

gina, Moose Jaw, etc., that have a partial commission plan. Guelph, for instance, has a partial commission plan. These commissioners act independently of the council. At Belleville not long ago they did away with a council of some twenty odd members, and replaced them by a council of ten. All are elected by the city at large. It was only in 1912 that St. John received its charter. The President of the Board of Trade, Mr. J. M. Robinson, in April of this year made this statement: 'Commission government has been particularly successful from both business and political standpoints, though it is too soon to pass judgment. The better administration of departments, the business-like handling of business, the fact that political influence is eliminated—are features that cannot fail to impress even the most casual.'

"In Westmount they have a council of four and a mayor. One of the ex-aldermen said that the men of Westmount found they could not give sufficient time to their own business and also to the city's business, they were permitted to make this change and in less than a year they appointed a business manager. He gets \$5,000 a year and his duties are the administration of civic affairs. He is responsible only to the council. They can dismiss him whenever they see fit, and will do so, I presume it he does not do what they think he ought to do.

"In the western cities they seem to be very eager to try experiments, more so than eastern cities. Edmonton has a partial commission. Two commissioners were elected by the council and the mayor is one ex-officio. In a report from Edmonton it does not seem to have been particularly successful. There was constant friction between the council and the commissioners. The council was constantly encroaching upon the functions of the commissioners.

"They have a commission in Port Arthur. For instance, the railroad between Port Arthur and Fort William is under a commission, but the city clerk in writing to me said that they had discussed the commission plan some three or four years ago, but it was now farther off than it was then and they feel satisfied that our form will give them good government."