

**APPLIED CITY  
GOVERNMENT: THE  
PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE  
OF CITY CHARTER MAKING**

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Applied City Government: The Principles and Practice of City Charter Making by Herman G. James

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# APPLIED CITY GOVERNMENT

THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE  
OF CITY CHARTER MAKING

BY

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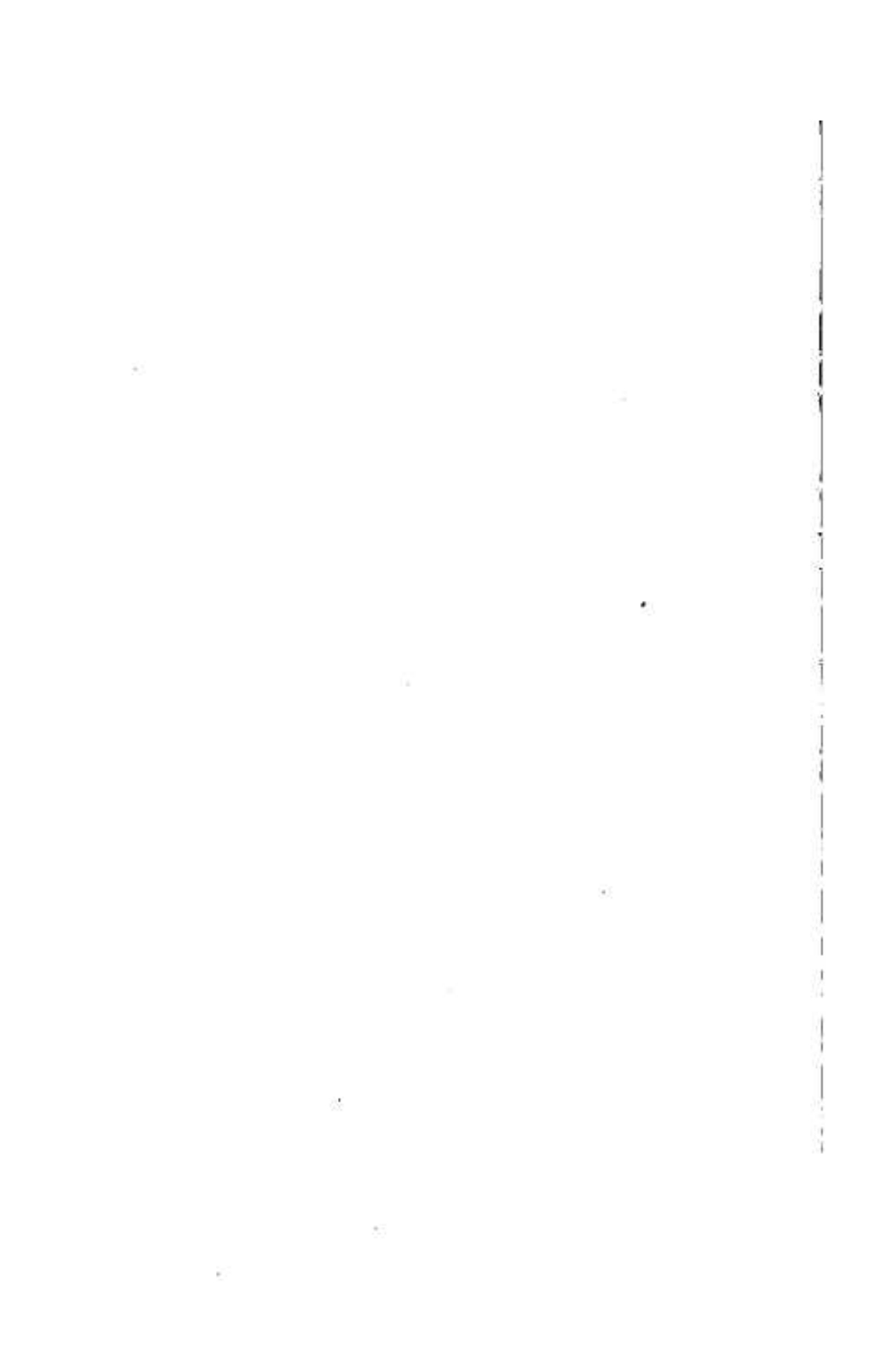
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THE MIND  
OF MAN

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## PREFACE

**A**BOUT a year ago the author prepared a little pamphlet entitled "A Model Charter for Texas Cities." This publication, prepared primarily with a view to meeting the needs of Texas cities contemplating action under the recent home-rule provisions of the state, received considerable attention from those interested in the problems of city government throughout the United States. From the number of requests received for copies of the charter, from comments received in acknowledgment thereof, and from the suggestions of various competent persons, the writer was led to conclude that an enlargement of this little undertaking with a view to the general conditions of city government in the United States as a whole might prove an acceptable contribution on the subject of city charter-making.

A number of valuable suggestions have been received in the way of criticism on the Model Charter for which the writer is indebted to various friends. He is particularly under obligations to his colleague, Prof. Raymond G. Gettell, for helpful criticisms and suggestions. Mr. Robert M. Jameson, M.A., Secretary of the Bureau of Municipal Research and Reference, was kind enough to prepare the bibliography on American city government.

HERMAN G. JAMES.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, AUSTIN, TEXAS, 1914.



## INTRODUCTION

**N**O phase of American political development to-day is more striking or more full of promise than the wide-spread and ever-increasing interest in the problems of city government. This increasing interest is showing itself both in the affairs of practical community life and also in the attention devoted to these problems in our American colleges and universities.

Constitutional provisions and enactments of the legislatures dealing with municipal government are everywhere being subjected to scrutiny and in many cases to amendment. In a dozen states cities are attacking the solution of their local problems under home-rule-charter powers granted by the constitutions.

In our institutions of higher learning there is an increasing amount of attention being paid to the scientific study of the peculiar problems presented by municipal government. More courses are being offered, and more students are taking these courses from year to year.

In both of these situations there is need for proper direction and guidance. The legislators and charter-framers who are wrestling with the practical problem of legislating for the cities are, of course, for the most part utterly lacking in any scientific training in