

THE CIVILIAN

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A Great Civil Servant.

A Review of "A Memoir of the Public Services of Lord Haliburton."

By T. B. O'CONNOR, M.P., in "T. P's Weekley."

The civil servant of this country is in a curious position. He often is the brains carrier, the inspiration, the guide of a great public department; he often keeps young ministers from mistakes that have been proved mistakes in previous epochs with his practised wisdom, his ordered enthusiasm, his heritage of tradition, while so often his superiors are transient and embarrassed phantoms — to use the classical phrase of Disraeli; and yet he has to undergo the humiliation of serving under incompetence, or of seeing the work and triumphs of his mind claimed by others. Silent, obscure, a subordinate, as remote from the great world outside as though he lived in a fixed and remote star, the civil servant must belong to one of two classes. either the man who, accepting his obscurity, finds his joy in the sense of work well done for the nation to which he belongs and the public that pays him, or one of those unhappy and embittered beings who ultimately seek out of life only as much loafing and as much money as can be safely extorted from a neglectful, indolent, and absent-minded employer, as a nation always is.

I.

The man whose life is sketched in the interesting book before me belonged to the former of the two classes. It is a record of brilliant, conscientious, high-minded, as well as intelligent work in the great department of the War Office; and of a man who did that work with a lofty patriotism that was superior to all the drawbacks of the obscurity which his position imposed upon him. The work has an additional interest from the fact that the man whose life is told belonged to the large class of colonials who bring to the mother country and its work a fervid patriotism that sometimes puts to shame the man whose roamings have never taken him outside the shores of the island in which he was born. Lord Haliburton was not only a Canadian, but a Canadian proud of his birth in that colony which above all other things in the British Empire is a triumph of British institutions and a vindication of the British genius for government in most, though not all parts of the broad dominions of the Empire. When he was raised to the peerage he quartered his coat-of-arms with the maple-leaf and the beavers of his native pro-

vince, with the stags also and the thistles of the old country from which his ancestors had come. I suppose few of my readers have ever heard of "Sam Slick," but in my boyhood it was the first specimen we ever received on this side of the Atlantic of that strange new form of humour now called American, and I remember to this day the delight with which I read of the doings of the smart, humorous, ready, pushful Yankee who figures in its pages. The author of "Sam Slick" was not a Yankee at all, nor even a professional writer, much less a professional humorist. He was a lawyer of great distinction who, at the early age of thirty-two, was Chief Justice in his native province of Nova Scotia. The family originally came from the Border country, had a short period of life in the United States, but finally settled down again under the British flag in Nova Scotia. These immigrants were followed by a university, for when the United States achieved their independence there was no place for the Royal College—as it was called—in New York, and it was transferred to Windsor, Nova Scotia. It was there that Arthur Lawrence Haliburton, the subject of this memoir, was educated; and it was there that he imbibed those strong Conservative principles which remained with him for the rest of his life. The same thing was true of his father. When the author of "Sam Slick," with all its modernity of tone and outlook, came to England, he was returned for Launceston, and people naturally expected to find that he would bring to the Old World some of the Radical spirit of the New. As a matter of fact, he was an old-fashioned Conservative—too old even for the Conservatism of England, and his son remained of pretty much the same school.

II.

This biography, apart from its picture of its subject, is interesting as throwing often a sidelight on those inner places in the administration of the country which the public rarely gets an opportunity of seeing. And one cannot help being now and then depressed by the revelation there is of the hopeless and incredible incompetence, for which the nation has so often to pay a heavy toll in precious money and still more precious blood. Take, for instance, the question which raged for some time in the War Office circles of the 'forties and 'fifties—namely, whether there should be a separate Commissariat Department:

In spite of all the warnings of the past and the memories of the Peninsula campaigns, a Parliamentary Committee, appointed to inquire into the Army and Ordnance expenditure had recently reported that there was no necessity for the existence of such a department in Great Britain and Ireland. It had formed its decision on the ground that the arrangements of the Commissariat Department were all based upon a state of war, "which seems to be unnecessary, inasmuch as it appears on the highest evidence that no training in time of peace will fit a commissary for his duties in the field during war."

This sapient report was paid for by the rotting and starving and frozen soldiers who filled the trenches in the Crimean War. It was a heavy price to pay for official incompetence. This crisis it was that brought Haliburton from his native Nova Scotia into the British civil service. He was appointed to the Commissariat Department which had to be improvised in the midst of the war. And from that time onward Haliburton was attached in some capacity or another to the War Office.

III.

There is an amusing glimpse of the beginning of that struggle between the War Office and the Horse Guards which was not closed till our own day. The Horse Guards, representing the military side of the War Office, was practically independent of the War Office, representing the civilian; and as they were separated by space, so also were they without communication with each other. They carried on their intercourse by correspondence, although the letters had not to traverse a longer distance than that which separates Whitehall from Pall Mall. Mr. Cardwell, a great Army reformer, resolved that this anomalous and dangerous division of authority should come to an end, and proposed to the Duke of Cambridge that he and his staff should remove to Pall Mall. One can easily understand the kind of reception such a proposal would get from that good old-fashioned relic of the eighteenth-century spirit—"the last of the Georges," as he used to be aptly called. Here is an excellent specimen of old-fashioned ideas which is worth preserving. It is in a letter from the Duke to Mr. Cardwell:

"The removal of the Commander-in-Chief to the office at Pall Mall, deprived, as he must be, moreover, of all his military surroundings, would place him in a position of subordination which would virtually deprive him of all his specific attributes, and would in fact place him more or less on an equality with the Controller-in-Chief, or any one of the Under-Secretaries of State. This would be a degradation which would altogether alter his status in the estimation of the Army and the public, and would, in my opinion, be most injurious to the interests of the Crown, the real head of the Army, and also to the public service."

But Mr. Cardwell was obdurate, and as there was no room in the old building in Pall Mall for the Horse Guards, Haliburton was sent with a section of the War Office to Whitehall. Haliburton was appointed as leader of this invasion, a task of no small difficulty. But he was both strong and diplomatic, so that what happened was this:

"He marched his staff of clerks into their new surroundings as if they were merely moving from the west to the east wing of the old buildings in Pall Mall. It was not a case of smoothing over difficulties; they simply ceased to exist. On the morning upon which the transfer was effected, the Duke came down in choleric mood, prepared to criticise the new department as if it were a regiment with a black mark against it paraded for annual inspection. He found everything working with the smoothness of a well-oiled machine. H.R.H. was an out-spoken Prince, and he ever gave frank expression to his feelings. "Well, I'm d—d!" was his only commentary, and he passed on to the order of the day; but from that hour, till his resignation of the command of the British Army, Haliburton had a supporter and friend in the Duke of Cambridge."

This was a felicitous ending to the transaction; but perhaps it would be just as well that a great public reform should not find so many obstacles in a country supposed to be mistress of her government and destinies.

IV.

In time Haliburton rose to be Permanent Under-Secretary of the War Office; and here is a summary of his experiences:

"The two "Chiefs" to whom successively he became "Remembrancer" were Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman

and Lord Lansdowne. The strange vicissitudes of "C.-B.'s" career, from his acceptance of the leadership of a disorganized and mutinous party down to his death in the plenitude of power, have obscured his great merits as a departmental administrator. Lord Lansdowne's brilliant success as Foreign Secretary and as Leader of the Unionist Party in the House of Lords has thrown into the shade the years he spent at the War Office before the early disasters of the Boer War had exposed him to obloquy, the injustice of which is at last being recognized.

