

State of Iowa
1930

REPORT OF THE
STATE PRINTING BOARD

FOR THE

Period Ending June 30, 1930

MEMBERS OF BOARD

Ex-Officio:

ED M. SMITH, Secretary of State, Chairman
J. W. LONG, Auditor of State
JOHN FLETCHER, Attorney General

Appointive:

J. C. GILLESPIE, LeMars
W. R. ORCHARD, Council Bluffs

ROBERT HENDERSON, Superintendent of Printing

Published by
THE STATE OF IOWA
Des Moines

State of Iowa

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PRINTED BY THE

State of Iowa, Department of State, Des Moines, Iowa

W. H. Anderson, Secretary

Robert Henderson, Superintendent

THE STATE OF IOWA
DES MOINES

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

HON. JOHN HAMMILL, *Governor*

SIR: In compliance with Sec. 183, Code, 1927, I have the honor to transmit to you the fifth biennial report of the State Printing Board.

Very respectfully,

ROBERT HENDERSON,

Superintendent of Printing and Ex-Officio Secretary of the State Printing Board.

Des Moines,

July 1, 1930.

REPORT OF THE STATE PRINTING BOARD

The operations of the state printing board are carried on under the provisions of chapters 14, 15 and 16 of the code. The board lets contracts for printing; directs the manner, style, and quantity of the public printing, and attends to all matters pertaining thereto.

The board appoints a superintendent, who serves during the pleasure of the board. The superintendent is ex-officio secretary of the board and its executive officer. He is in immediate charge of the supervision of printing; has the custody and attends to the distribution and sale of codes, session laws, supreme court reports and public documents; supervises the compilation and publication of the session laws, the legislative bill index and the Official Register. Also the permanent volumes of the senate and house journals of the general assembly are indexed under his supervision.

An outstanding accomplishment in connection with printing matters during the period covered by this report was the return to the general fund of the state of the sum of \$18,525.92, saved out of the appropriation for the period for printing for the general assembly and departments not otherwise provided for. This was possible notwithstanding the constant growth of governmental activities, calling for corresponding increases in printing volume. It was made possible in no small part by the hearty cooperation extended to the printing board by all other departments. For the most part all departments show a disposition to do everything possible consistent with their needs to keep down printing outlay and to get for the state the largest possible benefit for expenditures incurred. This applies to all printing problems except departmental reports. Objections by departments are sometimes met when efforts are made to reduce the extent of these documents. Such objections, as a rule, are not persistent, and, with few exceptions, are overcome on a basis of mutual understanding. There are, however, some difficult problems yet to be solved in this connection. An element of importance is the state's long-established policy of full publicity for public affairs. Where to draw the line

Because of the saving above noted during the past two years, and because the printing board is confident of doing at least equally well during the coming two years, it is believed that the 1931

edition of the code, at a cost of about \$25,000, can be taken care of without any extra appropriation. Our askings, accordingly, will be limited to a sum equal to the amount appropriated two years ago.

There was also turned back to the general fund at the end of the biennium \$2,448.89, an unused balance out of the sum appropriated for administrative purposes, such as salaries, etc. The amount asked under this head for the coming two years is \$900 less than was appropriated two years ago.

During the past five years, the number of employees in the office has been reduced by two.

In the matter of the cost of printing to the state there is a considerable difference between the net and the gross. The only figures that we are able to give complete are for the gross outlay. These are the figures found listed in this report. Revenue is derived directly from various items that figure in the outlay for printing, such as codes, session laws, supreme court reports, etc., sold and distributed by and through this office, and also from quite numerous and widely varied items put out by some other departments and by the educational institutions. Also, under a slightly different head, are items paid for by the institutions in the first instance, later to be charged in whole or in part to individuals or organizations with subsequent reimbursement to the public funds. Still other items that go to swell the apparent total, especially at the educational institutions, get into the account at their inception, to be sifted out later. This arises through the close relationship and cooperation that exists between the institution on the one hand and voluntary activities and organizations on the other hand. The receipts of this office from sales for the period covered by this report were \$21,889.57. As indicated, and for the reason that the accounts are not controlled by this office, the further sums realized from sales, reimbursements, etc., cannot be stated, but such sums are known to be considerable. Just touching the high spots at Iowa City reveals about \$10,000.

