

source, their salaries being charged to various special appropriations and accounts, and the fear has been expressed that it was not the intention of the bill to give such clerks a permanent standing.

A number of our friends, directly interested, have asked THE CIVILIAN for an expression of opinion upon this point. We had not looked very far into the matter before it was discovered that the Hon. Mr. Fisher had made a statement in the House of Commons, on the 25th ultimo, which we believe will dissipate any fear which may exist in this connection. Mr. Fisher said:

"The Bill as proposed brings in all the departmental services in Ottawa which to-day are not in the inside service. In round figures, there are some 1,400 or 1,500 civil servants in Ottawa belonging to what is called to-day the inside service; there are something like 800 who are doing practically the same kind of work in the various departments, but who are paid, not out of votes for civil government, but out of votes made by Parliament of lump sums partly for the payment of salaries and partly for other services. The instance which comes most naturally to my mind is one in my own department. In that department there is the dairy service. This is paid out of a lump vote. The salaries of employees here in Ottawa, salaries of men all over the country, whether temporarily or permanently engaged, are paid out of this vote; expenses of all kinds in connection with the service are paid out of the same vote; incidental expenses, sometimes large, for printing, holding meetings, organization of associations and things of that kind, are all paid out of the same vote. The vote as now taken does not indicate how much is provided for salaries, and how much for other services connected with the administration of this branch. Under this Bill, it is proposed that employees in the outside service who are working at Ottawa, or whose headquarters are

here, shall be brought into the inside service under the operation of this Act."

"Mr. Foster: Where will they be placed?"

"Mr. Fisher: In the inside service, according to the salaries which they are now enjoying, and fitting them into the classifications established by this Act—that is, speaking in round terms. . . . I think it is in the interest of the service, especially here in Ottawa, and incidentally in the interests of the whole service throughout the country, that there should not be in one department, sometimes even in one room, and working side by side, a certain class of officials and clerks who are under one set of rules and regulations, and who have opportunities of increase and advancement which other persons working with them do not possess. It is therefore important in the interest, not only of the service, but of efficiency and good feeling, that these people should be brought in."

In order to avoid a confusion of terms, it will be well to bear in mind that all temporary clerks paid out of civil government contingencies are now ranked as being in the inside service, and those paid from special votes as being in the outside service.

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#### NO SULKING, PLEASE.

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Speaking of "frosts," has any reader observed the extreme frigidity of the reception accorded by the newspapers of Ottawa to this fledgling? It is no exaggeration to say that the weather-gauge of their regard has thus far stood steadily at zero; for, as zero means nothing, so their regard for us is as nothing—at least they have said nothing about us. We do not count as anything a sort of blow-hot, blow-cold reference to THE CIVILIAN which appeared in the Saturday evening edition of the "Free