Registration Law, As to Special City Elections. Special City Elections, Registration Law Not Applicable to.

Chapter 113, Laws of 1911, being the general registration law does not apply to special city elections nor to elections submitting to the electors question of adopting commission form of government.

March 15, 1912.

Hon. Edward Horsky, Mayor of the City of Helena, Helena, Montana.

Dear Sir:

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 14th inst., with which you submit a series of four questions propounded by your city attorney relative to the effect, if any, of the general registration law of 1911 upon elections held under the provisions of Chap. 57, Laws of 1911, known as the "Commission form of Government Act."

From an examination of Chap. 113, Laws of 1911, it is apparent that that act does not apply to special city elections. The only special election to which it applies is a special county election. For that reason it would not apply to an election held under the provisions of Chap. 57, and this would answer the first three enquiries submitted.

Your fourth question is as to who are qualified electors of a city at a special election to vote upon a question of adopting a commission form of government. Sec. 2 of Chap. 57, requires that the city council submit the question of reorganization to the qualified electors of such city. The general registration law not being applicable to special elections, these qualifications would be governed by city ordinance. It is my opinion that the city ordinance relative to the registration of electors at special elections would apply.

Yours very truly,

ALBERT J. GALEN,

Attorney General.

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