THE NEW DEMOCRACY

A generation ago millions gave their lives in a crusade to make the world safe for democracy. The crusade ended in complete victory; democracy appeared triumphant everywhere. And then something went wrong. Elation and enthusiasm gave place to disillusionment and frustration. The men whom their country needed became men without work; homes for heroes proved to be slum tenements; hundreds of thousands of the country's children remained below the poverty line. Within little more than twenty years of their triumph the crusaders of democracy were facing disaster on the beaches of Dunkirk.

It need not and must not happen again. We have won another war. This time the democracies must win the peace. The peacemakers of 1919 lost the peace for democracy because they failed to distinguish between the underlying principles of democracy and the outward forms in which it is clothed in a particular age. They thought they could re-establish the principles by simply restoring the old nineteenth-century forms. We are to-day paying the dismal price of their blunder. This time we must see to it that twentieth-century democracy is tuned up to twentieth-century conditions. We must recognise that scientific advance, hastened by the stimulus of total war, has created new possibilities and evolved new techniques of social organisation and planning which carry revolutionary implications for human society. Democracy will only live on and become once again a dynamic force if it can boldly turn those techniques and discoveries to its own purposes, using them to put an end to unemployment, insecurity and want, and to open up new frontiers of human life and freedom.

This is a task which cannot be left to the statesman and the expert. It is the individual responsibility of every citizen. The essence of a democratic community is that its citizens should take an active part in its decisions; and this is more imperative than ever in an age in which the state is everywhere extending the range of its activity. Active citizenship is the indispensable condition of freedom in a planned society.

But the citizen can only take an active part in the community if he is properly informed about the choices and possibilities before it. To contribute to this body of informed opinion, as a basis of social action, is the purpose of this series. It is written and edited by experts who believe it to be their responsibility as citizens to put their special knowledge before the widest possible public, using all the modern techniques of presentation to give vividness to their subjects. It is written primarily for the citizens of Great Britain, which, as the oldest of living democracies, has to-day a special responsibility to give leadership in working out the pattern of the new democracy. But it is also written for the citizens of every community who believe that democracy is the only valid principle upon which to run a modern society, and who mean to make it work.

The Citizen and Government

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John A. Hawgood

With 17 pictorial charts in colour designed by the Isotype Institute and 70 photographs

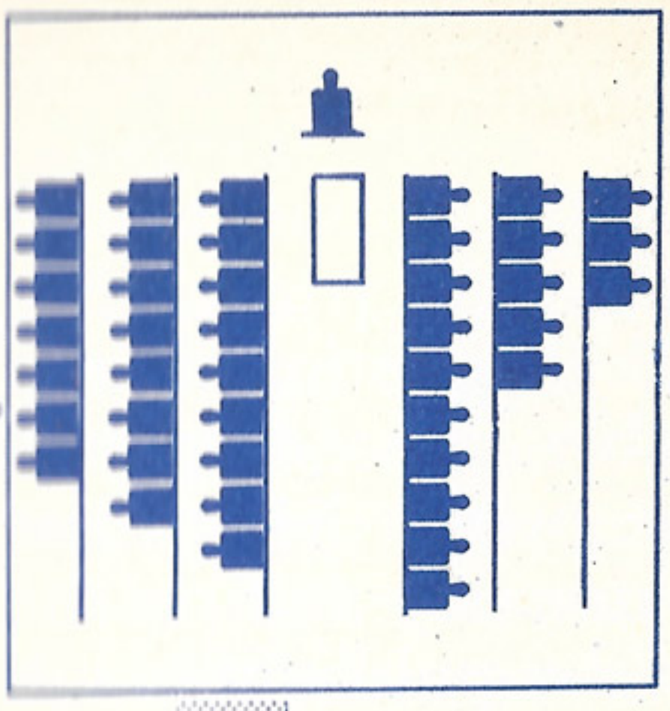
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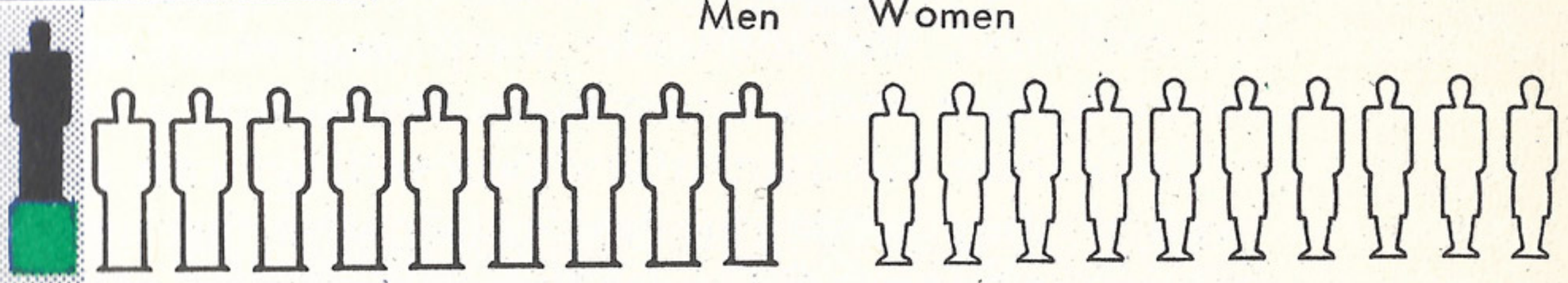


