

Iowa Hand Book

Iowa Hand Book
for
Citizenship Study

(SECOND EDITION)

Published by the Legislative Committee
of the
IOWA FEDERATION of WOMEN'S CLUBS

MRS. W. H. McHENRY, Chairman
2901 Rutland Avenue, Des Moines

Prepared by the Secretary of the Committee

MARY M. ROSEMOND

715 Thirty-fifth Street, Des Moines

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This handbook may be obtained from the members of the Committee.

Price, 35 cents.

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LESSON I. CONSTITUTION
OUTLINE

Constitution.

When adopted.

Bill of rights.

State organization.

Legislative.

Executive.

Judicial.

Election of officers.

LESSON I. CONSTITUTION

The present constitution of Iowa was adopted in 1857. The constitutional convention completed its labors on the fifth of March of that year, and it was subsequently ratified by the people.

The constitution deals with the general principles of government, and with the fundamental things on which the security of the individual rests. It has seemed wise to leave matters of general legislation to be dealt with by the body of representatives elected from time to time.

The constitution opens with a bill of rights, which secures to all citizens rights of person and property, and equality before the law, even as against the acts of their own government.

The state government is divided into three separate departments. The legislative, the executive, and the judicial.

The legislative authority is vested in a general assembly, which consists of a Senate and a House of Representatives. There are fifty senators and one hundred eight representatives. The sessions of the general assembly are biennial. The members of the House of Representatives are chosen every second year, by the qualified electors of their respective districts. Senators are chosen for a term of four years, at the same time and place as the representatives.

The executive branch is charged with the duty of enforcing the laws. The supreme executive power of the

state is vested in the governor, whose term of office is two years. He is commander-in-chief of the military forces of the state. When any office, from any cause, becomes vacant, and no mode is provided by the constitution and laws for filling such vacancy, the governor has power to fill the vacancy, by granting a commission which expires at the end of the next session of the general assembly, or at the next election by the people. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the general assembly by proclamation, and shall state to both houses, when assembled, the purpose for which they shall have convened. He is required to communicate to the general assembly at every regular session, the conditions of the state, and may make such recommendations to the body as he shall judge expedient. The governor has power to grant reprieves, commutation and pardons, after conviction, for all offenses, except treason and cases of impeachment. He appoints all principal officers of the state not elected by the people and certain officers connected with the state government, by and with the consent of the senate. He may demand fugitives from justice from the executives of other states, and may issue warrants, upon the requests of other governors, for fugitives found in this state.

Other elective officers who have executive duties are lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of state, and superintendent of public instruction.

The lieutenant governor is president of the senate. In case of the death, impeachment, resignation, removal from office, or other disability of the governor, the

powers and duties of that office devolve upon the lieutenant governor.

The secretary of state is the head of the department of state. He is elected by the people for a term of two years. The secretary of state countersigns all commissions and proclamations issued by the governor. He prepares for publication the laws and resolutions passed by the general assembly. Certificates of nomination and all papers and records pertaining to the nomination, election and qualification of state and district officers are filed in his office. A record of the registration of motor vehicles is also kept by him.

The auditor of state keeps the accounts between the state and the United States, or any state, public official or person; makes settlement of accounts with county treasurers and receivers of state revenues. He also has charge of the municipal finance department. The public revenues of the state are received and disbursed by the state treasurer.

For superintendent of public instruction see Lesson IV.

The judicial power of the state is vested in the courts. The supreme court constitutes a court for the correction of errors at law, and consists of seven judges. The state is divided into twenty-one judicial districts and each district is entitled to from one to five judges. There are at present sixty-four judges of the district court.

State officers are elected at the general election which occurs on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of the even-numbered years.

QUESTIONS ON LESSON I

When was the present constitution of Iowa adopted?

With what does the constitution deal?

What is the bill of rights?

What are the three departments of the state government?

How is the legislative branch organized?

How many senators are there?

How many representatives?

How often does the legislature meet?

In whom is the executive power of the state vested?

Name four other executive officers. Give the duties of each.

What is the judicial branch?

How many supreme court judges are there?

How many judicial districts are there?

LESSON II. COUNTIES

OUTLINE

Counties.

Townships.

Supervisors.

Other officers.

Election.

Term.

Duties.

LESSON II. COUNTIES

The state of Iowa is divided into ninety-nine counties. Twenty-four miles square is a common size for a county. A county of this size usually contains sixteen townships, each six miles square.

