

TO THE HONORABLE, THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Pursuant to Section 192 of the Election Law, we as Commissioners of Elections herewith submit our annual report for the year ending December 13th, 1915.

We believe that most of the members of the Board are familiar with the work in our office, so that it is unnecessary to go into it in detail. We know, now that the office has been established for upwards of four years, that it is unnecessary to inform the members of the Board that there is sufficient work connected with elections to keep us busy throughout the year. We believe that we are doing the work with as little expense as any county in the State as large as ours. The election districts in Jefferson County have been increased from seventy-eight (78) to ninety-one (91), and this increase necessitates much more work on our part. We, with the assistance of our competent stenographer, have been able to do this only by working many nights and Sundays.

The contracts for printing have been awarded, as far as possible, by competitive bidding and in every instance the contract has been awarded to the lowest bidder. We have had occasion many times to use an automobile in our work, and this has been furnished by Commissioner Livermore without any charge to the county. This item alone has saved the county a large sum.

We request that the respective parties exercise more care in the appointment of election officers. In many cases their work is performed in a careless and indifferent manner. We believe, if more care was used to appoint competent men, that much better results could be attained. We do not desire to criticise all the inspectors in the county. In many districts the inspectors follow our instructions explicitly and their work is performed in a very careful and thorough manner.

We shall recommend to the Legislature an amendment to the Election Law, allowing an enrolled voter, who has moved out of the district where he enrolled and become a resident of another district in the county to be transferred to the district where he resides. Under the present law, a voter who moves after enrolling is disfranchised in the Primaries.

We believe the present general officers' ballot is very satisfactory and a great improvement over any ever before used.

With the changes in the Election Law, it has been necessary for us to prepare many new forms and it is very gratifying for us to report that we have received very favorable comment from Mr. Henry G. Adams, who is in charge of the Election Bureau in the Office of the Secretary of State, on the forms in use in Jefferson County, and he has informed us that he intends to urge the adoption of many of them throughout the State.

Next year will be a very busy one in our office. There will be two Primaries, one in the spring and the other in the fall, and Presidential Election. It has been our practice in the past to send letters of instructions to the inspectors; but next year

we intend to have schools of instructions for the inspectors throughout the county. We will call them together at certain convenient places and instruct them with reference to their duties under the Election Law.

Respectfully submitted,

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Commissioners of Elections.

Dated, December 13th, 1915.