

nal. The Service, he states, is to be disfranchised both inside and outside, so that the contemplated surgical operation is to be all embracing and complete. The author tells the Journal that he is going to prevent Civil Servants from voting not only at federal elections, but also at provincial (Oh provincial rights!), municipal, school board elections, etc. He denies that there is any intention to restrict the rights of Civil Servants to buy yellow tickets on the street cars, or to read the author's speeches in Hansard; nor yet to sup with their wives so long as they do it in the presence of witnesses.

"The bill also proposes to eliminate the influence of patronage," Mr. Broder tells the Journal. No need now to implement the Halifax platform, no need now for the Hon. Mr. White to introduce the Merit System, for the honorable member for Dundas has discovered that the way to cure the foot-and-mouth disease is to cut off the goat's tail.

Halting between two opinions for the moment, hesitating between the humoristic and the pragmatist blend of thought, the author of the bill now throws off all reserve and modesty, and declares himself a devotee of the cult of the ancient and honorable school of Hermetical Philisophy. For he states in the Journal that he is "to make the Civil Service a body which political partisanship will not affect."

The Horoscope is the concise record of the *Patronage Machine* since July 1st, 1867 until the Ides of March, 1914. The Planisphere is based upon the speech, made in the Chamber of Justice by the sitting member for the royal constituency of Kings and Albert. The prediction is that the *Beautiful Lady* who sent out her faithful stewards in the year of Our Lord 1867 shall, from her lofty station, discover at last the consummation of her heart's desire in the setting up of a perfect system of Political

cal Economy. This great renaissance is to be achieved by the simple process of depriving Civil Servants of their one remaining claim to citizenship,—the right to vote.

Civil Servants will watch with no slight interest the course of the Government in regard to this proposed legislation. Its passage into the statute books will, if we mistake not, witness the immediate attempt of all good men and true at present in their King's service to leave that service at as early a date as possible. It will also present one more obstacle to the entrance to the service of men, good and true, who may at some future time contemplate entering a service bereft of all civil and political rights.

IS THE SERVICE OVER-MANNED?

The Civilian to-day prints the first instalment of the address delivered before the People's Forum at Ottawa by Dr. Shortt. The address will be found illuminating and is being published as fully as possible especially for the edification of our friends outside of Ottawa, who will now more fully appreciate some of the difficulties confronting the Merit System and the commissioners in charge of its administration.

Our editorial space does not permit any complete discussion of the many valuable points brought out in this address, but on a later occasion we will comment thereupon. The address embodies one statement, however, to which we will briefly refer for the reason that it has been the subject of discussion in the House of Commons on several different occasions, the most important of which is reported in our news column to-day.

Dr. Shortt, quoting from a return laid on the table of the House during the previous week, stated that there had been 2,000 dismissals from the