

# OPERATION OF THE COMMISSION FORM OF CITY GOVERNMENT

Reports From Cities That Have Adopted This Form of Government Most Flattering.

The commission plan of government is just now agitating the minds of the people in the principal cities of Nebraska, and Plattsmouth, of course, is among the number. We have heard but very few oppose the plan, and if the Nebraska legislature complies with the desire of a majority of the people in these cities they will wait no longer to comply with those wishes. Nowhere has the plan ever been given a trial but what the greater majority of the people are pleased with it. Every citizen of Plattsmouth is interested in this new plan. Below we publish reports from some of the principal cities where the commission plan is in operation. The best plan of government is what the people want. After it has been tried, and should the people become dissatisfied with it, they can go back to the old way if a majority of the people want it that way. The reports mentioned are as follows:

**Berkeley, Cal.**—The year has just closed with over \$40,000 surplus in our treasury, a thing unheard of before and which will lower the tax rate for the coming year. Improvements increased.

**San Diego.**—Taxes slightly decreased, due to increased valuation of property. City conducted more economically than in twenty-one years.

**Colorado Springs, Colo.**—Expenses reduced 10 per cent. City operated past year for practically \$142,000 less money than for several years. More water mains and hydrants at \$1,700 less than previous year.

**Cedar Rapids, Ia.**—Money spent to better advantage. Taxes reduced.

**Des Moines.**—City more economically and efficiently managed. Getting more results for the money in every department. Costs less for improvements. Taxes about the same. Streets in better shape than for twelve years.

**Keokuk.**—Are saving money. Sioux City.—Estimate will save \$50,000 during year. Better contract work along all lines at less money. A fourth more value for taxes.

Slight tax reduction. Expect to pay \$45,000 debt without increase in taxes.

**Kansas City, Kas.**—Fifteen thousand dollars saving. Better work in different departments. Net increased revenue over \$26,000. Tax rate about the same, notwithstanding increase in salaries. Auditor reports discovery that street railway company owes city \$56,889.98, which has been due seven years.

**Leavenworth.**—Commission form conduces to economy.

**Topeka.**—Will wipe out \$40,000 deficit this year and lower light cost. Slightly lower water cost.

**Wichita.**—Expenses much less.

**Haverhill, Mass.**—Expenditures cut \$15,000 over old system. Tax payers get 100 per cent on the dollar now instead of 30 to 50 before.

**Memphis, Tenn.**—Lowest tax rate in sixteen years. More street and sewer improvements than in many years. City better lighted. Police and fire department more efficient.

**Austin, Tex.**—Water and light rates lowered twice by present administration. More improvements. Higher assessment and lower rate.

**Denison.**—Better paving and lighting. More improvements. No increase in taxes. More interest on city deposits.

**El Paso.**—More efficiency in government. No increase in taxes. More improvements.

**Fort Worth.**—No increase in taxes. Saving in public expenditures. Fire and police departments doubled.

**Galveston.**—Put city on cash basis in eighteen months. More progress in ten years than in any other period of city's history. Abolition of ward system makes strongly for economy.

**Houston.**—Reduced tax rate twice. Paid \$485,000 debt in less than a year. Better streets, sewers, fire and police departments. \$900,000 water plant taken over and successfully operated. Built \$500,000 auditorium.

