

Be that as it may, the result of the course pursued by the Association is a most satisfactory one. Every candidate for the Board of Control and ten of the aldermanic candidates endorsed by the Association were elected. These men have definitely pledged themselves to protect the interests of civil servants in connection with the income assessment as affected by the agreement between the government and the city.

If the matter were to end there and absolutely nothing further be accomplished, a most instructive lesson would have been taught the service in connection with the advantages of united action. The lesson is this: If you want things done, do them yourselves; don't wait for someone else to do them for you.

Contrast the attitude of the candidates at the elections and at a time when they realized that the service was alive to its own interests and meant business, with that of the members of the city council eight months ago when *THE CIVILIAN* first advised its readers to interest themselves in the elections. At that time, of the twenty now sitting around the council table, not one was prepared to admit that government employees had the slightest claim to consideration in connection with the income assessment. Officials at the city hall made light of the importance of civil servants as a class, and members of the council—when the terms of the agreement with the government were forced upon their attention—disclaimed all responsibility and shifted the blame to the shoulders of the city solicitor and the assessment commissioner. When, however, the campaign of education culminated in an announced policy of going to the polls for the purpose of enforcing a recognition of the justice of the position of the service, those of the council who desired re-election were

quite prepared to reconsider the situation and to devote some time to a study of its merits—with the result that without a solitary exception they were prepared to concede the necessity of dealing with the matter upon its merits and in the light of a better understanding.

It is hoped that the necessity will never again arise for civil servants taking an active part in civic elections as a class. In this instance, no other course was open, in our judgment, to a body of self-respecting individuals convinced of the absolute justice of its position. And, inasmuch as there was nothing inconsistent with the welfare of the community as a whole in the attitude of the service, it had our unqualified approval. We have from the beginning, however, steadfastly maintained that the interests of the community should be paramount and class interference and class representation in municipal affairs has never found favor with us. On the other hand we sincerely hope that the day will never come when civil servants will fail to interest themselves in the welfare of the community of which they form so important a body of citizens, or that they will ever fail to lend their assistance in securing the election of a wise and efficient civic administration.

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A word of praise is due to the Civic Affairs committee of the Civil Service Association, which is composed of Messrs. U. Valiquet, A. N. Payne and G. Emond, for the work done in connection with the elections. These gentlemen had a difficult task, and are deserving of credit for the faithful manner in which they discharged it.

*THE CIVILIAN* extends its greetings to Alderman Caron, and wishes him the same success in his official capacity as has attended his efforts on the