

of our own government and Civil Service Commission. Clause 21 of the Civil Service Amendment Act, in so far as technical appointments are concerned, may be less necessary than has been admitted.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM AND THE UNITED STATES CENSUS.

Some months ago THE CIVILIAN published an article descriptive of a clever attempt at Washington, D.C., to evade the provisions of the law with regard to non-political appointments in connection with the approaching decennial census. The prompt vetoing by President Roosevelt of the bill passed last winter by Congress, which provided for the taking of the census, but which purposely omitted to provide for the appointment of the clerks and other employees by competitive examination, was the climax of the situation as at that time set forth. As it now turns out, the powers of darkness have received a signal defeat, and the census of 1910 will be performed by men appointed in strict accordance with the principles of Civil Service Reform.

The late Carroll D. Wright, who was once Commissioner of the Census, declared that if this rule had obtained in his term of office there would have been a saving of at least two million dollars and more than a year's time. As above stated, when the bill vetoed by President Roosevelt reappeared in the present Congress, the defect had been remedied. But, in the opinion of some, a minor defect remained and has delayed the bill's final passage — the question of apportionment. The Civil Service Law provides that men shall be appointed to office under an apportionment accorded to

the several States according to their population. The bill has now been arranged to save the Census Bureau from being swamped by many persons who live in the District of Columbia, drawn there by public employment, and who, for office-holding purposes, transmit their technical citizenship in the States from which they come to their children and grandchildren. Under the act now before the President, the appointees selected for the work must actually have lived for at least one year in the State from which they are named. The provision may increase the cost of examination of candidates somewhat, but it will certainly distribute Government employment more widely. In any event, the passage of the bill through conference marks another triumph in regard to Civil Service Reform. It establishes for the whole census system the principle that a public servant should be chosen on merit.

The taking of the census every ten years has become a serious matter in the United States. The increase of population calls for a continually larger number of supervisors and enumerators. It is now necessary to employ nearly four hundred supervisors and seventy thousand enumerators. To provide for the cost, the President has just signed a bill appropriating ten million dollars for the taking of next year's census.

MISTRESS (at door) — "Well, my dear, what is it?"

LITTLE GIRL — "Please 'm, our kitty is lost. Did you see a kitty go past here by the name of Nuddles?" — *Boston Transcript*.

"Shall we go to this particular resort?"

"Well, I don't know. The booklet plays up strongly on the sunsets, the rainbows, and the cloud effects, but contains very few specifications as to the beds, the bath, and the fodder." — *Louisville Courier-Journal*.