

the present government, in redeeming its pledges to remove the Outside Service from patronage and so restore the manhood of its members. Heaven send it may be soon!

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The disparity existing between the salary increase to the Outside Customs Service and the increase demanded by the higher cost of living, as shown in the opening article to-day, will make it clear to many a member of the service why it is that it is impossible to make both ends meet. It seems that the model employer is the slowest, the least progressive, and the one which is quite untouched by any feeling for the economic hardships and infirmities of its employees. The Labour Department reports a higher cost of living for Canada than that of any other country, an increase of 60% in thirteen years as far as the price of things actually involved in sustaining life, is concerned. This the government has ignored during this period, until now the civil servants' purchasing power has shrunk far below that of the worker in other walks of life, as compared with the conditions in 1900. The government is officially, probably, unaware of this state of affairs, and must be reminded again and again of these changed conditions by our representative body, the C. S. Federation of Canada.

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The proposal to build a Peace Bridge at Niagara Falls to commemorate the hundred years of peace between the United States and the British Empire, call to mind the fact that this idea was first mooted or at least first put into print by a civil servant, Garrett O'Connor of the Railway Mail Service. Garrett O'Connor has been one of *The Civilian's* most valued contributors, both in prose and poetry. His articles on the conditions existing in the "traveling post office" were timely and should have good results. *The Civil-*

*ian* congratulates Mr. O'Connor on his bright idea which has struck the popular fancy and which has been adopted by Sir Edmund Walker, chairman of the Canadian section of the Peace Commission.

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In connection with the plea of the members of our fine body of public custodians,—the Dominion Police,—for a day off in every week, it is interesting to note that such an act of justice has recently been introduced in the British Isles. The act was passed in 1910. The new order of things meant a large increase in the force of men and consequent expense to the country. Such additional expense is no importance as compared with the simple humanity of giving men in the country's service a weekly day of rest. The Minister of Justice will surely reform the condition existing in the administration of our Dominion Police in this respect.

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The editors earnestly invite friends in all parts of Canada to send in any items of news which may be of interest to Civil Servants in other parts of Canada. Many events of interest to the service are continually occurring, and these are largely beyond *The Civilian's* limited powers of news gathering.

#### Interested.

Husband (at police station)—They say you have caught the fellow who robbed our house night before last.

Sergeant — Yes. Do you want to see him?

Husband—Sure! I'd like to talk to him. I want to know how he got in without waking my wife. I've been trying to do that for the last twenty years.—Judge.

#### A Matter of Gender.

A class in French at a co-ed college was orally translating a story about a cow from French into English. One girl persistently called the cow "he" a number of times, until the professor stopped her short and said: "He is she, miss; we milk her in the next sentence."