To both of these men, dissimilar in almost every respect, Haliburton was *persona gratissima*. With Sir Henry, perhaps, he was more thoroughly in accord, for though a strong Conservative in general politics, experience had taught him that the Conservatives of that date were by no means purged of their old distrust of Cardwell and his system. There was something, moreover, especially congenial to the son of Sam Slick in the pawky humour of the genial kindly Scot, who was so strangely misunderstood and underrated south of the Tweed. It has been charged against Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman that in the War Office he acted on the simple principle of letting the permanent officials have their own way. To anyone who knew the quiet, stubborn nature of the late Prime Minister the suggestion carries its own refutation; but he was quick at summing up his subordinates, and both in Sir Ralph Thompson and Sir Arthur Haliburton he had under him men of very exceptional calibre."

V.

From this portion of the book onwards you see and hear a great deal of "C.-B.," and the impression of the man from the inside and in relation

to his subordinates confirms the outside impression of him. There are abundant specimens of that pawky humour which stood the late Premier in such good stead in the House of Commons, especially when he was being worried by a subordinate or a political friend. "C.-B." is always ready to praise his subordinate for his work. "You have eclipsed yourself in yesterday's *Times*," "C.-B." writes, after Haliburton had sent to that journal some stinging reply to some criticism made on his department:

"I never saw such a regular *culbute* as you give to the enemy. The letters are all admirable, even in the parts you yourself deprecate, where you "answer a fool according to his folly"; it will be invaluable to have them reprinted. But I must add that no praise, admiration, and gratitude can be too great for your gallant defence, single-handed."

It was words of generous recognition like these that accounted for the extraordinary popularity "C.-B." enjoyed among those who had to serve under him.

VI.

Another of the interesting figures that pass along the stage in this biography is Sir Redvers Buller. This is Haliburton's verdict upon this curious, complex, and puzzling personality:

"I have a regard for Buller, in spite of our difference," he wrote to a friend in the dark days after Colenso. "He has many good points, though in a rough exterior and an explosive interior." "What a pity," he adds on another occasion, "such an able man should have so little judgment where he himself is concerned!"

When the Black Week in which Colenso figured came to Haliburton,

he eagerly looked at the maps to try and discover what Buller was about. It is a proof of his sound judgment in military tactics.

"Why did not Buller take that hill before?" he comments, when the road to Ladysmith was opened at last. "I pointed it out to Grove when Buller's telegram came describing the Colenso battle. My solution of the case is that someone pointed this out to Buller at the time, and out of sheer cussedness he did not do it."

This is the judgment on Buller or a man who knew him well; quite possibly it is a just one. If so, what a light it throws on the small, petty, contemptible things they are which influence the fates of battle and of human beings!

VII.

Here is a curious and rather startling bit of secret history; the more surprising when we know how poor Buller fared when he was in the field:

"It is not probable that even if the cordite amendment had been rejected the government could have kept off the breakers for more than a week or two, but their precipitate retirement from power had one remarkable consequence. Lord Rosebery had decided to recommend Sir Redvers Buller for the post of Commander-in-Chief, about to be vacated by the Duke of Cambridge, and Colonel Verner relates that it was almost a matter of minutes whether the appointment could be made before the Liberal Government resigned the seals of office. The accession of Lord Salisbury saved Lord Wolseley the mortification of seeing his junior and his protégé exalted over his head, and it brought Haliburton once more into close association with one for whose genius he had the warmest admira-

tion, and with whom he remained till the hour of his death on terms of intimate friendship.

VIII.

Haliburton retired from the War Office in 1897. There was a chorus of praise from his chiefs and his comrades, and among the warmest was that which came from Sir Francis Mowatt, then the head of the Treasury Department:

"Tell Lady Haliburton," he wrote to her husband, "that she would be a proud woman if she could hear one-half of the regrets that are expressed on all sides at your going."

In retirement Haliburton, raised to the Peerage in recognition of his long service, continued to take an interest in his old office. He died, in fact, in an effort to defend the short-service system, which had been introduced by Cardwell, and in writing a criticism, friendly for the most part, of Mr. Haldane's new scheme. He was suffering from influenza, but he must get out of bed to write his letter to the *Times*. He wrote the letter, but it did not appear till the hand that wrote it was cold in death. The exertion had killed him. These are the men who are the invisible pillars of the Empire. T.P.

CO-OPERATIVE ICE.

Mr. Caron wishes to give a number of the subscribers to the ice scheme a gentle reminder that they forgot to make their payment due at La Banque Nationale on February 17th. It is hoped that this notice will serve to jog the memory of all who have been remiss in this respect. The ice supply for the season is now in store and ready for delivery at the appointed time.

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Ottawa, March 12th, 1909

A GREAT CIVIL SERVANT.

We desire to make a comment or two upon the opening article in today's CIVILIAN. The editors had nothing better in their hands or in their heads than the matters dealt with in this review of a memoir of a great civil servant. The review contains a sentence full of cogent significance. Referring to the civil service state, the reviewer divides the service into two classes, "either the man who, accepting his obscurity finds joy in the sense of work well done for the nation to which he belongs, or one of those unhappy beings who ultimately seek out of life only as much loafing and as much money

as can be safely extorted from a neglectful, indolent and absent-minded employer, as a nation always is."

The fact that there admittedly exists in the Canadian public service, those who may be described as belonging to the latter of these two classes is to be deplored, and principally upon two counts, the loss to the state and the loss to the individual member of the state. Money paid by the state to loafers is money diverted from channels of legitimate and praiseworthy enterprise. More serious, however, is the secondary outcome of this feature in a public service, e.g., the permanent loss of a good man's services in the promotion of his country's good. The best capital of a country is the flesh and blood and brains of its citizens. Each civil servant is so much physical and intellectual capital invested in the development of his country and if by "loafing" he allows that capital to become depreciated he not only injures himself but minimizes by so much the strength and glory of his country. We may all read with pleasure and appreciation the review of the memoirs of a "Great Civil Servant."

CO-OPERATION.

We are on the eve at last of what we hope will prove a permanent and increasingly powerful demonstration of the benefits of distributive co-operation in the civil service. Before these words appear the final ratification will in all probability have been given to the constitution of the proposed "Civil Service Co-operative Supply Association," under whose auspices, in safe and well regulated order, the future ventures of civil servants in this direction will be launched. We hope in a coming issue to

do more ample justice to the importance of this occasion. In the meantime, everyone will join us in wishing well of an organization which holds within it so many possibilities of good. As to the exact extent of these possibilities, it is unnecessary for the moment that all should see eye to eye; it is even possible that a few — a very, very few—may be unable to see them at all. That, therefore, must be left on the knees of the future., in the serene confidence that history will repeat itself and that what is demonstrably right in theory cannot be wrong in practice. What we ourselves would like to see in this connection—and we desire it simply because we are anxious to have the best use made of the opportunity — is a thorough and unequivocating discussion of every point of detail that may arise from time to time as the movement grows. The Evening Citizen of some days ago contained a letter from an anonymous civil servant who seemed from his action to feel that he could work better in his opposition to co-operation through the public press than through the medium of the accredited organizations of the service. He is mistaken, if he believes that: a sound argument will do its work best if presented on its merits to the men who are sitting in judgment; if unsound (in the present case it is so unsound that it is not worth wasting powder over) it can hope for no permanent gain by an appeal to prejudice and to the uneducated feeling of the community. We in the service are "all Tom Samson's bairns"; let us settle our differences of opinion among ourselves, with a view to the welfare both of the service and of the country, and so present a united and well fortified front to the common opponent—if opponent there be. Report recently had it that the Retailers' Association approached

the local Trades Council, which is at present engaged in organizing a co-operative association, with a request that civil servants should not be admitted to membership. If the statement is true, the Retailers' action was as foolish as it was ungracious. There is nothing but rapped knuckles for those who start that sort of game.