At the general election in November the people of each county choose county officers. These are supervisors, an auditor, a treasurer, a recorder, a clerk of the district court, a sheriff, a coroner, and a county attorney. The term of office for each of these is two years.

Members of the board of supervisors are elected biennially, for a term of three years, to succeed those whose terms of office will expire in January following the election, and to succeed those whose terms expire in January one year later than the aforesaid date. The supervisors are the business managers for the county. One of their duties relates to review of assessments and the levy of the major part of all taxes. They have an oversight of all other county officers. They have the care of all county buildings and property. The number of supervisors in any county may be increased from three to five or seven, by a majority of the electors.

The auditor is required to keep a book of plats showing every piece of land in the county and the owner thereof. Whenever the recorder receives a deed, it is his duty to present the same to the auditor, who makes a record of the fact of the conveyance in a book kept for that purpose, and changes the name in the book of plats to that of the new owner. The auditor shares in the work of examining the accounts of the county and acts as clerk

of the board of supervisors. In his office may be found the records of the organization of the county, and of each township of the county. Much of the business between the county and the local governments within the county, as well as business between the state government and the county, is carried on through the auditor.

The county treasurer receives from the auditor a list of the taxpayers and the amount of tax to be paid by each one. It is his business to collect this tax. Taxes may be paid after January of each year. If they are not paid before April a penalty is collected. One-half of the tax may be deferred until September without penalty.

The county recorder is the officer whose duty it is to record all deeds and mortgages. It is his duty to write out in full in books kept for this purpose all deeds and mortgages placed in his hands. In the recorder's office can be found a history of the title to all land in the county from the beginning. The first owner of the land, according to our records, is the United States government. The first deed is called a "patent," and is given to some individual or corporation.

The clerk keeps a record of the proceedings of the district court. He issues marriage licenses, files pleadings, assists in drawing juries, in some cases appoints administrators and guardians, and is a member of the commission of insanity. The other members of the commission of insanity are a physician and an attorney appointed by the court.

The sheriff has entire charge of the county jail and is himself the jailer or secures someone to serve as such. He makes all arrests and serves all notices, writs, execu-

tions and warrants for the district court. If a justice sends a man to the county jail, the constable delivers him to the sheriff or his deputy. The sheriff is the chief conservator of the peace in the county.

When a death occurs about which there is any doubt or mystery, or suspicion that a crime has been committed, it is the duty of the coroner to summon a jury, subpoena witnesses, make as thorough an examination as possible, and if the jury finds that a crime has been committed, and designates the perpetrator, it is the duty of the coroner to order his arrest.

QUESTIONS ON LESSON II

How many counties are there in Iowa?

What is the common size for a county?

How many townships are there in a county of this size?

By whom is the business of the county managed?

How many supervisors have you in your county? Name them.

What other county officers have you?

For what term?

How are they chosen?

Name them, and give the duties of each.

LESSON III. CITIES AND TOWNS

Cities and towns.

Classes.

Charters.

Powers.

Elections.

Primaries.

Forms of government.

Council.

Commission.

LESSON III. CITIES AND TOWNS

Residents of a village or any group of contiguous homes may organize themselves into a town, and towns may be organized as cities when populous enough. Some towns have only a very few residents and some places with several thousand population are not organized as towns. Towns and cities are organized under general laws of the state, limiting their powers, and a few cities in Iowa operate under special charters granted many years ago which give them large liberty of action.

In a town there is a town council of five members and a mayor elected by the people, and the council elects a town clerk. Towns and cities have control of their streets and public funds and the councils levy local taxes.

City and town elections are held in the spring preceded by primary elections for the selection of candidates for the offices to be filled.

When, according to the census, a town has more than two thousand inhabitants, it may be organized as a city of the second class. A city of the second class is divided into not less than two wards and not more than five. Each ward elects one councilman and two councilmen are elected at large. In cities of the second class the officers elected biennially are a mayor, treasurer, and assessor.

Whenever the inhabitant of the city reach the number of fifteen thousand, the organization is changed, and it is called a city of the first class. In cities of the first class one councilman is chosen from each ward and two

councilmen at large are chosen by the electors of the city. These all serve for two years. The following officers are elected biennially: a mayor, treasurer, solicitor, auditor, city engineer, assessor, and where there is no superior court, a police judge.

Cities of the first and second class may become organized under the commission plan of government.

Under this plan all legislative and administrative authority of the city is concentrated in a commission. the commissioners are severally the heads of the departments into which the administrative service is grouped.

