

HOW TO RULE THE CITY

OKLAHOMA CITY TURNED DOWN "COMMISSION PLAN" ONLY BECAUSE SCHEME PROPOSED WAS IMPERFECT.

Special Correspondence to The Press
OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., Oct. 15.—Within a few weeks Oklahoma has rejected by popular vote the commission plan of city government. The rejection was accomplished by a majority of 214 votes. Oklahoma's population is about 38,000.

In spite of appearance this does not mean that the people of Oklahoma think the commission plan of government a bad one. The result of the election is to be found in the fact that the particular charter offered for a vote was imperfect and unwise in a number of respects. Even the best friends and many staunch advocates of the commission scheme admits this.

The free and easy and quite unrestrained radicalism with which Oklahoma people go at every new political proposition may be said to be responsible for the fall down of the charter business. Mixed up with the commission plan were some impossible election schemes and a wholesale repeal of street car and other franchises, which would undoubtedly have been declared by the courts to be unconstitutional. These, combined, with a provision for a \$2 poll tax, which would be likely to disfranchise a majority of the colored votes, resulted in the 214 plurality against the charter.

Another strong influence which made for the defeat of the charter was the fact that the first commission would have to be appointed by the governor instead of being elected by the people, and that a further act of the legislature would

RECEIVER NOT NEEDED

The application of O. W. McDonald for the appointment of a receiver for the Eastern Grain & Fuel Co. was yesterday denied by Judge Huneke holding that the firm was not so deeply involved as to require a receiver. The court said there was nothing to show that the petitioner was effected by the financial condition of the company and that the complaint gave no reasons for the appointment of a receiver.

have been required even then before the terms of these commissioners would end. This did not appeal to the Oklahoma people as being sufficiently democratic and popular as a scheme of government.

The present government of Oklahoma is not so bad as that of many cities of its size. It is wabbling along under the old village scheme of a mayor and a council and a chief of police, all separately elected, with a health department which is hitched on in some unexplained fashion. In the police department there is admitted to be a reasonable amount of petty graft, but the city has a fairly good fire department; 41 miles of asphalt pavement—to which the citizens point with pride; sewers in all the streets, natural gas for fuel purposes, a complete electric light system, water with some considerable sediment in it and a street railway equipment which is rapidly picking up suburban real estate and making it available for residence purposes.

The charter as it was proposed, declared all street car franchises at an end after a period of seven years; all telegraph and overhead electric wires were to come down more or less at once. A set of commissioners were to be voted on at the same election at which the charter was adopted (this feature was at once set aside by the supreme court); and finally it was provided that any man building an extension to the local street car tracks and putting cars on this extension would have a right to have his cars carried on the tracks of the old street car company into the center of the city.

As in other cities, the people of Oklahoma have no particular love for the street car magnates and would not hesitate to put a crimp into them of any reasonable tightness. But this seemed to be going it rather strong. The provision terminating all franchises at the end of seven years, it was generally conceded, would either deprive certain people of their honestly acquired property or it would result in a long and expensive and futile lawsuit. The same appeared to be

MILLE. MISCHIEF IS A GAY, GAY GIRLIE



LULU GLASER.

NEW YORK, Oct. 15.—Throw away your Merry Widow waltz phonograph record and your Merry Widow hat, says the press agent for "Mlle. Mischief."

According to the same reliable authority, the next popular record will be "Do Nothing Until You Hear From Me," or a "Kiss in the Dark," and the popular hat this season will be a "rosette cockade."

The reason of all this prophesying is Lulu Glaser. She is a musical comedy hit in "Mlle. Mischief," at the Lyric. It's the kind of musical comedy that New York likes. It was written by a fellow citizen of Franz Lehár, composer of the Merry Widow. It rollicks and gambols through three acts with plenty of songs, gay costumes and plenty of sparkle. Miss Glaser

just simply jumps in and out, each time attired in different costume. She, an artist's model, is "dared" to impersonate a soldier and enter the barracks at Fremstadt. She won't "take a dare," of course, and in the second act appears dressed so you would almost think she was a real soldier boy. And, sly thing, she deceives every one of the soldiers at the barracks except a lieutenant, with whom she falls in love. Then she gets so tangled up in the differ-ent fibs she has told to conceal her identity that she is arrested as a military prisoner.

In the last act she puts on several fine gowns—the strictly up to the minute kind—and appears as her real self. There are lots of awfully spicy situations.

true of the provision for carrying extension line cars free of charge. But the \$2 poll tax did more than anything else to make votes against the charter. The impetuous colored man did not see where the \$2 was coming from to protect his elective franchise and he was against it.

