

# THE CIVILIAN

VOL. I.

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No. 17

## Civil Servants Should Vote.

### The Interests of the Community and Their Self-Respect Demand It.—No Question as to the Right to Do So.—United Action is Essential.

The obligations of citizenship demand that civil servants shall vote at the civic elections to be held on the 4th of January next.

Self-respect requires that by the exercise of the franchise they shall resent the dishonorable treatment received at the hands of this year's city council in connection with the assessment question.

"But," asks one of the doubtful ones, "has the civil servant, assessed on income, really a right to vote?" It seems almost childish, in the light of the conditions surrounding this matter, that such a doubt should exist. It is not to be denied, however, that to the minds of not a few this point is far from being clear. Let us first, then, deal very briefly with this phase of the subject:

The right to vote is not given because of taxes already paid. It is given because the individual has been assessed for taxes which he will be expected to pay. The man who paid taxes in 1908 will not be entitled to vote next January unless he has been assessed for taxes to be paid in 1909. The city has assessed the incomes of civil servants for the year 1909, and that fact alone gives them an absolute legal right to vote. The fact that the city will use every means in its power to enforce payment of the taxes assessed gives the civil servant an absolute moral right to exercise the franchise. The individual who does

not vote in January, because of a doubt as to his moral right to do so, will probably feel like kicking himself, if in November he is compelled to pay the income tax.

Let no one be deceived. The right of the civil servant to vote at the ensuing elections is incontestable.

The first duty of the civil servant, in voting, will be to the community, and he must see that his support is given to the candidates whose qualifications constitute a guarantee of faithful stewardship. If the eighteen hundred government officials who are entitled to vote will unite in this matter for the common good, their influence will be far-reaching and powerful enough to guarantee a city government for 1909 that will be much superior to any that we have had for many years.

The civil servant owes it to himself, however, to see that his vote is given only to the candidates who will undertake to see that the assessment question, in so far as it is affected by the city's agreement with the government, is dealt with in an honorable and straightforward manner. And in doing this he will be doing nothing—as will be demonstrated later—that is inconsistent with a desire to promote the best interests of the community.

Government officials have no quarrel with the community with reference to the assessment question.

They are not seeking to evade any of the responsibilities of citizenship. Nor do they ask for any special privileges.

They do demand, however—and if they exercise the power afforded by the franchise, they will be enabled to effectively demand—that the city council shall respect the rights conferred by the by-laws of the council and by the statutes of parliament.

At the risk of repeating what has been said several times before, let us again refer to the agreement entered into between the city and the government in 1885, and subsequently confirmed and continued by the Act creating the Ottawa Improvement Commission. By the terms of that agreement, the city undertook two things. First to waive any existing claims (presumably for water service and fire protection) which it had against the government, and, second, to make no claim for taxes on the incomes of officials and servants of the government. In return for these concessions, the government abolished the tolls on the bridge at the Chaudiere; undertook to maintain and keep in repair certain specified parks, streets and bridges, and to give an annual grant of \$60,000 a year for the purpose of beautifying and improving the city.

That was a fair and square bargain. A bargain confirmed by a by-law of the city and an Act of Parliament.

Was it a bargain in the interests of the city? We believe it was. Including the grant of \$60,000 it probably costs the government \$100,000 per annum. Would the city expect to get that much for water service and fire protection for the government buildings?

But that is not all. By the building of the driveway, which is a source of pride to every loyal citizen, the values of properties has been enhanced three, four, and in some instances, tenfold, and the city reaps the benefit of the taxes on these enhanced values to a degree much greater, probably, than the \$18,000 or \$20,000, which they

will secure if permitted to collect taxes upon the incomes of government employees.

Then if the community has the big end of the bargain, what quarrel has it got with the civil servant who objects to the city council violating its agreement by the imposition of this tax?

And if the government chooses by this method to pay the income tax of its officials, what special privilege does the civil servant enjoy save that given him by his employer? None whatever.

Who, then, is there that will object to the civil servant condemning the city council for the manner in which it has undertaken to violate its agreement? Who is there that is prepared to take the unsupported opinion of the city solicitor to the effect that the council had no legal right to enter into any agreement which had the effect of exempting civil servants from the imposition of the tax? And who is there but believes — if the city solicitor's opinion is the correct one — that the course to have been pursued was either for the council to repeal its by-law or, if it desired the continuation of the agreement with the government, to have sought legislative sanction for continuing the exemption?

It was a childish, nay a most reprehensible, thing—no matter what the object may have been—for the council to attempt to shift the responsibility to the shoulders of its officials. It was an unsafe thing to do as well. It is not within the province of the city council — acting either with or without the advice of its solicitor— to raise the question of the legality of a by-law passed twenty-three years ago and observed ever since. That is a question for the courts to decide.

At a later stage, if necessary, the civil service will, through the Association, carry the matter into the courts. That will mean expense, however, and there is no particular anxiety to incur any additional expense if it can be avoided.

In the meantime the service is looking to the government—and there is reason to believe that they will not look in vain—to insist upon the city observing the terms of its agreement. The obvious and bounden duty of the service, then, is to see that men are elected to the next city council who will deal with this question in an honorable and legitimate manner. Men who, while determined to safeguard the interests of the city in every way, will be disposed to be fair and reasonable, and, above all, who are not shirkers.

The executive of the Civil Service Association has been giving this matter very earnest consideration, and has adopted a plan to be followed in connection with it. We would advise our readers to co-operate most heartily with the Association in this matter, because we believe that failure to take advantage of the opportunity which the situation affords will be deeply regretted later on.

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### THE SAVINGS AND LOAN SOCIETY.

A great deal has lately been made of certain difficulties with which the Society has been confronted. Rumors of all kinds have been afloat, many of them, as is the way with Rumor, grossly exaggerated. As frank dealing is always desirable, a short statement as to the situation to date will commend itself to readers.

An application was made by the Society some weeks ago for incorporation under the Ontario Loan Corporations Act. Everyone knew that such incorporation would not be granted, as the Ontario Act was well known to be more medieval in spirit than the law of any other civilized country. Certain amendments which were made to the Act in 1900 could not have better served the interests of usurers had they been specially designed for that purpose. The result did not belie the

expectation. Incorporation was refused. It developed, however, that what appears to be an extreme construction is held in certain quarters, viz., that the Act makes it illegal for societies like our own to do business voluntarily. The point having never been formally adjudicated, so far as we are aware, the question of illegality may be left to care for itself.

At a largely attended general meeting of the Society, which was held in the Carnegie Library on the 9th inst., the precise situation was explained to the shareholders. They came to the unanimous decision that the Society should continue operations upon the present footing. The Board of Administration was further instructed to use its own judgment in choosing a time for applying for a special act of incorporation.

Undoubtedly the decision of the shareholders was a proper one. The Society is not going to discontinue operations, which have been so eminently successful and beneficial, until, as is far from being the case at present, it is clearly established that it has not the right. If it should eventually be decided that the Ontario Act enjoins societies like ours from operating upon any basis, then the sooner the public knows it the better. It is safe to say that such a storm will arise as will sweep away considerably more than that particular solecism.

We have no fear that the Loan Society will have to put up its shutters, for we have never seen the service manifest such spirit as has been the outstanding feature of this incident. On every hand were heard expressions of adherence to the principles of the Society, and of determination to stand by it loyally. No better work was ever begun in the history of the civil service, and the service, we are certain, will continue to give the Society the hearty support which it requires for extending and confirming its usefulness.