Upon petition of electors equal to twenty-five per cent of the votes cast for all candidates for mayor at the last preceding city election, the mayor shall by proclamation submit the question of organizing as a city under this plan at a special election to be held at a time specified. If the majority of votes cast shall be in favor thereof, cities having a population of twenty-five thousand and over shall proceed to the election of a mayor and four councilmen, and cities having a population of two thousand and less than twenty-five thousand shall proceed to the election of a mayor and two councilmen.

The powers and duties in commission-governed cities are distributed among the following departments:

1. Department of public affairs.
2. Department of accounts and finances.
3. Department of public safety.
4. Department of streets and public improvements.
5. Department of parks and public property.

Under this plan all the councilmen are elected from

the city at large. Each qualified elector votes for all candidates. Candidates for office are selected at a non-partisan primary.

QUESTIONS ON LESSON III

How are towns and cities organized?

Name the classes of cities in this state.

In what class is your city?

When are your city elections held?

How are candidates nominated?

Have you the council or commission form of city government?

What cities may become organized under the commission plan?

Who are your councilmen or commissioners?

Does your city own any of its public utilities?

If it does, what is the financial standing of your city-owned works?

Are you in favor of municipal ownership?

Name your city officers and describe the duties of each.

LESSON IV. SCHOOLS

OUTLINE

State school system.

Districts.

Boards.

Duties.

City schools.

Truant officers.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Public school system.

Grade schools.

High schools.

State Board of Examiners

State Board of Education.

LESSON IV. SCHOOLS

The state provides for school privileges for children between the ages of five and twenty-one years. The grade schools have eight grades, and the high schools have four.

The school unit is the district which is governed by a board chosen by the electors of the district.

The school board has general charge of the business affairs of the district. The county superintendent supervises the teaching in the county. He is elected by the county board of education. His duties also include the hearing of appeals from the decisions of school boards.

School attendance is required for at least sixteen²⁴ consecutive school weeks in each school year by children between the ages of seven and fourteen⁶. For cities and villages truant officers are appointed to see to the enforcement of the compulsory education law. The school census, taken yearly, shows him the children who should be in school.

Under certain circumstances, children of school age are permitted to work after getting a work permit from the school authorities. This is explained under child labor law in Lesson IX.

The state superintendent is at the head of the public school system of Iowa. He is required by law to promote among the people of the state a proper interest in the general subject of education, including industrial and commercial education, agriculture, manual and vocational training, domestic science and continuation work.

The quasi-judicial duties of the superintendent of public instruction include the hearing of appeals from the decisions of county superintendents, and others who request them.

As executive of the educational Board of Examiners, a great amount of responsibility is incurred; since all licenses to teach are issued under the authority of this board, and the work is conducted under his personal supervision.

The state provides for higher education also at the Iowa State University at Iowa City, the Iowa State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts at Ames, and the Iowa State Teachers College at Cedar Falls. In 1909 the management and control of these schools was assumed by the Iowa Board of Education. The College for the Blind and the School for the Deaf were later placed under the control of this board. The board consists of nine members, who are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate.

QUESTIONS ON LESSON IV

What educational opportunities do the Iowa children have?

What is the school unit and how is it governed?

Who supervises the teaching in the county?

How many weeks in each year must children attend school?

How is the compulsory attendance law enforced?

Who is head of the public school system of the state?

What are his duties?

Name the state schools for higher education.

Who has the management of these schools?

Where are the College for the Blind and the School for the Deaf located?

How many members of the Board of Education are there?

Are they elected or appointed?

LESSON V. COURTS

OUTLINE

Courts.

Supreme court.

Number of judges.

How elected.

Term.

Jurisdiction.

District courts.

Number of judges.

How elected.

Term.

Jurisdiction.

Justice of the peace.

Superior courts.

Jurisdiction.

Juvenile courts.

Municipal courts.

LESSON V. COURTS

Under our state constitution, the judicial power is vested in a supreme court, district court, and such other courts, inferior to the supreme court which the general assembly may, from time to time, establish.

The supreme court of the state consists of seven judges. They are elected at the general election and hold their office for six years. The chief justice presides over the sessions of the court. The chief business of the supreme court is to decide cases appealed from the district courts of the state, and to exercise a supervisory control over all inferior judicial tribunals throughout the state.

The lower courts of the state follow as nearly as they can the decisions of the supreme court.