It is the general sentiment of the people in Oklahoma that the city would be better off under a good commission form of government, and it is also admitted that on the simple proposition presented by a good charter—with no complicating questions—the commission plan would win here as it has in so many other cities.

FATE CRUEL TO SUFFERING GIRL

PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 15.—Death has ended the blighted romance of Stelly Fleenor, the Virginia girl who came to Oregon to marry a man she had never seen, was deserted by him, and was forced to seek refuge at the poor farm until her relatives sent her a ticket to return home. The girl was seriously ill with tuberculosis, and when she reached Portland the man, whom she had met through a matrimonial bureau, refused to marry her on account of her illness.

Too proud to write her relatives in Virginia that her romance had ended so unhappily, the girl stayed in Portland until all her money was gone, and then applied to the county for aid. She was sent to the poor farm, and Secretary Carr of the county board of relief wrote to her relatives at Bristol, Va. Her brother sent her a ticket and she started back to Virginia. Secretary Carr received information that the girl died at Omaha on her way home.

PEOPLE OF SEATTLE A GODLESS OUTFIT

SEATTLE, Oct. 15.—That the churches of Seattle do not teach the Bible ordinarily, and that when they do discuss Holy Writ, it is with a sacriligious tongue, is the charge of Rev. M. A. Matthews of the First Presbyterian church.

"The ignorance of the Bible in Seattle is appalling," declared the pastor. "If the lack of biblical knowledge of those who sit before me were brought out, it would cast such a gloom that the lights of this church would not be able to penetrate the darkness."

SUPPLY HOUSE ROBBED.

The Great Northern supply house was robbed last night by some one who stole three chisels, a saw and screw driver. Special Officer DeWolf investigated and found that entrance had been gained by forcing open a window.

REFERENDUM THE ONLY REAL CURE

Editor, The Press—In the Chronicle of the 14th appeared an editorial entitled "Invites a Big Lobby" which is an attack on the proposed amendment to the constitution relative to taxation. The objection urged in this editorial is that because the amendment will permit the legislature to classify property for the purpose of taxation, the "legislature would be overwhelmed by lobbyists for special interests seeking to escape taxation," because there would be no constitutional restrictions.

Thus the editor seeks to alarm the readers by inducing them to believe that the amendment, in empowering the legislature to classify property, confers on it additional and dangerous powers which it does not have now. This is not true. Under the present constitution the legislature can classify property for the purpose of taxation.

The implied statement contained in this objection to the amendment, that under the present constitution there is no danger of a lobby influencing the legislature, is notoriously contrary to the facts. At every session of the legislature in Washington a lobby has been seen in attendance. That the special interests represented by the lobby have influenced the legislature in enacting measures affecting taxation is conclusively proved by the examination of the statutes on that subject.

The existence of this condition of affairs, while the present constitution is in force, is sufficient to show that the danger from a lobby, if to be attributed to the constitution at all, should be attributed to the present constitutional provisions. In every state having a similar constitution to ours in regard to taxation a lobby exists, and in fact, only in those states which have adopted the initiative and referendum have the people been relieved from the danger of a lobby.

The evil influence—the lobby experts may continue in this state until the people adopt a similar method of relieving themselves from it. But that the danger will not be brought into existence by the adoption of the proposed amendment relative to taxation is proved by the fact that it grew up while the constitution was as it now is and is now in full flourish under the present constitution. George N. Maddock.

HOBBSON WANTS \$50,000.

BOSTON, Oct. 15.—Congressman Richmond Pearson Hobson has brought a libel suit for \$50,000 against Congressman John A. Kelliber, who he alleges intimidated that he was a liar.

HISGEN BATTLES BRYAN ONLY

HEARST CANDIDATE SAYS, STANDARD OIL HAS GONE DEMOCRATIC AFTER BEING KICKED OUT BY THE REPUBLICANS.

Devoting the burden of his one hour's talk to an attack on the Standard Oil Co., Thomas L. Hisgen, of Massachusetts, independence candidate for president, last night delivered a most convincing arraignment of the oil monopoly before an audience that filled about two thirds of the lower floor of the armory.

Mr. Hisgen addresses his callers as "brothers," which style of expression is in keeping with his clerical garb. It may be that his ministerial appearance is due to the fact that he is a native of Indiana, where a politician sometimes finds it effective to disguise as a preacher.

