

# THE CIVILIAN

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to the Civil Service are invited and will  
receive careful consideration.

**Ottawa, Mar. 6, 1914**

*"The law pertaining to the civil service should be honestly and rigidly enforced, to the end that merit and ability should be the standard of appointment and promotion, rather than service rendered to a political party."*

\* \* \*

*"Entrance to the civil service should be at the bottom, and the custom of securing men from outside the ranks and placing them ahead of old employees should be discouraged, and only resorted to when public interest demands. Civil service protects employees in their positions, but it holds them there in stagnation unless a method be found to not only secure the time of its employees, but to stimulate and reward their ambition."*

## CIVIL RIGHTS.

The civil rights of the servants of the Crown are often referred to in the journals representing the point of view of civil servants in the far distant portions of the Empire. The views are divergent. If the editors of this journal may venture to express an opinion, it would be in so far as we are at present informed, in favour of servants of the Crown taking part in such public affairs as municipal politics, when these are free of the issues that are uppermost in the special service in which such civil servant is employed. But, on the other hand, to allow an officer of the Crown to take an active part in the hurly-burly of political warfare between the two parties, who, in effect, are his employers, is a claim that appears to be absolutely impossible and absurd.

There is another sense, however, in which civil servants may be considered to get rather the worst of it in regard to civil rights, for in a very important respect the civil servant has no rights, and is placed in a most helpless and hopeless predicament. The Auditor General, largely, and the Civil Service Commissioners, there is every reason to believe, as well, accepts the verdict of the Government as the final word in any question involving the status of a civil servant under the Civil Service Act. Under the circumstances, has the civil servant any recourse against any possible act of aggression on the part of his employer?

As stated in a previous number, all Acts relating to the Civil Service affect two parties only, the government being one of the parties, and their employees the other.

The Justice Department is one of the arms of government, and to expect the employee to accept without demur an opinion emanating from this arm of government is beyond all