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Mr. German, M.P., versus the C. S. Commission.

As reported two weeks ago, Mr. German made a statement in the House of Commons, of which the following may serve as a sample:—

As far as my information and observation go, I cannot see that the appointments to positions have been made any differently since the commission has been appointed than they were before. They are made by reason of political influence now just the same as they ever were.

According to this statement and also as to the context, the speech is a sweeping declaration regarding all appointments to the Inside Service under the commission. The utterance of such a condemnation of the supposed "merit system" in the Inside Service, induced the editors to make a table showing the number of entrants, into the service during the term of the commission, and the seven distinct avenues of entrance. It is as follows:—

who were subjected to an open competitive examination. The 136 clerks in column two were appointed, although there is a standing list of those who have passed the lower grade exam. However, section 22 of the act opens the door for patronage which is taken advantage of at the rate of 136 to 30. Section 22 permits appointments to be made with or without examination.

That there have been 737 entrants under open competition compared with 235 under patronage disproves Mr. German's words. At the same time the very fact that there have been 235 appointments under patronage, disproves any foolish inclination we may have had in supposing we are flourishing like a palm tree under the benign influence of the glorious "merit system." Politicians are a merry lot and if they

Year	Lower Grade		3rd Division	2nd Division	Special Open Competition	Section 21	
	A 1	B 2				A 6	B 7
1909	9	8	57	9	10	6	23
1910	11	20	105	25	27	8	26
1911	5	51	119	45	23	20	20
1912	5	57	136	70	31	16	30
	30	136	417	149	91	50	99

For purposes of reference, the columns are numbered 1 to 7. Columns 2 and 7, embracing 235 officials were appointed by nomination under the patronage system. To this extent Mr. German is correct. But the remaining columns represent 737 officials

have a free gift of 2-7 of the appointments to the service, it is not beyond the powers of the imagination to picture them dabbling, on margin at least, in some other features of the civil service stock market. There is just a hazy suspicion that appoint-