The records of the supreme court are kept by a clerk of the supreme court appointed by the members of the court. His term of office is four years.

The decisions of the supreme court are binding upon the lower courts and have, hence, the nature of laws. It is important that they be carefully published.

There are sixty-four judges of the district court of the state of Iowa. The state is divided into twenty-one judicial districts and each district is entitled to from one to five judges, the number being fixed by statute. The judges are elected for terms of four years. The district courts have jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters arising in their respective districts.

In each county, as we have seen, there is a county attorney, whose duty it is to appear on behalf of the

state in the prosecution of persons charged with crime in the district courts. It is also his duty to give advice to county officers on points of law touching their official work. If a criminal carries an appeal from the district court to the supreme court, the attorney general of the state takes entire charge of the prosecution. The attorney general also appears on behalf of the state whenever the state is a party to a suit. It is his duty to give legal advice to state officers on matters of official duty.

Two justices of the peace are elected by the voters of each township at the general election. They hold office for two years. Their jurisdiction is confined to the district from which they were elected, and limited to civil cases involving not more than one hundred dollars, and criminal cases in which the fine does not exceed one hundred dollars, or the punishment thirty days in jail.

The statutes provide that any city containing four thousand inhabitants may establish a superior court. There are at present seven such courts, located respectively in the cities of Council Bluffs, Cedar Rapids, Grinnell, Keokuk, Oelwein, Perry and Shenandoah. The judges are elected for terms of four years. The jurisdiction of this court is concurrent with the district court in all civil matters, except in probate matters and actions for divorce, alimony and separate maintenance. It has exclusive original jurisdiction over all actions for the violation of city ordinances, and all jurisdiction conferred on police courts and justices of the peace.

In all counties of the state having a population of one hundred thousand or over, it is the duty of judges of the district court, after each election, to select one of

their number to act as judge of the juvenile court for the ensuing four years. Such judge has charge of all matters pertaining to neglected and dependent children, widows' pensions and any and all matters which are now heard in the juvenile court.

Any city, whether organized under the commission form of government or the general law for the incorporation of cities or towns, having a population of five thousand or more may establish a municipal court upon petition of not less than fifteen per cent of the qualified electors.

At the next regular municipal election after the adoption of the proposition there shall be elected the judge or judges of said municipal court and the clerk and bailiff thereof.

Upon the election and qualification of these officers the police court, justice of the peace court and the superior court within the municipal court district shall be abolished, and the offices of police judge, clerk of police court, justices of the peace, constables, superior judge and clerk of superior court shall likewise be abolished.

QUESTIONS ON LESSON V

What is the chief business of the supreme court?

How many judges are there?

When are they elected and for what term?

Who presides over the sessions of the supreme court?

Who keeps the record of this court?

How many district judges are there?

What are the duties of the attorney general?

What are the duties of the county attorney?

What is the jurisdiction of justices of the peace?

What cities may have superior courts?

How many are there? Where?

How is the juvenile court judge chosen?

What cities may have municipal courts?

LESSON VI. ELECTIONS

OUTLINE

Elections.

General.

Primary.

When held.

Who are electors.

Municipal.

Precincts.

Registration.

Polling places.

Officers elected.

LESSON VI. ELECTIONS

All persons, men or women, native-born or naturalized, twenty-one years of age or over, resident in Iowa six months next preceding the election, and in the county sixty days, are entitled to vote at all elections.

General elections of state, district, county and township officials are held throughout the state on Tuesday next after the first Monday in November of the even-numbered years.

A primary election is an election by the members of the various political parties for the purpose of placing in nomination candidates for public office, for selecting delegates to conventions, and for the selection of party committeemen. The primary election is held at the usual polling places of the several precincts on the first Monday in June of the even-numbered years, for the nomination of candidates for such offices as are to be filled at the general election in November next ensuing, except judges of the supreme and district courts who are nominated at judicial conventions.

Voters living in cities having a population of six thousand or more must register at the voting place in their precinct.

All qualified electors who expect to be absent from their voting place on election day or who are physically unable to go to the polls, may take advantage of the absent voters' law. Application for proper blanks and further instructions should be made, not more than fifteen days nor less than three days prior to the date of election, to the auditor of the county in which such

absent voter resides. The affidavit upon the ballot envelope constitutes sufficient registration.

The regular municipal elections in cities and towns are held on the last Monday in March. The voting places are fixed by the council, one polling place in each precinct, and the election is conducted in the manner provided by law. Each qualified elector may vote thereat who is a resident of the city or town, and, at the time, has been ten days a resident of the precinct in which he offers to vote.

