

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The branch of the state government now known as the Executive Council was formerly entitled the Census Board. It was established in 1851 and discontinued in 1873. The membership consisted of the governor, secretary of state, auditor, and treasurer as members ex officio. In 1873 the titular head was changed by the Code of that date to Executive Council and the same membership and qualifications were provided for. The Code of 1897 provided for the election of a secretary by the Executive Council but they failed to elect one until Dec. 5, 1898, when they elected A. H. Davison, E. A. Shipley having served as "acting secretary" until that time. The Code of 1924, by the addition of secretary of agriculture as a member, increased the membership to five.

The secretary of state acted as secretary of the Census Board and Executive Council from 1851 to 1897, and practically all of the records of that period are to be found in that department.

The volume of business transacted by this branch of the government has increased very rapidly. This was caused by the natural growth of the state and from the further fact that the General Assembly at various times increased the powers and duties of the council. At the present time it requires an office force of from twelve to fifteen persons for the regular routine work.

Following is the classification of the material from this department:

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL—CLASSIFICATION
MAIN DIVISIONS

- | | |
|--------|---|
| SERIES | I. ASSESSMENTS |
| SERIES | II. BIDS, BONDS, CONTRACTS, SPECIFICATIONS,
ETC. |
| SERIES | III. CAPITOL GROUNDS EXTENSION |
| SERIES | IV. CENSUS |
| SERIES | V. CLAIMS AND VOUCHERS |
| SERIES | VI. CORRESPONDENCE |
| SERIES | VII. PAPER STOCK ACCOUNT, PRINTER AND
BINDER |
| SERIES | VIII. REPORTS |
| SERIES | IX. SUPPLIES AND STORES |
| SERIES | X. MISCELLANEOUS |

SERIES I. ASSESSMENTS

Assessment Record by Executive Council

Equipment Car Companies

Bound Records

Reports, 1905-1909, 1917-1918

Lists of Companies

Documents

Lists

Companies

Cars handled by the Railroads

Reports

Annual

Miscellaneous

Express Companies

Bound Records

Certificates of Assessments, 1900-1919

Reports, 1899-1900

Documents

Reports, Annual

Schedules showing Mileage and Assessments by Counties

Statements, by Companies

Miscellaneous

Affidavits

Memoranda

Proceedings of Executive Council

Electric Transmission Lines

Bound Records

Certificates of Assessments, 1915-1919

Reports, 1915-1918

Lands

Documents

Abstracts

Comparative Value Statements

Press Clippings regarding Assessments

Return of Sales and Assessed Values of land and lots

Statement Showing Earning Values

Miscellaneous

Affidavits as to certain Lands in Allamakee County

Arguments before Executive Council regarding Assessments of Jackson County, 1907

Assessments of Kossuth County

Certificates as to the number of acres of Land improved and unimproved in Allamakee County

Comparative Values of Real Estate values and assessments

Estimates of City Assessors as to Assessed Value compared to Cash Value of Town Lots

Estimates of Value of all Property subject to State
levy

Land Values in Northwestern Iowa

List of Real Estate of Sioux City Bridge Company

Maps used in Assessments

Light, Heat and Power Companies

Documents

Reports

Schedules, showing Mileage and Value

Railroad Companies

Bound Records

Certificates of Assessment, 1900-1901, 1905, 1910-1919

Lists of assessment and taxing Districts

Railroad lands, 1901

Reports, 1897-1905, 1907-1908, 1909-1916

Reports, Abstracts of, 1898-1900

Documents

Abstracts of Reports

Affidavits

Arguments, Protests and Requests

Certificates

Classifications, 1883-1916

Contracts and Agreements, 1886-1910

Plats, Showing Mileage and Lots

Reports

Gross Earnings, Annual

Gross Earnings, Monthly

Railroad Construction, by County Auditors

Revenue derived from rent of Cars and Tracks,
1895

Statements, 1885-1910

Statements, Comparative, 1888-1910

Miscellaneous

Assessments as made by the Executive Council

Council Proceedings

Evidence as to the Market Value of Railroads

Notices

Petitions

Property not listed for taxation

Unclassified

Sleeping Cars

Documents

Abstracts of Reports

Reports

Annual

Pullman Companies

Statements

Length and Value of Sleeping Car Line, by Counties

Railroads assessed on account of Sleeping Cars, with mileage showing: Number of cars, Trackage and Value of Cars

Miscellaneous

Memorandums of Assessment

Telegraph and Telephone Companies

Bound Records

Certificates of Assessments, 1900-1918

Reports, 1899-1919

Miscellaneous

Lists of Companies and Mileage

Documents

Abstracts of Reports

Arguments before the Executive Council

Lists

Assessors' Lists of the Lines

Companies Delinquent in Reporting

Notices to Make Reports

Reports

Annual, Assessment by the Executive Council

Exchanges, Switching for other lines

Exchanges, Valuation of

Record of Reports

Statements

Certified

Comparative

Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous

Documents

Certificates

Estimates

Proceedings of Executive Council

Unclassified

SERIES II. BIDS, BONDS, CONTRACTS, SPECIFICATIONS,
ETC.

Building and Repairing

Capitol Building

Capitol Grounds Extension

Historical Building

Power House

Storage Building

Paper

Printing, Lithographing and Engraving

Supplies and Stores

Miscellaneous

Fuel

Ice

Laundry

Sale and Purchase of Lands

Telephone

Unclassified

Agricultural College, with Financial Agents

American Holiness Ass'n Camp meeting on Governor's
Square

Boarding of U. S. Prisoners at Anamosa

Capital City Gas Light Company

Cornice and Picture Moulding

Convict Labor

Depot at Ames

Disinfectant

Fertilizer

Floor and Tiling

Freight and Cartage

Hamilton Museum Collection

Iowa State Band

Ozone Plant

Purchase of old Capitol Building

Repairing Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument

Repairing and Upholstering

Right of way of C. B. & Q. R. R. through the grounds
at Glenwood

Sale of old Material at Capitol

Scaffolding

Supplies for State Institutions

Yard Lighting

SERIES III. CAPITOL GROUNDS AND EXTENSION

BOUND RECORDS

Check Stubs, July 31, 1915-Sept. 16, 1916

Expense Accounts, 1914-1915

Journals

Ledgers

Expense, Material and Labor

Receipts, 1914-1915

Memorandum Books

Order Books, for material

Receipts for Deposits with Treas., Feb. 9, 1914-Jul. 18, 1918

Time Books

DOCUMENTS

Account of Rentals, Capitol Grounds Extension

Lists

Employees, Houses, Rentals, Sales, Tenants, Tools, etc.

Receipts

Records of Disposal of Property

SERIES IV. CENSUS

BOUND RECORDS

Card record with Counties

Memorandum of the Tabulation of Census, 1915

Time Book, Census of 1915

DOCUMENTS

Instructions to Assessors

Lists of Applicants and Employees, Census of 1915

Lists of Enumerators for 1915

Schedules

Crop Statistics

Eggs, Dairy Products, Wool, other Products

Farm Grains

Fruits and Berries

Hay, Alfalfa, Silage and Forage Crops

Seeds, Potatoes, etc.

Vegetables

Farm Statistics

Acres owned

Acres Leased for Cash

Acres Leased for Share of Crop

Number of Farms

Value of Improvements

Value of Farm Machinery

Value of Lands

Live Stock Statistics

Number and Value of Cattle

Number and Value of Horses and Sheep

Number and Value of Swine, Fowls, Goats, etc.

Registered Animals—Adair—Wright

Population Statistics

Age Classification of Civil War Veterans living in
Iowa

Alms House Statistics, reported by Stewards of
Poor Farms

List of Civil War Veterans living in each County

Lists of Inmates of State Institutions from Coun-
ties and not enumerated by the Assessors

Place of Birth

Population Schedules, alphabetical by sex and counties
 Population Certificates, by Executive Council
 Registers, Adair—Wright
 State of Birth
 Statistical Reports from County Asylums and Poor Farms
 Proceedings in matter of Census of the City of Atlantic
 Record of Cards shipped to the County Auditors
 Returns of County Auditors of the Assessors and Chairmen of the Board of Trustees of the Twps.
 Miscellaneous
 Copy for Report
 Unclassified

SERIES V. CLAIMS AND VOUCHERS

BOUND RECORDS

Claim Record, 1893-1898
 Index to Claim Register
 Registers, 1 to 12 inclusive

DOCUMENTS

Adjutant General, 1909-1916
 Arrest and Return of Fugitives from Justice, 1882-1914
 Agricultural Department, 1909-1916
 Appropriations, 1909-1916
 Arbitration Board, 1909-1916
 Attorney General, 1909-1916
 Auditor of State
 Banking, 1909-1916
 Miscellaneous, 1909-1916
 Insurance, 1909-1914
 Municipal, 1909-1913
 Capitol Grounds Extension, 1915-1916
 Charitable Institutions
 Benedict Home
 Boys' and Girls' Home
 Dubuque Rescue Home
 Florence Crittenden Home
 House of the Good Shepherd
 Commissions, Commissioners, etc.
 Collateral Inheritance Tax
 Code Supplement
 Drainage
 Employers' Liability
 Gettysburg
 Tax
 Vicksburg

