

HOPE

THE SECOND HAND MAN---

HOUSEHOLD GOODS
BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Bend Machine Shop

All Kinds of Saw Mill and Farming
R-E-P-A-I-R-S

We Carry a Large Stock of
Auto Repairs and Supplies

Wall St., next to Opera House

If you care for the **BEST GOODS**
at the **BEST PRICES**
trade with

H. J. Eggleston

Manufacturer of Harness and Saddles
Dealer in Wagons, Buggies, Farm Implements
Hay and Grain for sale.


LUMBER

OF ALL KINDS

Irrigating Lath and House Lath
A Specialty


The timber we cut from is the best in the country, mill 4 1/2 miles southeast of Bend.

Pine Forest Lumber Com'y
BEND, OREGON




Bargain Period

November 8 to December 20, 1911
THE BEND BULLETIN
and
PORTLAND DAILY TELEGRAM
Entire Year of 1912



Rest of 1911 Free.
Regular Rates \$6.50 for Both Papers.



The Story of the Short Ballot Cities

A Series of Articles on the New Commission Form of
Municipal Government

By **RICHARD S. CHILDS**

III.
The Secret of the Success of the Commission Plan

I.
What the "Commission Form" Is

THE spread of this movement is all the more striking because it was begun entirely by accident. Galveston, Tex., after the great flood of 1900 was practically wiped out. So much progressive and constructive work was demanded of the city government that the old system of a board of aldermen and the usual string of independent elective officers broke down. A group of business men petitioned the state government to suspend the local government and replace it temporarily with a commission of five men. This was done, and the whole city was put under the control of five men, three of whom were appointees of the governor. This was where the term "commission" originated, and the name for want of a better description has stuck to it ever since, although the board is no longer a "commission" in the true sense of the word at all.

This commission in Galveston was able to make decisions and get things accomplished in half the time that it took the old board of aldermen to get a resolution referred to a committee. The commission planned and built a sea wall to protect the city against further floods, raised the ground level of a large part of the town, got the city government running again at one-third less annual cost, made a number of important improvements and at the same time reduced the debt and the tax rate.

After two years, during which the politicians were finding precious little to do, the commission was made entirely elective by popular vote, much to the dismay of many good persons in the town, who had been much pleased with the practical success of the governor's commission. Their fears, however, proved groundless, for the people proceeded to elect the same commission and have continued to do it at every election since. Except by death there has been only one change in the personnel of the commission since the beginning.

Galveston's claim that it was the best governed city in the United States made Houston jealous, and after a few years this city petitioned for a similar government and was granted it. Dallas, El Paso, Denison, Waco and Austin have since then followed suit, leaving San Antonio, now the only important city in the state which has not adopted the plan.

A few years after Galveston first began to attract attention some civic workers in Des Moines began to study the subject of popular government in fundamental fashion. They devised what has since become known as the "Des Moines plan," which is simply the commission form of government, with certain interesting additions, known as the initiative, referendum, recall and nonpartisan primary. By the terms of the initiative provision a certain number of people are permitted to present a petition to the commission demanding the passage of a certain ordinance, and if the commission sees fit to refuse the request the matter must be settled by popular vote. By the referendum provision certain matters, particularly the granting of franchises to public utility corporations, must be approved by popular vote before they become law. By the terms of the recall provision, the presentation of a petition containing a certain number of signatures may force any member of the commission to submit the question of his continuance in office to a new election immediately. The nonpartisan primary is simply an eliminating election. All candidates are nominated by petition (no party labels, and the leading ten remain on the ballot for the final election.

The elimination of the party name, symbol and column from the ballot, is a highly significant and characteristic feature of the commission form of government. It excludes the political machines from a great strategic advantage and leaves independent candidates on an exact equality with those proposed by the organizations. The ballot is simply a list of names with a square opposite each, and the voter is instructed to "vote for five." Instead of having a ticket ready made for him, each voter makes up his own ticket. The fact that only five men are to be selected makes this task simple, and there has been found to be no difficulty about it in practice. This Short Ballot, which the voter can vote without the guidance of political experts, is the central and vital feature of the commission plan.