The Extension of the Parliamentary Franchise in Great Britain.

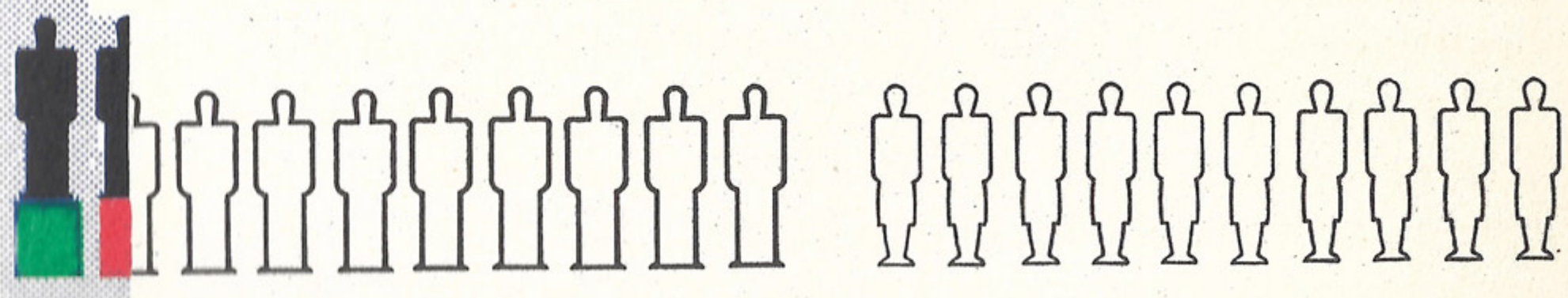


Men Women

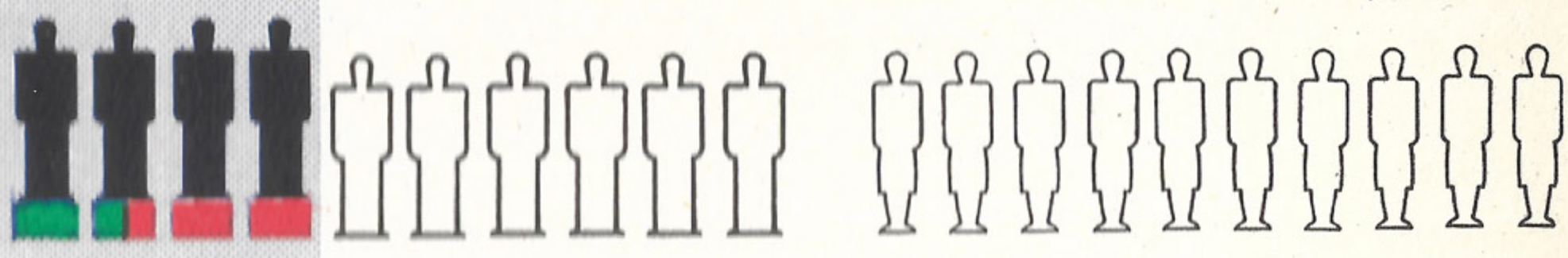
