

multi-member districts are always made very much larger than is practical under the plurality and majority systems, and must each elect at least three representatives. The larger the district, and therefore, the more representatives elected from that district, the more satisfactorily proportional representation can be worked out.

51. Small Minorities Important: For instance, where three members are elected, a minority of at least one-third will have one of them; and where ten members are elected, a minority of at least one-tenth will be able to make itself heard in the governing body through its one member. There is a saying that the farthest advanced thinker is always a minority of one; and, while it is not practical to give this one man proportional representation, even though he be the world's greatest genius and destined to be written down in the pages of history, it is practical to give representation to all considerable minorities which are real factors in present day affairs.

52. Accident Versus Science: While the ward system, as I have already shown, frequently gives a sort of accidental and disproportionate representation to the minorities in the community, sometimes more and sometimes less than that to which they are proportionately entitled, does it not seem that we have left such matters to accidents long enough? The results of this accidental misrepresentation system have been pointed out in numerous cases; and the scientific remedy is available, developed theoretically for us by unselfish men who had the public good at heart, and now tried in practice and proven satisfactory. Is there any possible good reason why we should longer delay the adoption of proportional representation?

53. Partisan or Non-Partisan: Some will say that they believe in the party system and want to know if it is possible under a proportional representation election. It is. The principle of the party system will always be with us. I never knew such staunch partisans as took part in the several "non-partisan" election campaigns that I have witnessed. I believe in the partisan system of government—for it is said that one cannot be both fish and fowl—but I believe that partisan government will be best accomplished, and most of the present day evils of partisan politics eliminated, when we elect our representatives by the system of proportional representation. We may then have partisan politics without having tricky partisan politicians in the case we now too frequently know them.

54. Stabilizing our Politics: One of the best features about proportional representation is the effect it has in stabilizing governments. At present, a small shift in votes may throw one party out and another party into the full control without even a healthy opposition. With proportional representation, the same shift may change a majority party to a minority party, but their strengths after the elec-