

tary of State, or a Commissioner of Something, or he may be sent abroad to draw a salary which may be as high as that of his Ministerial "patron" at home. Of course, some "patronage" men never get out of the rut; but it is quite safe to say that two-thirds of the men who enjoy "special countenance or support" have a distinct advantage over the ordinary Civil Servant. Everything is in their favor. Their promotion cannot be stopped because their percentage of marks was only just high enough to secure their admission to the Service, and all the time their "patron" is able to "pull the strings" they are practically sure of being well ahead of those of their colleagues who gained admission to the Service after satisfying the Civil Service Commissioners that they were qualified for the posts they sought. The average Civil Servant finds promotion slow enough at all times; but its slowness is intensified a hundred-fold when it is his misfortune to be serving in a department in which a large number of "patronage" men are employed.

As the functions of the State are increasing, it is quite likely that an attempt will be made to bring still more "patronage" men into the Service. This must be prevented at all costs. The Civil Servants must protest, and the public must protest. Public opinion is the most powerful factor in our national life, and when it is on the side of justice and right it is a factor that no Government can afford to disregard. When members of local public bodies give snug posts to their friends and relatives, local public opinion makes itself felt, and the members of the offending local public bodies discover that they are the servants and not the masters of the public. If the general public fully realized to what extent "patronage" prevailed in the Civil Service of the State, the voice of public opinion would be heard in protest. If

public opinion is to make itself heard it must be educated, and it must be educated by the Civil Servants. If the desire to make further "patronage" appointments exists, it must be nipped in the bud. The nation is fighting for its life, it is spending nearly two millions a day, and it cannot afford to pay high salaries to incompetent men. The new Civil Servants must be competent men, and they must prove their worth before appointment. It may be necessary to suspend or considerably modify the ordinary examinations; but the qualifications of every man seeking a post in the Civil Service must in some way be tested by the Civil Service Commissioners, and no man must be appointed simply because he has the "special countenance or support" of influential men in the social or political world. — *Civil Service Gazette, London.*

COME ON!

I lie awake in bed at night and hear steps
on the street,
But well I know they are not made by my
boy's sturdy feet,
For when he walked he whistled some gay,
medodious song,
Whose notes woke distant echoes as he
bravely marched along.

But now he's over there in France with
comrades brave and true;
And, listen, they are calling; yes' calling,
boys, for you.
O answer to their calling: "Come on!
Come on!! Come on!!!
You husky boys from Canada—we need
you, every one.

"There never was a time, since human life
began,
When duty urged more strongly each one
to play the man.
Wake up, Johnny, wake up; you've got
'your bit to do.'
We're going to pull the Kaiser down—come
on and see us through."

—Garrett O'Connor.
(Ry. P.O., Bridgeburg).