issue, THE CIVILIAN has taken unto itself a motto — *Nemo sibi vivit*: No one lives for himself alone. We have placed it at the top of this little preachment, as

well as on our title page to-day, because we think that it fittingly describes what should be the dominant spirit of the hour, and that the rank and file of the service no less than this its humble servitor might find in the words something of guidance and something of inspiration.

WE TOO ARE CANADIANS.

"Force and Right are the governors of this world; Force till Right is ready."—Joubert.

It has been said many times that Canada is the freest country in the world, because her institutions are the most responsive to the people's will. Whether or not this constitutes the noblest and most enduring form of freedom, we shall not stop to enquire. But we may accept without question the view that our system of government is singularly free from any taint of absolutism. Not only so, but no government in this country enacts any important measure without first gauging public opinion. Is it a Bank Act that is in question? The bankers must first be heard. Is it an excise matter? The views of tobacco-growers, retailers and users are respectfully listened to. And so on, until we doubt not that if it were proposed to lay an embargo on bombs, some one would be sure to ask whether the anarchists had been duly consulted. Nor will any one be inclined to deny that in all practical business matters, the system is based on sound sense.

But there is no ointment without its fly. A most important measure affecting the civil service of Canada is now in hand, and yet it is the fact that the persons whose interests are most vitally involved are precisely the ones whose opinions are not sought. This has been so for a time and times; for so long in fact that the memory of man runneth not to the contrary. To cite just one other example: did the