Hisgen said that he was only a plain business man, who when given the presidential nomination of the independence party felt that he had received one of the greatest honors possible for an American citizen. He told the interesting story of his axle grease factory and its fight with the Standard Oil monopoly, and users of axle grease who might have labored under the impression that the oil trust had a cinch on this line of industry are now wiser. In his dissertation on this point Mr. Hisgen combined principle with business and is getting the money.

"According to the theory of the young Mr. Rockefeller, as demonstrated clearly in his illustration of the American Beauty rose, 99 out of every 100 business men must fail," said the speaker. "We have no such thing as a land of the free when you run counter to the wishes of the Standard Oil. I have seen strong men go bad and sometimes commit suicide when confronted by the remorseless grip of the oil monopoly. Crime with these trust scoundrels is cheaper than competition. Their motto is not to live and let live, but live to kill."

"Trusts cannot live without the railroads and for this reason the Standard Oil has gobbled up the control of two thirds of the railroads of the country. We would like to feel that we live in a land that has the same laws for rich and poor alike, but the facts do not bear out this assumption. I tried for two years to get an anti-discrimination law through the gen-

eral assembly of Massachusetts and had about succeeded when the Standard Oil got control of a governor and defeated it.

"The independence party seeks to restore the system of independent competition that prevailed 25 years ago. Just as sure as right triumphs over wrong our cause will win out in the end. There is one thing you can rest assured of and that is that there will not be one dollar of Standard Oil money used to pay the bills of the independence party."

Hisgen said that he had voted against the Standard Oil for the last 20 years whenever he could locate on which side of a question they were. For this reason, although a republican, he supported Bryan in his first two campaigns. Since then he said the Standard Oil has appeared on both sides of the fence and he did not vote at all. In the present campaign the Standard Oil, having been kicked overboard by the republicans, is lined up with Bryan, as Hisgen and the Hearst party sees it.

He accused Bryan of profiting by his connection with politics and said that even if defeated Bryan could still make from \$50,000 to \$75,000 per year because of his prominence before the people. Hisgen made but brief reference to Taft, whom he denominated simply as the messenger boy of Roosevelt. The Hearst fight is made almost solely on Bryan this year.

Be Sure and Attend

the Lessons in Domestic Science being given at the First Methodist Church, corner of Third and Howard at 2:20 all this week

TACOMA FINANCES IN BAD SHAPE

TACOMA, Oct. 15.—Tacoma now has a bonded debt of \$3,823,000.

It draws interest at 5 and 6 per cent and the interest bill every year is in round numbers about \$200,000.

In 1911 \$550,000 of these bonds come due and there will be a chance to pay them off and stop interest of \$33,500 a year.

The city council, against the recommendation of both the city comptroller and city treasurer, however, is taking no steps to pay these bonds. The council has cut out of the contemplated levy everything for the sinking fund. It intends to allow these bonds to mature and simply issue them over again and perpetuate the interest bill. At the same time the council expects to spend just about \$100,000 more the coming year, just to run the city, than was levied last year.

In the spring it is also expected to ask for \$200,000 more bonds to build bridges and sewers, and this will increase the amount of interest still more.

Knights and Ladies of Security will pay their dues at the office of Samuel T. Craue, attorney at law, 410 Columbia building.

sort of a side issue to the republican campaign.

J. I. Knight, of Seattle, state chairman of the independence party, presided over the meeting. The Inland Empire band furnished music between speeches. Clement L. Pollock, of New York, spoke first, outlining the platform of the party, and was followed by Z. W. Craig, of California, a labor union man who presented the claims of the party from the standpoint of a workingman. George Hisgen, brother of the presidential candidate, was the fourth member of the party.

OLD MAN STILL A TERROR.

SEATTLE, Oct. 15.—Taunted by an acquaintance, who told him that he was too old to fight as he had done years ago, when he was "cock of the walk," Joseph Brown, 63 years old, of 827 Vine street, a sturdy old civil war pensioner, gave battle to his tormentor, age 35. His opponent died from the effect of a terrible right hand punch to the jaw.

TAKE YOUR FRIENDS TO THE NOVELTY

Entertain your friends with a visit to the nozy new Novelty theater and let them see the wonderful Synchronoscope, the motion pictures that sing, dance and talk. It's the latest sensation of the theatrical world and can be seen only at the Novelty. Next to Palace building on Main avenue. ***

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One-third Reduction from Regular Prices at Tyler's Style Shop

THIS remarkable offering of trimmed hat values will continue for the rest of the week. We are overstocked with a beautiful line of New York and imported patterns. They must go. We are offering them at prices which make them go. Make your selection before the best are picked out. All colored pattern hats at 33 1-3 per cent reduction.

No black, white, or black and white hats included in this sale.

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