ANALYSIS

Pitman-Spencerian Chartier

By J. M. REASER, Prin. Com'l Department

Spencer College Business

AMONG the foremost novelists of the world and time was Charles Dickens, a parliamentary shorthand reporter. He studied and used a system to which I am going to devote reverential attention.

Like Robert Fulton's steamboat it was the first system—at least with the English speaking race.

The only difference is that Fulton's achievement is unquestionably the progenitor of our mighty ocean greyhounds, our battleships, our Lusitanias. Fulton's craft grew. The parent Pitman did not. It required an approach to the subject entirely different from that for the devising of which Sir Isaac was knighted, to attain a result whose simplicity, ease, legibility and reading power destines it to rule the world—the SPENCERIAN CHARTIER System o Shorthand. Remember those words —"AN APPROACH TO THE SUBJECT ENTIRELY DIFFERENT."

David Copperfield (which is, most of the time, simply a character used by Dickens for his own autobiography) thus describes the trials and tribulations of the weary and heart-rending time he had in learning Pitman to prepare himself to report Parliament—AND THERE IS NOT A MAN WHO ATTAINS THIS PROFICIENCY IN PITMAN WHO WILL NOT TELL YOU THAT HIS TRIALS HAVE BEEN JUST AS GREAT AND THE TIME HE HAS TAKEN AS LONG.

"I bought an improved scheme of the noble art and MYSTERY of stenography, which cost me ten and sixpence, and plunged into a sea of perplexity that brought me, in a few weeks, to the confines of distraction. The changes that were rung upon dots, which, in such position, meant such a thing, and in such another position something else entirely different; the wonderful vagaries that were played by circles; the unaccountable consequences that resulted from marks like flies' legs; the tremendous effects of a curve in a wrong place, not only troubled my waking hours, but reappeared before in my sleep. When I had groped my way blindly through these difficulties, and had mastered the alphabet, which was an Egyptian temple in itself, there appeared a procession of new horrors called arbitrary characters—the most despotic characters I have ever known. When I had fixed these wretches in my mind, I found that they had driven everything else out of it; then, beginning again, I forgot them; while I was picking them up, I dropped the other fragments of the system—in short, it was almost heart-breaking."

This is Charles Dickens' own account of his struggles with what may be called the parent system of all shorthand now in vogue.

It is a vivid and true picture o the struggles of the best and brightest minds who undertake, with this medium, to report so exacting and difficult a kind of work as debates and speeches—with this exception: SOME NEVER LEARN PITMAN, IN SPITE OF EFFORT. OTHERS NEVER ACQUIRE A FAMILIARITY WITH WHAT THEY WRITE SUCH AS TO ENABLE THEM TO TRANSCRIBE IT ACCURATELY AND FLUENTLY.

TO EXAMINE WHY THIS IS SO—TO LAY BEFORE YOU WHY IT IS NOT SO WITH THE WONDERFUL SPENCERIAN CHARTIER SYSTEM IS THE AIM OF THESE COMPARATIVE ANALYSES.

Sir Isaac Pitman was born in 1813.

He was a scholarly thinker.

In 1837 he published what he called "Stenographic Soundhand."

The system, the invention of a trained, logical and well-ordered intellect, reflects those intellectual qualities.

You can trace the mental process by which Sir Isaac devised the alphabet which once ruled the stenographic world.

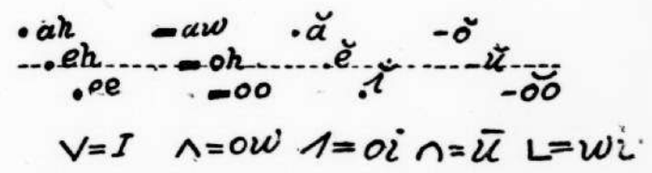
Sir Isaac, a graduate of the British Normal College, fell back on the eternally useful circle; the angle or slant of straight lines, and finally succeded in composing an alphabet, itself easily remembered, but, used as a shorthand system, presenting difficulties it requires months and years to master so thoroughly as to be able to take testimony, speeches, etc., with it. In some instances, a heavy percentage, this mastery is never attained.

Let's look into this, first tracing the steps of Sir Isaac's pioneer work, and then analyze why this system, having no reference to English spelling, to the ingrained habit of the mind by which people spell and write in longhand, requires so much study and work of the student of it before he can master it.