## FAITHFUL PHILIP.

(By *Mercutio.*)

Faithful Philip came from Somewhere, in the  
spring of Eighty-three,  
With a carpet-bag and promise of a future  
fair and free,  
Came to take a junior clerkship in the inside  
P. L. D.

Born of wise and thrifty parents, he had  
learned the simple rule;  
To be watchful, patient, sober, whether on a  
throne or stool,  
Far outweighs the merchant's silver and the  
wisdom of the school.

Yet he knew the need of money, thought  
about the rainy day,  
Knew the need of knowledge also, sought  
for it in law and lay,  
Using both the sense God gave him and the  
cents received as pay.

Thus equipped he started bravely, each day  
finding something new,  
Holding fast the facts he conquered, proving  
one and one makes two,  
Always ready with his data when a case was  
in review.

Seven years he toiled and waited, like as  
Jacob did of yore;  
Then he made an application for promotion  
on the score  
Of efficient service only.—Seven years he  
waited more.

Cabinets appeared and vanished, headmen  
came and headmen went;  
Faithful Philip saw the changes, yet no  
change he underwent,  
Save a trifle as to eyesight, and his back  
was slightly bent.

Forty youngsters came behind him, thirty of  
them went ahead,  
Cousins of the mighty living nephews of the  
mighty dead;  
Philip bit his lip and murmured, "He will  
see his sparrows fed."

Fourteen years of faithful service saw him in  
the same old place,  
With his pride a little weakened, found him  
asking as a grace  
What he asked before as justice.— Answer?  
See preceding case.

Never after that did Philip seek a favour,  
claim his due.

Time had taught the dogged lesson that it  
teaches me and you:—

When a blockhead dubs you blockhead, best  
accept the blockhead's view.

Respite came at length one winter, and the  
long release from pain.

"Just," said one, "a general breakup; one  
said, "Mortgage on the brain,"

As we journeyed off to Beechwood in the  
slow and solemn train.

Now in Philip's chair is sitting Mr. Reginald  
de Bluff,

Has a staff and secretary, is considered up  
to snuff,

Handy also with the bellows when he needs  
a little puff.

"Ah," he says, "my predecessor was a care-  
ful man you know,

Kept affairs in first class order, but he some-  
how lacked the Go;

I have made this work important, as the  
pay-lists clearly show."

R. de Bluff is never grander than when  
Acting-Deputy.

Loves to flourish off his letters "A. D. M. of  
P. L. D."

While old Philip down at Beechwood is con-  
tent with "R. I. P."

Moral? There is none, my youngster; quite  
*immoral*, I should say,

That a man who does his utmost should  
receive a sluggard's pay.

That was years ago, however; no one can  
complain to-day.

PROMOTION IN THE CIVIL SER-  
VICE.

By John S. Ewart, K.C.

Recent changes indicate the prob-  
ability that merit will count for more  
than influence in future promotions.  
In the past there has been, I am  
afraid, too little incentive to efficiency,  
too little hope of reward of capabil-  
ity and usefulness, and consequently  
too little real ambition. If, now, we  
are to have a service in which the

best men will get the best positions and the best salaries, it becomes important for every officer to consider how he may increase his efficiency — how he may succeed in raising himself to the higher positions in the service.

Not much can be done for the older men; because the older men can do very little for themselves. They are in a rut, if not in a tunnel. They are little more than curious combinations of habits. You can tell exactly what they will do, under certain given circumstances. Their actions have largely ceased to be voluntary. With an effort and a deprecating smile of protest against the stupidity of doing anything new, these men may almost succeed, upon occasion, in accomplishing some slight deflection from habituated method. But they are back again immediately, grumbling about "changes for change sake"; the propriety of leaving "well enough alone"; the "folly and ignorance of inexperience," etc., etc. "Why, sir, I have been here for 40 years, and I assure you that I never heard of such a thing."

No; the older men can do almost nothing for themselves. They are habitués. They have lost not only their power of initiation, but their faculty of adaptability. They forget little of the past; they learn little of the present; and they see nothing but decadence and degeneration in the future. "The good old days" are gone.

The young man can make of himself what he pleases. He is on the level prairie and can go where he wishes. There are ruts all around him, and many inducements to enter them. Are not these roads smooth? Is not the company pleasant? Is not everybody in one or other of them? Do not the ruts run *down-hill*? What is the use of trying to mount those heights? Life is short. Let us enjoy ourselves as we go.

Very well; do as you please. Get into a rut. Amuse yourself prodigiously. Travel *down-hill* while you

are young. It is easy and life is not very long. But before you start just take a look at the habitués; remember that you will very soon be one of them; and really make up your mind what sort of a man you desire to be.

In order to secure success in the civil service, or elsewhere, there are just two things that you must attend to: (1) you must do your present work well; and (2) you must equip yourself for better work.

Mr. William Whyte, the honored Vice-President of the Canadian Pac. Ry Co. (in charge of all its lines west of Port Arthur) attributes to two facts his promotion from the humblest of railway occupations: (1) he always knew more about his own department of the work than anybody else; and (2) he always wanted more work.

That is a rare sort of a man. It is the kind of man that employers, all over the world, have always been and now are eagerly looking for. I have myself been several times at a loss for one such man, and could find him nowhere. And yet the qualifications mentioned are seemingly of the most modest scope. Brilliancy is not one of them, nor is unusual ability, nor unusual anything — nothing but intelligent attention to what you are doing, and a desire faithfully to occupy your time.

And I say to every young man, that if he will cultivate these two simple qualifications, his success is certainly assured.

But do not let your work cramp your abilities. The irony of uninterrupted devotion to one line of activity is that you become unfitted for anything else. And to reach the highest positions you must not only do your work well, but you must equip yourself for better work. How is that to be done?

There are habits of all sorts: the drinking, smoking, gossiping, charitable, religious and many other habits; but for present purposes there are but two which the younger men of the civil service ought to consider — the

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A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A  
GLAD NEW YEAR TO ALL  
OUR READERS.

Before another issue of THE CIVILIAN can appear, the great festival of the Christian world will have come and gone. Another year of time will have ebbed to its close, and yet another have been born. At such a time we should be something more or something less than human if we had not a word or two of greeting for the faithful.

Christmas, as has been said, is the time "when all the world shows that it has a heart, and is proud of it." This, come to think of it, is something of a miracle. That hard hearts should be softened, that the envious

should be made charitable, the vicious made virtuous, and all of us made kinder and more sympathetic, — if only for a week or even a day, — this surely is some acknowledgment of Divine leadership, and some evidence of the existence of the Divine in man himself. And truly, upon such evidence all hope for this world must rest; for unless we have some innate love of Virtue for her own sake, we are little better than a kind of ape, and vastly more vicious and dangerous. The fallen archangel himself,

—"felt how awful goodness is,  
and saw

Virtue in her shape how lovely;  
saw and pined

His loss."

But granted the spark divine, and all things are possible. Man has then the potentiality for making his entire life a harmony, even though his present life be but as broken music. This is the steadfast hope of the Christian; the secret of his faith.

And what meaning has all this for you and me, who are "intensely practical" perhaps, and inured to "the faithless coldness of the times"? It has this meaning, if we will reflect: that true progress in material, social and political directions will be made only to the extent that the now-temporary Christmas Spirit takes up its permanent abode with us.

