

REPORT
OF
MINNESOTA VOTING MACHINE COMMISSION
ON THE
SHOUP VOTING MACHINE
MANUFACTURED BY
THE SHOUP VOTING MACHINE CORPORATION OF PHILADELPHIA

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FILED
JAN 29 1942
Minneapolis
Secretary of State

The present members of the Minnesota Voting Machine Commission signed their first report on the Shoup Voting Machine on September 27, 1940. This report was filed in the office of the Secretary of State on October 3, 1940, and reads as follows:

"The Minnesota Voting Machine Commission duly met at the courthouse in St. Paul for the purpose of passing upon the application of the Shoup Voting Machine Corporation of Philadelphia for approval of its voting machine.

"It examined a model described as a ten column, fifty row combination manual, or electrically operated machine, and hereby reports as follows:

1. This machine permits complete secrecy in its operation.
2. It automatically records and counts all votes cast.
3. The total of all votes cast are concealed from the opening to the closing of the polls.

4. The rotation of names by precinct on ballots is provided for.

5. It provides for voting for all presidential elector candidates for one party as a unit.

6. It permits the voter to vote only once for any candidate or proposition that he is legally entitled to vote on.

7. It permits any voter to register his own choice of candidates for any office even though such candidate does not appear on the ballot by writing in the name or using a sticker.

8. It prevents voting for more than one candidate for any one office unless the voter is legally permitted to vote for more than one for that office.

9. It prevents the voter at a primary election from voting for candidates of more than one political party and at such an election does not permit the writing in of a personal choice.

10. It permits the voter, without the assistance of a judge, to freely change or alter his vote on any candidate or proposition up to the time of the final recording of his vote.

"From the standpoint of design, construction and material, we find that only tried and perfected mechanical devices and principles have been applied in the construction of the machine. All vital parts such as levers and counter wheels, etc., are cadmium plated to prevent rust.

"Results can only be ascertained once at the close of the polls when the vote of each candidate is shown directly under each name. The counters are covered until the close of the polls,

and at that time the face plate is raised to show the results. When this is done, the machine automatically locks itself against further operation, and even the officers' keys cannot be removed. Such an arrangement permits the photographing of the record of votes for each candidate, such photograph becoming a permanent record.

"Ballots are protected from marring, alteration or injury by a heavy, transparent, fire resistant cover held in place by a steel frame.

"The doors are so arranged and constructed that they become the sides of the voting booth so that when the curtains are closed, there is no opportunity for observance from the outside.

"The face of the machine is tilted for easy reading and brightly illuminated by built in lights.

"The paper rolls for 'write in' votes is ingeniously ruled and numbered so that the full vote must be accounted for.

"The public counter is visible to the voter while casting his ballot and shows the total number of voters from the time of the opening of the polls when the counter was set at '0'. This counter, in turn, is checked by a sealed in protective counter which cannot be reset. This insures an accurately checked record of total votes cast.

"Before any voter can use the machine, an officer must pull out a master control lever on the outside of the case. This operation closes the curtains and places the machine in operation for the use of one voter only.

"As to the operation of the machine from the voter's standpoint, there are some features that may be noted:

"The ballot on the machine is arranged vertically like conventional paper ballots that the voter is used to. When the voter indicates his choice of a candidate by pushing over a small lever, an 'X' immediately appears opposite the name of the candidate. By these 'X's', the voter can review the complete record of his choices before registering his ballot manually by a lever or electrically by a small switch control. At any time before this operation, he may change or alter any choice he may have made.

"The voter finds no difficulty in writing in names of personal choices where such is permitted as ample room is provided at a point convenient for such writing.

"Another commendable feature is the liberal space allowed for legible printing of candidates' names in bold type and the particularly large spaces for showing titles of offices and proposals such as amendments.

"All portions of the machine not in use are internally locked so that the voter cannot be confused.

"The machine seems to be simple in operation, dependable, accurate and capable of correctly registering the will of the electors.

"In the opinion of the commission the Shoup voting machine examined by it complies with all the requirements of Laws of 1939, chapter 345, part 8, chapter 1 (section 209.01, et seq., Minnesota

Election Laws 1940) and can be used safely at elections in this state under the conditions prescribed by said chapter and the election laws of this state, and said machine is hereby approved as by law required.

"Dated at St. Paul, Minnesota, September 27, 1940.

THE MINNESOTA VOTING MACHINE COMMISSION

By J. A. A. Burnquist
Attorney General

and Chas. E. Buckbee
Member of Minnesota Voting Machine Comm.

and H. G. Lykken
Member of Minnesota Voting Machine Comm."

On request of the Shoup Voting Machine Corporation and for the purpose of passing upon its application for approval of its voting machine as of the date hereof, the Minnesota Voting Machine Commission makes the following report:

It duly met at the Courthouse in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and examined the Shoup Voting Machine and finds that it is substantially the same as the machine described in the report of the Commission dated September 27, 1940, incorporated herein and made a part hereof.

The only changes that we find are such as, in our opinion, constitute improvements in the construction of the machine. The present motor is what is known as a capacitor-type motor, instead of the former split-phase motor. In the operation of the curtains a metal cable is now used instead of a venetian blind rope as formerly.

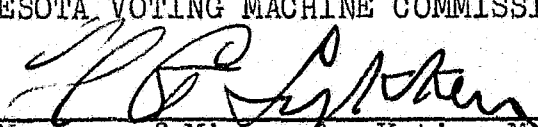
Another improvement built into the machine is a "no lost vote feature", designed to prevent voters from inadvertently losing their votes. Our attention was also called to a safety device in connection with the machine which makes it impossible for an elector to vote more than once at the same election.

In our opinion, on the date hereof, as members of the Minnesota Voting Machine Commission, the Shoup Voting Machine examined by the undersigned at the Courthouse in the City of Minneapolis complies with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes 1949, Chapter 209, and can be used safely at elections in this state under the conditions prescribed by said chapter and the election laws of Minnesota. Said machine is hereby approved as by law required.

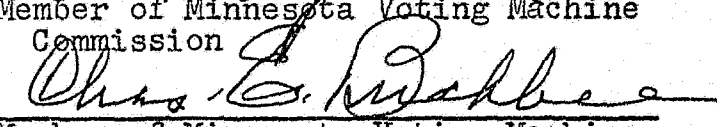
Dated at Saint Paul, Minnesota, January 24, 1952.

MINNESOTA VOTING MACHINE COMMISSION

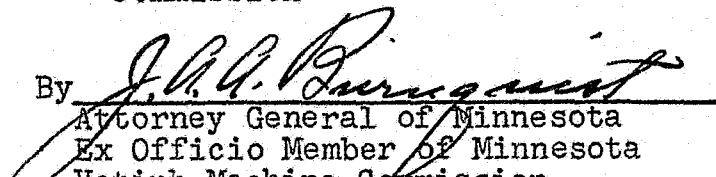
By


Member of Minnesota Voting Machine
Commission

By


Member of Minnesota Voting Machine
Commission

By


Attorney General of Minnesota
Ex Officio Member of Minnesota
Voting Machine Commission

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