OFFICE HOURS.

The question of the time which civil servants have in the past and shall in the future devote to their official duties has been the topic for some comment in parliament. The office hours at present in practically all the departments are from 9.30 a.m. to 4.00 or 4.30 p.m. Of course, as has been stated, some civil servants have been seen disporting themselves in games on the lawns soon after four o'clock in the summer months, but the proportion of clerks who are able to do so compared to the whole is very small. Evidence of this statement has been available during the winter to any member of parliament who might cast his eyes about the square between the hours of 4 and 6 p.m., where in the three large blocks he would have found a large proportion of windows lighted up and the offices manned. In what manner and to what extent civil servants might fairly present their views in this regard has not yet been considered by the association.

It is related by a gentleman belonging to the British civil service that on one occasion the Post Office clerks of Great Britain presented their views to the ministry in opposition to the addition of one hour to the day's work without additional remun-

eration and cared their point. As the working hours of some departments in the Ottawa service have already been extended, it would appear proper for the Ottawa association to discuss and to define its duty in the matter. Whatever basis may be arrived at as constituting a general rule for an office man's hours, the following is suggested for the consideration of the association as grounds upon which it might well bring its views before the attention of the ministry.

A bill called the Daylight Saving Bill has just passed its second reading in the British House of Commons. It provides that the hands of the clock shall be advanced one hour and twenty minutes in the month of April of each year, and reversed to its former state in the month of September.

The object of the bill is simply fresh air for those who are compelled to earn their livelihood in clerical or other confined occupations, and is a recognition of the plain necessity of man to spend a certain amount of time out of doors. Whether such a bill is introduced in the Canadian parliament at the present time or not, the association would be serving the interests of its constituents in effecting a retainment of the old general rule of four o'clock for leaving the office, and make any necessary readjustment apply to the time for beginning the day.

Provision should also be made for an ample lunch hour sufficient to enable clerks to go to their several homes in the middle of the day. Otherwise, lunches will be taken to the office and eaten in rooms ill-ventilated or not ventilated at all.

THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE OF CANADA.

In advancing the just claims of the Outside Service for the consideration of the government, some of our local papers have mentioned the probable number of officials, and employees generally, in the government service. In this connection the following will be interesting to our readers:

Civil servants coming under the operation of the Civil Service Act number over 7,000, as the following will show:—

On April 1, 1908, contributors to Superannuation fund No. 1 numbered	1798
On April 1, 1908, contributors to Superannuation fund No. 2 numbered	300
On April 1, 1908, contributors to Retirement fund numbered	3438
	<hr/>
	5536
On Sept. 1, 1908, there was added to this number by the amendments to the Act of last session about	1400
	<hr/>
	6936

Of these, 2,700 are in the Inside Service.

Adding to this the increase over and above those passing out of the service, the number of officials coming under the provisions of the Act will considerably exceed 7,000.

Pursuing this subject a little further, it may be interested to estimate the total number of those who derive their sole means of livelihood from the public chest. Outside of those coming under the Act as enumerated above, there are in Ottawa the officials of the Railway Commission, National Transcontinental Commission, and the employees of the govern-

ment Printing Bureau and some others, estimated in all at about 900. Scattered throughout Canada in all services there is a large body of employees maintaining themselves solely by government employment which may easily be set down at 3,000. And there are between 8,000 and 9,000 employed on the Intercolonial Railway. It may, therefore, be not an excessive estimate to place the number engaged in government employment at about 18,000.

USURY IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

In a correspondence which the writer had privately the other day on the subject of Usury and its Cure in the Civil Service, the following opinion was expressed to him, and he thinks it of sufficient general interest to bear repetition:

"In assuming that usury is not to be cured by legal measures you are only partly right. You are no more right than if you had said that highway robbery would be better suppressed by the preaching of honesty than by the imprisonment of the robber. I know very well that we are enjoined by the highest authority to 'overcome evil with good,' but no one has ever felt like acting on this doctrine to the extent of disbanding the police force. What you have said in this connection is all very well as an abstract proposition, but it has very little application to practical affairs."

An opinion of this kind is plausible only in the absence of careful thinking on the subject. It is in truth very wide of the mark. Highway robbery can scarcely be regarded as an economic abuse, whereas usury belongs very specifically to that category. It is fortunate to be able to find a remark in the current press which is very à propos here. Says the Toronto Star of a week ago:

"The Citizen praises the Ontario Government for carrying on a campaign against usurers in Ottawa. The best remedy for

usury would be the formation of associations for the loaning of small sums of money to persons of small means. The loan shark thrives because he supplies a need which is supplied in no other way. The banks, real estate loan associations, and other financial concerns are not available either, because they do not care to be troubled with small loans, or because the security is not approved. The loan shark manages to find security sufficient for his purpose, and a loan association intended to supply money at reasonable interest could do the same. We are told that 'borrowing dulls the edge of husbandry,' and there is such a thing as improvident borrowing. But burrowed capital may be as useful to a working man or clerk as to a bank or a railway, if judiciously used. The poor man is often exhorted to save money, but to save at three per cent. and to borrow at fifty is a hopeless business."

Everybody knows that Society, as the above points out, has found a cure for usury quite apart from the punishment of the usurer. The case is somewhat similar to that of combines in restraint of trade, in which the Star is also rendering yeoman service at the present moment. You may punish the combiner by fine and imprisonment under the Criminal Code, or you may take the ground from under his feet by a tariff adjustment. Recent Canadian history has seen examples of both methods. A combine of papermakers some years ago was neutralized by a tariff adjustment; on the other hand the notorious case of the Toronto plumbers in 1904 was dealt with by a fine of ten thousand dollars. The distinction seems to be, that punishment is called for when the point of view is that of the outrageous nature of the injury caused; whereas the other specific is employed when the aim is less personal and is primarily from the view-point of the protection of society against the repetition of the abuse, though of course the two act and react. Similarly with usury. You may punish the usurer, and you should do so. In such cases as those which we have had recently before us in Ottawa, the first of them particu-

larly, punishment was demanded. Even at the time you are doing this you will be offering a deterrent against the repetition of the offences, provided your hand fall heavily enough. But if you would cure usury by depriving it of its very opportunity to exist, you will adopt the other remedy, namely, the banding together of the people among whom the usurer plies his trade into co-operative loan associations, a healthy specimen of which we have in the Civil Service Loan and Savings Association. In this way also you will avoid the reproach of having closed the door upon the satisfaction of a perfectly legitimate need among the persons in whose interest you are acting, namely, the need common and proper among the salaried classes for small loans on personal security for private and domestic purposes. This is the spot at which the usurer obtains his foothold in a community like ours. Someone must take his place or we shall never be rid of him. The moral is, that a civil servant, no matter how well he has been able to avoid the necessity to which reference above is made, should take out a share in the Loan and Savings Association. Let him do so, for the moment, if he is so fortunate as to be able, as a matter of public spirit pure and simple; later he may find that his good deed, like bread upon the waters, will return to him.

AT THE MAXIMUM.

(BY MERCUTIO)

*"The Almighty hath not built
Here for his envy, will not drive us hence"*
—Paradise Lost.