WANTED: A FAIR FIELD AND  
NO FAVOR.

It is with considerable satisfaction that we present to our readers in this issue an article from the pen of Mr. John S. Ewart, K.C. Mr. Ewart is too well known to require any com-

mendation from us. His writings and his public utterances have long since built up for him such a distinguished reputation that nothing which we can say could either enhance or detract much from it. We shall confine ourselves, therefore, to saying generally that the present article is worthy of the author, and that the service will show its appreciation most fitly by endeavoring to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest what hath been written. From THE CIVILIAN'S point of view, it is a rather notable feature that a man of Mr. Ewart's standing has recognized the influence of the paper by choosing it as the medium of his article. If THE CIVILIAN had been a mere pot-boiler,—if it had made itself the organ of selfish desire only,—if, in a word, it had not fixed its gaze in at least some slight degree upon things that are true, honest, just and of good report: we may rest assured that men of talent and public spirit would avoid its pages.

We may take this opportunity of saying that THE CIVILIAN has been fortunate from the start in having had so able a contributor as *Mercutio*. His offerings are being received with the increasing appreciation which their literary value and strong common sense merit. Heretofore he has pursued the Horatian policy of telling the truth with a laugh; but in the present issue he gives us a metrical story which excites quite other feelings. It will no doubt raise a laugh in some quarters when we say that this business of doing what is right between man and man is about the weightiest responsibility that confronts us in life's warfare. It is a responsibility that is often undertaken with extreme light-heartedness. We are so busy with the pseudo-virtues, so intent on paying tithe of mint and anise and cummin, to the omission of weightier matters of the law (judgment, mercy and faith) that we are incapable of seeing that the only virtue a real man need concern himself with is *justice*.

#### IMMEDIATE EFFECT SHOULD BE GIVEN TO SECTION 6.

In so far as THE CIVILIAN has been able to learn, the situation with reference to the reorganization remains unchanged. Rumor has it that in view of the failure of the deputy ministers and the treasury board to arrive at an understanding as to a uniform method of dealing with the matter, it has been held up pending the return of the Hon. Mr. Fisher, under whose supervision and direction the bill was prepared. We have been unable to verify the truth of the report and give it simply as it came to us.

It is deeply to be regretted that pending a decision with reference to the details of the reorganization, the automatic transfer provided by section 6 of the Act has not been proceeded with. That, and the additional thousand dollars to the deputies, appear to have been the two things which were clear to a degree beyond dispute. To have given effect to it would have been to have cleared the atmosphere of all sorts of perplexing problems, and to have paved the way for an easier solution of the reorganization difficulty.

As the matter now stands, many who were entitled to increases from the 1st of September have not received them, and any number of peculiar situations have developed. Take, for example, the position of the temporary clerks who, in accordance with Section 7, should have been placed on the permanent list upon the coming into force of the Act. Over three and a half months have elapsed since the Act came into force. What then is to be the position of those clerks who have not been transferred, in view of the fact that Section 23 provides that no temporary clerk shall be employed for more than four months in any year?

There is probably no reason for any great alarm with reference to this, but it is one of the problems which would never have arisen if—instead of allowing matters to take their own course

—someone had been delegated, or had made it his business, to study and direct the situation.

The Civil Service Association should undertake to make immediate representations to the government with a view to having effect given to Section 6, and thus having the situation relieved of some of the anomalies which it presents to-day.

### CO-OPERATION.

A most important and decisive forward step has been taken in the matter of civil service co-operation. The executive of the Association, which in its function of special guardian of the interests of the service at large has had under consideration the whole question of co-operation in its bearing on those interests, has resolved that the time is opportune for a carefully considered attempt toward the adoption on a uniform and comprehensive plan of the co-operative principle. Realizing the essentially different part which it has itself to play in the affairs of the service, the Association will not directly undertake any enterprise of the kind. On the contrary, it will advise the formation of an entirely new body to take these new interests in charge. Coming to the question of the organization of this body an eminently common-sense solution of the obvious difficulties of the case is suggested. On the one hand it is recognized that in a matter which has already made so much headway both in the mind and in the practice of the service, and which lies so clearly beyond the immediate purview of the executive, a large part of the initiative must come from those who have been of late so actively identified with co-operative experiments. At the same time the tentative nature of most of these undertakings and the fundamental interest of the Association in ensuring a proper start to an enterprise of such moment demand more than a policy of passive acquies-

cence on the part of the executive. Both of these points have been well met by a suggestion that the framing of the necessary constitution, by-laws, rules, regulations, etc., of the proposed new co-operative association should be entrusted to a joint committee composed on the one hand of the men who have been prominent co-operators in the past, and on the other of three representatives from the executive who in addition to the object immediately in hand will have a special eye to the safeguarding of those wide and general considerations which must necessarily be involved. The latter committee will also act in an advisory capacity toward the executive not only during the present situation, but in the future, and will undertake to make itself an expert body on the whole subject of co-operation as applied to the service.

Such in outline were the recommendations of the sub-committee appointed at the special meeting of the executive of two weeks ago, and approved by the executive at the meeting held on Dec. 10th. As the nucleus of the outside committee, Messrs. Caron, McNeill and Ross were suggested contingent upon their willingness to undertake the task. As the standing committee on the executive to act with this committee, Messrs. Coats, McLeish and Hutchinson were named.

The proposal, accordingly, has entered upon the practical and definite stage. Henceforward, the discussion will have reference primarily to local needs,—in the light, of course, of the earlier and useful elucidation of the principles involved. With the completion of the laborious task which awaits this new committee, and with the final ratification of their suggestions by the Association, a cut-and-dried scheme will lie before the individual civil servant for his acceptance or rejection as he may see fit. Till that is done, let us possess our souls in patience, resting assured that no effort which industry and zeal for the common good may prompt will



be left untried by those who have been delegated to carry out this important public service.

### PROMOTION IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

Continued from page 439.

self-indulgent and the self-improvement habit, and these two, in large sense, combine all the others.

Self-indulgence is almost part of our nature. The lower animals know nothing of self-improvement; and although Henry Drummond takes us to the very lowest organism for the beginnings of unselfish action, yet outside its family, and sometimes its tribal life, the lower animal is altogether self-indulgent.

Uncivilized man ranks somewhat higher. The savage knows that his safety depends upon his skill with his weapons, and he strives for efficiency in their use. We depend upon the policeman and relapse into a self-indulgence that is disturbed only by the necessity for getting something to eat and to wear.

Desire for self-improvement is rare. "Ambition is the stamp impressed by Heaven to mark the noblest minds." The ordinary mind is lazy; and, because little used, it is very easily fatigued when exercised. But self-improvement is necessary if we are going to equip ourselves for doing a better class of work than that we are engaged upon.

How, then, is a civil servant to make a better man of himself, to equip himself for better work?

There are two lines which he must follow: (1) he must acquire as much information as he can that is special to his own department; and (2) he must improve his general aptitude and capacity.