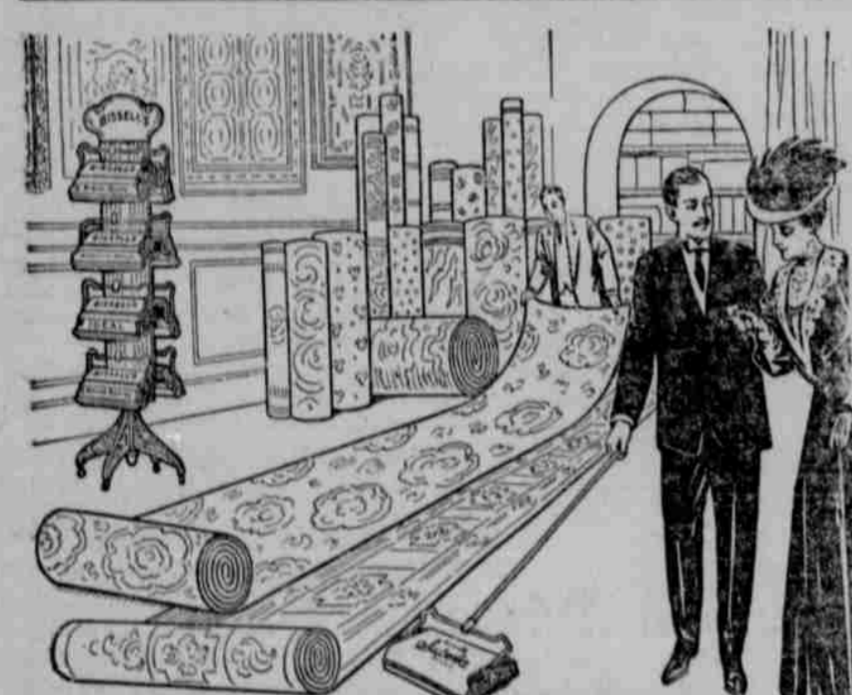
**Waco.**—Saved about \$19,000 on streets during the year. Taxes slightly increased and put city on cash basis, but expenditures are less.

## Senator Banning in Town.

Hon. W. B. Banning came up from his home at Union last evening for the express purpose of addressing the High school pupils this morning, and, of course, called on the Journal, departing this afternoon over the Burlington for Lincoln. We very much regret to learn that the senator may leave Cass county to engage with a

large lumber firm in the northwest, where he has been tendered a most lucrative position. We hope he will conclude to reject this flattering offer, as we cannot afford to lose such valuable and estimable people.

Mr. William Starkjohn was called to maha to look after some business matters and departed for the city on the early train.



WE ARE HEADQUARTERS FOR

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Linoliums, Oil Cloth  
Mattings, Ingrains,  
Velvet and Axminster  
Carpets!

We always have a large stock to select from.

- 9x12 foot Tapestry Rugs..... \$12.50
- 9x12 foot Velvet Rugs..... 16.20
- 9x12 foot Axminster Rugs..... 22.60

## E. G. DOVEY & SON

# THE WORKINGS OF LEGISLATIVE BODY

Senator Banning Delivers a Very Interesting Address Before the High School.

Senator Banning of Union addressed the High school students this morning and gave an interesting account of the legislature, how it is organized and the manner of procedure in making laws. The senator also gave the students some idea of the amount of money that is required to run the state institutions.

After discussing the manner of the organization of the legislature, from the election of the presiding officer in each house to the selection of the committees, Senator Banning traced a bill from its introduction into the house until it finally reached the governor for his signature. And in substance stated that a bill would be introduced by a member, covering some needed legislation, perhaps in agriculture; the measure was read for the first time on its introduction and referred to the special committee on that subject, which either approved or rejected the bill. If the bill was approved it then went to the committee of the whole house, where it received attention and thorough discussion, and if approved by the committee of the whole, it was recommended to be placed on the general file for passage.

The senator explained the precarious situation of a measure in its routine journey to the final passage by the house in which it originates, showing that the bill is liable to be killed at any stage of its progress. After going through the branch of the legislature where it originates, it goes to the other body, where it has the same precarious journey to make, through the same sort of committees, when, if passed there, it then goes to the governor for his signature, and if signed by him becomes a law. If an emergency clause is appended it takes effect at once; without such clause the measure will go into effect ninety days after the session of the legislature creating the measure has adjourned.

Senator Banning then talked of the numerous state institutions which had to be cared for by the legislature, and appropriations made sufficient to pay salaries and running expenses of these for two years. There are three asylums, four state normals, one school for the blind, one for the deaf, two industrial schools, one for boys and one for girls, and the penitentiary. These institutions have to be visited by a committee from each house of the legislature in order that the body may know the condition and needs of each. The current expenses of these institutions and the necessary repairs from time to time demand an enormous sum of money to keep them going.

Senator Banning advised the students to make an investigation along the lines he had discussed, so that when the young men go to the polls they can cast an intelligent ballot for the interests of the general public. His speech was a very interesting one from the point of practical knowledge of affairs of the state. Senator Banning will be a welcome guest at any time he should find it convenient to visit the Plattsmouth schools again.