The term "printing" as used in the statutes and as used in this report includes also binding, and, by interpretation of the attorney general, extends to library binding. The state owns, in libraries at Des Moines, Iowa City, Ames and Cedar Falls, nearly 1,000,000 volumes. The rebinding of books and the binding of periodicals into permanent volumes for these libraries approximated \$50,000 for the two years covered by this report. This \$50,000 goes to

swell the total, although not strictly printing. The term printing likewise includes engraving, which represents nearly \$11,000 of the printing expenditure for the two-year period.

It is also true that the figures given in this report do not include a certain amount of printing done at the state university in a one-press plant operated on the campus. Under code section 185, the jurisdiction of the printing board does not apply to such printing. Under this same section the board of control operates at the Anamosa reformatory a plant where is done practically all printing for the fifteen institutions under its management. Such printing is also outside of the jurisdiction of the printing board and does not appear in the figures given in this report. The same is true as to a small plant at Eldora.

The code is the heaviest item in the printing account. Under existing law a new code is printed every four years. The suggestion might arise that a new code once in six years ought to suffice. The fact is, however, that the code carries itself, or nearly so. Receipts from sales off-set the cost. Also it is true that the legal fraternity likes the present arrangement. It is on them that the expense finally falls.

Next to the code, the official register is the largest item of printing. This volume is in demand as a text book in civics. Distribution is made to the public schools through the county superintendents, as provided by law. Many individual requests are also received. Classes at the State University are provided with about 600 copies of each edition. Formerly the total edition was 40,000 copies. A few years ago the printing board cut this to 30,000. The 30,000 copies of the 1929-30 edition cost \$15,067.16, compared with \$29,675.10 for 40,000 copies of the 1921-1922 edition. Thus, this book costs only slightly more than half what it cost ten years ago.

As all printing supervised by this board is done on a basis of competitive bids, prices paid, on the average, may be low compared with prices paid by commercial concerns for like work. The competition is keen. Sometimes the bids go so low as to give rise to complaint. Those who complain seem to argue that the state, as they view it, being rich and able to pay, ought to pay prices affording a profit. The only answer the printing board has been able to find to that proposition is that the bidders themselves make the prices and that it is the function of the board to do the best it can for the state. There may be presented in this matter a prob-

lem for the printers, but it can hardly be said that there is presented a problem for the state. The board feels that the low bidder should have the work unless because of lack of equipment, lack of financial responsibility or lack of experience. The law provides for taking these factors into consideration. It is seldom that a bidder seeks work that he is not well prepared to handle.

This complaint against low prices arises mostly in the city of Des Moines and coincides quite closely with the further complaint that more of the work should be done in Des Moines and less of it at other points in the state. The board feels that no partiality can be, or has been, shown, and that again the board is bound to do the best it can for the interests of the state. During the two years ending June 30, 1930, Iowa printing contractors outside of Des Moines received approximately 47 per cent of the total paid out for work, approximately 49 per cent went to Des Moines concerns, while about 4 per cent went to concerns outside of the state. Items bought outside of the state are mostly specialties that are not produced in the state on a competitive basis, such as cigarette tax stamps, tags for feed stuffs, and a few other less important items.

Of necessity, certain portions of the printing must be done in Des Moines for want of time, such, for example, as the work for the general assembly while in session.

Contractors doing printing for the state during the period in question (July 1, 1928-June 30, 1930), with post office addresses, are listed as follows:

Aeres-Blackmar Company, Burlington.
 American Lithographing & Printing Company, Des Moines.
 Athens Press, Iowa City.
 Benson Bindery, Iowa City.
 Berkowitz Envelope Company, Des Moines.
 Bishard Brothers, Des Moines.
 Campbell Printing Company, Des Moines.
 Capital City Printing Plate Company, Des Moines.
 Carpenter-Skilling Printing Company, Des Moines.
 Carter Printing Company, Des Moines.
 Cedar Falls Daily Record, Cedar Falls.
 Central Press, Des Moines.
 Century Printing Company, Des Moines.
 Clinton Book Bindery, Clinton.
 Collegiate Press, Ames.