Sir Isaac took a circle and cut it up into as many parts as would enable one to use the segments or arcs as symbols for consonant sounds without confusion. This is indicated by the points checked off in the

Turn we to Figure 1

Figure 3



circle of Figure 1, marked with numerals from 1 to 8. Segment, arc or curve, 1-7, he called "f"; curve, 2-8, "th"; curve, 4-6, "s"; curve, 5-7, "sh"; curve, 1-3, "l"; curve, 3-5, "r". Having thus obtained six consonant signs or symbols, he doubles the use of five of these by writing them heavy and thus giving symbols for the heavy sounds of these five consonant signs. Thus the sign for "f," written heavy, becomes "v"; "th" (as in "myth") becomes, written heavy, "th" (as in "with"); "s" becomes "z"; "l" is written upward or downward, the usefulness of this segment of the circle is single; "r" written heavy becomes the vowel sound, "y"! "M" and "n" are the top and bottom of the circle.

SIR ISAAC WAS STILL SHORT AT LEAST EIGHT CONSONANT SOUNDS, and he proceeded to use all possible unconfusable radii of the circle for these missing consonants: Radius, 2-c, he called "p"; 3-c, "t"; 4-c, "ch"; 1-c, "k." Observe, please, that there is not a single other segment of the circle or ralius thereof which can be used without imminent and even hopeless danger or confusion, but he had now all necessary CONSONANT SOUNDS and the EMBRYO of a system, HOPELESSLY NONFLUENT, and DESTINED ABSOLUTELY to require, for the reason of its CUMBERSOMENESS, a vast distionary of word-signs.

HE HAD NOT YET A SINGLE VOWEL SIGN. Of these—in the writing of English, these vowel signs are absolutely imperative, at least: ah, eh, ee, aw, oh, oo, and (short) a, e, i, (short) o, u, oo.

The device by which Sir Isaac attained their expression is hopelessly defective, as will be shown. He made position the expression of the vowel, calling above the line, on the line and below the line the three positions. "Ah," for instance, is indicated by a heavy dot above the line. That heavy dot on the line or in the middle of the stroke or letter becomes "eh" and in the last place, "ee." Written light, it becomes the short sound of the same vowels. Taking a short dash and writing it heavy in these three positions, he furnished his system the second series of long or heavy vowel sounds, "aw," "oh," "oo"; and, writing them light, the second series of short vowel signs, "o," "u," "oo" (short). The dipthongs are arbitrary characters, as are "i," "u."

That is the alphabet of the system for the invention of which Queen Victoria conferred upon Sir Isaac the great honor of knighthood! With these signs anything can be written, in some sort of a fashion, but before a man can take testimony or speeches running from 125 to 200 words a minute, or twice as fast as a clock ticks, he has to acquire a skill, to so make this system a part of him, to so WRITE SOUND (abstractly) that the apparent simplicity vanishes and he finds that he is against practically the problem which kept the immortal Dickens sleepless, hewing down forest after fores of difficulties even in his dreams.

This article proposes to discuss this matter to a finality—to show the relative merits of the Spencerian Chartier and Pitman.

It is not doing so in a spirit of cavil.

It believes in the sublime dignity of the 114-foot craft of Fulton, which made its way laboriously up the Hudson at five miles an hour. But it is certain if the restless progressiveness and energy of man had been content with it and declared it the finest possible boat that human genius could build, he would not to-day be crossing the ocean in a little over four days on mighty leviathans which are practically safe against all storm and which breast the fiercest of them without a perceptible decrease in speed!

This is the age of progress.

Progress is impossible if we cling with blinded eyes to opinions which we have accepted for their age and by reason of no thought which we ourselves have spent.

Progress is possible only as a result of investigation—and investigation is the child of freedom from bias, freedom from accepted conventionalities. Fogyism has no place in America.

With all honor to the great intellect of the student who has, in spite of all the criticism to which his system is open, made it possible for men to transcribe thought with the swiftness with which it glides from the tongue, THIS ARTICLE ASKS THAT YOU INVESTIGATE WHAT IT IS SEEKING TO PUT BEFORE YOU WITH ALL DEFERENCE AND HUMILITY, BUT WITH A CONVICTION THAT EVERY CLAIM AND ARGUMENT ADVANCED IS SANE, SOUND, TRUE—WORTHY OF YOUR ATTENTION, INASMUCH AS THE DAY IS FAST ARRIVING WHEN EVERY CHILD IN THE THIRD READER WILL BE LEARNING SHORTHAND (SPENCERIAN CHARTIER SHORTHAND) WITH AN EASE AND READINESS IMPOSSIBLE IN ANY OTHER SYSTEM.

