

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT COLORADO SPRINGS, COL.

Illustrating the tendency of many cities to adopt in whole or in part the Galveston, or "commision" form of government, Dr. Horace E. Flack, in today's installment of the series of articles being reprinted by courtesy of the Baltimore News, discusses the new charter of Colorado Springs, the latest adherent to the Galveston plan.

Colorado Springs. (By Horace E. Flack.) Colorado Springs has one of the most recent charters, the present charter having been framed by the Charter Convention, elected January 19th, 1909, and ratified by the people May 11th. Several innovations have been introduced, but in general it may be said that the Colorado Springs charter is quite similar to that of Berkeley. In fact, it would seem that the Charter Convention had at hand the results of the labors of the Board of Freeholders of Berkeley. There was evidently little objection in Colorado Springs to the change, for the vote was 3,000 to 300 in favor of it, and the "Galveston idea" had gained a new adherent.

Has Home Rule. According to the Charter Convention, the charter provides that the legislative, executive and judicial powers of the city shall extend to all matters of local and municipal government and preserves every valuable feature of the laws of the State, introducing only such new methods or machinery as were deemed advisable and necessary in the assumption of home rule. Colorado, like California, confers upon her municipalities the very important power of framing and adopting their own charters. The powers of the city are vested in the elective officers of the city—the Mayor and four Councilmen—except as they are reserved to the people by the initiative and referendum features of the charter. The Mayor and Councilmen are elected at large for a term of four years, two of the Councilmen being elected every two years. The executive and administrative powers are distributed among these five departments:

- Department of Water and Waterworks.
Department of Finance.
Department of Public Safety.
Department of Public Works and Property.
Department of Public Health and Sanitation.

Mayor's Wide Powers. The Mayor is the Commissioner of Water and Waterworks, the Council designating by majority vote one of its members to be commissioner of each of the other departments. The Mayor is the chief executive officer of the city, and, upon recommendation of the commissioner of the appropriate department, appoints the heads of such department and all the employees in the service of the city. He is also allowed to remove or suspend any officer or employee when, in his judgment, the public interest demands. In case of removal, if the officer or employee so removed requests, the Mayor shall file with the Clerk a written statement of the reasons for removal. The Council, by affirmative vote of four members, may also remove any officer or employee. The Mayor also prepares the annual budget, and the Council may reduce or omit any item, but cannot increase any item. The Mayor is given more power than is found in most charters.

Employees' Debts. The charter provides that the failure of any officer or employee to pay any indebtedness contracted while in the service of the city shall be deemed sufficient ground for removal. The Mayor is ex-officio member of each board or commission created or authorized by the charter or by any ordinance. He is also given the power to veto any or every item contained in ordinances making appropriations, but such veto shall extend only to the items vetoed, and those which he approves shall become effective. No doubt this provision is expected to expedite business and prevent logrolling in appropriation ordinances. His veto can be overcome only by the votes of four members of the Council, which means that every member of the Council besides himself must vote to pass the ordinance over his veto. It is also provided that no officer or employee, other than policemen or firemen on duty, shall directly or indirectly accept any frank, free ticket or other service from any public utility corporation.

The Council is required to provide a system of uniform accounting. If the Council fail to make the tax levy in any year, the rate last fixed shall be the rate for the ensuing year. The debt limit of the city is fixed at 3 per cent, but indebtedness for water, light or public utilities, or works from which a revenue is derived, is not to be included in determining the debt limit.

Regulates Public Utilities. The lights of the city are carefully guarded in the matter of public franchises and utilities. The charter retains in the people the right to control public utilities and requires that provision shall be made in every franchise hereafter granted permitting the city to purchase at a physical valuation such utility whenever the people desire it, but it is also expressly provided that all disputes arising on account of any ambiguity shall be construed in favor of the city. No franchise can be granted for a longer period than 25 years, nor can one be renewed before one year prior to its expiration. Furthermore, it is provided that no franchise shall be exclu-

sive and that no public utility shall issue securities in excess of an amount fixed by the Council or without its consent.

