

pay, the spirit of our married men who have gone and left wives and children behind and the sacrifices of our twenty-nine dead and numerous wounded and prisoners would all be blotted from public knowledge and memory by the black stain of the slackers of 1917 who had to be conscripted. Not again for a hundred years would the Civil Service in Ottawa be able to stand boldly before the bar of public opinion, claiming, as individuals, right and redress, and laying the sins of collective failures upon the scape-goat of an iniquitous patronage system. The one black sheep in a thousand is the one that holds the observer's eye.

This danger that threatens the Civil Service imperils all that has been gained or hoped for. It looms up at the worst possible hour, when Parliament is just assembling and likely to be asked to consider Civil Service legislation. Once they can tag the Service as "slackers" or "conscripts," how busy its enemies will be!

There is one reason for satisfaction that this census has been taken. It will settle, once for all and beyond dispute, how many men the Service can yet give to the army. Hazardous estimates will no longer gain credence. *The Civilian* also believes that the Government will not adopt a system of actual compulsion for its own employees when men of like fitness and opportunity for military service who are employed in banks, insurance, real estate, brokerage and other offices and in all non-productive occupations are left free.

Whatever the further developments may be, the situation is one of peril for the Civil Service in Ottawa,—but the danger is one that the men of the Service can avert. *If all the fit and free men in the Service enlist there can be no conscription.* Upon this class the whole responsibility rests. Will they go, or will they wait to be fetched?

IN DESPACHES.

"Mentioned in Despatches" by the commander-in-chief of an army in the field is an honor of sufficient importance to be officially noted in military records. This honor was recently given by Sir Douglas Haig to several Canadian civil servants now fighting in France. These were:

Lieut. H. C. Evans, D.S.O., Royal Flying Corps. (Lieut. Evans belongs to the Outside Service of the Department of Agriculture, Medicine Hat. In *The Civilian* of November 24th, reference was made to his military career. The attaching of the "D.S.O." to his name is confirmation of the rumor that he had been previously honored.)

Lieut.-Col. H. J. Lamb, D.S.O. (Public Works, Windsor, Ont.)

Major F. A. Walsh. (Agriculture, Toronto, Assistant Director of Veterinary Services, 3rd Canadian Division.)

Temp. Brig. Gen. G. B. Hughes,

C.M.G., D.S.O. (Public Works, Victoria, B.C.)

Major J. C. Ball, D.S.O. (Railways and Canals, St. Catharines.)

Major Alvin Ripley. (Postmaster, Lethbridge.)

Temp. Lieut.-Col. H. B. Verrett, D.S.O. (Assistant Deputy Postmaster General.)

Capt. W. F. Peterman. (Customs, Cobalt, lately killed.)

Maj. H. V. Rorke. (Customs Dept., Ottawa.)

Major A. E. Dubuc, D.S.O. (Public Works, Montreal.)

Lieut. T. H. MacKinlay. (Customs, Vancouver. Died of wounds.)

Capt. K. A. Murray (Railway Mail Service, London. Commanding Canadian Postal Corps at the front. Second mention.)

Major J. G. Parmelee. (Trade and Commerce, Ottawa.)

Capt. D. S. Tamblyn. (Agriculture, Regina.)

Lieut. D. A. McQuarrie. (Public Works, Nelson, B.C.)