It is very extraordinary how little most men learn about the work they are doing every day. They may be competent mechanics or even captains, and yet know nothing of their occu-

pations beyond that which is absolutely essential to the comfortable despatch of their regular routine. You would expect, for example, that every bank-officer would be familiar with the Bank Act, and something of the law of cheques and promissory notes. But the teller confines himself to counting bills, and the ledger-keeper to posting his books. Hardly one of them is qualifying himself for the position above him. If a general manager ever finds a man capable of better work, he almost immediately gives it to him. Mr. B. E. Walker, of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, had to import men from Scotland, because he was unable to find men in his employ fit for promotion—fit for better work.

Marked fitness for some special employment is seldom found in men who know nothing of other matters. "He knows not England, who only England knows." We recognize and class everything by likenesses and differences. We know nothing absolutely, but relatively only to something else. The reason that we cannot understand space or time is that we know nothing to class them with. We have nothing wherewith to compare them. Good action is recognized only by its contrast with bad.

The best lawyer is not the mere lawyer, but the man who adds general culture to his law. The best doctor is not the pure devotee of professional knowledge, but he who can call chemistry and electricity and biology and all the sciences, directly or indirectly, to his consultations. In unprofessional life, the benefit of wide education is not so essential nor its absence so fatal to success, but the indisputable fact remains that intelligence will beat stupidity at all work—from hoeing potatoes to governing Germany.

Then how to improve the civil servant's intellect? I have no new way to propose, and very probably no perfectly reliable patent-pill for the purpose will ever be discovered. But I have some pretty clear ideas as to the

best way to travel the old route, and here they are:

Reading is the principal intellect-improver. Writing what you have read is better. And lecturing—that is explaining audibly to others what you have learned from the books—is still better. But the basis in these latter activities is reading, and the question, therefore, is, what shall we read?

There are two great classes of books—fact and fiction. From those which relate things that never happened, little can be learned. Novel-reading will never produce mental improvement. It is too easy and too obvious. It is a pastime, and for indulgence during brain-weariness. It may be interesting and entertaining; and it is better that you should read novels than that you should read nothing. But do not imagine that you will get brain-exercise, or brain-improvement out of it.

Read that which will give you information, will add to your stock of ideas, will make you think, will furnish you with matter for conversation with those who read similar books. I know that you are not very receptive, even when young, to new ideas unless (which does not often happen) they are put in some very attractive form. And I know that it is for that reason that you deem all such books tedious and dull. But I know, too, that you will not have diligently read six months before you will have changed your opinion, and that you will forever afterwards bless the day that you commenced your brain-culture.

But what, specifically, to read? Form a club of three and subscribe for three reviews—The Nineteenth Century, The Fortnightly, and The Contemporary; exchange them; and read them. You will get discussions there of all current events. If you know five men who will read fairly diligently, enlarge your club to six, and add *The Quarterly*, *The National* and *The North American*.

Among books, choose those relating to one subject or one period, and confine yourself to them until you

have fair familiarity with that branch of knowledge. For example, nothing is more intensely interesting than evolution. Read Darwin's "Origin of Species," and "Descent of Man"; Drummond's "Ascent of Man"; Lyman Abbott's "Religion of an Evolutionist"; and two or three of the later works.

Or take up some particular period in history. Never mind the wars and the war-heroes and all that, further than to know causes, results, and effects. Fix upon, say, the Reformation—that greatest of all modern movements. Read if you like, D'Aubigné on the Protestant side, and Cobbett on the Catholic. But, in any case, read Fisher whose account is much the most dispassionate. Froude's works, upon the subject, will entertain you, if you have the slightest appreciation of literary style, but do not be quite sure of all that he tells you, for he admitted that he was not impartial; and he was not.

Many novel-readers tell me that they read fiction because delineation of character pleases them. I am afraid that it is the "bogus scandal, entertainingly told," that attracts them. To test the point, I offer them such wonderful character-sketches as Boswell's *Life of Johnson*, Busch's *Bismarck*, Morley's *Gladstone*. Those men were real. Pickwick was not only fictitious, but fantastic.

To those who are free to do so, I recommend a study of the higher criticism. I know nothing which stirs thought so much as perusal of the inquiries, the discussions and the conclusions of those wonderfully able and astute men who have devoted their energies to this most important of subjects. To begin with, read *George Adam Smith*, or the *Knox College Professor*, *McFarlane*.

Keep a large dictionary and a good-sized atlas beside you. Have you ascertained the exact location of *Servia* yet? or have you traced the route of the proposed *Bagdad railway*? Look everything up. If you can afford an *Encyclopædia*, buy one and constantly

use it. Get the Britannica if you can. One "at the library" is no use to you in cultivating the investigation-habit, and trying to improve your intellect.

There is a great deal more to be done, but probably my programme is long enough for the present. If you have any spare time try Whateley's Logic.

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## COMETS AND CONSEQUENCES.

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"Biela's comet presents the first certain example of the orbit of a comet intersecting that of the Earth. This position, with reference to our planet, may therefore be productive of danger, if we can associate an idea of danger with so extraordinary a natural phenomenon, whose history presents no parallel, and the results of which we are consequently unable correctly to estimate." — *Alexander von Humboldt*.

I chanced the other eve  
To light on the foregoing,  
And if you'll me believe,  
It set my tears a-flowing.

Of all the other ills  
That claim us for their prey,  
There's not another fills  
My breast with such dismay.

Poor mortals cannot hope  
To live on here forever;  
For late or soon, the rope,  
Famine or sword or fever

Hands us the *coup de grâce*—  
But that's a gradual process;  
We're always here *en masse*,  
Despite our heavy losses.

But now, dear friends, reflect  
Upon the situation:  
Two orbits intersect—  
That means annihilation;

Two hippographs collide,  
With *nothing* down below—  
All who on earth reside  
Depart in haste, you know.

Our heads tangential fly  
Towards the Milky Way;  
Our legs the Martians eye—  
"Some meteorites", they say.

Or, granting that the mass  
Of comets is diffuse,  
Being merely red-hot gas  
And other such refuse;

That does not mend our plight;  
The old Earth catches fire,—  
No doubt a pretty sight,  
But that's where we retire.

This comet's due again  
About the year *thirteen*;  
It's most unlucky when  
It happens so, I ween.

\* \* \* \* \*

In dreadful doom there yet may lurk  
One grain of consolation;—  
*There'll be no prejudice at work  
In THAT Re-organization.*

G.

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

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

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### Transferred "Temporaries" and Superannuation.

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To the Editors of THE CIVILIAN:

Whether the Civil Service Commissioners have considered the case of civil servants in general unprovided for by the present Superannuation Act is not decisively answered by the Civil Service Superannuation Act, which they have drafted. It is quite apparent, however, that they have been of the opinion that the case of those in the inside service, appointed since 1898, dependent upon the comparatively meagre provisions of the retirement allowance, strongly calls for such superannuation provisions as apply to those appointed to the inside service previous to that date. They did not consider it necessary or proper

of course, to embody in their draft Act in terms the remedy which by their virile condemnation of anything short of such superannuation they forcibly acknowledge should be applied to the less fortunate body of civil servants. The strong words used by them and by other experienced gentlemen on whose weighty opinions they evidently, to an important extent, relied, would have but a very artificial and narrow interpretation if they were limited to the case of future appointments. They also say that their draft Act shall apply as well to other officers, clerks and employes appointed to the civil service prior to the first day of July, 1908, to whom its provisions are declared by any other Act to apply. It would require but half a dozen strokes of the legislators' pen to frame such other declaration.