Columbian Bank Note Company, Chicago.
 Commercial Art Engravers, Cedar Rapids.
 Dennison Manufacturing Company, Framingham, Mass.
 Denny Tag Company, Westchester, Pa.
 Economy Advertising Company, Iowa City.
 Eureka Specialty Printing Company, Seranton, Pa.
 Hertzberg Bindery, Des Moines.
 Holst Printing Company, Cedar Falls.
 Illinois Office Supply Company, Ottawa, Ill.
 Iowa Lithographing Company, Des Moines.
 J. M. Jamieson, Des Moines.
 International Tag Company, Chicago.
 Jenkins & Fergemann, Waterloo.
 Keystone Press, Clinton.
 Kenyon Company, Inc., Des Moines.
 Koch Brothers, Des Moines.
 Laurance Press Company, Cedar Rapids.
 Lefebure Ledger Company, Cedar Rapids.
 Geo. F. Lichty Printing Company, Des Moines.
 Long-Johnson Printing Company, Jackson, Tenn.
 MacDonald Press, Des Moines.
 Marshall Printing Company, Marshalltown.
 Matt Parrott & Sons Company, Waterloo.
 Mercer Printing Company, Iowa City.
 Messenger Printing Company, Fort Dodge.
 Metropolitan Supply Company, Cedar Rapids.
 Moon Printing Company, Des Moines.
 Morgan Printing Company, Des Moines.
 News Printing Company, Newton.
 Quality Print Shop, Des Moines.
 Robt. Teller Sons and Dorner, New York City.
 Seleine Printing Company, Marshalltown.
 Shoemaker Shop, Waterloo.
 Smith & Smith Printing Company, Des Moines.
 Spencer-Williamson Printing Company, Des Moines.
 Stephenson Printing Company, Des Moines.
 Stewart-Simmons Printing Company, Waterloo.
 Student Publications, Ames.
 Talbott-Eno Company, Des Moines.
 The Torch Press, Cedar Rapids.
 Tribune Publishing Company, Ames.

Tri-City Lithographing Company, Davenport.
 University Publishing Company, Des Moines.
 U. S. Finishing & Manufacturing Company, Chicago.
 Wallace-Homestead Company, Des Moines.
 Waterloo Engraving & Service Company, Waterloo.
 Welch Printing Company, Des Moines.
 Woolverton Printing Company, Cedar Falls.
 World Publishing Company, Shenandoah.

The following statement of the cost of printing for each of the several departments for the biennial period ending June 30, 1930, is submitted as required by law:

Academy of Science.....	\$ 1,560.35
Architectural Examiners	22.50
Attorney General	10,561.06
Auditor of State.....	22,267.40
Bacteriological Laboratory	155.68
Banking Department	2,928.83
Banking Department—Receivership	137.53
Beef Cattle Producers Association.....	366.51
Board of Accountancy	496.08
Board of Assessment and Review.....	6,938.51
Board of Conservation	4,236.71
Board of Control	1,065.34
Board of Education	3,481.77
Board of Engineering Examiners	834.77
Board of Health	15,757.19
Board of Parole	722.97
Bonus Board	540.00
Bureau of Labor	2,111.75
Clerk Supreme Court.....	3,655.30
Commission for the Blind.....	325.22
Corn and Small Grain Growers Association.....	1,446.16
Dairy Association	631.80
Director of the Budget.....	3,752.35
Educational Board of Examiners.....	2,602.24
Entomologist	208.79
Executive Council	1,825.54
Fire Marshal	1,849.07
Fish and Game.....	17,539.75
General Assembly	29,969.92
Geological Survey	6,414.74
Governor	2,262.78
Highway Commission	28,431.95
Historical Department	3,498.69
Historical Society	35.44
Horse and Mule Breeders Association.....	1,055.12
Horticultural Society	4,360.12
Industrial Commission	1,701.55
Industrial Survey	309.29
Insurance Department	15,542.68
Law Library	1,792.97
Library Commission	4,883.46
Mine Inspectors	1,307.15
Motor Vehicle Department.....	27,315.83
National Guard (Adjutant General).....	2,546.30
Pharmacy Commission	820.83

Pioneer Law Makers.....	30.20
Printing Board	22,498.98
Railroad Commission	6,382.83
Railroad Commission—Motor Carrier	992.41
Railroad Commission—Truck Operator	849.56
Reporter Supreme Court.....	14,758.94
Secretary of Agriculture.....	29,329.06
Secretary of State.....	7,056.88
Secretary of State—Securities.....	1,463.15
State Apiarist	553.17
State Library	3,128.48
State Teachers Association	869.92
Superintendent of Public Instruction.....	16,339.84
Supreme Court	262.20
Tax Committee	41.79
Treasurer of State.....	11,280.02
Vocational Education	835.95
College for the Blind.....	95.75
Iowa State College.....	126,997.29
State University	112,180.14
Iowa State Teachers College.....	17,633.00