I entreat your pardon, gentlemen,
Like our King Charles Number Two,
That I am so long a-dying here,
While there is so much to do ;

But I have come

To my maximum

When the days are long and blue.

There is chance for the man with years ahead,

For the junior there is scope ;

But I read the sign "No Thoroughfare"

As I stand abreast the rope ;

And things look glum

At the maximum

In the cul de sac of Hope.

Twelve of the clock for thirteen years !

Is it morning or afternoon ?

Impaled on the dial point of fate,

Held up like Joshua's moon, —

Ah, Time is dumb

At the maximum,

And winter lags on into June.

Ah, sweet are the joys of the fifteenth day

Of the month when a raise is due,

When the Four-sixteen on the face of a cheque

Gives life to the heart anew,

But there are some

At the maximum

Who get but the P. D. Q.

Rents and taxes and rates expand,

And the doctor raises his fees ;

The balliff watches from over the street,

And the landlord comes for the keys.

You will gnaw your thumb

At the maximum

If you travel with cares like these.

Yet worst than the curse of a growing debt

With an income checked in its growth

Is the thought that you have ceased to grow

And are choked with the weeds of sloth,

That the heart is numb

At the maximum,

And the stomach must work for both.

But Death advances with even foot,

Pale Death, as Horace wrote,

And the king and the clerk must answer the

And follow his form without ; [knock

Thus all men come

To the maximum, —

And there's little to worry about.

**CIVIL SERVICE REFORM IN
THE UNITED STATES —
AN INCIDENT OF
PROGRESS.**

It is a quarter of a century and more since the policy of civil service reform was definitely adopted by the government of the United States. The Pendleton Act of 1883 brought something like 13,000 appointments under the merit system. Extensions made since that early beginning have swelled the total to over 200,000. In spite of this splendid showing, however, the movement has had its ups and downs, and has resisted in its day many bitter attacks. One of the most subtle and subversive of all these attempts upon the principle is at the present moment awaiting the decision of battle.

The Thirteenth Decennial Census of the Republic is due to be taken in the immediate future, and a bill to provide for the same was recently passed by Congress. As is well known, an army of extra employees is required to collect the necessary data. It was in connection with the appointment of these clerks, over 4,000 in number, that the ingenuity of the spolismen was aroused. In Canada, we still do these things frankly as a matter of politics; nevertheless, the situation in the States has its interest. To quote the *New York Nation*:

"The chief objection to the bill lies in the clause calling for the appointment of the clerks in the Census Bureau by means of 'such non-competitive examination as the Director of the Census may prescribe, the said examination to be conducted by the United States Civil Service Commission.'

"That is most innocent-seeming. No spoils about that! All breathes of reform—examinations, the Civil Service Commission, and so on.

"Where do the spoils come in, along with the strategems, if not the treasons?"

"The facts are perfectly open, to those who care to seek for them. In the debates on the bill in both House and Senate, no secret was made of the intention to divide these appointments *pro rata* among Representatives and Senators. The talk about a non-competitive examination is merely an attempt to throw dust in the eyes of the people. How the device worked in the taking of the last census has been explained. . . . These non-competitive examinations were not free to everybody to try. The permission of the Director was necessary, and such permission was a matter of favor. . . . The clerks were to be parcelled out among the members—each to have the naming of six or eight. . . . The clerks were to be 'equally divided among congressmen without regard to party.' . . .

"What was the reason for this noble spirit of equality? Why, simply that the Democrats would not vote for the grab of offices unless they got their due portion; and there were enough Republicans to go against the bill and defeat the spoilsmen, unless the latter struck hands with the Democrats on the basis of an equal 'divvy.'"

The *Nation's* comment on this arrangement is as follows:

"Now, all this is not simply a disreputable trick, not alone a clinging to a system which has proved demoralizing and which Congress has professed to abandon: it is also directly to endanger the accuracy, and so the value, of the Census itself. Students know that the trustworthiness of previous censuses has been seriously open to doubt. We are bound to use every means within reach to put the Thirteenth Census as far beyond sus-

picion as possible. But if we load a lot of incompetent subordinates upon the Director, we directly increase the chances of bad work. He has to take the men whom Congressmen dictate, and he has to keep them whether they have any merits or not. Some of them may work out into a fair degree of efficiency, but, if a new Congress comes in, and their backer is not re-elected, out they go to make room for the hangers on of the new member. The method infallibly produces poor clerks, and a census dragged out as much as possible in order to continue patronage as long as possible."

As it has happened, President Roosevelt has played the *deus ex machina* in this as on other occasions and has promptly vetoed the bill. There is just a possibility, however, that as a result of the strained relations existing from other causes between the President and Congress, the latter may take its revenge by passing the bill over his head. We in Canada, enabled as we are to hold an aloof and dispassionate view of the strong personality of the President, will at least join heartily in the Nation's commendation of his attitude in the present instance:

"In vetoing the spoils-tainted Census Bill, President Roosevelt has splendidly met the hopes pinned to his staunchness as a civil service reformer. He uses few words, but few are needed to expose and rebuke so obvious a fraud on the public. With great directness and entire frankness, the President shows that the provisions of the bill are merely a blind for a division of the spoils among Congressmen. This veto is conceived in the spirit of the Roosevelt of the old ideals, strong on the side of good administration, and ready to put the brand upon those who would cheat the people while pretending to serve

them. So doing, the President deserves and will receive the support of intelligent and upright men."

THE OUTSIDE SERVICE.

As previously announced, civil servants west of Winnipeg have been organized for some time and are awaiting the word to muster at the initial meeting of the proposed federation. In Central Canada, the Customs and Inland Revenue will have class organizations as will also the Post Office service. In the Maritime Provinces, organization has been somewhat belated, but Charlottetown has formed an organization of which Mr. J. Hughes of the Post Office is secretary.

A quotation from a letter received from Halifax by the chairman of the federation sub-committee of the C. S. A. of Ottawa, evidences the general feeling on the subject of a federal convention of civil servants. It reads as follows:—"A resolution was passed unanimously thanking you for the interest you have taken in our behalf and fully endorsing the proposed constitution, and we promise to do all in our power to bring the scheme to a successful termination. A committee of three was appointed to wait on the different C. S. bodies here and to obtain their views. We have distributed copies of the provisional constitution through all branches of the service, and on every hand the scheme has taken deep root. You may rest assured of good faithful support from Halifax in this move as we are heart and soul in the matter."

In St. John an informal organization of civil servants has existed for some time, its chief work having been to test provincial powers to tax employees of the federal government.

On February 25th at a meeting held in Keith's Assembly Hall, at which all branches of the service were represented, a permanent association was formed with one of the strongest executives it was possible to get together as follows:—

President—Hon. A. T. Dunn.

1st Vice-President—Dr. N. R. Colter.

2nd Vice-President—L. R. Ross.

Secretary—T. H. Belyea.

Treasurer—Timothy Burke.

Executive Committee—D. L. Hutchinson, D. H. Waterbury, Dr. R. C. Ruddick, Jas. B. Daly, A. J. Gross, P. C. Sharkey and S. P. McCavour.

