

# THE CIVILIAN

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## CIVIL SERVICE GOVERNMENT BY COMMISSION.

(By F. A. G.)

As announced incidentally by the editors some time ago in reply to the query of a correspondent, *The Civilian* to-day opens a series of articles on the Civil Service Commission. The author (F. A. G.) introduces his subject in this issue. In the following issue, reference will be made to Civil Service Commissions in other countries. Then allusion will be made to some of the problems in the commission's organization and administration. The author promises thereafter to take up the successes and failures of the commissioners, (especially the latter) insofar as evidence may be obtainable in these respects.

Since the day that pristine man wiped the salt water from his eyes, until he ate the mythological apple, little is known of him. What little is known of these early days, of the history of the human race, has been gathered by dint of much scratching, and not a little speculation, by the ethnologist and geologist. Since the apple period, man has been a predacious animal. Man alone of all the species that inherit the earth, preys upon his own kind. All other animals, once having well filled their stomachs, are content, and will offer no resistance to others of their kind doing likewise. Man represents, in his recorded history, the highest development of the art of hoarding up what he cannot use. Not content with filling his stomach, as all other animals are, he preempts the fruits of the earth and all the products of nature. He builds a fence about it all, to keep his neighbours from participating in his property. He has enough to fill his stomach a million times. Many of his neighbours cannot get enough to fill their stomachs once. Man is a predatory animal.

The majestic denizens of the mountain and the forest, the lower animals as they are called to distinguish them from predatory man, are en-

dowed with noble forms enclathed in sable furs. The feathered kingdom is bedecked with all the glory of nature in colour and design. But these were come by honestly in the course of natural selection. By judicious choosing of their mates did the birds of the air contrive to combine all the beauty of nature in their offspring. They took none of these, they held none of them, by force. Man, alone, is the everlasting example of a species that lives by means of predatory onslaught upon its own kind. The whole world is in arms. Capital and Labour are about to engage in a life and death struggle, because the former is suspected of filching more than its share of the fruits of this wonderful world.

As man began to develop during his millions of probationary years, the necessity for government became apparent. Adam was the first governor in the Biblical story and one of his first acts was to pass judgment upon the predatory conduct of his son Cain. In other legends of primeval existence, the need of a ruler or over lord was soon discernible. In early times such ruler or over lord, true to his predatory instinct, seized more power than was entrusted to him. Hence arose hereditary auto-