It must be admitted that there are certain conditions in the civil service which urgently call for a remedy. Temporary employees were appointed to positions where extra assistance was required in any branch of either the inside or outside division. In nine cases out of ten those appointed to positions connected with any branch of the inside division were continued in the service, which they entered on the expectations, and sometimes on the distinct understanding, that they would be made permanent, as in fact they partly were, although in some cases, very tardily, before the first of September, 1908, and without exception at that date. Some of them en-

tered the service when they were over 35 years of age, and were made permanent some years afterwards, because they possessed certain qualifications which dispensed under certain circumstances with the age limit. Can you, Messieurs Editors, consider it equitable in such cases to retire one who has reached the age of 65 no matter what his health or capacity may be, without the superannuation allowance given to his fellow civil servants who may have passed fewer years in the service, but who belonged to the pale? And yet that, or something worse, might be the effect of not allowing him the privilege of paying for as many of the years he was in the service, whether as a temporary or permanent employe, as he could afford. It is not for any one to place such a person in the question box to harry him as to what portion of the time of his service he wants to pay for, or whether he is prepared to pay interest on the sum which he would have paid for his superannuation if he had been made permanent at the start. These are matters of detail. If the burden of interest should be added to the ordinary outlay that will only affect the question of the ability of the civil servant to take up the burden in its entirety. There could be no coercion in that case one way or the other. It is entirely premature to remind the civil servant seeking equity that he must do equity. That principle becomes a Shylock principle insistent on the pound of flesh, when

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it is made to apply to imaginary problems without giving due consideration to actual and sharply defined facts that materially affect their solution in exceptional cases, which I am sure you had not in mind when you invoked it.

The commissioners, at page 22 of their report, call attention to the clause in the Superannuation Act which enables the government to add a term of service of ten years to that of officials who after the age of 30 entered the public service for special technical reasons, and they very properly urge that the benefit of it should be extended in future to a certain class of high officials. It seems to me that there would be an equally strong, if not stronger, reason for adding 10 years to the service of any one who entered the service after 30 years, but was not made permanent till 10 years afterwards. And, especially, would this be the case if his entrance was

governed by the clause which permitted the omission of the age limit on account of special qualifications, although not occupying any of the high positions mentioned by the commissioners. If there be any of the younger civil servants to whom the retirement allowance introduced in 1898 is preferable to superannuation, they could be allowed to take their choice without injuring the cause of others in different circumstances. At any rate, considerations which are no wise unanswerable cannot be allowed to operate against the remedying of such conditions as I have instanced, and must be placed for the present under the ban of the favored maxim, *de minimis non curat lex*.

I think I perceive an important distinction between the case of the civil servants who became temporary employes in branches of the inside service and those outside employes to whom your correspondent, "Old

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Timer," referred in your last issue, and have not presumed to make out any case for him. I confidently believe, however, that the government will abhor to show the callous indifference to any of its civil servants so graphically referred to by a celebrated American divine in the following words: "In the old Gentile world the individual was absorbed in the commonwealth; the man was lost in the citizen. He was a part and parcel of the machinery of State; he was a hinge or a screw or a wheel in the engine of government. As soon as his usefulness was at an end, he was cast aside to rest like worthless iron, and replaced by another."

With keen appreciation of your valuable services, I remain,

FAIR PLAY.

Dec. 7, 1908.

Editorial Note:—As regards the

subject-matter of the foregoing communication, everyone, we are sure, will admit the justice of the claim made generally on behalf of the persons concerned. It seems to us, however, that the whole question resolves itself into the very practical one of pointing out a way. Our correspondent cannot seriously mean that it is a "matter of detail" whether the arrears are to exclude or to include interest. In a similar way, it might be said that it is a detail whether a proposed public building is to cost the government \$200,000 or \$400,000. The principle no one disputes, so that the whole matter rests on what is specific rather than upon what is general. If success is to be achieved in a business matter, let us get down to business and inform the association what it is to ask the government for on behalf of the large class whose interests are thus at stake.

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To the Editors of THE CIVILIAN:

It is unfortunate that the government could not find it convenient to bring into full operation the provisions of the Civil Service Act passed last session, so that those entitled would have received the increases and arrears of increases by the 15th of this month. Speaking for myself only, the prolonged inaction justifies existing distrust, and causes reported ministerial and deputy ministerial expressions of anxiety for the welfare of the service to be received with incredulity and regarded as insincere. This attitude towards those in authority is *disrespect* in its most lamentable form.

Yours truly,

J. R. FORSYTH.

Ottawa, Dec. 15, 1908.

### A JOURNEY FROM THE YUKON TO THE MACKENZIE.

By JOSEPH KEELE.

(Published by permission of the Deputy Minister, Dept. of Mines.)

At the request of the Editors of THE CIVILIAN, the following notes have been taken from a diary kept on a journey through the Rocky Mountains, between the Yukon and Mackenzie rivers, during a part of 1907-8.

The object of the journey was to investigate the mineral resources of the Pelly basin; to enquire into the truth of certain rumors regarding the existence of an active volcano near the headwaters of this river, and to examine and map as much as possible of the unexplored region from the Pelly to the Mackenzie rivers between Lat. 62 deg. N. and 64 deg.

I left Ottawa on June 2, 1907, travelling by way of Vancouver and Skagway, and reached Dawson on the 16th of June.

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To carry out the above instructions, it was necessary that I should winter in the country, hence sufficient provisions and outfit for this purpose were purchased in Dawson, and three men engaged, namely, R. B. Riddell, J. M. Christie and Geo. Orkell, who had been residents in the Yukon since 1898. Riddell was to remain with me during the whole time of the exploration; Christie was to trap during the winter, and join me again in the spring, and Orkell returned in the fall of 1907 from our winter quarters, with specimens and letters. Riddell and Christie owned two dogs each, which accompanied the expedition.

Fortunately for us, the Yukon government had devoted a sum of money to assist some of the smaller steamboats to make trips up the side streams from the Yukon, carrying prospectors and trappers without waste of valuable time as near their point of operations as possible. This arrangement was of great advantage to me, as it would have taken my small party with our heavy outfit about a month to pole and track a boat up to the point on the Pelly river, where-

as the steam-boat made the trip in seven days, from Dawson. We left Dawson on board the La France, on June 22, and reached the junction of the Pelly and Ross rivers—the head of steamboat navigation—on June 29: a distance of 160 miles on the Yukon, and 250 miles on the Pelly: all upstream against a strong current.

Beside my own party there were as passengers, Inspector Douglas, R. N. W. M. P., and sixteen prospectors and trappers.

After leaving the bulk of my stores with Messrs. Lewis and Field, who have a trading post at the mouth of Ross river, we continued the ascent of the Pelly river from this point in two canoes, with provisions for one month. The weather was very dry and warm, and a good deal of the forest on the south side of the river was on fire.

We reached the mouth of Campbell creek—a distance of sixty-five miles from Ross river—on July 7. This portion of the Pelly is very swift, and one portage of half a mile long, over a high bank, was necessary at Hoole canyon. We began the survey

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at the mouth of Campbell creek, as the river below this point had already been described by the late Dr. G. M. Dawson, who made the survey in 1887.

On July 15, we reached Wolf canyon, a distance of seventy-five miles above Campbell creek. This canyon is about three miles long, and is impassible for boats; but can be passed by making a portage of two miles in length, on the east bank.