The Hon. A. T. Dunn, who is at present Collector of Customs for the port of St. John, was for years Surveyor General in the local government serving under three premiers in the Blair, Emmerson and Tweedie gov-

ernments, and is an able man. Dr. Colter is Post Office Inspector for New Brunswick. L. R. Ross is terminal agent of the I. C. Ry., a man who has proved his worth by rising from the ranks. Mr. Hutchinson is director of the Meteorological Survey. Dr. Ruddick is inspecting physician for the port of St. John, and Mr. Gross is district superintendent of the railway mail service. Mr. Cavour is a member of the Finance Department, and Messrs. Burke and Belyea are of the Inland Revenue, the former being Inspector, and the latter Collector for the port. The interest of men of such high standing in the service augurs well for the success of wholesome civil service enterprises. The next issue of THE CIVILIAN will probably have something final to report in relation to the formation of the federated body.

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HEADQUARTERS.

The sub-committee of the executive of the C. S. Association of Ottawa, which was appointed to look out for headquarters, reported on Thursday, February 26th. In doing so, the information was forthcoming that the building on MacKenzie avenue previously referred to was still available, and that several of the C. S. societies already formed were willing to pay for the accommodation their committees would require. An estimate of annual expenditure was presented, including rent, heating, lighting, furnishing, outfitting reading room, caretaking and incidentals. As regards probable revenue, the committee reported that, with the idea of getting evidence as to the possibilities of conducting a social club in conjunction with a committee headquarters, they had sent out lists inviting membership in such a plan at a fee of one dollar per annum. 450 members of the Ottawa service had signed these lists, which was considered evidence of a strong desire for a civil service club. This means of revenue together with the income derived from committee-room accommodation gave to the venture the appearance of feasibility.

The committee urged the executive to undertake the control of the headquarters club on behalf of the association, but so many obstacles were shown to be in the way of this proposal that it was abandoned. The executive, however, showed its practical sympathy and accord in the plan by passing a resolution of endorsement and also voting a sum for the accommodating of its various committees.

As soon as the building is ready for occupation, it will be thrown open to the subscribers, and as soon as possible thereafter a meeting of said sub-

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scribers will be called to elect officers, draw up rules and appoint necessary managing committees. A house-warming evening may also be part of the programme. It may be interesting to note that one deputy minister at least has signed the membership lists. This is a most favourable sign from those who should be the best friends of all such movements in the service.

A communication received from a warm supporter of THE CIVILIAN is pertinent in connection with a headquarters club. The correspondent writes that he saw in a dream some things which he enclosed in the shape of an acrostic. Those who are able to read the acrostic will have some idea of what will be sheltered under the roof of No. 75 MacKenzie Ave.

Here it is:—

	oal	upply
	ol	storage
	onfederation	cheme
	ivilian	upport
	lean	port
	ivil	ervice
	ash	avings
	heap	kies
	o-operative	ociety
	hess	chool
lub	ocial	

CIVIL SERVICE MUTUAL BENEFIT SOCIETY.

Since the last issue of THE CIVILIAN, the members of the Civil Service Mutual Benefit Society in the various departments have elected their repre-

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sentatives who form the new Board of Management.

The following members were elected in their respective Departments:—
 Agriculture... .. W. J. Lynch.
 Customs H. V. Rorke.
 Finance A. F. Bill.
 House of Commons ... W. C. Bowles.
 Inland Revenue... .. J. E. Valin.
 Interior W. S. Gliddon.
 Militia & Defence, J. A. Z. DeCelles.
 Post Office A. W. Grant.
 Printing & Stationery, J. C. Howard.
 Privy Council H. A. May.
 Public Works A. G. Kingston.
 Rail. & Canals, C. E. D. Chubbuck.
 Secretary of State..... F. E. Fallon.
 Senate J. St. Denis Lemoine.
 Superannuated Mem., E. L. Brittain.

The new Board met on Friday the 5th inst., and re-elected, for the ensuing year, A. G. Kingston, Chairman; W. J. Lynch, Secretary, and A. W. Grant, Treasurer. After the usual routine of business had been transacted, the Chairman took occasion to congratulate the Society upon an increase of twenty-one new members during the past week, adding that this increase was probably due to the article which appeared in the last issue of THE CIVILIAN. We also understand that a large number of the members of the permanent staff have applied for application forms, thus indicating a further enlargement of the membership.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

The Final Cure for Usury.

To the Editors of THE CIVILIAN:

Sirs,—I was glad to read the common-sense view with regard to the

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usury problem taken in the leading editorial of your last issue. The money lender we have always with us, and what is more, always will have, for the reason that, as you say, he performs at the basis a perfectly legitimate function. People on salaries like the civil servants and occupying permanent positions, inevitably live up to their incomes. They are perfectly justified in so doing, provided that a portion of that income is diverted to life insurance and similar modes of meeting ordinary obligations. This being so there will always be the possibility that a sudden domestic emergency will find one unprepared. Last year, for example, I was called suddenly to London, Ont., by an important personal matter. It was on the 10th of the month and funds were low. For 50c I obtained from a well known "shark" the sum of \$35 till I came back — about ten days. This is about 150%, but I was very glad to get it on such terms. Of course, this is not the aspect of usury that rouses such proper indignation, but it shows one side of it. The question is: can our loan association move with sufficient flexibility to meet such cases, and become the confidential financial friend of its members in every emergency. I don't see why not, once it has found its feet and got in sufficient money.

A CIVIL SERVANT.

A Last Word.

To the Editors of THE CIVILIAN:

In his latest contribution to THE CIVILIAN, Mr. J. S. Ewart intimates that he expects something more from me; but though he has again laid himself open to correction, I do not think there is anything to be gained by pursuing the matter further.

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I gladly accept Mr. Ewart's disclaimer of intentional injustice or offence to the older members of the service; there is scarcely room for doubt, however, that his assertions concerning us *did* constitute an attack—and a very uncalled for and offensive one — and I have too high an opinion of Mr. Ewart's intelligence to suppose that he does not know that as well as I do.

That habits have a strong hold upon us elderly men, is, of course, a truism; but we may at least make an effort to overcome bad ones, not only on the golf links, but also in ordinary life.

Yours truly,
F. COLSON.

An Interesting Suggestion.

To the Editors of THE CIVILIAN:

Permit me to offer for consideration a possible solution of the problem of meeting the temporary financial needs of members of the civil service who, in common with other residents of this city, as a consequence of the recent prosecutions of usurers here, and the resultant withdrawal of the sources of money heretofore open, find themselves at a loss to meet, at the moment, their obligations.

In the newly established Civil Service Savings and Loan Society, there exists the machinery for dealing (by those best qualified to know and judge of the circumstances, character and position of their fellow clerks) with all cases where a loan is desired.

At present they handle only their own subscribed funds, which, at this early stage, are but limited, and totally inadequate to meet any considerable strain.

If, now, the government were to place in the hands of the executive

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of this society, control of funds, to such extent as may be determined, for the purpose of making loans to approved members of the service, at the reasonable rate now charged for the use of the society's funds, not only would the present difficulty disappear, but a certainty would be given to the men now hopelessly entangled in money troubles that within a certain fixed period they would, by a system of repayment by instalments, become free from debt, and enabled to start clear with the world once more. The moral effect of this assurance would be incalculable, and a healthy tone of life and feeling would arise such as is now practically non-existent in the service.

The scheme would probably work out much as follows:

1. A special fund would be constituted and placed in the hands of the Finance Department, for the purpose of making advances.

2. These advances would be made from time to time to the proper officers of the Civil Service Savings and Loan Society on requisition, and would bear interest, payable by the society, at say 4%. Repayment by the society of the principal would be required within a certain term, which might be extended by Order-in-Council, if circumstances appeared to call for extension.