In cities of the first class the officers elected biennially are a mayor, solicitor, treasurer, auditor, city engineer, assessor, councilmen, and in all cities where there is no superior court, a police judge. In cities of the second class and in towns the officers elected biennially are a mayor, treasurer, assessor and councilmen.

Under the commission form of government cities having a population of twenty-five thousand and over elect at the regular biennial municipal election a mayor, and four councilmen, and cities having a population of two thousand and less than twenty-five thousand elect at such election a mayor and two councilmen. These officers are nominated and elected at large. The primary election for such nomination is held on the second Monday preceding the general municipal election.

QUESTIONS ON LESSON VI

When are general elections held?

Who are electors?

Why are primary elections held? When and where held?

Who are required to register?

When are municipal elections held?

What officers are elected for cities of the first class?
Second class?

What officers are elected in the cities under the commission plan of government?

LESSON VII. STATE INSTITUTIONS

OUTLINE

State Institutions.

General management.

Board of Control.

Duties.

Publications.

Institutions.

Names.

Location.

Purpose.

LESSON VII. STATE INSTITUTIONS

The state institutions are under the management of the Board of Control, which was created by the twenty-seventh general assembly and organized in 1898. The following institutions are under the control of the board:

Iowa Soldier's Home at Marshalltown.

Iowa Soldiers' Orphans' Home at Davenport.

Institution for Feeble-minded Children at Glenwood.

State Sanatorium for the Treatment of Tuberculosis at Oakdale.

Training School for Boys at Eldora.

Training School for Girls at Mitchellville.

Mt. Pleasant State Hospital at Mt. Pleasant.

Independence State Hospital at Independence.

Clarinda State Hospital at Clarinda.

Cherokee State Hospital at Cherokee

Penitentiary at Fort Madison.

Men's Reformatory at Anamosa.

Women's Reformatory at Rockwell City.

State Hospital and Colony for Epileptics at Woodward.

State Juvenile Home at Toledo.

The board is required to inspect county and private institutions in which insane persons are kept, associations and societies receiving friendless children and detention homes provided for juvenile offenders.

The board publishes quarterly a bulletin devoted to the scientific investigation of the treatment of insanity and epilepsy and the feeble-minded, and information embodying the experience of soldiers' homes, charitable, re-

formatory and penal institutions in this and other countries.

It also publishes a biennial report to the governor and legislature showing the cost of operating the institutions for the preceding two years.

The United States government pays to the state of Iowa the sum of \$100 per year for each male inmate of the Soldiers' Home who served in any war in which the United States was engaged, which amount goes into the state treasury. Persons who have sufficient means for their own support may be admitted to the home on payment of the cost of their support.

Soldiers' orphans and others are cared for at the Davenport home at the expense of the state. Each county is liable to the state for one-half the support of its children sent to the institution and the state pays the other half.

There is in connection with this institution a school building, pleasant, commodious and well lighted, and it is the policy of the board to have the course of instruction of a high standard. A kindergarten is operated for the very young pupils.

The age limit beyond which children are not kept in the home is sixteen years. Fewer than twenty per cent remain to the age limit.

QUESTIONS ON LESSON VII

How are our state institutions managed?

When was the Board of Control organized?

Name and locate the institutions under the management of the board.

What other institutions are inspected by the Board of Control?

Name the regular publications of the Board of Control.

How much does the United States government pay into the state treasury for each male inmate of the Soldiers' Home?

Tell something of the work at the Soldiers' Orphans' Home at Davenport.

What is the age limit for this institution?

LESSON VIII. STATE INSTITUTIONS—*Continued*

OUTLINE

Institution for feeble-minded.

Purpose.

Training schools.

Who may be committed.

Purpose.

Age limit.

Hospitals for the insane.

Four districts.

Insanity commission.

Hospital and colony for epileptics.

Voluntary commitment.

Hospital and custodial care.

Prison and reformatories.

Employment.

Prison farm.

Juvenile home.

Purpose.

LESSON VIII. STATE INSTITUTIONS—*Continued*

The purpose of the Institution for the Feeble-minded at Glenwood is to segregate and educate those who are mentally deficient and thus reduce the prison and other social problems of the future. Feeble mindedness is transmitted from parent to child with a sureness that is appalling. It has been estimated that this type of family increases at twice the rate of the general population. An immense amount of crime is committed by persons who are feeble minded. They are a menace to society because one can never tell when some primitive instinct or impulse may lead them to do things for which they are not responsible. Every feeble-minded child ought to be segregated in an institution. It is the kindest measure for the benefit of the child, and the parents and society at large.