The publicity attendant on the installation of the new government in Des Moines gave the movement new stimulus throughout the country, and it began to be known as the latest and most up to date thing in city government. Many towns adopted it from

a mere desire to be abreast of the times and to show the world that they were progressive and enterprising. In some cases the plan met with vigorous opposition, sometimes with a complete lack of interest, while in some cities it carried by an overwhelming vote. Colorado Springs and other cities made a few alterations in the Des Moines plan, such as having the members of the commission elected for terms arranged to expire in rotation, and forbidding party nominations. Grand Junction, Colorado, added the preferential ballot, whereby the voter indicates on the ballot his first, second and third choice. There are various ways of counting the votes, and while the one adopted in Grand Junction is not the most scientific way, it results in a more accurate analysis of public opinion than the plan of straight plurality elections. The preferential ballot makes a primary election needless and thus saves expense.

The minor variations of the commission plan are endless. Except where a state has adopted a general law covering all cities of a certain class, it may be said that no two cities have charters that are alike. Each charter revision commission has reviewed the work done in other cities and has sagely made a few pet alterations in it. In Galveston, for instance, the mayor was the chairman of the commission; otherwise he had no special duties. None of the members of the Galveston commission has specific control over any one department, although there has grown up the custom of allowing each member to specialize in a certain department, and before election it is generally understood which departments the candidates expect to interest themselves in. All matters are decided by majority vote. The members of the commission are paid nominal salaries and are not expected to give all their time to the city and, in fact, simply devote an hour or two a day to it.

Houston gave the mayor veto power over the vote of his four associates on the commission (he has never used it) and allowed the mayor to make certain appointments, paid the members good salaries and demanded that the commissioners devote all their time to the city. Each member of the Houston commission becomes the active superintendent of one of the five departments. This feature has been rather generally followed in other commission governed cities.

An exact definition of the commission plan of government is thus seen to be impossible. The only feature wherein all these "commission" governments coincide is the concentration of all the powers of the city, both legislative and executive, in a single small board.

Never in our political history has any phenomenon of this nature been examined with such minuteness or by so many investigators.

Ex-President Charles W. Eliot of Harvard made a tour of the commission governed cities, or "short ballot cities," as he prefers to call them, and returned to Boston so enthusiastic that he was able to win over the town to an acceptance of some of the fundamental features of the plan. Another elaborate inquiry was made by a committee of the state legislature of Illinois, from which everybody expected a hostile report. The committee, however, reported strongly in favor of the plan, stating that everywhere they found that it had won the approval of the people who lived under it.

There have been many explanations offered for the undoubted relative successes of the commission plan. The abolition of the wards, for example, is frequently quoted as an ample reason for the relative success of the new plan. But there are many cities in the United States in which there are no wards. Galveston itself had none before the flood, her city council being elected at large. Commission government is a very common way of governing counties throughout the United States, and the plan there has not been a conspicuous success. There have been many other elected commissions, such as the trustees of the sanitary district of Illinois, and they likewise have never attracted attention by their superior efficiency.

Another loosely reasoned argument frequently used to promote the adoption of the commission plan has been the statement that it is "like a business corporation with its board of directors." Like most catch phrases, however, this statement is only partly true. To be like a business corporation the commission would have to choose a business manager for the city, who in turn would appoint all subordinates and run the business of the city subject to periodical review by the commission. The commission plan, however, except in Galveston, actually provides for the election of department superintendents by the stockholders—a form of organization which has no parallel in business practice.

Most of the explanations are only half true, because they involve a study only of the internal mechanism of the government, whereas the real difference between the old and the new comes at the point of contact between the government and the people, as will be explained in detail in later articles.

WITCHCRAFT IN SCOTLAND.

