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"Patriots in the Public Service."

One of the signs of the times on this continent is the increased recognition which the calling of civil servant is receiving. In Great Britain his place has long been acknowledged. But in the United States and Canada the plant is of recent growth. Special interest, therefore, may attach to one or two vigorous leaves it has lately put forth.

For example, the August *Outlook* (New York) contains a most readable article under the title we have placed at the top of this page. Soldiers and sailors, Presidents and cabinet ministers are the stock heroes of the government service. Without respecting these men less, The *Outlook* thinks there is another class of public servants who should be respected more. "These are the under officials in the civil walks of the public service. We have heard so much of office seekers, office holders, political appointees (political being used in its narrow and unfavorable sense), that some of us have come to look upon the Government as a kind of huge charitable institution maintained at the expense of all for the benefit of the lazy, the incompetent, and the venal. We have heard little of the men who are doing big things in small positions; of the men who are working long hours for scant thanks and less pay. These men are not called upon to die for their country. They are called upon to live for her, and they are doing it. Because less dramatic, their service is

not less patriotic. Of such men there are so many that to select individuals must of necessity be an arbitrary matter."

A half-dozen character sketches of civil servants follow. The article concludes with a plea for higher remuneration by the United States authorities:

"However admirable it may be in these men to serve their country at such personal sacrifice, it certainly is not admirable in the government to permit it. Such an attitude is too much like that of the big, hulking man who, as he smoked his pipe and watched his aged mother carry in the wood, said: 'I tell you, I'm proud of my mother. She's over eighty, an' she can still carry in all her own wood.'"

Similarly in Canada the *Courier* (weekly), of Toronto, has recently published several sketches of civil servants, one of which, that of Mr. J. O. Macleod, superintendent of the railway mail service of British Columbia, we are enabled by courtesy of The *Courier* to republish on the following page, as our "Civilian Portrait" of to-day. That Mr. Macleod is known only to a few in Ottawa will emphasize the extent of the ground which the service covers. As our list of "Civilian Portraits" grows, we hope ourselves to do something in the way of making better known to the Canadian people some of its "Patriots in the Public Service."