

SOME IDEALS OF PUBLIC SERVICE.

Continued from page 307.

itself beyond suspicion. There have been lapses on the part of individuals, but these have been few and far between. It is as a class I speak of the Service, and as a class it has, I maintain, in Australia, a splendid record of faithfulness and honesty.

Civil Servants on the Roll of Honour.

I might remind you perhaps at greater length, had we time, of the many civil servants who have distinguished themselves in science, literature, art, adventure, and politics. I am not sure, however, we are entitled to claim any large share of credit on that account.

From the time of Geoffrey Chaucer, the father of English literature and poetry, who at one time occupied the post of Controller of Customs at the port of London, down to the present day, the Service has rendered many illustrious names to the historic roll of fame. It must, however, be confessed in time past the majority of such celebrities were not distinguished by the service they rendered as servants of the State. The positions and remuneration — as in the case of Chaucer,

and, a few centuries later, of Adam Smith, the great political economist and Commissioner of Customs in Scotland—were rewarded, not in consideration of services to be rendered, but as sinecures, wherein they might be afforded full leisure and retirement for the exercise of their poetic imagination and inventive genius. We may be proud that such men have been associated with the service we belong to, but I feel on firmer ground on coming down to our own times, and pointing to the many distinguished Australians who have not only done good and, in many cases, excellent work as public officials, but have made their names more or less celebrated in higher lines of thought and action. The list is a fine one, and I quote only the more familiar names.

The work and hardships of Australian explorers appeal perhaps most to our admiration. It does at least to mine. Of these we can mention Major Mitchell, Sir Charles Gregory, Sir John Forrest and Edward John Eyre. In science we have many names, and not the least of these is Professor David, the eminent geologist of Antarctic fame. In poetry and literature we may claim Adam Lindsay Gordon, James Brunton Stephens, Henry Kendall, Marcus Clarke, Rolf Boldrewood

M. Bilsky & Son, LIMITED

42 RIDEAU STREET
Cor. Sussex

. JEWELLERS .

The Prospect Hotel

The Popular Hotel
of Cobalt, Ont.

Rates \$2.50 per day
with bath

Robert Evans, Prop.

Say you saw it in The Civilian.