I named it Wolf canyon, because some trapper had hung a wolf carcase on a tree beside the river at the upper end of the portage. He had shot the wolf when sailing down the river last spring.

At this point we turned back, as I had obtained the necessary geological information in this direction. We saw nothing of the alleged volcano from any of the mountain stations which we occupied for topographical purposes; nor did we see any volcanic rocks, either in the bed rock or river wash.

When preparing to leave our camp at Wolf canyon on the morning of July 19, we were surprised to see an elderly man and a boy walking along the bank of the river toward us. He informed us that his name was Dillon, and that he had passed the previous winter somewhere between the headwaters of the Liard and Nahanni riv-

ers; his object in the country being to search for the legendary McHenry mine. Dillon said that, in the spring, he had tried to descend another river which he thought flowed toward the Mackenzie; but as there were numerous falls and canyons on its course, he had abandoned it, and tried the river he was now on—the name of which he did not know. He was travelling in a badly built mooseskin boat, had plenty of meat, but no provisions, and was carrying some marten and beaver skins. We gave him some provisions, and tobacco, and his bearings. He reached the trading post at Ross river safely, and probably got out to Juneau, Alaska, where he said he was bound for. On our way down stream, we killed a cow moose and calf, as we were badly in need of meat for ourselves and the dogs. We remained over a day to survey a large lake lying near the river, which I had previously seen from a mountain; and, while making this survey, were able to partially dry most of the meat for future use.

On our return to Ross river, we debated on the best method of ascending that stream with our load. I had thought of going up with the canoes, by relaying the freight; that is, taking a portion of the load up stream for a day's travel, and then returning

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with the empty canoes for another load.

We finally decided that to build a wooden boat large enough to carry our entire load would be the quickest and safest way to go up-stream. For this purpose we selected suitable spruce trees near the river bank, got out the logs, and whipsawed the lumber. The boat when finished was thirty-eight feet long, by three feet four inches wide on the bottom, and flared to seven feet wide on top. With our load of two and a half tons, this boat drew about eleven inches of water. We also took our best canoe on top of this load. Owing to the dry season, the forest fires by this time had assumed considerable magnitude, and approached so near our camp that we had to move across the river before our boat was finished.

The valley was so completely filled with smoke that I was unable to do any triangulation work on the neighboring hills.

On August 8, we started up the Ross river, accompanied by Charles Wison, a prospector; the only man beside ourselves, to go up this river. We travelled together, Wilson placing his goods in our boat, and doing his share on the tracking line.

The task that now lay before us, was to traverse an unexplored mountain province about 300 miles wide, in the centre of which lay the great continental divide. This chain of mountain, comprised of several groups and sub-ranges is the northern continuation of the Rocky Mountains.

We hoped that by following the valley of the Ross river to the watershed range, to find on the further side one of the branches of the Gravel river, and descend that river to the Mackenzie.

About twenty-five miles from the Pelly we met a few families of Indians camped on the river bank, engaged in hunting moose, and fishing. These Indians are part of a band num-



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bering about 110, including men, women, and children, who have their headquarters at the mouth of Ross river. They hunt and trap within a radius of about 100 miles from this point, trading their fur with Messrs. Lewis and Field. As they are fearful of encountering the giants who inhabit the headwaters of the Ross and Pelly rivers, they do not venture far in that direction.

We had about eighty miles of fairly good water on the lower portion of the river; and although the water was very low, we succeed in taking our entire load through in one trip. Above this point we encountered about thirty miles of very swift water, with several rapids and bouldery shallows; but by relaying the load, and making four portages, we managed to pass all the bad water without mishap, reaching First Lake on Aug. 26.

On Aug. 16, we killed a small moose in the river, which the dogs held up; and just as we were going ashore to camp at the head of the lake, the dogs put a moose into the water, which we also got.

A countless number of dead salmon, in all stages of decay, lay on the bars

in the shallows of the river, for the last thirty or forty miles. The bears had paths worn along the shores, as they always come to the river at this season to feed on the salmon. I found several huge fish dragged into the woods, along the edge of the river, and partly eaten, but did not see any of the bears as we made too much noise. Going quietly down stream at this time of the year, numerous bears are to be seen on the river bank.

After ascending about three miles of swift shallow water above First Lake, we entered Second Lake, a small body of water about two miles long. Then, passing through narrows, about half a mile long, we reached Third Lake, and there made our headquarters.

It was now September, and the weather had turned very wet and cold. We built a cache under some large spruce trees, on which to pile our provisions, placing a canvas roof over it.

We then took our boat to pieces, and out of the pieces made a smaller boat, to enable Wilson to continue his journey; also a very small boat for Ortell to return in. The remain-

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der of the boards we afterwards used for a door, and furniture for our cabin.

Wilson left us a few days later, and as the rains had now raised the river considerably, was able to get up stream easier than he anticipated; for the river is much swifter above Third Lake. We saw him again in February, about twenty miles further up, where he had built a cabin. He followed on the trail we made, dragging a toboggan about twenty miles further, where he camped and waited for the snow to go, in order to continue his prospecting.

He also was searching for the lost McHenry mine, and had been two years in this country. By another years time, he expected to have completed his search, and proved whether McHenry was a l'ar or not. Wilson had made extraordinary journeys with very meagre equipment. His only landmark was a glacier in the mountains, somewhere north of the Liard

river. This glacier he had located near the head of the Ross river, and covered a portion of the ground in its vicinity. He was the most persistent of all the "rainbow chasers," infesting this northern country. He said the first winter here he had subsisted entirely on moose meat—which I believe; but he also told me one of the strongest bear stories I ever heard, which I did not believe.

While waiting for better weather, we decided on a site on which to build a cabin, and began getting out logs for that purpose. Whenever we got a day clear enough, I took a trip to some of the neighboring mountains, and continued geological topographical work. I was able to get four additional stations before the winter set in. The last climb we made was on Sept. 25, and we had to camp out near timber line over night.

The peak was about 4,000 feet above the lake. It was bitterly cold, and there was a good deal of fresh snow

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on top. We did not see any game; but sheep and cariboo signs were plentiful.

On Sept. 5, George Ortell left us, and started down the river in the small boat. I had left an old canoe for him at the mouth of Ross river for his use on the Pelly and Yukon. He had about 530 miles of river to descend. We never heard from him again; but he evidently reached Dawson, for the letters he carried with him were delivered outside.

The weather was extremely wet and cold during September, and the first snow fell on the valley bottom on the 16th. The surrounding mountains and lower hills, were covered with new snow previous to that date. On Sept. 19, we completed, and moved into, our cabin, and the change from the wet bleak camp to its dry warm interior was a pleasant one.

There were several flocks of swan, geese and ducks on the lake when we arrived, but they kept moving south. By the end of the month, scarcely any remained.

I had intended to survey a portion of the east branch of the Ross river which enters a short distance below the First Lake into the main stream; but was unable to do so on account of

the almost incessant rain during the autumn.

In our canoe, we hunted moose along the shores of the lake, generally in the evening; but only succeeded in getting three: two small bulls and a cow. By the 7th of October the moose had all left the valley bottoms, and gone up the mountain to timber line or as high as they found feed; so that we were not able to get in our fall store of winter meat, when it was at its best.

We set a net at various places on the lake, and caught a good supply of fish: principally whitefish and pike; some of which we dried for dog feed.