3. These requisitions would be made by the Board of the Society to an extent to cover each batch of loans passed at their then last meeting. The moneys so obtained would be deposited with the society's own moneys, in their bank, and the whole would become a common fund from which they would issue their own cheques to cover each individual case, thus ensuring to the borrower the minimum possible of publicity.

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It should be understood to be a rule of the society, and as tending to ensure to the government return of its advances, that all loans made are to be repaid by agreed on monthly deductions from the individual borrower's departmental cheque.

This is but a hastily sketched plan which may be open to much amendment, but the general features of it seem to be worthy of consideration at the hands of the government, who though not, I am sure, possessing but the faintest conception of the real condition of the country's servants here at headquarters, have recently shown, at any rate, willingness to listen to their grievances, and a desire to remedy them.

I need not remind you, who have made so close a study of the subject, that the existing generally known conditions and those more personal ones connected with the practice of usury here in Ottawa, which have now, to some extent, been revealed through the local press and the recent prosecutions, are due, in by far the majority of instances, to causes over which the sufferers have had no control, and for which responsibility must rest with the high controlling

powers, and the bad system which they are now endeavouring to change for a better. This is in itself perhaps the strongest plea that could be put forward for such intervention as that I am venturing to suggest.

It is a simple fact, to be stated entirely free from any reflection on the government, that the non-provision by parliament in May last of funds to meet the departmental salary list drove several government employees into the arms of the usurers, and, again, failure to realize the well-grounded expectations of the service that the recommendations of the Civil Service Commissioners in regard of general increase to salaries, in view of the enormous increase in the cost of living, has proved a stimulating factor to incurrence of liabilities to money lenders.

It may not have been wise to trust to even such fair-seeming prospects, but ordinary human nature is very prone to hopefulness, and specially so when under financial pressure, and to regard as the succouring *deus ex machina* even the plausible Will o' the Wisp who may appear in official guise.

This government assistance would

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to us to look after their clothes——
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not be needed for any great length of time. Before long, the Loan Society's funds will be so built up from its own clients as to enable it to meet all demands, and it is not Utopian to look forward to the time when, the urgent pressure of the present being removed, it will be able to give aid to such uplifting projects as the building or purchase by the civil servant of his own home, the education of his children, or their establishment in life.

Should the government see fit to entertain such a scheme, they would but be doing for their employees what is done by many a great private institution for its servants.

Z.

THE RULING PASSION.

"Well, I consider that just about the limit!" exclaimed Charon.

"What's the matter?" asked a shade seated near the hoary steersman.

"That Canadian civil servant in the front end of the boat asked me just now if there were a wireless apparatus on board. Said he wanted to keep in touch with the discussion in the House of Commons on the salary question."

"THE CO-OPERATOR."

The Co-operative Movement in Wisconsin.

The following is from the New York Outlook:—

Few people realize how practical the co-operative store has been proved to be. The Third Annual Conference of the Minnesota and Wisconsin Co-operative Stores, which was held in Minneapolis the latter part of January, was the occasion for the announcement of certain interesting facts concerning the progress of the co-operative principle. The co-operative movement in that region is directed by a League. Its plan is to convert existing general stores into co-operative stores. In a favorable country town, a capable and prosperous merchant is found who is willing to sell his store and then take the management of it as a co-operative store. This store is owned by a number of members, each holding a share of one hundred dollars. On this the shareholder receives simple interest, the remaining profit being divided in proportion to purchases. Customers who are not members receive half dividend. The merchant, who is now manager, makes a contract that as soon as a certain number of members are secured he will submit to an appraisal by the League's appraiser, pay a commission of five per cent. to the general and local propaganda fund,

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accept as part payment the amount paid in by members, and carry the remainder until additional members shall pay him in full. He then transfers the goods, amounting usually to between five and fifteen thousand dollars, to the Association, and remains as manager during mutual pleasure at a moderate salary. Nearly all these merchants have been converted to believe in the co-operative plan before they agree to sell, or at least before the sale is completed. Many merchants are harassed by the uncertainties of business, and not a few are annoyed by the selfish attitude in which they stand as a trader. The ethics of co-operation have taken hold of most of these converts. The annual business of these stores is upward of two million dollars. None have failed, some have been able to

pay a rebate of eight per cent. on purchases, most of them from two to five per cent. In many of the localities there are co-operative creameries, in some places elevators, so that the people are used to co-operation and know its value. A year ago there were forty-six of these League stores, now there are seventy-six. The membership and capital have doubled in the year. The stores have formed a wholesale company, each store subscribing a thousand dollars and agreeing to do all its buying of the wholesale store, of goods offered by it. Six per cent. dividend will be paid on the shares and the remaining profit divided pro rata on purchases. The buying as well as the selling will be for cash. A very competent manager has been employed at a good salary. His first work is to

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While the goods will be sold at the
usual wholesale prices, the dividends
on purchases will in effect make fac-
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office and store expenses.

CASTIGAT RIDENDO MORES.

Par X.

Je n'ai jamais pu comprendre, dit
un employé des Postes à un autre,
pourquoi, à l'encontre de ce qui se
passe dans tous les autres départe-
ments, il ne nous est jamais rien don-
né à Noël. Je me l'explique très bien,
dit l'autre, c'est parce qu'ils nous
aiment trop et craignent de couper le
fil de l'amitié en nous donnant un
couteau.

L'ambulance passe devant un des
ministères. Que peut avoir ce pauvre
diable, remarque un employé? Une
attaque d'apoplexie foudroyante, ré-
pond un confrère; ce doit être un em-

ployé qui vient de recevoir son aug-
mentation. S'il n'est pas mort d'ina-
nition avant de l'avoir touchée répli-
que un loustic voisin.

Deux usuriers se rencontrent sur la
rue Sparks. L'orage arrive en bien
mauvais temps, dit l'un. Oui, soupire
l'autre, juste au temps de la mois-
son.

Un employé, ayant servi au-delà d'un
quart de siècle, explique à un jeune
confrère arrivé en deux ans au salaire
de \$1,000.00—qu'il dût, lui, gratter
pendant douze ans, avant d'atteindre
ce chiffre. Cela tient, sans doute,
répond imperturbablement le jeune
commis, à ce que dans votre temps
l'électricité n'était pas en vogue.

Un employé maigre et chétif de-
mande à son chef gras et dodu pour-
quoi ce sont toujours les plus gros
salaires qui sont le plus augmenté.
Cela va de soi, répond le chef, nous
sommes habitués à une table des
mieux garnies dont vous pouvez faci-
lement vous imaginer le coût. C'est
vrai, dit le subalterne, je n'y avait pas
songé; tout est si cher! et il faut en

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cutre y ajouter les frais de docteur appelés à enrayer vos indigestions. Ce dont nous n'avons pas besoin.

Un usurier réfléchissant sur les vicissitudes humaines : On a bien raison de dire que le pain nous arrive quand on n'a plus de dents pour le manger.

X, assis sur un banc dans le chemin des amoureux, passe mélancoliquement en revue ses déboires, quand un ami le tire de sa rêverie en lui demandant si quelque nouvelle infortune l'avait encore frappé. Non, répond X, c'est toujours la même ! Laquelle, demande l'interlocuteur ? Celle de n'avoir pas été créé femme. Pourquoi, reprend l'ami ? Parce que j'aurais eu une chance d'entrer dans le Service Civil, répond en soupirant le pauvre malheureux.

ATHLETICS.