Control, Board of, 1909-1914
Custodian
District, Circuit and Probate Judges, 1909-1914
Dental Examiners, Board of, 1909-1914
Education, Board of
 Salaries, 1909-1914
 Miscellaneous, 1909-1914
Educational Examiners, Board of, 1909-1914
Executive Council
 Accountant, 1909-1916
 Archives, 1909-1914
 Census, 1895
 Contingent, 1910-1914
 General Expense, 1911-1915
 Investigations, 1913-1914
 Meandered Lakes, 1910-1914
Fish and Game Department, 1909-1916
Food and Dairy, 1900-1916
Geological Survey
 Salaries, 1909-1916
 Miscellaneous, 1909-1916
Governor, 1909-1914
Health, Board of
 Antitoxin, 1911-1913
 Bacteriological Laboratory, 1909-1914
 General, 1909-1916
 Hotel Inspection, 1912-1914
 Medical Examiners, 1909-1914
 Nurses, 1909-1914
 Optometry, 1909-1913
 Sanitary Engineer, 1913-1914
 Vital Statistics, 1909-1914
Historical Department
 Salaries, 1909-1916
 Miscellaneous, 1909-1916
Historical Building, 1909-1911
Historical Society, 1912
Horticultural Society, 1912-1914
Inspector of Bees, 1912-1914
Iowa Industrial Commission, 1914
Iowa Beef Producers' Assn., 1912-1916
Iowa Dairy Association, 1909-1915
Iowa State College of Agr'l, 1909
 Entomology, 1909-1916
Iowa State Library
 General, 1907-1916
 Law, 1909-1916

Labor Statistics, Bureau of
 General, 1909-1916
 Salaries, 1909-1916
 Library Commission
 General, 1909-1911
 Salaries, 1909-1915
 Miscellaneous, 1912-1914
 Parole, Board of, 1909-1915
 Pharmacy, Commission of, 1909-1916
 Railroad Commissioners
 General, 1909-1916
 Salaries, 1909-1916
 Receipts, Check Stub Books, 1914-1918
 Secretary of State, 1909-1916
 State Binder, 1909-1916
 State Fire Marshal, 1911-1914
 State Mine Inspectors, 1909-1916
 State Oil Inspectors, 1909-1916
 State Printer, 1909-1916
 State Veterinary Surgeons
 Salaries, 1909-1916
 Animal Health, 1911-1916
 Hog Cholera Serum, 1909-1910
 Examining Board, 1909-1911
 Foot and Mouth Disease, 1915
 General, 1909-1916
 Supt. Public Instruction, 1909-1914
 Supreme Court Clerk, 1909-1916
 Supreme Court Judges, 1909-1914
 Supreme Court Reporter, 1909-1916
 Treasurer of State, 1909-1916
 Miscellaneous, 1886-1918

SERIES VI. CORRESPONDENCE

BOUND RECORDS

Letter Copy Books, 1884-1899

DOCUMENTS

Affairs outside the State

 Foreign

 National

 Other States

Appointments

Assessments

 Equipment Car Companies

 Express Companies

 Electric Transmission Lines

 Lands and Personal

 Light, Heat and Power Companies

- Railroad Companies
- Sleeping Cars
- Telegraph and Telephone Companies
- Miscellaneous
- Bids, Bonds, Contracts, Specifications, etc.
- Capitol Grounds Extension
- Census
- Charitable Institutions
 - Benedict Home, 1886-1897
 - Rescue Home Society, Dubuque, 1902
 - Womens' and Babies' Home, Sioux City, 1902
- Cherokee Hospital for Insane, 1894
- Cities and Towns
- Claims
- Commissions, Commissioners, etc.
 - Capitol Commission, 1902
 - Code, 1892-1904
 - Soldiers and Sailors Monument Com., 1893-1901
- Corporations
- County Officers, 1891-1906
- Elections
- Expositions, etc.
 - Columbian Exposition, 1891-1895
 - Farmers' National Congress, 1897
 - Louisiana Purchase Exposition, 1903-1909
 - Semcentennial at Burlington, 1896
 - Trans-Mississippi Exposition, 1897-1901
 - Worlds Industrial Cotton Centennial, 1885
- Lands, Islands, and Lake Beds
- Legislative
- Printing, Publishing, Lithographing, and Engraving, 1880-1906
- Resignations
- State Institutions
 - College for the Blind, 1887-1901
 - Iowa State College of Agriculture, etc., 1885-1906
 - Iowa State Teachers College, 1901-1906
 - Penitentiaries
 - Anamosa, 1887-1897
 - Fort Madison, 1886-1898
 - School for the Deaf, 1883-1906
 - State University, 1890-1906
- State Offices, Boards, Departments, etc.
 - Adjutant General, 1886-1906
 - Agricultural Department, 1894-1906
 - Attorney General, 1889-1907
 - Auditor of State, 1893-1905
 - Clerk of Supreme Court, 1886-1906