Beatrice Layng's Fate at the Hands of the Mob in 1706.

That belief in witchcraft and brutal treatment of alleged witches once loomed large in Scotland is shown in Stewart Dick's "The Pageant of the North." In 1706 Pittenweem gained unenviable notoriety from a series of prosecutions of old women, and the pamphleteers of the day were kept busy on both sides in defending and denouncing the action of the magistrates. The author says:

"It seems that a blacksmith, one Patrick Morton, being taken ill, declared that he was bewitched, and on his instigation a number of old women were thrown into prison. Bullied by the magistrates and ministers of the town by day and tortured by their guards by night, who never let them sleep, but kept them awake by pricking them with pins, these miserable old women were soon induced to confess anything."

"One woman in particular, Beatrice Layng, had been singled out by Morton for his special vengeance. He said that she came asking him to make some nails for her. He, believing they were for some evil purpose, refused to do so, and she went off muttering imprecations. When he fell ill she was heard to say, 'He might blame his own tongue for his ill.' On this tissue of trivialities she was imprisoned, and practically under torture she acknowledged to the ministers and magistrates that she had made a wax image of Morton and stuck pins in it."

"After a long period of judicial bullying she was set free or, in other words, handed over to the mob to work their will on her. Hanged on a rope between a ship and the shore, she was pelted with stones till half dead and finally pressed to death under a door. It seems that in those days no one was safe against the wildest accusations which might be brought against him."

Misleading.

A man once ran for office, and after a very close election the returns showed that he had been elected by a few votes. A friend with whom he had been discussing the matter asked:

"What makes you think that all the ballots weren't counted?"

"You see," replied the successful candidate, "I'm judging from the number of fellows who've come around asking for a job on the ground that they voted for me."—New York Times.

His Affliction.

A teacher had told a class of juvenile pupils that Milton, the poet, was blind. The next day she asked if any of them could remember what Milton's great affliction was.

"Yes'm," replied one little fellow; "he was a poet."—Christian Register.

The minutes saved by hurry are as useless as the pennies saved by parsimony.—C. B. Newcomb.

Palace Restaurant

Rooms for Rent
Confectionery, Fruit
Picnic Supplies, Cigars

J. F. Taggart & Co.

HIGH CLASS
BUILDING

OF ALL KINDS.
Estimates Furnished
on large or small
contracts, for carpentering alone,
or including architecture, plumbing,
painting, etc.

J. W. Dimick

New
PALACE MARKET

Charles Boyd, Prop.

MEATS
Vegetables, etc.

60 YEARS' EXPERIENCE

PATENTS

TRADE MARKS
DESIGNS
COPYRIGHTS & C.

Anyone sending a sketch and descriptive matter quickly secured our opinion. Free whether or not invention is probably patentable. Our examination is strictly confidential. We do not disclose your secret. Satisfactory results guaranteed. Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive special notice, without charge, in the Scientific American.

A handsome illustrated weekly. Largest circulation of any magazine published. Terms, \$1 a year in advance. Sent free, if you send \$1.00 for advertising. **MUNN & Co.** 361 Broadway, New York

O'DONNELL BROTHERS

UNION MARKET

A Bargain in Lumber!

OUR FIRST ANNUAL CLEARANCE SALE

For thirty days we will sell our rough lumber at \$10 per thousand. We have contracted to move a million feet of timber by Nov. 1st and must have room. Not the only lumber yard—just a first class place to obtain a bill of lumber. Our motto holds good: "A little better lumber for a little less money."

BEND LUMBER CO.

STAR RESTAURANT

Short Orders

Served at all hours at our new Lunch Counter.
Regular Meals 35c.

Newly Furnished Rooms. Eat and Room Here and
Get the Best Value for Your Money. Our

BAKERY GOODS
THE BEST AND CHEAPEST IN BEND.

MRS. NELLIE WRIGHT
BOND STREET, BEND, OREGON