Christie left us early in October, for the trapping ground which he had selected above the lakes. The weather continued mild, and wet, and all the snow disappeared from the valley bottom.

A flock of about thirty swans came down to feed on the Second Lake, and stayed for a few days. We tried to shoot some of them, but were not successful.

The weather now became colder, and on the 13th some slush ice ran in the narrows. On the 21st the shore ice was strong enough to walk on, and during the next few days I made

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a micrometer survey of the three lakes. By the 29th, the lake were all frozen over; with the exception of the narrows, where there was a considerable current, hence did not freeze over at all during the winter.

There was about two feet of snow at timber line—2,000 feet above the lake; but very little on the valley bottom, as the snow generally turned to rain at this level. The heaviest rain we had occurred on the night of the 28th, when the water came through the roof of our cabin in liberal quantities.

During this month I arranged my notes of the previous summer; developed several rolls of films; made a micrometer and compass survey of the lakes, and took a number of soundings for depth of water, through holes made in the ice, the ice being about six inches thick at the end of the month.

The lowest temperature recorded during October was 9 deg. below zero, and the highest 47 deg. F.

The weather continued mild during November, and although there was an absence of rain, the heavy precipitation still continued in the form of snow. A band of timber wolves, numbering about thirteen, began to operate up and down the valley, when the winter set in. They visited us about every two weeks on their rounds; but only approached the cabin at night, when it was too dark to shoot them. Their howling, added to that of our dogs, who were careful to keep close to the cabin on these occasions, annoyed us considerably.

I had a disagreeable experience on 2nd lake one afternoon during the month. This body of water is some-

what square in outline, and to cross from the narrows to the outlet, — which is concealed by a small wooded island—the shortest course is a diagonal one. When less than 200 yards from this island, a large, dark colored wolf trotted into view, and was presently followed by others, until the whole wolf pack was assembled.

I immediately turned in my tracks, being careful not to go too fast, or appear alarmed—which I decidedly was—lest they should follow. I had no weapon of any description, the distance to the nearest timber on the shore was about half a mile, the snow was soft and my snowshoes felt dreadfully heavy and awkward just then. Some of the wolves circled round the island, to see if there was a moose on it, while the others kept going up the main shore, and much to my relief did not show any immediate intention of following me.

The distance to the cabin was about a mile and a half, which I finally reached, and taking a rifle and a box of cartridges, returned to the lake. The darkness was gathering by this time, and I thought the wolves would follow my trail—to their undoing—but I could see nothing of them.

As I watched, a howl came from the distance, and then an answering howl. Soon the thin wintry air was filled with the vibrations of that fear-com-

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elling sound, which seemed to come from every side; and one could not help thinking that, if we had met an hour later than we did, there would have been a vacancy on the Geological Survey staff. The affrighted moose shivered on the hillsides, and a white man, clutching a high power gun, sneaked hastily to his cabin, and lit a candle. We made an effort during the winter to exterminate that pack of wolves, but only succeeded in killing two of them.

On Nov. 24, we saw two moose tracks on one of the lakes, and afterwards saw fresh tracks frequently. The snow was getting too deep on the mountains for them, and they were forced to descend to the valley bottom to feed, where the snow was not so deep.

On the 27th, Riddell killed a large bull moose about two miles from the cabin, and on the following day we broke a trail on which to haul it out.

The lowest temperature recorded during November was 21 deg. below zero F., while the highest was 32 deg. The snow was two feet four inches

deep in the valley by the end of the month, and three feet six inches deep at timber line on the mountains.

On Dec. 11, Riddell shot a bull moose, which had already shed its horns. It took us three days to break the trail, and haul this animal to the cabin.

We had a net set under the ice in the lake below the narrows, from which we got fish occasionally, making agreeable variation in our bill of fare. On the 22nd, the day being clear, we recorded about four hours of sunshine in the valley: from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.; but one could travel, or see to work outside from about 8 a.m. until 3 p.m.

The sunrise and sunset colors in the day were very delightful, and continued all day. The brilliancy of these colors; the stainless white of mountain and plain, and absolute purity of the air, was a pleasant change from the dreariness of city streets in winter.

Our lowest temperature during December was 31 deg. below zero, and about 9 inches of snow fell.

*(To be Continued.)*

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## THE CIVIL SERVICE ASSOCIATION.

Weekly meetings of the Executive have been held since the annual meeting of the Association, and much important business has been transacted.

At the meeting held on the 10th instant, the committee on civic affairs and taxation presented a joint report dealing with the attitude of the Association with reference to the civic elections. The recommendations of the report were outlined in a circular letter, addressed to the advisory committees of the departments, and which will probably be in their hands by the time this issue of *THE CIVILIAN* appears.

The co-operative committee also presented a report, the findings of which are dealt with elsewhere in this issue.

The committee on superannuation and civil service insurance presented an exhaustive report at the meeting held on the 4th instant. Owing to the length of this report, and its important character, instructions were given to have a copy placed in the hands of each member of the Executive in order that its recommendations might be carefully considered before definite action was taken.

The sanitation committee is to be congratulated for having prepared an excellent report, as a result of which it is expected that a number of valuable and important suggestions will be placed before the government. The totally inadequate and unsatisfactory nature of the toilet facilities in many departments, and the overcrowding of a large number of the offices, constitute a standing menace to the health of hundreds of civil servants. The Executive is confident that once this matter is placed in its true light before the government, a remedy will be applied. The report of this committee affords information which is both reliable and convincing.

The printing committee has the work of printing the amended consti-

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tution, and the membership cards well in hand. In the meantime, it is important that the departmental representations should complete the membership lists and see that the fees are handed to the treasurer.

**ATHLETICS.**

In the Motherland, entering the 'workhouse' is probably considered the acme of disgrace, and it is remarkable how rich and poor alike feel with regard to this misnamed institution. This pride and abhorrence of living on charity is generally commendable, and it is regrettable that we, in Canada, do not possess a little more of this estimable commodity.

*Exempli gratia:* There are scores of civil servants who are obtaining their athletic pleasures at the expense of other fellows; there are scores of members of the C.S.A.A.A. who have not paid up their fees. Will these kindly do so next pay-day, for the Athletic Association can do with all the dollars, and naturally its powers and boundaries are limited in proportion to its pecuniary and numerical strength.

\* \* \*

An order is now going to England for summer athletic goods, and any member of the C.S.A.A.A. wishing to purchase at wholesale prices such articles as cricket-bats, tennis rackets, or anything in a similar line, can send in their names and requirements to Mr. A. G. Lewis, of the Militia Department, who will order what they desire. The receipt of the goods will probably be in May, and no doubt by this wholesale order a considerable re-

duction in prices will be possible, and should be taken advantage of by many.

