

## CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed under this heading.

## How the Other Half Lives.

To the Editors of THE CIVILIAN:

Gentlemen, — Time was when the lover of beans, and the frolicsome young Ottawan who thought beans to be the fitting wind-up of a night of wild dissipation, sought them in the "bean dive," but recent observations force me to the conclusion that beans, "good old stew," and "pie like mother made," constitute the chief diet of the unfortunate civil servant whose family is in the country and who must live as best he can at lunch counters and cheap restaurants. I eat beans now and then myself, and when a few weeks ago I noticed that other civil servants also frequently ordered them, I began to "take notice," and when to-night, at the hour

when we are all supposed to sit down to a good dinner, I found six civil servants besides myself in a lunch room and saw five of them — all married men — eating beans, I naturally said to myself "there's a reason," and the reason is "they're filling at the price." A plate of beans for ten cents, with bread and butter included, is all an ordinary man can eat, unless, indeed, his lunch has been a bowl of vegetable soup and his breakfast toast and coffee. And, truly, Messieurs Editors, this is how many civil servants live, who only last year felt they could at least afford meal tickets at five for a dollar, and a dinner at 35 or even 50 cents in the evening. There are two principal reasons for this, or perhaps they might be called variations of the same reason. One is that if the wife and kids must go to the country in the summer, and very often they *must*, the increased cost of living makes it necessary for the husband to live as cheaply as he can during that season, if he would keep out of debt; and the



## 'Canada's Pride'



**M**APLE LEAF LEAD PENCIL has points of superiority that make it a favorite with all users. Its lead is thicker and smoother than in the ordinary pencil. The point is guaranteed never to break. It is a trifle larger than the ordinary pencil, and its round form doesn't cramp the fingers. It is made in six degrees, BBB to HHHH. 'Canada's Pride' will improve the efficiency of the service.

3 Samples sent on receipt of 10c.

**Librairie Beauchemin, Limited**

MANUFACTURING STATIONERS

256 St. Paul

- - -

Montreal