The object of the training schools at Eldora and Mitchellville is the reformation of juvenile delinquents. These institutions are not prisons but compulsory educational institutions where wayward boys and girls are brought under the influence of Christian instructors and taught by example, as well as precept, the better ways of life, and where the moral, intellectual and industrial education of the child is carried on at one and the same time.

Any boy or girl over ten and under eighteen years of age, excepting married women, found guilty in any court of record of any crime excepting that of murder, may be committed. Any boy or girl may be discharged, or paroled from the schools, at any time after one year's training, upon satisfactory evidence of reformation.

The insane are committed after examination by the commissioners of insanity for the county in which the patient resides. The state is divided into four hospital districts corresponding to the four hospitals for the insane.

The State Hospital and Colony for Epileptics located near the town of Woodward, was opened September 3, 1917. The farm consists of 1,144 acres of choice agricultural land in Boone and Dallas counties, and has been named "The Meadows." The buildings are, in the main, one story in height, of fireproof construction, arranged on the cottage plan. Both hospital and custodial care are provided, and the patients are admitted by voluntary commitment, and by finding of the commission of insanity.

The prisoners in the penal institutions are employed largely on state work, quite a number being employed on construction work at the other institutions, and in the building and improving of highways adjacent to the institutions. The farming operations at Anamosa have been very successful. They are farming twenty-three hundred acres. The large farm at Clive has been operated as an industry by prisoners at Fort Madison. The manufacture of chairs at the penitentiary and butter tubs at the reformatory, has given employment to about two hundred and fifty men, with very satisfactory results. The prison at Ft. Madison is self supporting.

The Women's Reformatory, located one mile east of Rockwell City, was opened June 1, 1918. On the opening day the women prisoners who had been confined in the women's department at Anamosa were transferred to the new institution. A plan of fireproof cottages was

adopted. These are entirely separate and will each accommodate twenty-nine inmates. There are no walls and no guards around the institution. The farm consists of 218.8 acres of land. Provision is made for outdoor labor and recreation which is of incalculable value in the building up of the depleted moral sense. The station on the institution grounds has been named "Lane-dale" in honor of Carrie Lane Chapman Catt.

The State Juvenile Home, located at Toledo, was opened October 1, 1920. The state took over the buildings of Leander Clark College located on a beautiful site overlooking the city. This was provided for by the thirty-eighth general assembly to care for and educate "dependent, neglected, delinquent and destitute children under fifteen years of age who have a legal residence in Iowa." The buildings were remodeled to meet the requirements of the state and will care for about 150 children. The institution will be used to care for boys and girls who have committed no offense sufficient to send them to the state industrial school yet who need the supervision and care of the state.

For further information in regard to our state institutions, see the biennial report of the Board of Control, and the Quarterly Bulletin of State Institutions.

QUESTIONS ON LESSON VIII

What is the purpose of the institution for the feeble-minded?

Where is it located?

Who may be committed to the training schools?

When may they be discharged?

What is the object of the training schools?

How are the insane committed?

How many hospitals for the insane are there in this state?

Where are they?

When was the Hospital and Colony for Epileptics opened?

How many acres of land are there in the colony?

What two kinds of care are provided at this institution?

How are patients admitted?

How are prisoners in the penal institutions employed?

Where is the Women's Reformatory?

For whom was the station named?

Where is the Juvenile Home, and for what will it be used?

LESSON IX. SOME LAWS RELATING TO WOMEN
AND CHILDREN

OUTLINE

- The national suffrage amendment.
- Property rights of married women.
- Age of consent.
- Position of women in criminal affairs.
- Desertion of wife and children.
- Protection of wage-earning women.
- Child labor law.
- Compulsory education.
- Equal guardianship.
- Mothers' pensions.
- Hospital for crippled children.
- Playgrounds.
- Child welfare research station.

LESSON IX. SOME LAWS RELATING TO WOMEN AND CHILDREN

The National Suffrage Amendment has been ratified by the required number of states and is now a part of the constitution of the United States. Women may now register and vote at all elections under the same conditions that apply to men.

A married woman may own in her own right, real and personal property, acquired by descent, gift or purchase, and may manage, sell and convey the same, and dispose thereof by will, to the same extent and in the same manner the husband can property belonging to him.