THE GREAT PITMAN'S DIFFICULTIES

Before we go any further in this analysis, and while you have the alphabet of the Pitman system fresh before you, let me give you another plate in order that we may make plainer our talk.

I pick this plate at random. It is a Pitman transcript of an utterance of the great showman, P. T. Barnum, and here is what he said, written in longhand:

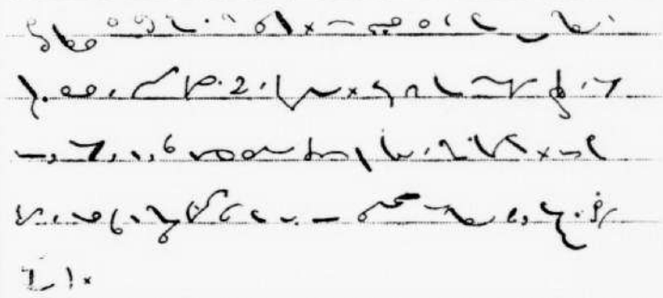
"As far as business is concerned, I have a particular hobby. My craze is that every young person, of both sexes, should learn at least shorthand and typewriting. Here you have mental discipline and knowledge together, knowledge, too, that is almost certain at some time to be convenient and practically available. I cannot conceive that one who knows these two branches thoroughly will ever need to go hungry in the present generation, for they have a constantly widening use."

Know Pitman thoroughly! Truly P. T. is a humorist. P. T. was either ignorant of his subject or joking.

How many there be of these craftsmen in this city of almost 400,000 souls? Count them over—those who really answer P. T.'s description. You or anyone with the slightest sort of memory can learn that alphabet which has just been given and which, with endless use and practice, can enable one to do that speedily, but try, knowing this alphabet, to take a speaker at 150 words per minute, and see how thoroughly you really know it.

See if you don't find your penci with the same sort of fits that afflicted that of the great Dickens.

JOKER BARUM'S WORDS IN SHORTHAND



The above is the plate showing the transcript in shorthand of Barnum's point of view of shorthand. It is probably written by a man who answers Barnum's description, full of word-signs, correctly used—a perfect specimen.

First, let us call your attention to the fact that the vowel-signs are entirely eliminated—and believe me when you are taking a speech, you have no time for vowel-signs with Pitman shorthand. THE REASON WHY IT TAKES YOU SO MUCH PRACTICE TO MAKE THIS SYSTEM VALUABLE TO YOU IS THAT YOUR EYE, YOUR INSTINCT MUST BE TRAINED SO THAT YOUR EYES ALMOST SUPPLY THE INVISIBLE AND NON-EXISTING VOWELS. In fast writing you are forced to drop the vowels. We set forth here one proposition of shorthand which defies refutation.

It is elemental:—The reading power of any system is based on the percentage of vowel sounds you can indicate.

Here is a another truism: ITS SPEED IS BASED ON THE SPEED WITH WHICH YOU CAN DO THIS.

From these two axioms it is impossible to get away.

Now, in this light—so clear and self-evident—let us get at the transcript of what Joker Barnum says, as transcribed in the Pitman system.

