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TUESDAY, MAY 2, 1911.

SETTLED.

To the west, yesterday's decision of the supreme court of the United States is of greatest importance. The constitutionality of the establishment and administration of the national forest reserves is upheld by the highest tribunal upon grounds which appear to leave no room for further attack along the line.

MAYORS TWO.

The king is dead—long live the king! The last council session of the Logan administration, was held yesterday afternoon. The first meeting of the mayor and aldermen of the Reid administration was held last night.

"KILLJOYS."

"Don't blame it on reform what time the coppers come and nail you. When bingo down the lid is clamped and pulls do not avail you.

Though E. Keough is one of the most original of the sporting writers employed by the Chicago Tribune. His command of slang is surprising, just as are his poems.

for the grogshops to be open, and, occasionally, he keeps open even longer than that, while the man on the beat looks the other way. He sells drinks to drunkards as long as they have money, then kicks them out to the sidewalk, where they stagger and away, to the disgust of sober men and to the terror of women.

TIMELY.

Just now, while Missoula is in the midst of her campaign for the adoption or the rejection of the commission form of government, The Missoulian presents as specially timely the new Haskin series of articles, dealing with the very subject which is foremost in local current discussion.

GOOD ROADS.

The county authorities are up against a peculiar proposition in the building of new roads across what was once the Flathead Indian reservation. In the days when the reservation was the Indian's roads were made for the sake of convenience.

Baltimore is not far from Washington and perhaps the peace conference will have some effect upon the deliberations at the national capital.

The Mexican peace conference at Juarez has a chance for more immediate results than has the American peace conference at Baltimore.

The national peace conference, which will be held this week in Baltimore, has an abundance of material upon which to work.

If there is any place more enjoyable than western Montana in May, it has not been reported up to the time of press.

The true sportsman will throw back the little fish; there is no credit in bringing in a mess of tiny fellows.

There's a meeting tonight of the playground association. If you attend, you will help along a good work.

If you are overlooking the possibilities of Missoulian class ads, you are neglecting a great opportunity.

The restocking of trout streams is important but it is not less important to protect the small fish.

The great uncertainty regarding the Mexican peace conference lies in the Diaz power to recall.

Two weeks before the count in the Home contest; that's time enough to do a lot of voting.

Evidently Clarence Darrow wants to find out what kind of a game he is up against.

the doubt which exists as to whether Senor Carabjal represents the Mexican government.

The burning of Bangor, Maine, may be expected to develop the fact that not all the country's energy and enterprise is cornered by San Francisco.

The Home contest is swinging into the home stretch. Get into the game.

Better an empty fish basket than one filled with baby trout.

May's salutatory was thoroughly delightful.

Good morning, Mayor Reid.

HONESTY NEEDED

(From the Outlook.) At least one city which in 1910 adopted the commission form of government has discovered that it does not necessarily furnish a cheap and easy cure-all for every municipal ailment, and that there is need of honest and efficient men in office, no matter what the charter may be.

EDWARDS' VETO VOTED DOWN.

Helena, May 1.—(Special.)—Mayor P. J. Edwards, at a meeting of the city council tonight, vetoed the ordinance passed by the council a week ago, authorizing a special election to be held June 26 at which time the offer of the Helena Waterworks company is to be submitted to the taxpayers for their approval or rejection.

NO MEETING.

The Political Equality club did not hold the meeting scheduled for last evening on account of counter attractions.

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Commission Government

I.—Growth of City Problems.

By Frederic J. Haskin.

Nearly 150 American cities and towns, realizing that the cumbersome methods of municipal administration of the past are no longer adequate to meet the growing problems of city government, have adopted the commission plan of controlling their affairs. Scores of other cities and towns are considering the question, and it is estimated that within five years at least 500,000 American citizens will be residing in commission-governed territory.

The great number of problems that have arisen in city administration were met and solved in Europe almost a generation before America awoke to the need for improvement. With their governments widely diverse in the details of administration, with their people differing in their national characteristics, the cities of England, Holland, France and Germany all were able to hit upon some basic principles that produced the same good results wherever tried.

But in those days America was an agricultural nation and municipal affairs possessed interest for but few people. Today it is different, for one person out of every three in the republic lives under a municipal government of one kind or another. The wonderful growth of the American city has brought with it vast expenditure of money. Not only has the growth of expenditures been caused by the expansion of the cities of the country, but by the multiplication of the activities in which these municipalities engage.

The government of American cities is not as economically conducted as that of European cities. This is shown by statistical data of undeniable accuracy. London has a population 40 per cent greater than New York, yet New York spends more by some 20 per cent on her city government than London. Joseph Chamberlain once studied the relative standing of city administration in Boston, New York and Birmingham, England. He concluded that Birmingham spent much less per capita for her government than Boston, but had a much better government. Of course the statistics of relative costs of municipal administration in Europe and America are not to be compared at face value. It must be remembered that everything that enters into municipal administration in Europe is cheaper than it is in America. But, of course, this does not explain all the difference.

Seeking an explanation of this difference one finds a large part of it in the activity of the grafter. He plies his trade so generally and so persistently that his elimination is one of the greatest problems of the present day. Where there is one dollar of municipal waste there are many of municipal graft, and the reports of the good government organizations are to the effect that charges of graft are more frequent now than ever before. Whether it is due to the activity of the grafter or to that of the exposé of graft, is a question the answer of which probably depends on the point of view.

Some time since, Mayor Gaynor of New York discovered that the commissioner of accounts had passed a bill for a dozen 15-inch valve wheels at \$150 each. He sent out and duplicated them at 4 cents each. He instructed the commissioner to report the purchasing agent and the prison warden, who were responsible, to the grand jury. At another time there was an exhibit of articles which had been paid for at graft prices. Each article bore two tags—one showing the graft price and the other the open market price. There were tin dippers which had cost \$2 a dozen, with the market price 60 cents a dozen; wiping cloths which were bought at \$20 a hundred pounds, while the market price was \$7; galvanized boat cleats which cost the city \$2.00 each and the individual 30 cents each. There was a record of \$520 for the rent of a motor car for a month; of a measuring bin, alleged to hold 100 tons of coal, when it held only 50; of 200,000 pounds of meat, 13,000 pounds of poultry, and 300,000 pounds of fudge rejected by an inspection board after city officials had accepted it. These instances might be duplicated the country over. The exploitation of the municipality for private ends has grown so widespread, and every weapon has proved so ineffective, that the leaders of the good city government movement have at last turned to the commission plan as the one remedy for this greatest of municipal ills.



Many of the things that we think we want we easily can do without, but we cannot begin to do without good foods. EMPSON'S SAUERKRAUT is an excellent food—Science says: "sauerkraut, cooked together with a little pork, is a good way of strengthening a weak stomach"

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