

**MUNICIPAL REFORM  
MOVEMENTS IN  
THE UNITED STATES**

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Municipal reform movements in the United States by William Howe Tolman & Charles H. Parkhurst

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**WILLIAM HOWE TOLMAN & CHARLES H. PARKHURST**

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## MUNICIPAL REFORM MOVEMENTS



THE TEXT-BOOK OF THE NEW REFORMATION



MUNICIPAL REFORM MOVEMENTS  
IN THE UNITED STATES

BY

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WITH AN INTRODUCTORY CHAPTER BY THE

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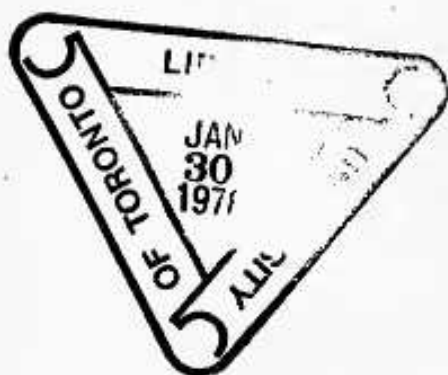
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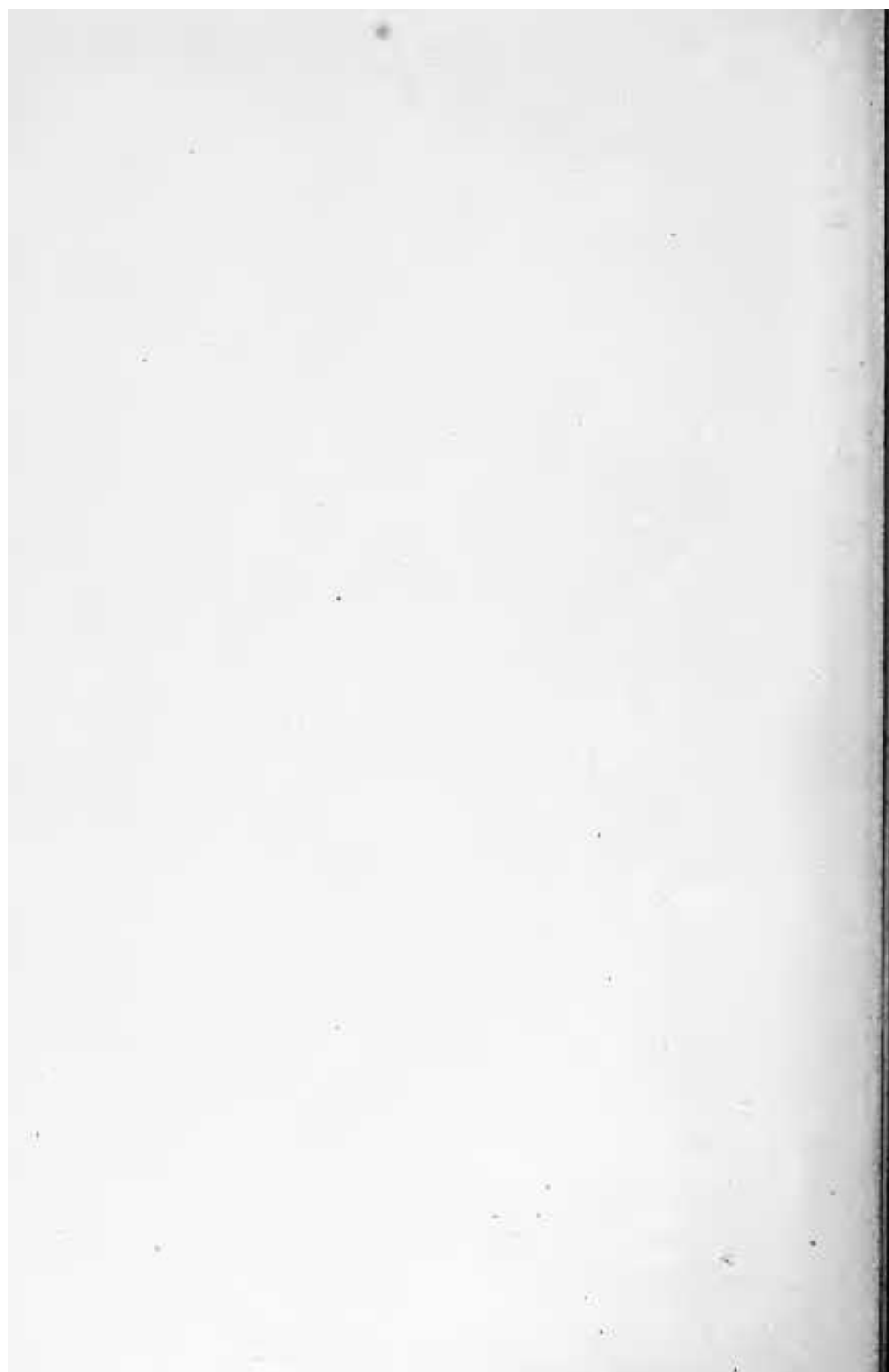


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TO MY MOTHER  
THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED  
BY HER SON  
IN LOVING RECOGNITION OF HER  
INSPIRATION TO NOBLE IDEALS  
OF MANHOOD.



## PREFACE

THERE are very few municipalities in our country where a reform movement would have no reason for existence. Too often, however, the mention of a reform movement conveys the idea of destruction, an immense amount of tearing down, so that it has come to pass that the so-called practical reformer is almost as much dreaded as the practical politician. On the other hand, it is true that many a reform must tear down, in order that the ground may be prepared for the superstructure of improved conditions; but it is also a fact that certain reforms, destined to accomplish permanent results, are expending their utmost energies on the constructive phases of their work: To illustrate concretely: the recent action of the London County Council in insuring the lives of all the workmen who are engaged in the dangerous parts of the work of constructing the tunnel under the Thames is a reform in the right direction, and there are organizations that are striving to secure an increasing regard for the claims of life, in preference to those of property. The differences in the two phases of reform may again be illustrated by the work of the Society for the Prevention of Crime and of the City Vigilance League, the efforts of the former being along *destructive* and of the latter along *constructive* lines.

The spirit of reform is now manifesting itself in a great diversity of organizations, based on the fundamental principle that municipal affairs must be administered in the interests of