Goldwn Smith, in a letter addressed to the students of Cornell University on the subject of athletics, says : "Muscle does not count for much. The force spent in football cannot be

recalled for study." In general terms the distinguished gentleman deprecates advanced physical training, and thereby opens up a very broad field for controversy. What constitutes the amount of physical training requisite to maintain the vigor and virility of the race at a proper standard ? The learned doctor incidentally refers to the betting ring in our sports, and thereby hangs a tale.

* * *

Is physical prowess and is physical endurance no longer necessary to save the nation ? When the first invasion of the Persians threatened Greece, a messenger, Pheidippides, dispatched to seek the aid of Sparta, travelled 150 miles on foot in 48 hours, performed his mission and returned an answer on the fifth day. In the South African war, Cronje did not believe that the British troops possessed the endurance or hardihood to leave the railway and trace the lion to his lair, but they had, because the Anglo-Saxon race is a strenuously athletic one. Of course, the above disparagement of sports is born of the fear that the students of Cornell will thereby be led to neglect their necessary studies. There will always be

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found students who will play too much and study too little just as there will be found those who study too much and play too little, but mens sana in corpore sano is a generally accepted doctrine to-day. There can be no doubt that exercise as violent as possible clears the mind of the student, and if the athletic associations are clean, the student is being prepared to rigorously withstand the temptations to fall in with the fat and pury exigencies of modern life, and this introduces the last, which is serious enough to be the first, of the criticisms cast by Mr. Goldwin Smith.

* * *

A gentleman naturally desires to send his son to a clean school-room, but the state of the playground does not usually excite so much solicitation. The great majority of boys are filled with an over-overflowing supply of animal spirits. Blessed is the boy or the man whose blood and judgment are so well commingled that he seeks not to squelch this exuberance in the saloon and co-accessory resorts. Many a boy has been saved from such by having athletics made attractive for him. Great pains are taken to teach a dog to retrieve, and it must be done at a very tender age. Let any bad retrieving habit be picked up by the dog, and it is almost impossible to break him of it. It is agreed by all that this same principle applies to boys. Boys spend one hour a week in Sunday School, and the rest of the week in the playground or in its immediate atmosphere. Is it

not time that some better organized plan than that existing at present were put in force, so that our young men might learn sound "retrieving habits" from the outset?

* * *

The Civil Service Athletic Association is vitally interested in this question. Since the inception of the association, its members have been barred from civil service hockey, lacrosse, and, excepting one disastrous experiment, from football, because the executive found the field overrun with brutalized methods, the net product of the policy of athletic managers. Has not the voluntary system (good in itself) proven false in athletics when the betting ring referred to in Goldwin Smith's letter introduces the publican and the sinner, who become the source and centre from which the younger generation derives its "retrieving habits," or in other words its moral virtues. Is it not time that some constituted authority, the government itself, invested itself to some extent with the office of censor of our public and private playgrounds?

* * *

The idea of government interference for the removal of corruptions in athletics gives a severe jolt to the academic mind which believes in the slow but sure process of evolution. The leap from the actual to the ideal is too far a cry. But Luther leaped and Abraham Lincoln leaped. Now if one of our theoretical reformers had been confronted with President

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Lincoln's slavery problem, he would have settled it by eliminating the dark line in the negro blood by intermarriage or some such evolutionary method. There are no private interests capable of correcting and controlling the vicious humours of athletics, so let the government look to it, that they fail not to conserve Canada's best natural resources — its young men.

* * *

As THE CIVILIAN is going to press a special meeting of the Athletic Association is being held to consider the following amendments to the constitution:—

ADD NEW CLAUSE:—

6½. The Association year shall begin on the first Wednesday in April.

CLAUSE 7. Omit last two words "in advance" and substitute therefor "on or before September 15th."

CLAUSE 8. On the 7th line, for "11 p.m." read "9.30 p.m." In 10th line for "ten" read "five."

CLAUSE 9. In the 3rd line for "Thursday" read "day." In the 4th line omit the words "in April."

CLAUSE 13. Omit whole clause and substitute following: 13.—Only members of the Association who shall have paid their annual membership fee on or before the 15th of September of the current Association year shall be eligible to attend and vote at the annual meeting and at special meetings or to vote at elections.

According to the constitution, nominations for the executive for the year 1909-10 will be received by the secretary up to 12 o'clock noon of March 30th. Polling by ballot will take place on April 6th, and if clause 9 is amended as proposed the annual meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 7th, instead of Thursday, April 8th.

Alley-Bowling.

By the time of the next issue of THE CIVILIAN, the C. S. bowling

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schedule will be in the final stages. There are no changes to record in the standing of the teams, except perhaps Public Works, who were debited with a loss last week to Bureau. Both teams rolled in fine form, but Public Works seriously missed the services of Bain, their star bowler. Had he been with them the chances would have been in their favor, as it was by some fine rolling Bureau nosed out ahead by 60 pins. While this does not affect their standing, it somewhat impairs their chances for the championship, as the Mint and Militia will be strengthened from now on by the reinforcement of Monument National's crack bowler, Archambault. With the finish in sight competition becomes keener; and some fine bowling may be witnessed in the remaining matches.

Twelve civil servants recently journeyed to Lower Town, meeting

twelve of their French-Canadian friends in a friendly game on their alleys located in their fine building, the Monument National. Though getting much the worst of it in the play, they enjoyed the evening immensely, and all were of the one opinion, that their friendly rivals are good bowlers and jolly good fellows.

This week a tournament is being held by the trundlers of the Custom Statistics. 32 have made entry and suitable prizes will be awarded to the victors.

The following is culled from "Tips to Beginners"—the writer offers it for what it is worth. It is good reading at any rate:

Right in the beginning acquire the habit of grasping the ball properly. The spread of the fingers is most important. Beginners make the mistake of drawing the index finger too close to the second finger. This is what

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causes the ball to turn and roll off into the gutter. The fingers should be well spread, so that the pressure on the ball as it leaves the hand is equal in all directions. Any violation of this rule is going to cause trouble in the end. The bowler should also be certain to keep the second finger held in the direct line with the alley.

Newcomers in the game often think it is necessary to take a long run to set the ball going in good shape. This is a serious mistake. Don't stand too far back. About three steps are enough to take. When a bowler takes a long run he generally finds that when he is ready to deliver the sphere he is somewhat off his balance, and the ball rolls untrue.

When you have determined the proper distance at which to stand, don't

look around the room or gaze at your feet. Fix your eye on the head or centre pin. Remain motionless an instant, while the brain receives the proper photograph of the alley.

The head pin is what you must aim for. Unless you strike it attempts to bowl good scores will be failures. Hit the head pin three-quarters full on either the left or the right side, it matters not, and a strike is almost certain to result.

While waiting to start the ball, keep your mind fixed on this one idea of where the ball must go to make a strike, and allow nothing else to distract your attention. Don't start to deliver the ball until you are ready. Too much hurry is sure to spoil your chance for a good score.

Don't use a short, jerky swing of

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the arm. You can't get good results that way. Use a full swing of the forearm to deliver the ball.

Speed is not essential. A slow rolling ball, perfectly aimed, will brush aside the pins just as effectively as one rolled with cannonball speed. Many of the best bowlers of the country use a slow ball, which is most effective, because of the accuracy with which it is rolled. The beginner should put aside the idea of speed at the start. Accuracy is what he is after, and this cannot be gained when the ball is rolling down the alley in a helter-skelter fashion. If you want to use a speedy ball that will come to you naturally after you have practised a while. Be careful of the ball until it leaves the hand. Many bowlers spoil the chance for a good shot right at the last fraction of a second. They do it by jerking the hand just as it is about to let loose of the ball. What the ball is going to do under the circumstances is uncertain, except that it will not roll true. Let the ball glide away from the hand smoothly without any frills or jerks.

