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Special Census of Ottawa Service

Every Dominion Employee Included in a Close Stock-taking. — Census Has Both Civil and Military Purposes.

Events have moved very rapidly in Civil Service affairs in Ottawa since the last issue of *The Civilian* appeared, and an entirely new situation has developed,—a situation of such importance as to completely overshadow the salary issue that was to the fore a fortnight ago. The new developments are but the evidence of influences that have been at work for a long time and of which *The Civilian* has striven to warn its readers. The new situation is one that cannot be very definitely described, lacking a full official announcement, and it may be best to merely state the publicly-known facts and let readers draw their own conclusions.

WHAT HAS HAPPENED.

The *Public Service Committee* of the National Service Board, a body appointed by Order-in-Council, has taken, during the past two weeks, a complete census of the whole public service in Ottawa, covering both men and women, inside and outside services, permanent and temporary employees. The information recorded covers the age, rank, salary, character of work, conjugal state, physical condition and number of persons dependent for support upon every individual in the Service. The schedules and instructions for this census were sent to the Deputy Heads of Departments by the Public Service Committee and the work has been carried out, officially, by governmental machinery. The civil servants are classified into seven divisions, viz.: (1) unmarried men under 45 years of age, physically fit; (2) unmarried men under 45 years of age, physically unfit; (3) unmarried men more than 45 years of age; (4) married men under 45 years of age, physically fit; (5) married men under 45 years of age, physically unfit; (6) married men more than 45 years of age, and (7) women.

Certificates of rejection on account of physical defects were recognized if issued by recruiting officers or military medical examiners, but medical certificates of civilian doctors were not accepted for the purpose of this census.

Inasmuch as specific inquiries were made as to the work done by both men and women,—even as to the character of their handwriting,—it would appear that the stock-taking was with an eye to readjustment of civil services as well as to resources for military service.

Simultaneously with the requisitioning of the departments to prepare and return this information, a story appeared in the *Ottawa Evening Journal* announcing the undertaking and giving much alleged information in addition. The opening paragraphs of the article were as follows: