

ness in life before the war was money-getting or pleasure, he interprets the slogan to suit his particular case and goes serenely on his accustomed way. Hence Canada lacks that feeling of national unity that alone would enable her to exert her full powers at this time. Canada needs more of the spirit of France, more of that new spirit of determination and sacrifice that is gripping the people of Great Britain. Another Peter the Hermit, preaching a crusade of pure patriotism, of thrift, of participation in national enterprises, of strength conserved at home to support our task abroad, is Canada's need to-day. That such a leader will arise is altogether improbable, and, failing him, we must foster and assist every little movement that is headed in the right direction. Every movement, every enterprise, every undertaking must be tried by the touchstone, "Will it help Canada?" If, in some sense, Canada's development is not to be advanced, her resources strengthened, her economic stability assured or her fighting power increased, then by this test is the proposition condemned and proven unworthy of the support of loyal Canadians.

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### "TWO YEARS OF WAR."

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It is difficult for anyone in the Civil Service,—and practically impossible for anyone outside the Service,—to get anything like a comprehensive understanding of the part that civil servants are playing in the war. The civil servant has a three-fold opportunity. He serves as a member of his departmental staff, he aids through his membership in a Civil Service organization, and, if he be eligible, he may also serve in arms against the Empire's foes.

The military service, being unusual and spectacular, naturally attracts most attention, but the regular departmental duty generally passes un-

remarked. Yet the latter is highly essential to the country in war-time, and, in order that its importance may be more fully understood and recognized, the publishers of *The Civilian* have given "The War Work of Government Departments" the first place in the new special number,—*"Two Years of War."*

There is hardly a department in the Service that is not doing war work, directly or indirectly. The war has enormously increased the duties of many departments and some of them have undergone great internal changes as a result of the prolonged struggle.

All the general organizations in the Service are deeply engaged in patriotic endeavours and the success with which they carry on such work has been publicly recognized again and again.

That the Service has thousands of men in khaki, that hundreds have been killed and wounded and that a number have been decorated for gallantry in the field, is known to every reader of the records compiled by *The Civilian*.

It has seemed very desirable to the editors that all these activities of the Service should be described and set forth in one volume so that not only the general public but the Service itself as well should be informed of what has been and is being done by the Government employees. To have awaited the conclusion of the war and the completion of all its records would have involved a delay of, perhaps, several years; and it was decided, therefore, to take, approximately, the *first two years* of the struggle as the period of which the story should now be told as fully as possible.

"Two Years of War" attempts to tell this story. As told, it lacks certain details that have appeared in the regular issues of *The Civilian* since the special number went to press. Additions were made to its contents up to the last possible moment, but new material might be secured every day for an indefinite period. Never-