Control, Board of
 Custodian, 1886-1906
 Dental Examiners, Board of, 1901-1906
 District, Circuit and Probate Judges, 1894
 Fish and Game Warden, 1885-1910
 Food and Dairy Commission, 1887-1906
 Geological Survey, 1898-1906
 Governor, 1897-1906
 Health, Board of, 1885-1906
 Historical Department, 1887-1907
 Horticultural Society, 1886-1906
 Inspector of Boats, 1897
 Iowa State Library, 1886-1906
 Labor Statistics, Bureau of, 1886-1906
 Library Commission, 1902-1906
 Pharmacy, Commission of, 1886-1906
 Railroad Commissioners, 1886-1906
 State Binder, 1909
 State Historical Society, 1903-1906
 State Mine Inspectors, 1886-1906
 State Oil Inspection, 1892-1906
 State Printer, 1899-1906
 State Veterinary Surgeons, 1901-1906
 Supt. Public Instruction, 1885-1906
 Supt. Weights and Measures, 1891-1894
 Supreme Court, 1886-1906
 Supreme Court Reporter, 1899-1905
 Treasurer of State, 1889-1905

Supplies and Stores

Miscellaneous

Applications for Restaurant in Capitol Building
 Inquiries
 Monuments, Statues, etc.
 Rebates on Mileage Books
 Requests
 Thanks
 Unclassified

SERIES VII. PAPER STOCK ACCOUNT, PRINTER AND
 BINDER

BOUND RECORDS

Journals, Stock used by State Officers, 1900-1918
 Ledgers, 1901-1918
 Orders for Printing, 1899-1900
 Receipts for Stock, Printer and Binder, 1885-1919
 Stock Accounts, 1899-1900
 Stock Accounts, Paper and Printing for State Institutions, 1898

Stock Accounts, Paper used by State Printer, 1901-1920
 Storage Accounts, 1914-1916

DOCUMENTS

Invoices

Book Paper Accounts

Book Paper, Envelopes, etc.

Orders to furnish Paper to State Printer

Settlement of Book Paper Account with F. R. Conaway, State
 Printer

Statement of Stock issued to State Printer

SERIES VIII. REPORTS

DOCUMENTS

Commissions, Commissioners, etc.

Capitol Commission

Capitol Grounds Extension Representative

Louisiana Purchase Exposition

State Institutions

Iowa State College Agriculture, etc.

Penitentiary at Fort Madison

State Officers, Boards, etc.

Agricultural Department

Auditor of State, Condition of Treasury

Custodian of Public Buildings

Executive Council, by Secretary

State Oil Inspection

State Printer

State Veterinary Board

Miscellaneous

Accountants

Cards, showing increase in Value of Swamp and overflowed

Lands when properly drained

Examination of Report of Secretary of Ex. Council, by
 Com.

Flint and Bloomfield Coal Co's Mines, by Surveyor

Free Transportation, by Railroads

Historical Bld's, Construction of, by Supt., 1900-1905

Inspection of Elevators, by Baker

Investigation of Efficiency Experts, by Quail and Parker

Iowa State Agricultural Society, Finance Com.

Iowa State Agricultural Society, Retrenchment and Re-
 form Com.

Lunch Room repairs, in Capitol Bld'g, by Engineer

Origin of Fire in Capitol Bldg. in 1904, by Com.

Ozone Plant in State House, by State Chemist

Petition for examination of B. & L. Co's, with Report of
 Com.

Public Library of Des Moines, Petition for Remission of
claim by State, Report by Amos Brandt
Sale of Supreme Court Furniture, by Com.
State Binder, Examination of by Atty. General
Supt. and Editor of State Printing, by Supt.
System of Blanks to be used by the Sec. of Ex. Council
and State Printer, by Com.