Notice, please, that the very first three words are written as a word-sign—the very first three words. These first three words are "as far as," and the Pitman system writes them 'sfrs"! There is not a hint of a vowel sound anywhere. In the position! Why should "as" be written in the first position and in the last position, and each time spell "as"? The accuracy of geometry is sadly deserted in this: "Fr," "far." Is there any possible reason, conceding for the sake of argument that the "fr" is in the first position, why this should not be "far," "afar," and since there is mere position visible, why it should not be "offer?" It is, however, "far" to the trained eye in Pitman, for the reason that that house there is a house to your familiar vision. In "business," position pretty well indicates the word. You have "bs" and "ns," and require no flight of imagination to make it out. "Pn" is conventionally in the second position, making it literally and meaninglessly "open" with the "o" long, as in "mode" or "pone" (same long o) or "pain" (long a), or "pen" (short e), etc. In short, the "pn" in the second position spells "upon", because it is conventionally so accepted. "Concerned" has a little bit of dot before the initial circle—s for "con," an "r" cut half its length, thus adding "d and a little "n"—hook—still the "d," created by the shortening of the "r" is read after the "n"—hook. Here, then, are the consonant signs guiding the experienced eye in reading "concerned"—"consrnd." "I" is the "tick" on top of the "v," and "v" is a word-sign for "have." "Iv," in other words, is "I have." "A" is the dot in the first position. "Particular" is "p" shortened to half length to show that there is a "t" or "d" sound somewhere concealed about its person, and the "p" is begun with an "r"—hook, although the "r" is read after the "p." Literally, we have "rpt (or d)" spelling "particular." Another word-sign: "Hb" (vowel sounds to be guessed) "hobby." In a sentence of eleven words, thus, we have seven word-signs.

What now is really a word-sign? It is something that has to be learned and stored away in the memory. When the first eleven words of the man who says that his hobby is that every young person should learn shorthand "thoroughly," are found to contain seven words that have absolutely to be remembered, it is to be seen at a glance that he is either ignorant of what he is talking about, or has a large and expansive sense of humor. This system cannot be taken on and carried as a sideline. One who learns it has to dedicate himself to it as did Dickens. Another thing, this system cannot be mastered and allowed to rust. Speed, accuracy, a working order of the possession is maintained by constant practice and that alone.

There are sixty-eight words in the rest of what P. T. Barnum here said. There are over forty word-signs in this number. Capacious memory at this gait, don't you think, to know this language of lines and arcs and circles thoroughly—a big word-sign store-house necessary; and you cannot pause, you know, when you are writing 150 words a minute to recall how "I have been," "as far as" "that" "particular," etc., are written. Pitman is almost impossible with night students.

It is strange, almost remarkable, that an analytical genius such as must have been the mind that invented and evolved Pitman system did not reflect that the two greatest impediments in his system were inflicted unabated on all the men and women who studied and the comparatively few who mastered his system:

A lack of vowel power.

A diminution of speed proportioned to the number of vowel signs used.

Net result—an absolute necessity of an enormous dictionary of word-signs.

A difficulty of mastery increased by every word-sign.

A MULTIPLICATION, IN THE CASE OF EXPERTS, OF WORD-SIGNS SO GREAT AS TO MAKE THE WRITING OF EACH EXPERT A SYSTEM OF HIS OWN, BASED ON PITMAN, BUT PECULIAR TO THE WRITER AND ABSOLUTELY UNDECIPHERABLE BY ANY ONE ELSE.

As a matter of my own knowledge I know that Spencerian Chartier shorthand can be learned with one-fifth the study required for Pitman; it can be written faster than Pitman—it makes fewer strokes in writing any given matter—and it can be read with an ease never claimed for Pitman. In fact, people knowing the system, correspond in it and read each other's writing as though it were longhand or Roman print.

Figure I

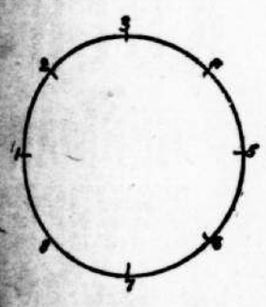
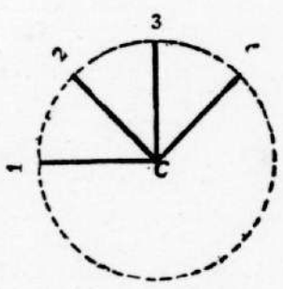


Figure II



1-7 = (= f : (v 2-c = \ = p : \ = b
2-8 = (= th : (th 3-c = | = t : | = d
4-6 =) = s :) z 4-c = / = ch : / = j
5-7 =) = sh :) zh 1-c = — = k : — = g
1-3 = ⌒ = l : ⌒ m ∪ = w 6 = y 6 = h
8-6 = ⌣ = n : ⌣ ng
3-5 = ⌒ r

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CHARTER

VADON-BLOCK CORPORATION.

STATES OF AMERICA, STATE LOUISIANA, PARISH OF ORLEANS, CITY OF NEW ORLEANS.

