

Service Being Filled With Girls.

“What is the consequence? The Service is being filled up with girls. We ask for 20 men and we get 2, and we have to take the other 18 from the girls’ list;—we always get enough girls. The Government ought to raise the minimum standard there.

Outside Service.

“We have the whole Outside Service to consider, and it is for the people of Canada to bring that Outside Service under some regular conditions.

A Low Standard.

“What is the common standard of education there? The same as we apply to messengers, packers and sorters in the inside service. If you write at all legibly, and can spell simple words, if you can do addition and subtraction, you do not need to know anything about multiplication and division. Because the standard is so low you may make a great many mistakes, and if you get over the hog line you get \$1,000 a year. When you pass the ten times heavier examination in the Inside Service, what do you get? Five hundred dollars, and have to live in Ottawa. The Second Division examination represents the same standard as matriculation for universities, though the percentage is not quite so high. How much do you get if you pass? Eight hundred dollars, and have to live in Ottawa also. If you were to go teaching in a country school you would get that and much more than that out West. Such, then, is the position of the Outside Service as compared to the Inside Service at the present time.

It Is Up to the Public.

“Doubtless I have already said enough to hang a dozen men from certain points of view. But this is not a matter of party politics. Anything I have said hits one party no more than the other. I have had many

Members of Parliament come and say: ‘When will this blessed thing be got rid of?’ and I reply: ‘It is up to you people to do away with it.’ Sometimes a Member says: ‘I would like to see it done away with, but, of course, there are my workers back home; if I do that they will say I have been taking the bread out of their mouths. There are two classes of men coming to Parliament, those who come with the higher interests in the service of the country, and those who come because they have carefully worked the local machine. As I said, in our position we are apt to make enemies. It is difficult to determine just how sincere these enemies are. A man in private life ought to be known by the character of his friends; but in public life he should be known by the character of his enemies.’”

JAMES M. MACOUN, F.L.S.

James M. Macoun, C.M.G., of the Geological Survey has recently been elected a Fellow of the Linnean Society of London, the highest honor that can come to a working naturalist. The Linnean Society was incorporated by George III. in 1788 for the “Cultivation of the Science of Natural History” and from that time until the present it has held the first place among the Natural History Societies of the world, the reigning King of England being its patron. Its membership outside of Great Britain is restricted to fifty members and Mr. Macoun is the first native-born Canadian who has been honoured with a fellowship. He is also one of the three or four Canadians who are corresponding members of the Zoological Society of London, the membership of which, outside of Great Britain, is limited to two hundred.