

# THE CIVILIAN

Devoted to the interests of the Civil Service  
of Canada.

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THE EDITORS,

THE CIVILIAN,

P. O. Box 484, Ottawa

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

Ottawa, May 3, 1912

## RETROSPECTIVE AND PROS- PECTIVE.

On the 8th May, 1908, *The Civilian* made its initial appearance in the world of Canadian civil service activities. Accordingly the present issue begins the fifth year of uninterrupted conversations amongst the diversified membership of the civil service body politic. By a coincidence the first numbers of our preceding three volumes have been occupied with reports of the annual meetings of the C. S. Federation of Canada and therefore convenient opportunities for appropriate views and reviews of our past, present and future as a civil service organ have been omitted. These omissions the present writing is intended in some measure to correct.

Of the four members of the original board of editors, from whose confed-

erate head *The Civilian* sprung "full armed" four years ago, but two remain, and it is quite possible that within the present year circumstances will compel these also to retire from the work. It is, however, conceded in sufficient force to compel conviction that a medium of news and views is a necessity in the service, and so in spite of the sometimes discouraging vicissitudes which inexorably pursue all human efforts, *The Civilian* will go on.

It may be of interest to those of our readers who are fortuitous rather than fixed in their allegiance to *The Civilian* to review the subjects treated in our pages in the past. Some of these are as follows:—

(1) Short popular articles descriptive of the work done by each branch of the service. These stories are written by civil servants and it is hoped that they will ultimately be published in book form for the enlightenment of the public as to the important work done by the service.

(2) Silas Wegg's articles on civil service life,—clever, amusing, elucidating and philosophical.

(3) Editorial department.

(4) News department, giving reports of meetings of societies, etc.

(5) A review of the important athletic events of the day.

(6) Personals, — appointments, promotions, etc. These items do not appear in any other publication.

(7) Articles of a great variety appertaining to civil government, with especial reference to the important subject of superannuation.

(8) Correspondence.

In addition to the above, two new features will be introduced in volume No. 5, viz:—

(1) A serial story written by a civil servant, having for its topic the adventures of a civil servant while on his statutory holidays. The story will be bright and the plot exciting.

(2) A list of inventions copyrighted in the United States with particular regard to subjects of interest to civil servants, such as the following:—Typewriting, Shorthand, Office Systems and Appliances, Astronomical, Photographic, Draughting and Surveying Instruments, Arms and Ammunition, Kitchen and Domestic Science.

It should be a work of supererogation to justify the existence of *The Civilian*, and yet it is necessary some-