## Ashland Drainage District. NOTICE OF ELECTION.

To Whom It May Concern:

You are hereby notified that on the second Tuesday of April 1911, to-wit: April 11, 1911, between the hours of 8 o'clock a. m. and 6 o'clock p. m., Ashland Drainage District will hold its annual election at the store room of K. L. McKinney within the said district, situated on lot two (2), block thirty-three (33), in that part of Ashland, Saunders County, Nebraska, formerly called Flora City, for the purpose of electing one director of said district in place of Harvey D. Coleman, whose term as director will then expire.

Dated March 16, 1911.  
Nelson Sheffer, President.  
A. B. Fuller, Secretary.

(Seal) Ashland Drainage District.

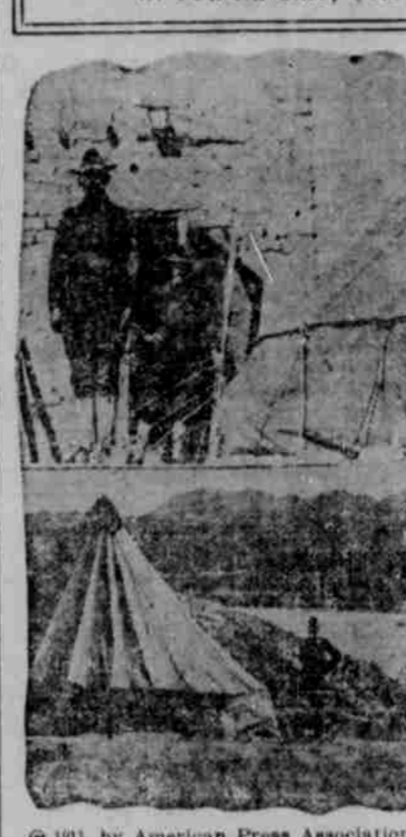
## Murray Dancing Club.

The Murray Dancing club will give another one of their pleasant dances at the Jenkins hall in Murray on Saturday evening, March 25. The music will be furnished by the Bruce orchestra and those who attended the last dance know what this means. You are invited to attend and have one of the good times of the season.

## CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.  
The Kind You Have Always Bought  
Bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Fletcher*

## SCENES AT MANEUVERS. Soldiers Marking Time On the Rio Grande and At San Antonio, Tex.



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## PROF. ROSSIGNOL TO GET PLACE Denver Man Offered Taylor's Job at State University.

Lincoln, March 20.—The position vacated by the resignation of Professor W. G. L. Taylor, head of the department of economics in the state university, will probably be filled by Professor James Edward Rossignol, now head of a similar department in the University of Denver. He was teaching economics in the University of Nebraska in the years 1908 and 1909. Negotiations have been pending with Professor Rossignol and his appointment is likely to be confirmed at the next meeting of the board of regents.

## WOMEN TAKE A FIRM STAND

Will Look After Household Duties, but Will Not Work in Fields.

Gandy, Neb., March 20.—Encouraged by the recent decision of Judge Otto of Brule, who defined the rights of husband and wife relative to work on the farm, Nebraska women are declaring themselves in no uncertain manner. All through this section of the state the women have organized clubs and determined that henceforth farm work shall be done by the men, else it will go undone.

Not that in the past Nebraska women have done more outside work than the women of other states, but since the Otto decision they say that they are going to look after the household duties, and if the husbands cannot do the farm work alone, they will have to hire men.

## COIN "SWEATER" RELEASED

E. J. Gregory Leaves Leavenworth for Former Home in Salt Lake City. Leavenworth, Kan., March 20.—E. J. Gregory, who was sentenced to serve four years in the federal prison here for "sweating" gold coins, was released on parole. He left immediately for his former home in Salt Lake City. Gregory had a well equipped laboratory for "sweating" coins. By this method small particles of gold were worn off of the coins, melted and sold as virgin metal. Gregory disposed of the gold to the Denver mint. Its unusual purity attracted the attention of assayers at the mint and led to Gregory's arrest. He began serving his sentence in November, 1908.

