

Three states have attempted the unicameral plan and all have abandoned it. Vermont kept it for 59 years up to 1836. A number of states, including Arkansas, Arizona, Massachusetts, Oklahoma and Oregon, have considered abandonment of the bicameral plan at some time in the past 25 years, but none has done so. In several other states the legislatures or committees have rejected the one-house system.

tho several states tried a somewhat similar arrangement many years ago, the Cornhusker state stands out as the testing laboratory of the unicameral idea in state government in the face of modern legislative problems.

The orthodox system of having two legislative chambers as a check upon ill-advised legislation has long been a fundamental theory of representative government, so it is little wonder that government officials and newspaper editors all over the country are pricking up their ears at Nebraska's innovation.

Senator George W. Norris, who planned the uni-cameral system, and who was largely instrumental in getting it adopted here, takes issue with the fundamentalists, and argues that the single chamber will do away with loss of time, increase legislative efficiency and at the same time establish legislative responsibility more directly. He also points to the lower cost of the smaller single body.

Those who view with misgivings the experiment upon which Nebraska will launch in 1937 declare that the one-house legislature will deprive the farmers of equal representation, be more easily controlled by a lobby, and that it opens the way to extravagance and spending.

Meanwhile members elected to the next legislature are scratching their heads over the problem of just how to put the one house plan into action. One of the first tasks confronting the 1935 session, probably the last two-house group which will ever meet in Nebraska, will be the redistricting of the state and fixing of the number of members of the one-house group.

The 1937 legislature will consist of one house composed of between 30 and 50 members. Several legislators have suggested that the present senate chamber of 33 members be retained so that the present automatic voting system need not be changed, and the present senatorial districts might be used.

Members of the 1937 legislature will be elected on a non-partisan ballot for a term of two years. The aggregate salaries of members will be \$37,500 per year, divided equally among them. Sessions of the legislature will be biennial, except as may be otherwise provided by law. The lieutenant governor will preside as the officer of the chamber.

The request from any one member of the legislature shall be sufficient to obtain a roll call on any question. The vote upon the final passage of any bill may not be taken until five legislative days after its introduction nor until it has been on file for final reading and passage for at least one legislative day.

One of the two luxuriously finished legislative chambers at the state house will have to be abandoned when the 1937 legislature goes into session, and, in all probability, alterations will have to be made in the \$37,000 electric voting machines installed just before the 1933 session.

WHAT'S DOING AT THE STATE HOUSE

By James R. Lowell

Not since the new capitol building was started has Nebraska gained the national limelight so conspicuously as it has by voting to adopt a one-house legislature. Al-