

R E P O R T
of
MINNESOTA VOTING MACHINE COMMISSION
on the
SHOUP VOTING MACHINE
Manufactured by
The Shoup Voting Machine Corp. of Philadelphia

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

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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. H. Burdick
Attorney General

and

W. S. Burdick
Member of Minnesota Voting Machine Comm.

and

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STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FILED
OCT 3 - 1940

W. S. Burdick
Secretary of State

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