

THE CIVILIAN

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THE NATIONAL DUTY.

"It is the duty of every man to enlist. Unless he can show a good reason for not going. If this big Empire of ours is worth having it is worth fighting for."

—Hon. G. P. Graham, Lindsay, Ont.

"I know what Canadians have suffered and are prepared to suffer. This was war that could not be carried on on a limited liability principle. We were in it, and had got to stick in it. We had got to win the war, and in order to do that we must risk every man and every shilling we possessed. We had our full share of staying powers, and it was not going to fail us now."

—Colonial Secretary A. Bonar Law, Folkestone, Eng.

"Do not let us give any encouragement to the faint-hearted, if such there be, and still less to the back-biters."

"Can there be a greater calumny on our own people, both here and over the seas, than to say that they have not risen to the height of a great occasion?"

"The process of recruiting the Army from the ranks of the people is in a highly satisfactory condition. The latest returns are among the best we have had for a long time."

—Premier Asquith, House of Commons.

UNMERITED CRITICISM.

It really seems as if fewer and fewer writers to the average newspaper stop to ask themselves, "Is this all of the story; or is there another and better side to it?"

With constructive criticism, or the expression of an opinion on the part of one who gives due credit for the ready performance of duties, official or self-imposed, we certainly have no quarrel, but towards the man who can only deride or belittle, our attitude is "on guard." Hence it is that when we see "civil servants not volunteering" or hear someone say "civil servants did not do much for the fund," we are forced to either of two conclusions: the writer, under the influence of the hot weather, or a cold bottle, concludes that he must take a fling at someone and so the poor civil servant has lack of patriotism added to the many other lapses of which he has been accused in the past; or, having only a very narrow outlook, he says: "Well, I know that such a Department has not given much, either in men or money," and jumps to the conclusion that the slackness is general.

The Civilian in its Roll of Honour, Correspondence and other columns gives ample evidence of the unfairness of these vapourings. Just stop and consider that over a thousand men have enlisted, and remember that the work is going forward in the public service just as before, with those who have not gone either doubling up in duties or instructing new members of the staffs in theirs. In some Departments the duties, owing to the war, have been multiplied; yet everything is being done.

The contributions that have been and are pouring in from the various branches of the Civil Service of Canada, to the treasurers of various funds speak volumes for the real generosity of the men and women who have made some sacrifices in order that they might give something. For bear in