

chanced to get more votes than either one of two or more other parties.

41. Unrepresentative Commissions: This led to some unrepresentative commissions which were not very successful, in spite of the cities having adopted the commission form of government; and it caused a loss of interest on the part of the electorate when they found that their machinery would not operate properly to carry out their will as expressed in the voting. Such elections have retarded the progress of the commission form of government movement very greatly.

42. Accidental Representation: In many respects, the old ward system was superior to this new system which abolished the wards and instituted election at large, from a multi-member district, without providing for proportional representation; for the old ward system did, in a way, give a kind of accidental representation, unsatisfactory and unreliable though it was. Working class wards usually returned candidates at least acceptable to a majority of the working class, and the more prosperous wards did likewise; while, under the system of electing at large by majority or plurality, frequently no commissioners acceptable to the working class were returned at all, and this has proved the serious weakness of this type of commission government for cities.

43. Representing Sleeping Groups: But why vote as we sleep? Under the ward system, the alderman is supposed to represent all the citizens who sleep in his ward, but who may differ widely as the poles in their views on municipal policies. These citizens are usually agreed on nothing save the interests of their section of the city, and that is why the alderman so often considers and votes upon municipal problems in the light of the interests of his ward only. Under this system, the public-spirited may find their votes completely nullified by the votes of those who have accepted favors from the ward "boss"; the citizen possesses the right to vote, but not the right, which the franchise was intended to confer, to choose a representative.

44. Adjoining Streets or Thoughts: Where there have been seven wards each selecting one alderman, and the system is changed to proportional representation, with one district or ward selecting seven aldermen, one-seventh of the citizens would equally be entitled to one-seventh of the representation; but the character of the constituency is changed; it is no longer a seventh who live in adjoining streets and think differently; it is a seventh who may live in different parts of the city but are agreed in their views on municipal questions. The greatest good to the greatest number is more apt to be the aim of a representative body selected according to the thought of the community than of one chosen by its inhabitants according to the streets upon which they live.

45. Democracy not Sacrificed: Proportional representation makes it possible to adopt the commission manager