\* \* \*

The Bowling League is going strong this year, and there have been some splendid aggregations. The following men have been most successful in the four games in which they have played:—

	Average.
Stewart (P.W.D. & Ag.)	492
Jamieson (Rys.)	470
Thomas (P. W. D. & Ag.)	474
Turcotte (Interior)	473
Birtch (Customs)	463
Bain (P.W.D. & Ag.)	459
McKnight (Rys.)	456
Shore (Topo.)	451

The averages of senior bowlers are omitted. The order of the teams so far in the League is as follows:—

	Wen.	Lost.	Aver.
Militia & Mint	6	0	2611
P.W.D. & Ag.	3	1	2709
Bureau	2	1	2581
Topo.	3	2	2552
Geographers	3	2	2507
Interior	2	2	2613
Railways	2	2	2570
P. O. D.	2	2	2385
Customs, T. & C.	2	2	2505
Audit	1	4	2398
Statistics	0	4	2503
Marine	0	4	2317

In the high cross alley scores, the following bowlers are the highest:—

Stewart	536,	511
Thomas	534,	504
Turcotte		528
Littlefield		515
Lapointe		523
Hughes		541
Jamieson		519

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McKnight .....	509
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Thomas.....	225

\* \* \*

In many of the larger provincial towns of England there exist workmen's clubs called Social Settlements. These projects are started in the first place by gentlemen with philanthropic proclivities, but after the building has been erected they are run practically by the members' fees, which are exceedingly moderate.

There are reading-rooms with good books; chess, draughts, quoits and billiards rooms; well-organized debates take place once a week, as do likewise concerts; there are numerous societies associated with the establishment, scientific, botanical, photographic, and what not; there are athletic clubs such as football, cycling and harriers; there are a savings bank and a bathroom, and refreshments of a light nature can be procured at moderate prices. After a few years the whole concern is often run at a profit, not much certainly, but yet it is appreciable.

We live in a country whose dominion stretches from sea to sea; we live in a land with boundless prairies; we dwell amongst mighty, sun-capped mountains; our empires then should be as diffuse and large as the country which beneficent Nature has bestowed upon us; our thoughts should be as magnificent as the sunsets behind the Laurentian range, and our hopes extensive as the dawn beyond the everlasting hills.

The Civil Service of Britain's premier daughter should possess a capacious association house with extensive rooms fitted up in such a way as to invite study and recreation; it should have a reference library of the latest books touching every subject which concerns any government department; it should be essentially an establishment for culture of brain and body amongst Canada's most erudite men and women,—ancient Greece when at

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the zenith of her career had such institutions—then why not *the* nation of the twentieth century?

If Canada is to be the foremost nation of the world, then she must pioneer—not follow—and her civil administrators should be her first care.

\* \* \*

Everybody may not be aware that a civil service chess club has been formed. This is due to the enterprise of Mr. G. H. Wattsford, of the Public Works Department, whose suggestion it was that such a club might "catch on," and it has done so. Over fifty members have signed on so far, and now that the club intends including draughts in its schedule, it is anticipated that even a larger membership will result. A room has been procured at 111 O'Connor street, with suitable accommodation, and it is hoped that intending members will send in their names immediately, so as not to delay arrangements for the winter schedule. The subscription fee is but a paltry dollar. Any other information may be obtained from the Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. G. H. Wattsford, Department of Public Works, West Block.

### "THE CO-OPERATOR."

#### The Montreal Industrial Co-operative Society, Limited.

In the month of May, 1908, a society for the purpose of carrying on the trade of general dealers in household supplies on a co-operative plan began operations in Montreal under the title of the "Montreal Industrial Co-operative Society, Limited." The society was incorporated, April 25, 1908, under the Quebec Syndicate Act of 1906. It began on a small scale, and with only 49 members. At the present time, the membership has increased to 125, and the undertaking is reported by its officers to be in a fair way to

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success. The average turnover has been about \$1,200 per month, the establishment employing a salesman, with horse and delivery wagon, telephone, etc. The membership is almost wholly composed of working-men.

The rules adopted by the society were based on those already in use by organizations where good management and prosperity prevail. Under their provisions, an entrance fee of 50 cents is charged, the same being added to the reserve fund. Forty shares are the maximum which may be taken up. The shares are valued at \$5.00, and they may be paid for at the rate of 50 cents per month. Shares are not transferable. Interest at the rate of five per cent. is to be declared on paid up capital, though the rate may be reduced with the sanction of the membership. After paying interest, taxes and working expenses, and after setting aside such sum for the reserve fund and the reduction of fixed stock as the members may determine, with two per cent. of total profits for educational purposes, the balance is to be divided among the members in proportion to their purchases each quarter. The reserve fund is made up of entrance and withdrawal fees, fines, and the portion of profits allowed on the quarter's workings. The committee is given power to lease or purchase buildings for the purposes of the society. No person is eligible to serve as a committeeman who has not been a member for at least six months. The maximum salary of the manager of the store is placed at \$1,200, and of the secretary and treasurer at \$300. Other subjects dealt with by the rules are as follows:—

List of members, notices, withdrawal of dividends and interest, recovery of subscriptions, members' purchases, surplus cash, election and duties of officers, non-attendance of committeemen, suspension of officers, arbitration of disputes, expulsion of members, general and special meetings, etc., etc.

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**CIVIL SERVANTS AND THE IN-COME TAX.**

**Judgment of the Supreme Court of Canada in the St. John Case and the Reasons Therefor.**

(Continued.)

Besides the case of *The Bank of Toronto v. Lambe* (1), has, (if the line of argument in the *McCulloch Case* can have any bearing on the question since that case was first thus used), conclusively established the right of the province to tax banks created by and solely within the creative power of the Dominion and yet doing business within the province seeking to tax it.

I am not at all clear that the *Webb v. Outtrim Case* relied upon here and in the court below can be said, upon close analysis, to have very much to do with the question presented here.

I am unable, notwithstanding the array of judicial authority supporting and following the judgment in the *Leprohon Case*, to find that it proceeded upon a correct interpretation of the *British North America Act*.

I think the appeal should be dismissed with costs.

**Mr. Justice Maclellan.**

I am of opinion that this appeal should be dismissed. Even if *Webb v. Outtrim* had been otherwise decided, it would not, in my opinion, necessarily govern the present case, inasmuch as the act establishing the *Australian Commonwealth* differs in a very important respect from the *British North American Act*.

I think the tax in question is within the powers conferred on the *Canadian Provinces* by section 92, sub-sections (2), (8) and (13) of the latter act, and is not affected by anything contained in section 91.

By those sub-sections, jurisdiction is conferred upon the provinces, within their respective limits, over pro-

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erty and civil rights, direct taxation and municipal institutions.

The act contains no definition of municipal institutions. That was unnecessary, inasmuch as such institutions had existed in the several provinces for many years, and their nature and functions were well known and understood.

These institutions included city and town corporations, which had numerous public duties to perform for the benefit of their respective inhabitants, and which required the annual expenditure of large sums of money which were raised by taxation of real and personal property, and also of income.

The City of St. John is probably the oldest municipality in the Province of New Brunswick, and its present charter of incorporation is the Statute 52 Vic., c. 27, which makes provision for the levy of the taxes required for the public service by a number of sections beginning with number 112, and of which those bearing on this appeal are Numbers 115, 116, 120, 149, and Schedule A. Title Income.

Section 120 provides that all taxes shall be raised by an equal rate upon the value of the real estate situate within the city, and upon the personal estate and the income of the inhabitants, being the income derived and coming in any manner except from real or personal estate actually assessed.

Section 149 declares that income shall mean the annual gross sum arising to any male inhabitant, or rateable person, from any place, office, profession, trade, calling, employment, &c., except from real or personal estate actually assessed.

Section 115 provides that the Board of Assessors shall on or before the first day of April in each year publish a notice within the city, requiring all persons liable to be taxed to furnish to the assessors true statements of their real estate, personal estate, and income, on forms obtainable at the office of the assessors.

(To be continued.)

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