

### *Civil Service Efficiency*

"The civil service of Canada," says the Ottawa Citizen, editorially, "has many able and fearless and conscientious men and women in it. What an asset it would be to this country to have its civil service free from the menace and molestation of patronage ministers, who really reflect a bygone age of barbarism and not the science of government as it is understood in this the twentieth century. It is only necessary to review the immense service the Auditor General has been, and still is, to Canada, to get a glimpse of how much better off the Dominion would be if the entire civil service were elevated to the same plane of economic security and freedom from patronage domination. The Canadian public should welcome any movement to put the civil service on a better basis. Could such a movement not be initiated from within the service itself?"

It has been pointed out frequently that the outside service of the Dominion Forestry Branch can be brought under the merit system of the Civil Service Act without new legislation. Were such action taken it would remove one of the worst drags on efficiency which the country is compelled to carry.

Mr. Ellwood Wilson, Forester of the Laurentide Company, recently made a trip to an aeroplane factory to examine aeroplanes and see if they would be practical for forest fire ranging work. He reports that while for finding fires they are entirely practical, they are so difficult to launch and to land with at present that they are hardly practical as yet. "A suggestion made by someone that clearings of seven or eight acres in extent be made at convenient places in the forest for landing and starting is out of the question, as such clearings would be too expensive to make and keep clear, and the great value of the aeroplane would be its ability to travel fast, see over a large area at once, and to alight near a fire and extinguish it. This latter is the most important and the most difficult thing for an aeroplane to do. Of course, a flying machine travels so fast that a fire could be reported without delay, but by the time a crew was organized and transported some fifty or one hundred miles the fire would have gained a big start. It is certain, however, that these disadvantages will soon be overcome and the necessity for lookout towers and slow-moving rangers will be done away with."

### *Lectures at Summer Resorts*

The Secretary of the Canadian Forestry Association will deliver a series of "Forest Travelogues" at the largely populated summer resorts of the Muskoka Lakes and Georgian Bay, during the last week of July.

Arrangements have been made for the following itinerary:

Minnicoganashene, Georgian Bay, Friday, July 21.

Wawa Hotel, Norway Pt., Monday, July 24.

Highland Inn, Algonquin Park, Tuesday, July 25.

The Monteith House, Lake Rosseau, Wednesday, July 26.

Beaumaris, Thursday, July 27.

Elgin House, Friday, July 28.

The Royal Muskoka, Saturday, July 29.

In building up the attendance at these lectures the Association has had the assistance of hotel managers, railways, etc. One hundred and fifty pictures are given during each lecture. The Association bears all expenses, including advertising, printing, etc., thereby leaving to the local authorities the sole responsibility of securing a good audience.