

PROMOTION IN THE SERVICE.

The people who charge the Civil Servants with lack of ambition do not understand what life in the Civil Service of the State really is. The average Civil Servant is full of ambition when he joins the Service; but he soon finds that his natural desire to get on does not find favour in the eyes of those set up in authority over him, and the result is he sinks into the rut, and in the course of a few months, unless he is a very exceptional or a very strong man, he parts company with ambition for ever. In the Civil Service a man's sphere of activity is limited.

Those who charge the Civil Servant with lack of ambition do not realize that the subordinate Civil Servant is kept down by his superiors. They do not understand the difficulties that beset his path, and they do not grasp the fact that the laws and regulations of the Service have been framed to kill ambition; and, therefore, when they hear the subordinate Civil Servant say it is impossible for him to rise above a certain position, they charge him with lack of ambition. If these people understood the true position of the subordinate Civil Servant they would not condemn him.

When the war is over, subordinate Civil Servants must make a bold bid for further outside support. They must take the public into their confidence. They must tell the public what their grievances really are, and in what way they could be redressed. They must ask the public, the House of Commons, and the press to help them, and in the future they must help themselves more than they have done in the past. Through the agency of the Civil Service Federation they must work for the establishment of a Court of Appeal. It would sweep away the abuses that are so rampant, and it would undoubtedly go a long way in the direction of

bridging the wide gulf between the Higher and Lower Divisions. At present transfers from the Lower to the Higher Division are rare, and when they are made merit is not always the chief consideration. Such transfers are sometimes due to "back-stair influence," and this is more especially the case with men who are brought into the Service without examination, and who, in the first instance, are placed in a subordinate position.

Civil Servants must keep out of the rut; they must become more ambitious; they must work for themselves; they must support the Civil Service Federation; and they must keep on the move until the authorities agree that a fair proportion of the higher posts shall be filled by promotion from the ranks.—*C. S. Gazette, London.*

THE VACANT RANKS.

(In a letter recently written to a friend in Ottawa, Sergt. Leonard Allen of the 1st Field Company, Canadian Engineers, C.E.F., sent a recruiting poem written by a Corporal in his section. The poem enclosed, he states, was written in a couple of hours by the Corporal, following an engagement.)

On the road to Tipperary,
There's a place that's vacant still,
There's a rifle lying silent
There's a uniform to fill.
True, at home they'll hate to lose you
But the march will soon begin,
On the road to Tipperary
With the Army to Berlin.

In the Morris chairs of Clubland
Are you there content to stay?
While the others guard your honor,
While the Germans boast "the day."
For your King and Country need you
And we want to count you in,
On the road to Tipperary
With the Army to Berlin.

Have you seen the lonely crosses
Boys who'll never more come home,
Will you idle while they're calling
Will you leave them there alone?
For they're calling, calling, calling,
And they want to hear you sing