

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
OF JEFFERSON COUNTY.

December 1st, 1932.

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF JEFFERSON COUNTY:

The Board of Elections of Jefferson County organized pursuant to the provisions of the Election Law, Chapter 17 of the Consolidated Laws of New York State, herewith submits its Twenty-second Annual Report for the year 1932.

In Jefferson County, there are 114 election districts

27 personal registration districts in Watertown  
87 non-personal registration districts in the towns

The board is charged with the duty of arranging and conducting all public elections; including primaries, general election and town elections.

The duties may be classified as follows:

Receiving, examining      passing upon and filing designating petitions and independent nominating petitions for all public offices and party positions in the primaries, general and town elections.

Publishing election notices, lists of nominations and polling places.

Tabulation and publication of party enrollment.

Preparation of primary and general election ballots, and the distribution of ballots, stationery and supplies.

Preparation of 37 voting machine districts.

Receiving, listing and investigation of reports of hotels, rooming houses and boarding houses in the City of Watertown.

Canvassing primary vote and the issuance of determinations to the nominated candidates.

Cancelling enrollments and adding to the registers, voters who have moved from an election to another, voters who have become of age, voters who were incapacitated during the time of enrollment and voters who have made an error in their enrollments.

Issuance of certificates of citizenship to voters intending to visit the Dominion of Canada. These certificates are necessary and effective in establishing the holders' American Citizenship on their return to the United States.

Furnishing certificates of voting records to our county and to various counties of the state to those who seek old age pensions and welfare relief.

Conducting Central Registration. During the month of August, this office became a Board of Central Registration, when any elector of the City of Watertown who expected to be unavoidably absent from the county on the regular days of registration by reason of his duties, occupation or business, might be Centrally Registered. The law further provided that such absentee registrants might specially enroll and make application for absentee ballots. There were 58 Central Registrations, but we are very sorry to state that nearly 200 voters appeared in our office or called on the telephone after Central Registration had expired and were denied the privilege of Central Registration.

Providing for absentee ballots. During the year, 800 applications for absentee ballots were mailed or delivered, 500 were returned and accepted and 463 were actually voted.

PRIMARIES

During the year, two Official Primaries were held.

The following party positions were elected in the Official Spring Primary Election, April 5th, 1932, for the Democratic, Republican, Law Preservation and Socialist Parties:

Two Delegates to the National Convention  
Two Alternate Delegates to the National Convention

Two Members of the State Committee

Two Members of the County Committee

The following Offices and party positions were nominated and elected in the Official Fall Primary Election, September 20th, 1932:

Offices,  
Representative in Congress  
State Senator  
Member of Assembly  
Sheriff  
County Clerk  
County Treasurer

Party Positions

Delegates to State Convention  
Alternate Delegates to State Convention  
(Democratic six; Republican eight; Law Preservation one and Socialist one)

The official vote in the Primaries was:

Spring	1284 Dem	2936 Rep	9 Law Pres	6 Soc
Fall	1577 "	11407 "	6 " "	7 "

The Primary Enrollment for 1932 was as follows:

	Towns	City	Total
Democrat	6108	1903	8011
Republican	14457	5710	20167
Socialist	25	27	52
Law Preservation	34	13	47

### REGISTRATION

Registration in the 87 non-personal election districts in the towns was held October 15th and 22nd. Registration in the 27 personal election districts in the City of Watertown was held October 14th, 15th, 21st and 22nd.

The total registration for 1932 was

35063	Towns
<u>13480</u>	Watertown
46543	Total Registration in county

### GENERAL ELECTION

General Election was held November 8th, 1932, at which time the following public offices were elected:

47 Presidential Electors for the Democratic, Republican, Socialist, Social Labor and Communist Parties

Governor  
Lieutenant-Governor  
Comptroller  
Attorney-General  
Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals  
United States Senator  
2 Representatives in Congress at Large  
Representative in Congress  
State Senator  
Member of Assembly  
Sheriff  
County Clerk  
County Treasurer

Amendment to the State Constitution in relation to the use of the forest preserve for recreation purposes

Proposition authorizing the creation of a state debt of \$30,000,000. for temporary emergency relief.

The following is the vote in the General Election November 8, 1932:

24400	Towns	12950	Watertown	37350	Total County
-------	-------	-------	-----------	-------	--------------

Because of the additional primary and the increased registration which always follows in a presidential year, far more ballots and supplies were necessary than in other years, and these naturally added to the expenses of the office. Contracts for a nearly all printing and supplies have been awarded by competitive bidding. Although economy has been our watchword, and every effort has been to keep exactments to the minimum, the expenses incident to the conduct of elections have been high. The new postal rate has also added to the expense.

With the additional primary, there has been no lull in the work in our office, and even now we are in the midst of the compilation of the 1933 enrollment of 37880 names. This task will take us until March 1st, when the printed enrollment books will be ready for distribution.

It is a source of great pleasure to our office to be advised that the returns from the Board of Elections of Jefferson County were the first filed in Albany and that they were highly complimented because they were accurate and in fine shape.

Town boards in common with county offices are employing every means of reducing expenses. The purchase of voting machines is an excellent opportunity of cutting costs and applying the same on a permanent improvement. There is no question that in the long run, machines would be an economy and large savings could be made right now. By the installation of voting machines, many towns could reduce the number of their election districts and this would result in a saving of an average of \$250. per district and also the difference between the printing for a machine district and for a paper ballot district is generally a matter of at least \$ 25. a district. Legislation may possibly make the use of voting machines mandatory, and the purchase of a machine next year would also prevent the possibility of a costly recount, which is always liable to happen in a town election.

We desire to thank the chairman and members of your Board for their continued co-operation. We extend to you and to all voters in Jefferson County, a cordial invitation to visit our office and seek any information or assistance within the jurisdiction of the Board of Elections of Jefferson County.

Respectfully submitted.

William K. Mott  
Bernard J. Redmond  
Commissioners

Kate E. Grant, Clerk