SERIES IX. SUPPLIES AND STORES

BOUND RECORDS

Day Book, 1889-1896
Invoice Books, 1899-1914
Inventories, 1897-1914
Journals, 1885-1888, 1898-1912
Ledgers, 1888-1913
Orders for Supplies, 1886-1890
Statements of Supplies drawn by State Officers, 1899-1909
Statements of Supplies drawn by Legislature, 1884-1919
Stock Books, 1902-1916
Supplies on hand and received, 1887-1897

DOCUMENTS

Invoices
 Furniture purchased
 Supplies
Lists
 Supplies, Articles needed, Awards, Bids, etc.
 Report of Supplies in Capitol Bld'g, by Com.
 Requisitions by State Officers, Boards, etc., 1886-1919
 Statements of Supplies drawn by offices, etc.

SERIES X. MICELLANEOUS

BOUND RECORDS

Appropriations
Estimates on Grading, 1890
General Expense
 Bill Record, 1885-1896
 Expense Account Book, 1902-1910
 Journals, 1898-1899, 1910-1910
 Ledgers, 1899-1901
Minutes of Executive Council, 1889-1907
Miscellaneous Collection of Maps
Record of Bills introduced in Senate, 21st G. A.
Record of Bonds filed by State Officers, etc., 1899
Record of Loans of Cuts, 1914-1917
Record of Supplies for State Institutions, 1901-1904
Requisitions for Postage, 1893-1911

DOCUMENTS

Blue Prints, Maps and Plans

Certificates

Architects, Estimates on Contracts

Auditor of State, Average Rate of Taxes levied

Railroad Commissioners, Current Expense

Secretary of State, Printing and Binding

Unclassified

Copy for Printer of the Expense Book, 1900-1914

Deeds, Mortgages, Leases and Notes

Elections

Proceedings of Primary Election in Story Co., 1908

Index Cards of Employment Bureau

Inventories

Oil Inspection Supplies

Postage

Miscellaneous

Lands, Swamp and Lake Beds, in Winnebago County

Lists, Miscellaneous

Mileage Books, Credentials, etc.

Notices

Original

Publications

Class of Cities

Laws

Proposals

Tax Levies by Executive Council

Vacations of Premises

Miscellaneous

Opinions of Attorney General

Petitions

Agricultural Rooms in Capitol, in regard to

Fort Madison Water Works Co., Regarding State Property

Grant of Right of Way over lands owned by State to the Fort Dodge, Des Moines and Southern R. R.

Jones, Penna, Claims for injuries

Refund of amount paid for River Bed

Sidewalk tax on Blk. 27, Stewart's Add., Des Moines, Iowa

Spirit Lake Monument

Taxes on Iowa Central Railroad

Embankment on Capitol Grounds, for removal

Mississippi Farms Co., regarding application of the law

Reproductions of Plans, etc., of State Office and Supreme Court Bld'gs

Resolutions

Board of Library Trustees
 Executive Council
 Legislature
 Miscellaneous

Samples of Printing

Statements

Miscellaneous

Unclassified

Amendments to Rules of Order of Executive Council
 Application of Winneshiek Co. to sell certain lands
 Approval of School Bonds filed as security
 Assignment of Salary, H. S. Fairall
 Division of Counties between the Penitentiaries
 Lovell Refund Case
 Order and Permit to construct Sidewalk
 Papers regarding refund to Kate Busch
 Recommendation, regarding Furniture and Equipment
 for the Historical Bld'g
 Subpoenas
 Transcript of Judgment, State vs Craig
 Veto by Larrabee of Telephone Bill

SERIES 2

Claim in probate, Corrigan Case
 Final Receipts and Release from compensation
 Mechanic's Lien, Claim against McNutt
 Papers in Investigation of Claim for injuries by Mrs. Tucker
 Papers regarding Inspection of Sewer on Dean Ave.
 Statement regarding purchase of Lot 1 in Governor's Square

 FIRST BICYCLE WEST OF MISSISSIPPI

Velocipedes: We learn that our fellow townsman, B. F. Allen and C. P. Luse, have each ordered a velocipede for their own use. All right! Des Moines being the fastest city in the state, ought to have the first bicycle; and we did have a little ambition of our own to live in history as being the first chap who brought a bicycle west of the Mississippi, but we haven't got it now as bad as we had. Anyhow we don't envy you fellows the bumps and tumbles and laughs you'll get.—*Daily State Register*, Des Moines, Iowa, Jan. 20, 1869. (Thought to have been written by Ret Clarkson.—*Ed.*) (In the Newspaper Division of the Historical, Memorial and Art Department.

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