

"It was a very honorable position being a member of Parliament, but the drawback was that there had grown up in Ottawa a patronage system which had started long before. The fact was that the local members were made employment agents, working every day in the week, except Sunday, from 9 to 5. He went into the fight on the distinct understanding that the patronage system was to be abolished."

In addition to the foregoing gleams of sunshine through the lowering clouds of Civil Service patronage, there is another bright spot which promises to become a rainbow of hope for full emancipation in days to come. No matter how sincere a Government may be as to introducing a Merit System, success depends upon the attitude and efficiency of the gentlemen who form the Civil Service Commission. Officers of the Federation with a local Outside Service delegation recently called upon the Commissioners and spent a couple of hours discussing the difficult problem of bringing the Outside Service under the provisions of the Act of 1908. The delegation agreed that a new era was opening up for Civil Service administration. The new Commissioners showed themselves to be imbued with a sympathetic amenability, coupled with an unswerving compliance with the laws of Equity. It is therefore under most auspicious circumstances that the delegates from all parts of Canada meet in convention on the 27th instant. This convention has upon its shoulders a weighty task. The Commissioners have considerably postponed the presentation of their report to the Premier in order to allow the assembled delegates to formulate and present a statement of their views. Whether we are to have a Millennium of just and efficient public administration will depend not a little upon the wisdom and efficacy of the work of this convention.

BROTHERS IN ARMS.

Gunner Edward T. Chesley, eldest son of Mr. H. N. P. Chesley, Militia and Defence, has been granted a commission in the Artillery, C.E.F. At the end of a year's course at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, he accepted a temporary position at the Ottawa Experimental Farm, but resigned and enlisted in the 32nd Siege Battery, after qualifying at the School of Artillery, Kingston. In December, 1915, he went overseas with a draft, as sergeant, but becoming dissatisfied with the long detention as a non-commissioned officer, threw up his stripes and went to France at a gunner. After serving a year in France with the 25th Howitzer Battery, he was selected for a course in the Officers' Training Corps in England, at Shorncliffe, Maresfield and Lydd.

His younger brother, Leonard, after graduating from the R.M.C. in August, 1917, was granted a commission

in the Royal Garrison Artillery and is now at the front. The brothers met for twenty-four hours in London after a separation of over two years.

WAR PERSONALS.

Lieut. A. S. Bleakney, who was wounded at Vimy Ridge, is home.

A. K. Belton, wounded, is the son of the late Customs Inspector Belton, of Toronto.

Gunner R. O. Smith, died of wounds, was a son of William Smith, of the Archives, and a young man of brilliant promise. He was in his twentieth year.

Nursing Sister Louise Manchester, mentioned in Despatches, is a sister of Miss Pearl Manchester, Dept. of Public Works.

Major W. E. Blue is coming home.

E. W. Beckett, Dominion Timber Agent at New Westminster, has been bereaved of his son, who fell, fighting, "somewhere in France."