In addition to the above safeguards the Council is practically constituted a public utilities commission, for it gives power to regulate the rates, fares and charges of all public utility corporations, including the right to require uniform, convenient and adequate service. Of course, the people can secure such regulation through the initiative and referendum in case the Council fails to do so. A unique but no doubt valuable feature is that requiring all public utility corporations to submit not later than 60 days after the first day of January an annual report showing in detail the amount of authorized capital stock and bonded indebtedness and the amount of each issued and outstanding, an itemized statement of receipts and expenditures, the amount paid in dividends and as interest, the names and the salary paid each officer and the amount paid as wages, a full description and the property and franchises and the book value of each franchise. A complete, non-partisan system by the election of municipal officers has been provided, the framers evidently being of opinion that the party label was not necessary to secure efficient government. All nominations are to be made by petition, but the person so nominated must file his acceptance within five days from the filing of the petition of nomination. In his acceptance he must make affidavit to the fact that he has not become a candidate as the nominee or representative of or because of any promised support from any political party or committee. There shall be no political or other designation on the ballot to indicate the source of candidacy or support of any candidate. A similar provision to that in the Berkeley charter in reference to a second election in case no one receives a majority in the first is to be found in this charter. There is also included a very strict provision in regard to corrupt practices.

The initiative, referendum and recall provisions are almost identical with those of the Berkeley charter and seem to mark an advance in the way of direct legislation. These provisions, together with that creating a Civil Service Commission, no doubt account for the almost unanimous vote which the charter received. Municipal administration should be rendered more prompt and more effective under the new charter, for a concentration of power tends to expedite business. Concentration of power also secures the location of responsibility, and this is regarded by students generally as one of the essential features of any efficient form of government.

GOOD GOVERNMENT PAYS.

Memphis Illustrates Merit of National Municipal League Campaign.

Memphis, Tenn., May 28.—One of the arguments advanced by the National Municipal League for the selection of right-minded public officers is that "it pays," and in proof thereof is the administration recently closed of James H. Malone, Mayor of Memphis. Some of the things accomplished during his administration were:

Sixty miles of streets permanently paved; the construction of certain subways and the passage of ordinances for the construction of others, to eliminate railroad grade crossings; the development of the greatest park system in the South; the expansion of the artesian water system, now worth twice as much as the city paid for it; the extension of the city limits; the doubling of the fund for school purposes; the improvement of the health of the city; the cities of the United States in point of health; radical reforms in the methods and results of the city court, and the increase in the revenue, the improvement in the keeping of the accounts of the city in the collecting of revenue.

While all of these things have been accomplished, the tax rate actually was lowered during Mayor Malone's term from as high as \$2.88 in the prior administration to \$1.76 in 1909. When he entered office, the city's current debt was \$200,000; when he retired, the city was doing business upon a cash basis and had no unpaid accounts. Memphis increased its property valuations from \$66,000,000 to \$84,000,000, with a great increase in population.

CATTLE QUARANTINE.

Recent Conviction for Violation in Federal Court at Asheville.

Washington, D. C., May 28.—In order to prevent the spread of the disease known as Southern splenic, or Texas fever of cattle, and to further the work of eradicating the ticks which convey this disease, the United States Department of Agriculture maintains a strict quarantine on the infected region and endeavors to enforce this quarantine by court prosecutions when necessary. In a recent case in the United States court for the Western District of North Carolina, at Asheville, one W. W. Anderson entered a plea of guilty to a charge of violating the law and regulations, and a fine of \$100 and costs was imposed by the court. The offense consisted in driving on foot certain cattle from Fannin county, Ga., through Polk county, Tenn., which two counties were under quarantine into Cherokee county, N. C., which county was outside the quarantined area.

The Sweet Girl Graduate A-Day Dreaming of Her Soldier Hero--But What of the Washtub?



INTERNATIONAL AUTO TOURS

Over 60,000 Miles of Routes Mapped Out in America, Touring Club Now Invades Europe--Orphans' Day.

(Special Star Correspondence.)

New York, May 28.—Having mapped out over 60,000 miles of automobile routes which are constantly in use by tourists in the United States and Canada, the Touring Club of America is about to inaugurate a campaign of route making for motor tours in Europe. An itinerary of 5,000 miles which may be increased to 8,000 has been laid out which will begin at Liverpool about June 8th going through the most picturesque and historic country of England and Scotland, then across the channel to France and continuing through Holland, Belgium, Western Germany and Switzerland.

As the result of this long tour during which more than 100 individual tours averaging 100 miles or under will be prepared from actual odometer measurements, the foreign department of the Touring Club of America will be broadened and firmly established.

The club already has representatives in all the leading foreign countries and cities, but by inaugurating its live map system Americans planning an automobile trip abroad will be enabled to secure before sailing, route directions for any tour desired.

Thos. W. Wilby, manager of the foreign department of the Touring Club of America, sailed yesterday for Europe on the Carmania and next Wednesday Joseph W. Jones, a director of the Touring Club, and the inventor of the live map system, will sail on the Mauretania accompanied by his wife. They will take their car with them and the route making expedition will start from Liverpool immediately after Mr. Jones' arrival.