## FRANK JAMES MOVES BACK

In Poor Health, Former Bandit Returns to Scenes of His Childhood. Oklahoma City, Okla., March 20.—Frank James, brother of Jesse James, who, when he came to Oklahoma and settled on a ranch several years ago, announced that he would live and die in Oklahoma, has changed his mind. The death of his mother recently caused James to alter his plans. He has sold his ranch and will return to Lees' Summit, Mo. Included in the sale of the ranch were many relics of James' bandit days. They brought a big sum. James' health is not the best, which also had a bearing in his decision to go back to the scenes of his childhood.

## Twain Monument Bill Passes.

Jefferson City, March 20.—The senate passed the Sosey house bill appropriating \$10,000 for a monument to be erected at Hannibal to the memory of Samuel L. Clemens (Mark Twain) and appropriating \$1,000 for placing a marker at the place of his birth, Florida, Mo. The bill provides for a commission to be appointed by the governor to have charge of the work.

# MEXICANS THINK PEACE IN SIGHT

Limantour's Arrival in Capital Hailed as Harbinger.

## TALK OF CABINET CHANGES.

Washington, March 20.—Peace is assured in Mexico within the present week if certain influences now at work toward that end prove effective. With the arrival in Mexico City of Minister Limantour President Diaz began a conference which it is expected will result in the announcement within a few days of a reorganized cabinet.

Minister Limantour will present an explanation of the demands of the revolutionists and the changes in the official family of President Diaz, as well as the institution of reforms expected to appease the insurgents.

In the meantime President Taft, who arrived here from Augusta, Ga., this morning, will confer with Ambassador de la Barra and there is good ground for the assumption that the troops now concentrated in Texas immediately will begin a series of maneuvers and return shortly to their posts. The coming of peace in Mexico also is strengthened by the manner in which the revolutionists have commented on the magazine article of Ambassador de la Barra and the significant spirit of expectancy with which the results of Senator Limantour's conferences in Mexico City this week are awaited by organs of the insurgents.

## TROOPS BRING RAIN TO TEXAS

Soldiers at Fort Crockett Spend Wet Night in Dog Tents.

Galveston, March 20.—Rain fell in torrents at Fort Crockett and almost drowned out the 2,600 soldiers who arrived from the north on transports and spent the night under the inadequate shelter of their dog tents. It was the first time it had rained here in weeks and the downpour occurred at the worst possible time for the newly arrived troops—before they could get their big tents up.

Several large tents were blown down and the smaller ones that stood were rendered practically uninhabitable. Though most of the soldiers were soaked to the skin, they came up smiling when reveille sounded and entered with enthusiasm into the work of setting their camp in order.

"We had a pretty tough night of it," remarked one of the soldiers, "but it was not nearly so bad as those eight days aboard the transport." It seemed that the discomforts of the voyage were due more to overcrowding than to rough weather, although a heavy sea was encountered the third day out.

Fort Crockett reservation is probably half a mile square and is west of the city on the gulf front. There has been no garrison there since the great storm of September, 1900, but the government has been constructing fine concrete barracks. Several of the buildings are ready now. The grade of the reservation has been raised to the level of the great concrete wall put up since the storm to defy the sea. Three gun and mortar batteries line the water front.

## Huge Division Bakery.

San Antonio, Tex., March 20.—No feature of the so called maneuver camp here attracts more attention than the division bakery. The bakery can turn out 20,000 two-pound loaves daily, and is at present delivering about half that quantity.

## START WORK ON TARIFF SOON

Chairman Underwood Expects Committee to Begin This Week.

Washington, March 20.—Chairman Underwood expects the Democratic members of the house committee on ways and means will begin work on tariff some time this week, and that by the time the extraordinary session is convened on April 4 some plan will have been mapped out to govern the procedure after the bill to carry out the Canadian reciprocity agreement has been framed. The most complex question to come before the committee is whether any tariff questions will be placed upon the Canadian bill as riders, or whether such schedules as the committee decides should be revised, shall be treated as separate measures.

The certainty that hearings will be demanded by producing and manufacturing interests affected by any proposed revision of the tariff may determine the committee not to complicate the Canadian question with consideration of such schedules as wool and woollens, cotton or agricultural implements. The majority is a unit in favor of the Canadian agreement and it is believed the decision will be to keep it separate from other tariff matters, and take up schedules after the Canadian bill has been sent to the senate. Although the Canadian bill will not carry general tariff revision as a rider, it may go a great deal farther than the McCall bill.

