

THE CIVILIAN

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of Canada.

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THE EDITORS,
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Ottawa, July 24, 1914

SIR ROBERT BORDEN IN HALIFAX PLATFORM.

A thorough and complete re-formation of the laws relating to the Civil Service should be put into effect, so that future appointments shall be made by an independent commission acting upon the report of examiners after competitive examination. I am convinced that we shall perform a great public duty by establishing in this country that system which prevails in Great Britain, under which a member of Parliament has practically no voice in or control over any appointment to the Civil Service.

To use the power of filling positions in the public service as a reward for party service and without regard to the character and capacity of the individual selected is a gross breach of a solemn public trust. A private trustee so dishonouring his office would be subject to punishment by the criminal law.

THE SPECIAL ISSUE.

Expressions of appreciation of the most flattering character are being received daily from those who have seen copies of the Special Issue of *The Civilian*. Sir Robert L. Borden's tribute is reproduced on another page. Others of equal warmth have been received from Ministers of the Crown and officials of high rank. A hearty "well-done" from such quarters amply rewards the compilers of the special issue for their labour in producing it. To all friends who have sent such cheery words *The Civilian* Committee returns sincere thanks.

ENCOURAGING.

During many "fat years" throughout the Dominion, the Civil Service subsisted on the old "lean" salary scale. Of late the times have been not so good, and, in some quarters, this has been put forward as a reason why no Civil Service legislation involving increased expenditure should be carried through. These objectors conveniently forget that, while wages and salaries in other occupations have been going steadily upward and the cost of living has soared, the Civil Servants have had the same old salary scale, which was none too good in cheaper times. However, the optimists expect a good crop in the West this year and a financial relaxation everywhere. A mail clerk correspondent of *The Civilian* in Moose Jaw sends this bulletin: "The crop outlook along the Soo line, which is famed throughout the West, indicates that this is going to be the best year in the annals of wheat-growing."

NAMES REQUIRED.

The Civilian cannot publish communications without knowing the identity of the writers. The editors