The wife's dower in her husband's estate cannot be taken from her by his will. If the wife survives the husband and there are no children, the wife gets all of the estate up to seven thousand five hundred dollars, and half of the remaining estate.

The age of consent in Iowa is fifteen years.

The punishment for rape is imprisonment for life or any term of years.

The position of women in criminal affairs is supposed to be the same as that of men. As a matter of fact, it is probable that women are usually treated more leniently than men. This is probably due to the influence of the Common Law rule that a wife was exempt from punishment in many cases if the husband was present.

The desertion of a destitute wife or minor children by the husband or of such children by the mother is now a criminal offense punishable by a penitentiary sentence.

No female under twenty-one shall be employed where the duties of such employment shall keep her constantly standing. Seats must be provided for all female employees. There is one woman factory inspector whose duty it is to inspect conditions under which women and children labor.

At present this state is one of five in the United States without any limitation upon the number of hours women may work:

Our child labor law prohibits the employment of children under sixteen in any occupation in which the health of the child may be injured, or his morals depraved, or at any work in which the handling or use of gunpowder, dynamite, or other explosive is required, or in or about a mine during the school term, hotel, bowling alley, pool or billiard room, or in any occupations dangerous to life or limb. For children under sixteen, if employed, work permits are required. They are issued by the superintendent of schools or by a person authorized by him. Children under sixteen may not work before seven o'clock in the morning, nor after six o'clock in the evening, nor more than eight hours in any one day, nor shall they be employed more than forty-eight hours in any one week. No boy under eleven years nor girl under eighteen years of age shall be employed or permitted to work at the street occupations except by special permit from the superintendent of schools.

Attendance at school is compulsory for children between the ages of seven and fourteen¹⁶ for at least sixteen²⁴ consecutive weeks in each school year.

Parents are the natural guardians of their children and equally entitled to their care and custody. If either

dies, or is disqualified for acting, the guardianship devolves upon the other.

The mothers' pension act of 1913 was an attempt to secure for every mother, even though she was destitute, an opportunity to keep her children with her by paying her a weekly stipend for each child under sixteen.

The thirty-sixth general assembly provided for a free clinic for crippled children at the Iowa State University at Iowa City. All treatment, surgery and nursing to be absolutely gratuitous under sixteen years of age.

The thirty-sixth general assembly also passed a law providing that all cities shall have juvenile playgrounds if the electors of such cities at a general or special election called for that purpose shall first vote in favor of the establishment of such playgrounds, issuing city bonds for the providing thereof.

The thirty-seventh general assembly authorized the Board of Education to establish and maintain at Iowa City as an integral part of the State University, the Child Welfare Research Station, having as its object the investigation of the best scientific methods of conserving and developing the normal child, the dissemination of the information acquired by such investigation, and the training of students for work in such fields.

QUESTIONS ON LESSON IX

When may women vote?

What are the property rights of women?

What is the age of consent?

What is the punishment for rape?

State the position of women in criminal affairs.

What is the punishment for desertion of a destitute wife or minor children?

How does Iowa stand in regard to the limitation of the number of hours women may work?

At what age may children be employed?

How are work permits issued?

For how long each year is school attendance compulsory? At what age?

Have we equal guardianship for fathers and mothers?

What is the purpose of the mothers' pension act?

Where is the free clinic and hospital for crippled children?

How may city playgrounds be established?

What is the purpose of the Child Welfare Research Station? Where is it located?

LESSON X. SOME RECENT LEGISLATION
OUTLINE

The housing law.

Iowa state parks.

Revision of the code.

Public health nurses.

Presidential suffrage.

The federal prohibitory amendment.

The federal suffrage amendment.

LESSON X. SOME RECENT LEGISLATION

The Housing Law was approved March 31, 1919, and became effective on July 4, 1919. It aims to promote the health, safety, and welfare of the people by requiring certain minimum standards as regards space, light, ventilation, sanitation, fire protection, and other features of dwellings.

The law is mandatory for every city of 15,000 or more population, and for every city as its population reaches 15,000. All cities and incorporated towns having a population less than 15,000 are empowered to adopt ordinances covering similar matters.

The state housing commissioner is authorized to examine into the enforcement in any city, to take steps necessary to secure enforcement, and to apply provisions of the act to mining camps.

