

THE CIVILIAN

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THE EDITORS,

THE CIVILIAN,

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Communications on any subject of interest to the Civil Service are invited and will receive careful consideration.

Ottawa, July 29th, 1910

THE SERVICE.

To serve one's country is the noblest form of occupation. Such is the status and such should be the attitude of every officer in the government service. The very act of appointment to a position in the service should be an inspiration and a stimulus to patriotism and devotion to duty. To attain the highest ideals of citizenship it is desirable that the inhabitants of a country should be contented and happy. If happiness could be tabulated in the comparative statistics of a country the result would outshine the glamour of material wealth pure and simple.

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The Civilian is interested in all that contributes to the happiness and contentment of the members of the civil service. As contributing to that state it is agreeable to learn that the Customs Department has, beginning April 1st, granted extensive increases throughout the Outside Division of that great revenue-

getting service. Reference has already been made in these columns to the increases in the Inland Revenue Department. The Post Office Department is yet to be heard from. The increases so far have been granted to higher officials. The great majority of the officials in the city Post Offices have not yet been considered in respect of the increased, and ever increasing, cost of living. But consideration of the case of their great body of officials charged with important and responsible duties cannot surely be overlooked by the government, however it may be delayed.

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Perhaps nothing, at the present time, would contribute more to the contentment, and thereby the efficiency of the service, than to have the assurance that retirement from active service would not be followed by distress in the case of the official or his family. We desire to impress most forcibly on our readers in the service the fact that we have as a body reached a most important epoch in our economic history. During the last Session of Parliament a bill respecting Civil Service Superannuation was prepared and threshed out by a Committee of the Senate, under the chairmanship of Hon. L. G. Power, which embodied the desires of the service in this all-important matter. This subject, involving as it does a question of finance, cannot, of course, be made the subject of an act originating in the Senate but must first be introduced in the House of Commons. This is the course which it is hoped will be taken in the matter at the ensuing Session.

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Senator Power's committee has performed a noble duty. Between now and the next sitting of Parliament the matter is in the hands of the service itself. At the annual meeting of the Civil Service Federation held in Ottawa last April, the subject of the proposed bill was