The first run will be to London by way of Chester, Litchfield and Covington. The entire country around London will then be toured including a trip on the old stage coach road to Brighton, thence along the south coast of Lands End, then through the King Arthur country and the Lorna Doone section, taking in the River Wye and Tintern Abbey, then branching off through North and Central Wales.

The trip will then continue northward through Scotland going through the Thomas Carlyle country and the entire section rendered interesting by "Bobby" Burns and the Edinburgh district. While on the return trip through England particular attention will be given to the historical Pilgrims' Path, including Scrooby and Bawtry. During the trip the entire Shakespearian country, including Oxford and

Cambridge, will be thoroughly covered, while from London an interesting tour will be made over the route to Canterbury made memorable by Chaucer and his pilgrims.

At Folkestone the car will be shipped to Boulogne from which point tours will be made to Paris, thence branching off through the most popular sections of Europe.

In view of the widespread interest which this route making expedition of Europe has aroused among prominent motorists and members of the Touring Club of America, a testimonial luncheon was tendered to Mr. Jones and Mr. Wilby last Thursday at Delmonico's by the representatives of the leading automobile organizations in New York City, among those present being Percy S. Jones, Carl H. Page, George L. Holmes, W. B. Lasher, Alfred Reeves, Logan Waller Page, of Washington, D. C., Col. P. R. Hawkins, T. A. Matthews, A. L. Westgard, Frederick H. Elliott, Thos. S. Barrett, C. F. Diekmann, R. H. Montgomery, F. Du Casse, F. H. MacFarlin, John H. Gerrie, W. P. Callaghan, Frank Finney and H. Hottelinger.

An invitation has been extended by Secretary Elliott of the Touring Club, to the members residing in Greater New York asking them to participate in and loan their cars for the sixth annual automobile "Orphans' Day" outing on Thursday, June 2nd. The orphans from the various charitable institutions in New York and Westchester counties will be taken to Coney Island where a luncheon will be served to the children. The touring Club of America is endeavoring to do everything in its power toward making this occasion an enjoyable one for the several hundred children for whom this annual automobile outing is one of the red letter days of their lives.

HONORS AT MEBANE.

Medals and Other Distinctions Announced During Past Week. (Special Star Correspondence.)

Bingham School, Mebane, N. C., May 26.—The successful winners of prizes, medals, scholarships and diplomas at Bingham, are as follows, namely: Penmanship prize, Leonard Paul Wessel, of New Hanover county. Commercial prize, Robert Waldron Franklin, of Virginia. Prize to the nearest cadet, Morris Hilliard Caldwell, of South Carolina, and Paul Perkins Gwyn, of Surry county. Prize to the best drilled cadet, William Eugene Holmes, of Alamance county. The Science medal, Miss Isabella W. Gray, of Orange county. The Mathematics, Latin, History and Scholarship medals, Mr. John Albert Holmes, of Alamance. The Bible medal, Robert Wesley Guthrie, of West Virginia. Penmanship medal, Ralph Newton Guthrie, of West Virginia. The English medal, Luther Pearce Sykes, of Orange county.

The winners of University scholarships are as follows: The University of North Carolina scholarship, John Albert Holmes, who made an average of 88 5-8 on all studies for his senior year.

The Washington & Lee University scholarship to Mr. Ralph Wendell Holmes with a grade of 93 1-6.

COMMERCIAL TRAVELERS WILMINGTON THIS WEEK

Wilmington will have the rare pleasure and privilege this week of entertaining an army of representative traveling men who penetrate every nook and corner of North and South Carolina and portions of other States exposing for sale every article known to the wholesale dealers. The occasion is the annual meeting of the Grand Council of the Carolinas, United Commercial Travelers, that great and growing fraternity of the genial "knights of the grip," which meets in this city Friday and Saturday. The traveling men, many of whom will be accompanied by members of their families and friends, will begin to arrive as early as Thursday and every incoming train until Friday evening is expected to be crowded with members of the organization.