Known, that on this twenty-second day of month of April, in the year of one thousand nine hundred and of the independence of the United States of America the one hundred and before me, Lewis Rossner Graham, notary public, in and for the parish state of Louisiana, therein residing, therefor duly commissioned and qualified, and in the presence of the witnesses hereinafter named and undersigned, personally came and appeared the several persons whose names are hereunto subscribed, severally declared that availing themselves of the laws of the state of Louisiana, in such cases made and provided, particularly of the provisions of Act No. of the General Assembly of the state of Louisiana, for the year nineteen hundred and ninety, they have covenanted and agreed, by these presents covenant and agree among themselves, as well as all such persons as may hereafter become associated therewith, to form a corporation for the objects and purposes and under the articles and stipulations following, to-wit:

ARTICLE I.

The name and title of this corporation shall be "THE VADON-BLOCK CORPORATION." It shall have its domicile in the City of New Orleans, and it shall have a succession, by its corporate name, for a period of ninety-nine years from and after date hereof, unless sooner dissolved as hereinafter set forth. It shall commence business as soon as ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00) in full paid stock is subscribed. It may have, hold, purchase, sell, lease, pledge or mortgage property, real and immovable, sue and be sued, and have a seal with such inscription and device as may be selected by the board of directors.

President, or in the event of his absence or inability to act therefrom, the treasurer is hereby designated as the officer upon whom all citations and other legal process shall be served.

ARTICLE II.

The objects and purposes for which this corporation is organized and the nature of the business to be carried on by it are hereby declared to be: To acquire by purchase or otherwise, to own, to hold, to buy, to sell, to convey, to lease, to mortgage, or to encumber real estate, or other property, personal or mixed; to buy and sell, in wholesale and retail quantities, wine, whiskey, beer or any and all kinds of alcoholic, vinous or malt liquors; and particularly to acquire and take over all the assets of every kind and character whatsoever, including the good-will of the commercial partnership known as Vadon and Block, or any other concern engaged in similar business and to do any and all things incident to the business of wholesale and retail liquor dealers. To represent as agents, or otherwise, similar corporations, partnerships, or individuals engaged in the objects and purposes herein stated; the said corporation being authorized to carry on business in the state of Louisiana and elsewhere.

ARTICLE III.

The capital stock of this corporation is hereby declared to be the sum of one hundred thousand dollars ($100,000.00), divided into one thousand shares of one hundred dollars ($100.00) each, which shall be paid for in cash, property or services. All stock shall be transferred on the books of the company by the stockholder or his duly authorized agent and attorney-in-fact.

ARTICLE IV.

The business of this corporation shall be managed and conducted by a board of directors composed of three (3) stockholders, to be elected at a meeting of stockholders to be held as soon as ten thousand dollars ($10,000.00) of stock has been subscribed and paid for. Said board of directors shall at once elect a president and a treasurer, from their own number.

The board of directors and officers so elected shall hold their offices until the first Monday in January, 1912, or until their successors shall have been elected and qualified.

On the first Monday in January, 1912, and annually thereafter, an election for directors shall be held at the office of the company after ten (10) days' notice, in writing, shall have been given by the secretary to each stockholder, or his duly authorized agent and attorney-in-fact, the same to be sent or mailed to each stockholder at his last known place of residence. All elections shall be by ballot. A majority of the board of directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business of the company; they shall make by-laws, rules and regulations for the management of the business and affairs of the company, as they may think proper, and shall have the power to change, modify or alter the same, as they may think proper.

The said board of directors shall appoint the secretary for said corporation and all other officers, and agents, clerks, and employes, and shall have the same right to discharge any appointive officer of the company or any other employe, as they may see fit. The board of directors shall have the right to fix the compensation or salary of all officers or employes.

ARTICLE V.

At the termination of this charter by limitation or otherwise, the business and affairs of this company shall be liquidated and wound up by two liquidating commissioners, who shall be chosen by a majority of the stockholders at a general meeting thereof, to be called at least ten (10) days previous to the termination of this charter by written notices sent by the secretary to each stockholder or his agent and attorney-in-fact, directed to the last known place of residence of said stockholder or attorney-in-fact. In case of a dissolution of this corporation, there shall be chosen two liquidating commissioners, in the same manner as above specified for.

ARTICLE VI.

