

# 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 29, 1914

*"The law pertaining to the civil service should be honestly and rigidly enforced, to the end that merit and ability should be the standard of appointment and promotion, rather than service rendered to a political party."*

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*"Entrance to the civil service should be at the bottom, and the custom of securing men from outside the ranks and placing them ahead of old employees should be discouraged, and only resorted to when public interest demands. Civil service protects employees in their positions, but it holds them there in stagnation unless a method be found to not only secure the time of its employees, but to stimulate and reward their ambition."*

VESUVIUS.

The editors of *The Civilian* go to press this week in a state of fear and trembling. The service mind is in a state of emotional perturbation in regard to the passing of the two bills. The latest news at the time of this writing is that the bills will be given a first reading and nothing more this session. In view of the anticipation long drawn out,—the reform plank in the Government platform, the reference to Civil Service legislation in the speech from the Throne, the well-known fact that the Honourable Mr. White has devoted a prodigious amount of energy and exerted a tremendous interest in the consolidation and amendment of the Civil Service Act, and in the preparation of an efficiency scheme of superannuation,—one and all of these causes have occasioned an eruptive state of opinion in the whole service that has never been heretofore experienced.

The officers of the various service organizations are keyed up to the highest pitch. On Tuesday, 26th inst., the Ottawa Association met at the rooms of the Civil Service Club in an emergency meeting on the situation. By courtesy of an invitation issued by President Paré and Secretary Todd, Mr. McCullough, Secretary of the Outside Customs Association, and Mr. Cantwell, President of the Ottawa Postal Clerks' Association, attended the meeting; the Secretary of the Federation being also present. The situation was discussed at length, and the final action entrusted to a strong committee.

This committee spent the day following this meeting in making representations to the proper authorities, meeting with a cordial reception in all cases, but without any visible measure of practical success. As conditions have developed such ominous appearances, the committee resorted