THE CIVILIAN

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

Ottawa, May 15, 1914

AN ANXIOUS TIME.

Since the last issue of The Civilian anxiety has reigned supreme in the hearts of the officers of Civil Service organizations responsible to their constituents for representation to, and influence brought to bear upon, the Government in regard to the two bills. The officers and executive of the Ottawa Association performed a deed of gallantry on behalf of the whole service of Canada, in representing to the members for Ottawa, Messrs. Fripp and Chabot, the very serious situation that would be developed within the service were the proposed bills not presented and passed during this session.

In the meantime, the Federation had taken up the task of representation through its publicity committee, which was organied at an executive meeting in March last. The members of this committee are: F. M. Journeau and J. L. McCullough, Customs (Outside); W. J. Cantwell and C. A. Halliday, Post Office (Outside); W. J. Code, Ernest Green, Arthur Pare, Walter Todd (Inside), F. Grierson, convenor. This committee drew up a carefully considered memorandum, which has been mailed to every member of Parliament. The text of this memorandum will be found on the opening pages of this number.

The committee endeavoured to make this memorandum as brief and

concise as possible, for obvious reasons. Consequently there is no pretence that the case for the Service has been presented in its entirety. The object was to make an impression upon the Government, and upon the House as to the keen and bitter disappointment that would be felt throughout the service at the bare possibility of this legislation being left over for another session.

The editors apologize for the delay in bringing out this number, a delay due to the hope that the bills might be brought down and printed in this issue.

SPYING OUT THE LAND.

In publishing lists of the parties to be sent to the field this season by the Geological Survey, and the Topographical Survey, The Civilian not only gives its readers important news concerning many well-known Civil Servants, but also affords some means of estimating the enormous amount of work accomplished in a season by those branches of the public service of Scattered over the whole face of this vast Dominion, the survey parties are out of sight, and consequently out of the mind of the general public. Every summer the land surveyors toil across prairie and hill, laying out townships, highways, sections and quarter-sections, locating water, wood and mineral occurrences and making ready for the surging horde of settlers who follow. In the older provinces, as well as in the West, the geological experts are searching out and testing mineral deposits and fertile belts, gathering specimens of existing plant and animal life, and collecting the few remains of vanished races of men and beasts for exhibition and study in the great museum in Ottawa. It is only by the toil, the energy, the accuracy, and the never-dying enthusiasm of the pioneer surveyors that Canada learns to know herself.