## Kansas City Grain Company Assigns.

Kansas City, March 20.—Assignment for the protection of creditors was made by the Percy C. Smith Grain company of this city to A. C. Jobs and H. T. Fowler. The company has a capital stock of \$100,000. The assets are \$150,000.

## WAR ON H. USEFLY

Big Campaign to Be Inaugurated to Exterminate Insect.

Washington, March 20.—The United States department of agriculture and the American Civic association, which has headquarters here, volunteered to co-operate in a nation-wide campaign for the extermination of the disease carrying housefly.

L. O. Howard, the government's chief entomologist, will furnish for the purpose of public instruction the results of the investigations carried on in the past and also now in progress pertaining to the manner in which the common fly disseminates disease germs and the results of an interesting series of experiments in the wholesale extermination of this pest.

## TOM L. JOHNSON NEAR DEATH

Famous "Three Cent Fare" Mayor of Cleveland in Poor Health for a Year.

Cleveland, March 20.—It is reported that Tom L. Johnson, the financier and politician is critically ill and that his physicians have little hope for his recovery. Mr. Johnson is the famous "three cent fare mayor" of Cleveland. He has been in poor health for a year, but his condition did not take a turn for the worse until three or four days ago.

## CERTIFICATES FOR TEACHERS

Bill Pending in Legislature to Simplify Granting Licenses.

Des Moines, March 20.—One of the most important matters to come before the legislature this week and one about which very little has been said, relates to a general change in the law as to the manner of handling teachers' certificates. This is to make it possible for the teachers to secure life certificates with little trouble. It provides that when the holder of a certificate continues in the profession and carries on at least one line of professional study, a five-year certificate can be secured, which, after a time, can be converted into a life certificate. This applies to all holders of certificates no matter how low the grade may be and to holders of second grade certificates. This will be opposed by many of the educators of the state as a lowering of the standards of Iowa and opening the door to life certificates for many who are confessedly not able to secure certificates on merit. The bill has been urged by a few teachers in the cities of eastern Iowa and it comes up for consideration during the week in the senate.

## Will Remain as Chairman.

Des Moines, March 20.—C. Durant Jones of Perry will remain chairman of the state central committee of the Prohibition party. At the meeting of the committee Mr. Jones withdrew his resignation. A conference of the Prohibition party workers in the state will be held in Des Moines on May 4. The meeting will be in the nature of an all-day conference, followed by a banquet in the evening.

## Kill 11,000 Enemies of Corn.

Waycross, Ga., March 20.—The farmers of this county have been having a "hark" for the last forty-five days. In that time they have killed over 11,000 field larks, enemies of corn. A purse of gold, contributed by the farmers of the section, was distributed among all contestants who killed 1,500 birds.

## CONDENSED NEWS

David H. Moffat, the "silver king" of Colorado, died at the Hotel Belmont New York.

During the month of February the deaths from the plague in India reached the enormous total of 88,498.

Mrs. Edith Melber, convicted of murdering her child, was taken to Auburn (N. Y.) prison to begin a minimum sentence of twenty years' imprisonment.

Thirty thousand copies of three volumes of the last edition of Tolstoy's collected works have been confiscated by the Moscow police. Countess Tolstoy has protested against the confiscation.

Workmen making alterations in the subtreasury at Philadelphia found beneath the flooring \$1,400 that had been lost for three years. The money was in \$100 bills, mildewed and covered with dust.

The waters of Central park's lakes, New York city, failed to give up the body of Dorothy Arnold, the missing heiress, when searchers finished the last big pond. The result disappointed thousands who lined the shores.

The old passenger coach used by President Lincoln and which afterward conveyed his body from Washington to Springfield, Ill., burned in a fire in the railroad yards at Columbus Heights, a suburb of Minneapolis.

Mystery surrounds the death at Chicago of Miss Fanny C. Wright, who inherited her father's estate of \$150,000. She expired in her apartments at the Brewster hotel a half hour after Scott Wallace, twenty years old, had called to accompany her to a theater.

When the confederate reunion is held in Little Rock in May records will be placed before the historical committee which will undertake to prove that she first shot of the civil war was fired near Pine Bluff, Ark., and not at Charleston, S. C., as accredited by historians.