

contingencies as the present must from time to time arise it would ill become a non-political journal like the CIVILIAN to question. But they may fairly be pointed to as additional reason for a liberal treatment of the salaries question by the government.

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### SHADOW-FIGHTING.

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Speculation appears to be rife just now in the Service regarding the **personnel** of the Board of Editors of this periodical. But any person who will reflect for a moment must acknowledge the reasonableness of withholding names for the present. Those responsible for the existence of this periodical acknowledge no motive that can properly be called in question. They are busy men, with their regular duties to perform as public servants, and any practical person will readily appreciate the serious inconvenience that would result for them were they required as individuals to listen to the numberless representations that would certainly be made upon matters both great and small. As it is, they are just as accessible in all real senses as if their names were published on the title-page, and their responsibility is the same while the inconvenience is less. Is anyone so credulous as to believe that we can hope to shield ourselves from the consequences of wrong-doing or wrong-thinking as editors? We, at all events, are not so simple-minded; for we are convinced that any serious mis-step on our part will not only imperil the cause which we have embraced, but will come home to us as individuals, and to us alone.

A word as to a variant of the above-noted criticism: Why, it is asked, does not the Civil Service Association become responsible for the CIVILIAN? For our part, we should be glad to see it so, but we have not deemed it advisable that the Association should be asked for its endorsement at present.

When this periodical shall have demonstrated its success, the question will then be upon a different footing. Until then, however, the CIVILIAN considers itself entitled to the support and confidence of the service for so long a time as its pages reflect the good intentions of its founders.

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### THE BRITISH SERVICE.

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Attention is directed to the special article in this issue dealing with the regulations governing the Civil Service of Great Britain under an independent commission. Our readers will also find most interesting a communication, dealing with the same subject, from Mr. John Roe, Accountant of the Royal Mint. It is rather unfortunate that both articles cover, to some extent, the same ground; but as the former was in type when Mr. Roe's communication was received, we concluded, in view of the importance of the subject, to publish both articles. Mr. Roe intends dealing with the practical working of the system in future issues and The CIVILIAN considers itself most fortunate in securing the assistance of so competent an authority.

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### THE CONFEDERATION OF THE CIVIL SERVICE.

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The Civil Service Association would be undertaking a work well worth the doing if it were to address itself at once to the task of securing some closer bond of union between the outside and the inside branches of the Civil Service throughout Canada. We understand that a special committee of the association has already taken the matter in hand and will present a recommendation at an early date. If we might be permitted an off-hand word of advice, it would be to emphasise the need of attacking