A curve ball is one upon which the aspirations of a great many beginners are wrecked. It is nice to look at, but almost impossible for the average bowler to master thoroughly. It is used by a large number of bowlers, and even those who have used it for years often find it unreliable. Of course, it can be mastered to a certain degree, but it has no place in the beginner's vocabulary. He should wait until he has mastered all other points before he delves into the fancy stunts. The beginner should take things easy in the start. Don't worry about not making big scores. Of course, they are desirable, but they cannot be made without practice. They will come later if you stick to it.

The standing to date is as follows:—

High single, A. N. Payne 265
 High cross alley, Joe Howe ... 589
 High cross alley, Percy Foster... 589

Leaders Brunswick Ball competition:—1, Blair, 3085; 2, Birtch, 3033; 3, Hutton (5), 2485; 4, Mann, 2892; 5, Stewart, 2888; 6, Connolly, 2864.

Leaders high average:—Birtch, 12, 496.1; Blair, 12, 485.6; Hutton, 16, 477.7; Stewart, 18, 474; Shea, 12, 462; Howe, 17, 461.6; Lindsay, 18, 461.3.

Team standing and averages to March 8, 1909:—

Audit... ..	5—13	2427.7
Bureau	12— 6	2611.
Customs	14— 5	2640.
Statistics	3—17	2516.5
Geog.	7—13	2456.5
Interior	11— 6	2646.
East Block	5—14	2414.2
Militia and Mint ...	16— 1	2645.4
P. O. D.	7—13	2430.8
P. W. and Agr.	15— 3	2623.4
Railways... ..	9— 9	2558.8
Topog.	7—11	2533.5

The president of the C.A.A.U. has issued a statement wherein he unofficially withdraws alley-bowling from the list of athletic games coming under the jurisdiction of the union. There is not much doubt but that in the course of a few days the union will definitely and officially abandon a game which is somewhat outside of the sphere of their government.

THE VISION OF TOOLAN.

(A St. Patrick's Day Dream.)

BY BOURGEOIS

On the siventeenth day av the thurd munth, which accordin' to the custum av me forefathers oi always kape howly, havin' laid asoid me hod, put on me long black coat and loighted me poipe, oi sat me down in me arrum-chair to spind a few momints in quiet miditation.

While I was here restin' mesilf oi fill into a dape slape and a drame took howld o' me moind. A thick cloud appeared so that oi could not see at all at all, and a big lump av a fella stud forninst me chair wid a gowld Jew's harpp in his hand.

Whin oi loked at him he grinned, and placin' the Jews harpp to his taath he began to play a few sheeney airs.

All this toime oi was lukin' at him and admoin' his gall and me in me own house.

"Who are yez?" sez oi.

"Oi am Prince o' Air" sez he, "Knoight av Aerial Spooks, Knoight Commander av Fads and Knoight Difinder av the Kays."

"Will oi'm Patsy Toolan," sez oi, last noight to-noight, and to-morra noight, and pwhat the divil do yez want? Oi'll have nothin' t' do wid princis or gevermint at all at all."

Wid this he woved his shillaley in the air three toimes and oi closed me oies. Whin oi opined thim agin, there he stud wid a grane vist on and and a piece av shamrock on his coat.

"Arrah Be Japers?" sez oi "oi know yez Mulvaney yer one av us."

"Oi'm Prince av the Animatid Shades" sez he, "and oi cum t' rade yer drame."

"Oi'm but a poor knoight av the hod," sez oi, "but will yez condicind t' till me pwhat manes that cloud forninst me?"

Wid this he woiped the air wid his sthick and the cloud partid. And there befur me oies sittin' on the soide av the road wid his pick besoider him was Dinnis Hinnisey loightin' his poipe.

"Arrah! Hinnisey," sez oi, "but yez have a foine cinch. Here's me always wurkin' at a hod job and yez can take yer pick all the toime."

"Till me," sez oi, "pwhat is that womin wid her arrums bare and a muskitty net shoirt waist on as if she's afther lavin' off bakin'?"

"That," he sez, sez he, "is the lathest strate driss. It's said t' be cool" sez he.

"Howly St. Patrick," sez oi, "it may be cool but it luks warrum."

"Cast yer oies," sez he, "up t' the cornur av the strate and till me pwhat yez see."

"Oi see," sez oi, "sum young wimmin wid baby carriages and a grate assimblage av angry dispirate lukin' min. Are they anarkists or politicians?" sez oi.

"Nayther," sez he, "they are nurse goirls flirtin' wid the yung fellas on the boardin' house steps across the way. But do yez see that big buildin' across the strate?"

Sez oi "oi do".

"That is the residence av Mr. J. G. Gustavus Biggun. He is prident of half a dozen thrusts."

Just thin the hause samed t' divoide so that oi cud see insoide. Here oi saw crowds av min and wimmin talkin' an' chatterin' to-

gether. All the wimmin were drissed the same, or were undrissed the same wud be nearer the marruk.

"That," sez he, "is society: one thryin' to outshine the other in jewels an' paint an' powther. In fact, one thryin' to show more than the other in all things both natural and artificial."

"But who are those wimmin wid peaked faces," sez oi, "and an exprission on thim loike the foremin av a big job?"

"Those," sez he, "are Mrs. Cormorant and Mrs. Eagle, two vultures av society who make up pwhat they lack in beauty wid the sharrpness av their tungs."

How long oi wud have been seen' things loike this oi do not know, but at this moment a little man caught me oie who was wavin' his hands and talkin' to a crowd av people.

On askin' who it was oi was towld that the little man was a big siege-gun in politics.

"Arrah Be Japers!," sez oi, "oi elave oi know him. He's the f-lla that got up the Rifirindum elictions. The divie fly away wid him!"

"Yer roight," sez he, "He wantid t' make himsilf solid so he prached Rifirindum. In order to have a loop-howle t' squaze through, he made a proposition to the payble who wantid t' dhrink at home. "Now," sez he (afther he had countid thim on the sloy and found there were 200,000 av thim,) "now," sez he, "we will see pwhat the payble sez" sez he. "If 212,000 av yez vote against supportin' the bar we wont drink in publick, but will make arrangemints wid the hotel-kapers to deliver it at our back duers." "Now Toolan" sez he, "you know the result."

Just thin a familiar figger appeared befur me oies, wearin' a dicer' carryin' a cane and smokin' a cigarete. Oi cud hardly belave me own oies that this was me owan woife Bidy Toolan.

Oi turned to the Prince av Animatid Shades but he was gone.

Turnin' agin to me woife, oi sez, sez oi "Be the howly murtherin' sowl av me departed granmuther, yez omathun ye, yez hussy, it's owld Oireland yer disgracin' yez rid-hidded, spalpeen av a....."

Biff!!!! Bang!!!!

Just thin the firmamint was opined befur me in all it's glory. Oi saw stars an' comits, and awakenin' oi found Bidy standin' befur me belaborin' me wid the rollin'-pin and tellin' me oi'd be late fer the parade, and tillin' me she'd taech me to call her names.

Jumpin' up oi grabbed me tall silk hat and rushed outsoide.

The parade was passin' and the distant strains av a band up strate playin' "The Wearin' av the Green" caught me ear.

Oi rushed into the house agin, put on me green sash, and had just toime t' jine the parade as it was enterin' the hall.