
NATIONAL AFFAIRS.

180. While not strictly connected with local government, there are certain officers and organizations in which we have a peculiar local interest.

First might be mentioned the *Presidential Electors*. Of these the State is entitled to as many as it has both

Senators and Representatives—at present, ten. One is elected for each Representative District,¹ and two are chosen for the State at large. They meet at Topeka, on the first Wednesday of the December next after their election, and at twelve o'clock, noon, cast their ballots for President and Vice-President, as prescribed by the National Constitution.² No Senator or Representative, or person holding any office of trust or profit under the United States, can act as an Elector.

181. *United States Senators* are elected by the State Legislature as follows: On the second Tuesday after the meeting of the Legislature, each House names a person for Senator by a *viva voce* vote. The next day, at noon, the two Houses meet in what is called a *joint assembly*; and if the same person has received a majority of all the votes in each House, he is declared duly elected. If not, the joint assembly chooses by a *viva voce* vote, and whoever receives a majority of all the votes cast (a majority of each House being present and voting) is declared elected. The joint assembly must meet and take at least one vote each day till a Senator is elected. Each State in the Union has two Senators. A Senator's term of office is six years. A Senator must be at least thirty years of age, must have been nine years a citizen of the United States, and must be at the time of his election an inhabitant of the State for which he is chosen.

¹ This is the rule, but by the Congressional apportionment of 1891 Kansas was given eight Representatives, and the Legislature has not since re-districted the State.

² For a full discussion of national affairs, students should turn to the Constitution of the United States, which is given, with a careful analysis, in the special Kansas edition of Berard's *United States History*.

182. *Representatives*, or Congressmen, are elected by the people, and are voted for in what are known as *Congressional Districts*. Each State is entitled to as many Representatives as the quotient obtained by dividing the population of the State by 173,901, a divisor established by Congress and called the *Ratio of Representation*. To each of the States having the largest remainders one Representative is assigned until the whole number of Congressmen (356) has been secured.

The State Legislature determines the boundaries of the Districts.

Congressmen are elected at the General Election of State and County officers, in the even years. The term of office is two years. A Representative must be at least twenty-five years of age, must have been seven years a citizen of the United States, and must be an inhabitant of the State for which he is chosen. Nothing in the Constitution prescribes that he shall be a resident of the *District* for which he is chosen: this, however, has been the general custom, though there have been some exceptions.

183. The *United States District Court* for this State sits at Topeka and Leavenworth, and at Wichita for criminal cases. Its officers are the *District Judge*, who holds office during life or good behavior; the *District Attorney*, who represents the National Government as the County Attorney does the county; and the *Marshal*, whose powers and duties are similar to those of a Sheriff. These three officers are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate.

184. The *United States Circuit Court* for this State sits at Topeka and Leavenworth. One of the Justices of the

United States Supreme Court is allotted to this circuit, which includes Kansas and several other States. There are also appointed for the circuit two *Circuit Judges*, with the same general powers in the circuit as a Justice of the Supreme Court. The Circuit Court may be held by the Circuit Justice, or by a Circuit Judge, or by the District Judge sitting as Circuit Judge, or by any two of these sitting together.

Each of these courts appoints its own *Clerk*.

The District Attorney and the Marshal are officers of both courts.

The greater number of cases coming before these Federal Courts are those in which the United States is a party, or cases between citizens of another State and citizens of this State.

185. *Naturalization* is the process by which an alien becomes a citizen.¹ *Aliens* are persons born in a foreign country. The word includes men, women and children. After living here a certain time, an alien may become a citizen. Congress prescribes the method. The alien must have lived in this country at least five years. But at least two years before he can become naturalized he must declare on oath before some court of record that he wishes to be, and intends to be, a citizen. When any court to which he may apply is satisfied that he has been in this country five years, and one year in the State where the court is held, and has behaved as a man of good moral character, and has duly made his

¹The right to *vote* is another and a separate matter. The States regulate voting; the United States, naturalization. Kansas permits an alien to vote under certain conditions. See note 1, page 55.

declaration, it may admit him as a citizen. He renounces his allegiance to his native land, and swears to support the Constitution of the United States.

An alien residing in this country three years next preceding his becoming twenty-one, and who has resided here five years in all, may be naturalized without previous declaration.

A soldier who is at least twenty-one years of age, regularly discharged from the United States army, may be admitted without declaration, and with but a single year's residence.