Everything is in readiness for the big meeting and Cape Fear Council, No. 374, which will be the host of the gathering, is only awaiting the arrival of the travelers. The local committees have made elaborate preparations for the meeting and everything points strongly to the greatest convention this organization has ever known. The people generally of Wilmington have joined the committees in arranging for the entertainment of the visitors and the people generally will join in giving their guests a big, hearty and sincere welcome to Wilmington and the beaches. The city will simply be in the hands of the travelers for those two days and as many additional days as they may be persuaded to spend in Wilmington with side trips to the pleasure resorts. The visitors will be greeted by the true far-famed Cape Fear hospitality, which is only another way of saying that when the sessions of the Council are over and the visitors are ready to depart they will declare with all the emphasis they can command that truly the meeting was the grandest and greatest ever held by the organization.

The municipality has appropriated \$500 and more than \$1,000 has been raised by private subscription for advertising purposes and for the entertainment of the visitors. Realizing the importance of the meeting from the standpoint of an advertisement for Wilmington the city came forward with the amount asked for by the committee and appreciating the value of the traveling men as commerce builders the business men gave an amount sufficient to give the visitors such an entertainment as they have never known before on a similar occasion.

The souvenir programme for the convention has just been issued and will be widely circulated. It contains 16 pages, and in addition to the full details of the features of the convention is replete with cuts and interesting information regarding the importance of Wilmington in the commercial world. The cover is attractively finished in blue and gold and bears the inscription, "Grand Council of the Carolinas, Wilmington, N. C., June 3rd and 4th, 1910," together with the crescent and grip emblem of the order. Each visitor to the convention will be given a copy of the programme and copies will be sent to every Council in the United States and Canada, 476 in number.

As stated above, the visitors will begin to arrive in great numbers as early as Thursday and by Friday morning

several hundred are expected to be here. The opening session, to which the general public is invited, will be held in the Academy of Music, and will convene at 9:30 o'clock. Following an overture by Kneissel's Orchestra, which will furnish the music, prayer will be offered by Rev. W. E. Cox, rector of St. John's Episcopal Church, after which the address of welcome in behalf of the city will be made by Cape Fear Council which will be delivered by Herbert McClammy, Esq., city attorney, who is an able and pleasing speaker, and upon this occasion he is expected to be at his best. The response will be made by Mr. C. H. Jones, of Columbia, S. C. The public meeting will then adjourn and the delegates to the Grand Council will go to the hall of Cape Fear Council, in the Murchison National Bank building, where, at 10:30 a'clock, the first business session will be held. Another business session will be held at 3 P. M. and if they do not have a meeting at 8:30 P. M. There will be in the city a large number of traveling men who are not delegates to the Grand Council and if they are not interested in the regular business sessions they may enjoy themselves during the afternoon and evening by attending the baseball game and moving picture shows, free of charge, admission being by badge. During the baseball game in the afternoon music will be furnished at League Park by the Metzgers' Band from Charleston, S. C., and the Charlotte Drum Corps.

Saturday will be a busy day but will be given over entirely to entertainment of the visitors. The events of the day begin with a street parade. At 9:30 o'clock the Councilors will assemble at Council Hall, Front and Chesnut streets, where the procession will form. The uniform to be worn in the parade is white duck trousers, blue or black sack coat, regulation cap of the order, official badge, and umbrells in colors of the order—blue, white and gold. The Parade Committee of the Grand Council has requested that every person in the parade wear the uniform as stated above and local members are earnestly requested to provide themselves with the white duck trousers. The visitors will have their white duck trousers and it is hoped that local members will do as well in carrying out the request of the Grand Council committee, otherwise they may look odd in the grand procession. The procession will traverse the principal streets of the city, the exact route to be announced later. There will be three bands in the parade, as follows: Metzgers' Band of Charleston, S. C.; The Charlotte Drum Corps and the Reservation Band from Fort Caswell, making a grand total of 75 pieces. Headed by the procession will be a platoon of mounted police, immediately following will be the Charlotte Drum Corps of 30 pieces, then the Grand Council officers in automobiles. The Charleston band will be placed about midway the parade and just preceding members of the local council, who will bring up the rear, will be the band from Fort Caswell. After traversing the principal streets of the city, the travelers, members of their families and friends, will go to the foot of Market street, where at 11 A. M. they will board the steamer Wilmington for a trip down the river to Cape Fear pier. At 1:30 P. M. the party will disembark and be taken through one

(Continued on Page Ten.)

Advertisement for Platt & Haar window phaning. Text includes: 'Something New! WINDOW PHANING', 'A substitute for stained glass. An expert here to do the work.', 'Summer Goods in All Departments', 'New Ready-to-Wear for Summer.', 'New House Furnishings for Summer.', 'New Traveling Goods for Summer.', 'New Sun Shades for Summer.', 'Platt & Haar', 'LaGrecque Agents', 'Standard Agents'.