This charter may be changed, altered or modified, or this corporation dissolved, by a vote of two-thirds of the stock present or represented, at a general meeting of the stockholders convened for such purposes, after ten (10) days' notice shall have been given to each stockholder in writing, by the secretary, the same to be sent to such stockholder, or his duly appointed agent and attorney-in-fact directed to his last known place of residence.

ARTICLE VII.

No stockholder of this corporation shall ever be held liable or responsible for the contracts or faults thereof, in any further sum than the unpaid balance due the company on the shares owned by him, nor shall any mere informality in organization have the effect of rendering this charter null or of exposing any stockholder to any liability beyond his unpaid balance on his stock.

Thus done and passed in my office, in the city of New Orleans, Louisiana, on the day, month and year first aforesaid, in the presence of Charles T. Starkey and Charles I. Levy, competent witnesses, who have signed these presents, together with the said appearers and me, notary, after due reading of the whole

(Signed): L. A. Block, 35 shares; Victor E. Vadon, 15 shares; L. L. Davis, 10 shares, per L. A. Block.

(Witnesses): C. T. Starkey, Chas. I. Levy.

LEWIS R. GRAHAM,
Notary Public.

I, the undersigned recorder of mortgages in and for the parish of Orleans, state of Louisiana, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing act of incorporation, of the Vadon-Block Corporation, was this day duly recorded in my office in book 1018, folio 548.

New Orleans, April 24, 1911.

EMILE LEONARD, D. R.

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the act of incorporation of the Vadon-Block Corporation, on file in my notarial office.

(Seal) LEWIS R. GRAHAM,
may 4-11-18-25 jun 1-8 1911 *Not. Pub.*

CHARTER

OF THE DRUMMERS' OIL COMPANY OF LOUISIANA.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, STATE OF LOUISIANA, PARISH OF ORLEANS, CITY OF NEW ORLEANS.

Be it known, That on this, the thirteenth day of the month of April, in the year of our Lord, one thousand, nine hundred and eleven, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the one hundred and thirty-fifth, before me, Alexis Brian, a notary public duly commissioner and qualified within and for the parish of Orleans, state of Louisiana, therein residing, and in the presence of the witnesses hereinafter named and undersigned, personally came and appeared the several persons whose names are hereunto subscribed, who declared that, availing themselves of the provisions of the laws of this state relative to the organization of corporations, they have organized and do by these presents organize and form themselves and such other persons as may hereafter join with them, and their successors into a corporation and body politic in law under the covenants, agreements and stipulations following, to-wit:

ARTICLE I.

The name of this corposation shall be the "DRUMMERS' OIL COMPANY OF LOUISIANA." It shall enjoy all the rights and privileges granted by law to corporations; it shall exist for a period of ninety-nine (99) years, unless sooner dissolved as hereinafter provided; its domicile shall be in the city of New Orleans, state of Louisiana, where citation and other legal process shall be served on its president and in his absence on the vice-president of the corporation.

ARTICLE II.

This corporation shall have power to contract, sue and be sued in its corporate name; to make and use a corporate seal; to hold, receive, purchase or otherwise acquire, convey, mortgage, hypothecate or pledge property both real and personal; to issue bonds, notes and other obligations; to borrow or lend money; to have and employ such managers, directors, officers and other employes as the business of this corporation may require for its conduct; and to make and establish such by-laws, rules and regulations for the management and control of the affairs of said corporation as may be desirable or necessary.

ARTICLE III.

The objects and purposes for which this corporation is organized and the nature of the business which will be carried on by it are declared to be: to purchase, lease or otherwise acquire lands in this state or in neighboring states; to construct or otherwise acquire works and appliances necessary for the exploitation, discovery, development, manufacture and refining of mineral oil and other mineral substances; to acquire, own and operate oil wells and their appurtenances; to own and operate refineries, pipe lines; and generally to engage in any other business or enterprise connected with or incidental to the purposes herein set forth.

ARTICLE IV.

The capital stock of this corporation is hereby fixed at the sum of fity thousand ($50,000.00) dollars divided into and represented by fifty thousand (50,000) shares of the par value of one ($1.00) dollar each, which shall be paid for in cash, or by property transferred or by services rendered to the company. Subscriptions to stock shall be paid in such amounts and at such times as the board of directors may require. All shares of stock shall be full paid and non-assessable. No transfer of stock shall be binding upon the company, unless recorded upon its books. All certificates of stock shall be signed by the president and by the secretary and treasurer. This corporation may begin business as soon as three thousand ($3,000) dollars of its stock shall have been subscribed.