IOWA STATE PARKS. The thirty-seventh general assembly created the Iowa Board of Conservation whose duty it should be to advise with the Executive Council upon the areas suitable to reserve for state parks. Funds were to be derived by dividing the gun licenses fund in two and using half thereof.

The thirty-eighth general assembly amended the law by affording the board certain positive authority and placing at its disposal a hundred thousand dollars a year.

Areas suited for reservation are those where lakes, rivers, forests, springs and other conditions fit them for recreation. It is intended to select such areas as are unproductive of agriculture. Present conditions which

do not allow of any recreation or scientific research except by trespass or private consent, shall be changed so that each person in the state shall be within easy driving distance of a spot where he can rest or study undisturbed for a day or a week.

REVISION OF THE CODE. The thirty-eighth general assembly appointed a commission to prepare the preliminary work needed for a revision of the code. A complete edition of the law of Iowa, as it now exists, eliminating all repealed sections and grouping the portions in force now so they will appear in their proper relation has been published, and this compiled code will form the basis for the work of revision by the legislature. The commission has also published an exhaustive report upon the changes suggested or improvements that are recommended, and also a series of bills pointing the way to proper revision of the various chapters of the code.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES. The thirty-eighth general assembly gave to boards of supervisors, city and town councils, and school boards the power and authority to employ visiting or public health nurses at such periods each year and in such numbers as they may deem advisable and to pay the salaries and expenses thereof from the funds in the treasuries of said boards and councils.

PROHIBITORY AMENDMENT. The thirty-eighth general assembly ratified the national prohibitory amendment.

SUFFRAGE. The thirty-eighth general assembly gave to women the right to vote for presidential electors.

On July 2, 1919, the Iowa legislature, in special session, ratified the federal amendment for woman suffrage.

On August 18, 1920, the thirty-sixth state ratified the federal amendment and all qualified women may now vote at all elections.

QUESTIONS ON LESSON X

When did our state housing law become effective?

What is the purpose of this law?

What minimum standards are required?

In what cities is this law mandatory?

How many other cities and towns regulate these matters?

Does this law apply to mining camps?

How is the law enforced?

What has been done by the state in the matter of parks?

When was the last Iowa code prepared?

What was the work of the code commission which was appointed by the thirty-eighth general assembly?

What provision was made by the thirty-eighth general assembly for public health nurses?

What important suffrage legislation was passed by the thirty-eighth general assembly?

When was the federal suffrage amendment ratified by the required number of states?

STATE OFFICERS	TERM	Elected or Appointed	Salary
Governor	2 years	Elected	\$6,800
Lieutenant Governor.....	2 years	Elected	See note
Secretary of State.....	2 years	Elected	4,000
Auditor of State.....	2 years	Elected	4,000
Treasurer of State.....	2 years	Elected	4,000
Attorney General.....	2 years	Elected	5,000
Superintendent of Public Instruction.....	2 years	Elected	4,000
3 Railroad Commissioners.....	4 years	Elected	3,600
7 Judges of Supreme Court.....	6 years	Elected	6,000
3 Members, Bd. of Control, State Insts.....	6 years	Appointed by Governor	4,000
Superintendent of Banking.....	4 years	Appointed by Governor	4,000
Adjutant General.....	4 years	Appointed by Governor	3,000
Industrial Commissioner.....	6 years	Appointed by Governor	3,300
Labor Commissioner.....	2 years	Appointed by Governor	3,000
Dairy and Food Commissioner.....	2 years	Appointed by Governor	3,300
3 Members of Board of Parole.....	6 years	Appointed by Governor	\$10 per day
Insurance Commissioner.....	4 years	Appointed by Governor	3,600
State Librarian.....	6 years	Elected by Bd. Lib. Trustees	3,000
Document Editor.....	4 years	Appointed by Governor	3,000
Curator of Historical Department.....	6 years	Elected by Board of Trustees	3,000
State Veterinarian.....	3 years	Appointed by Governor	3,000
Fire Marshal.....	4 years	Appointed by Governor	2,500
3 Mine Inspectors.....	2 years	Appointed by Exec. Council	\$5 per day
3 Pharmacy Board.....	3 years	Appointed by Governor	1,500
9 Board of Education.....	6 years	Appointed by Governor	\$10 per day
3 Finance Com. of Bd. of Education.....	3 years	Appointed by Board	3,600
5 Board of Health.....	5 years	Appointed by Special Board	900
State Oil Inspector.....	2 years	Appointed by Governor	2,200

NOTE: Double the per diem of a senator.

