

servant may sit in Parliament without resigning from the Service. So public servants have come to enjoy security of tenure and other privileges at the expense of effacing themselves and being willing to carry out the policy decided upon by the popular representatives.

The rules regulating the conduct of Public Servants in regard to political matters are clearly stated in General Orders and you should make a careful examination of them to see how you yourself are affected.

Briefly, the civil service is divided into two classes. An officer in the *restricted* class shall not engage in any political activity whatsoever. An officer in the *unrestricted* class may engage in certain political activities and may offer himself as a candidate for election to the Legislative Assembly or any statutory body representative of the community. Administrative arrangements are laid down in General Orders by which officers in this unrestricted class who have resigned in order to serve as elected members of such bodies may in certain circumstances be reinstated in the Public Service at the end of their elected service.

There is of course no intention to deprive any officer of his personal right to cast his vote according to his political opinion. Neither do any of these rules absolve any officer, in whatever class he may be, *restricted* or *unrestricted*, from observing the code of the Public Servant which lays down that he shall not subordinate his duty to his private or political interests, and that he shall not make use of his official position to further those interests.

While this legal provision exists you should ponder on the implications before taking any active part in politics. Efficiency in many positions in the public service requires sound judgment and integrity. Your efficiency may therefore be more easily challenged if you place yourself in a position where there could be a clash of loyalties.

Remember too, that employment in the public service frees you from many of the anxieties and insecurities found in non-government employment and in many cases gives you benefits not found outside. You in effect enjoy privileges.

Privileges carry with them obligations. Your obligation is to respect those traditions that have been built up by your predecessors on the foundations laid by Northcote and Trevelyan to make public service secure as a career. A career public service should be secure for you and provide better service to the public because of the provisions that restrict political interference from without.