ARTICLE V.

All the corporate powers of this company, including the right to purchase, convey, mortgage and hypothecate real estate shall be vested in, and the management and control of its business shall be exercised by a board of directors, composed of five stockholders, three of whom shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business. Messrs. John N. Alexius, Edwin H. Borden, Samuel J. Huey, A. H. Borden and A. Fred. Renaud shall constitute the first board of directors, who shall hold office as such until the third Monday of May, 1913. On the third Monday of May, 1913, and annually thereafter, there shall be a meeting of stockholders, convened upon the call of the secretary and treasurer, by giving ten days' notice thereof to each stockholder through the mails directed to his last known place of residence or business, at which a board of disectors shall be chosen for the ensuing year. Each stockholder shall be entitled to one vote for each share of stock owned by him, to be cast either in person or by proxy. All elections shall be held by ballot, if demand is made therefor by any stockholder. The ballot shall be conducted under the supervision of two stockholders appointed by the president of the corporation. The directors appointed by this charter or any directors subsequently elected shall continue in office until the ensuing annual meeting of stockholders, and until their successors have been duly elected and qualified, and no failure to elect directors shall be regarded as a forfeiture of this charter. Any vacancy occurring in said board shall be filled by the remaining directors for the unexpired term. The board of directors shall have the right from time to time to appoint and dismiss the clerks, agents, managers and other employes which the business of the company may require. Any one of the directors shall have the right to delegate in writing to any other director his authority and functions as such director, to be exercised at any meeting of the board.

ARTICLE VI.

The officers of this corporation shall consist of a president, a vice-president and a secretary and treasurer. Until the third Monday in May, 1913, Mr. John N. Alexius shall be president of this corporation; Mr. Edwin H. Borden shall be vice-president, and Mr. Samuel J. Huey shall be secretary and treasurer. On the third Monday in May, 1913, and annually thereafter, the board of directors, immediately upon their election by the stockholders, shall meet and select from their own number the officers afosesaid, who shall hold office until the ensuing annual stockholders' meeting or until their successors shall have been duly elected and qualified.

ARTICLE VII.

No stockholder shall ever be held liable or responsible for the contracts, faults or debts of this corporation beyond the amount of the balance due by him on his stock subscription, nor shall any mere informality herein have the effect of rendering this charter null or of exposing any stockholder to liability except as above provided.

ARTICLE VIII.

This act of incorporation may be changed and modified or amended, or the corporation may be dissolved with the assent of stockholders owning a majority of all the stock of the company, expressed at a general meeting convened for that purpose, and after at least ten days' written notice of such meeting and of its purpose shall have been given to each stockholder through the mail addressed to his last known place of residence or business. In case of dissolution of the corporation by vote of the stockholders or by expiration of this charter, the affairs of the corporation shall be liquidated under the supervision of three stockholders who shall be elected at a general meeting of such stockholders called as aforesaid. In case of death of any one of said liquidating commissioners, the remaining commissioners shall select a successor to him.

Thus done and passed in my office at the city of New Orleans, on the day and date herein first above written, in the psesence of Messrs. E. L. Szabary and Geo. W. Schweitzer, competent witnesses, who have hereunto signed their names with said appearers and me, notary, after due reading of the whole.

John N. Alexius, 1,500 shares; Edwin H. Borden, 100 shares; Allen H. Borden, 100 shares (per Edwin H. Borden); Samuel J. Huey, 1,500 shares; A. Fred Renaud, 100 shares (per S. J. Huey).

E. L. Szabary, Geo. W. Schweitzer, witnesses.

ALEXIS BRIAN,
Notary Public.

I, the undersigned deputy recorder of mortgages in and for the parish of Orleans, do hereby certify that the foregoing charter of the Drummers' Oil Company of Louisiana was this day duly recorded in my office in book No. 1018, folio —.

(Signed) EMILE LEONARD,
Deputy Recorder of Mortgages.

New Orleans, April 15th, 1911.

I certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the original act of incorporation of the Drummers' Oil Company of Louisiana and of the deputy recorder's certificate thereto attached.

New Orleans, April 15th, 1911.

ALEXIS BRIAN,
(Seal) Notary Public.

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