1830



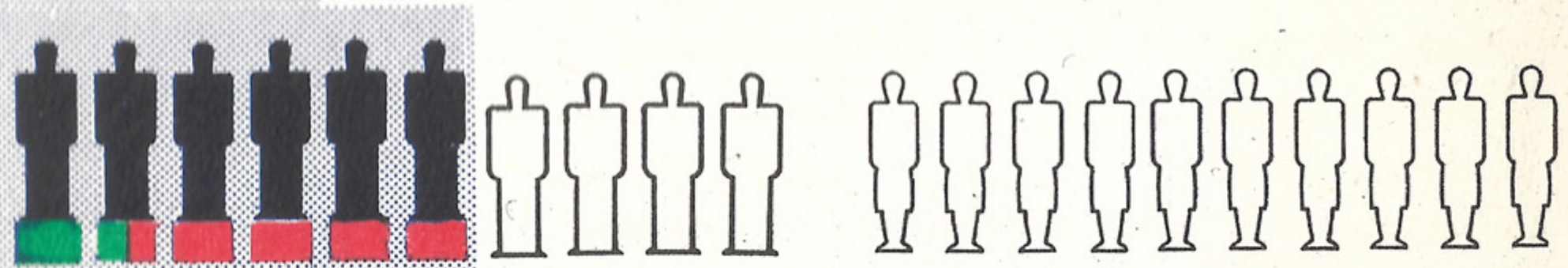
1832



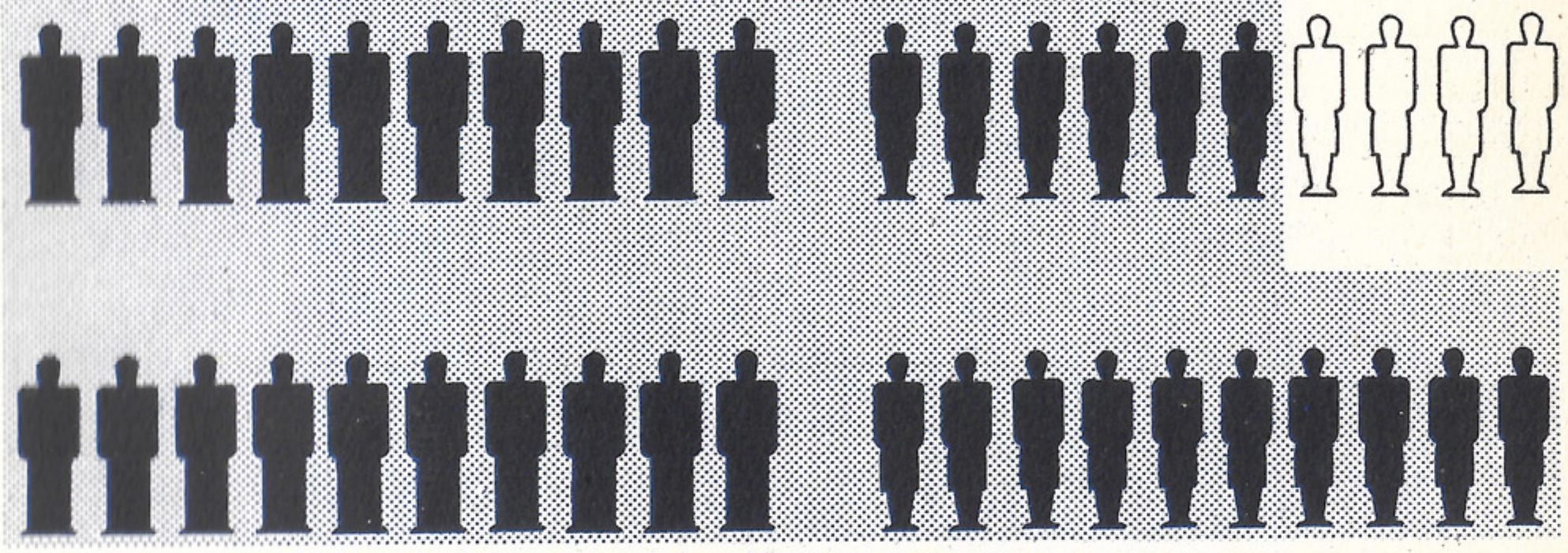
1867



1884



1918



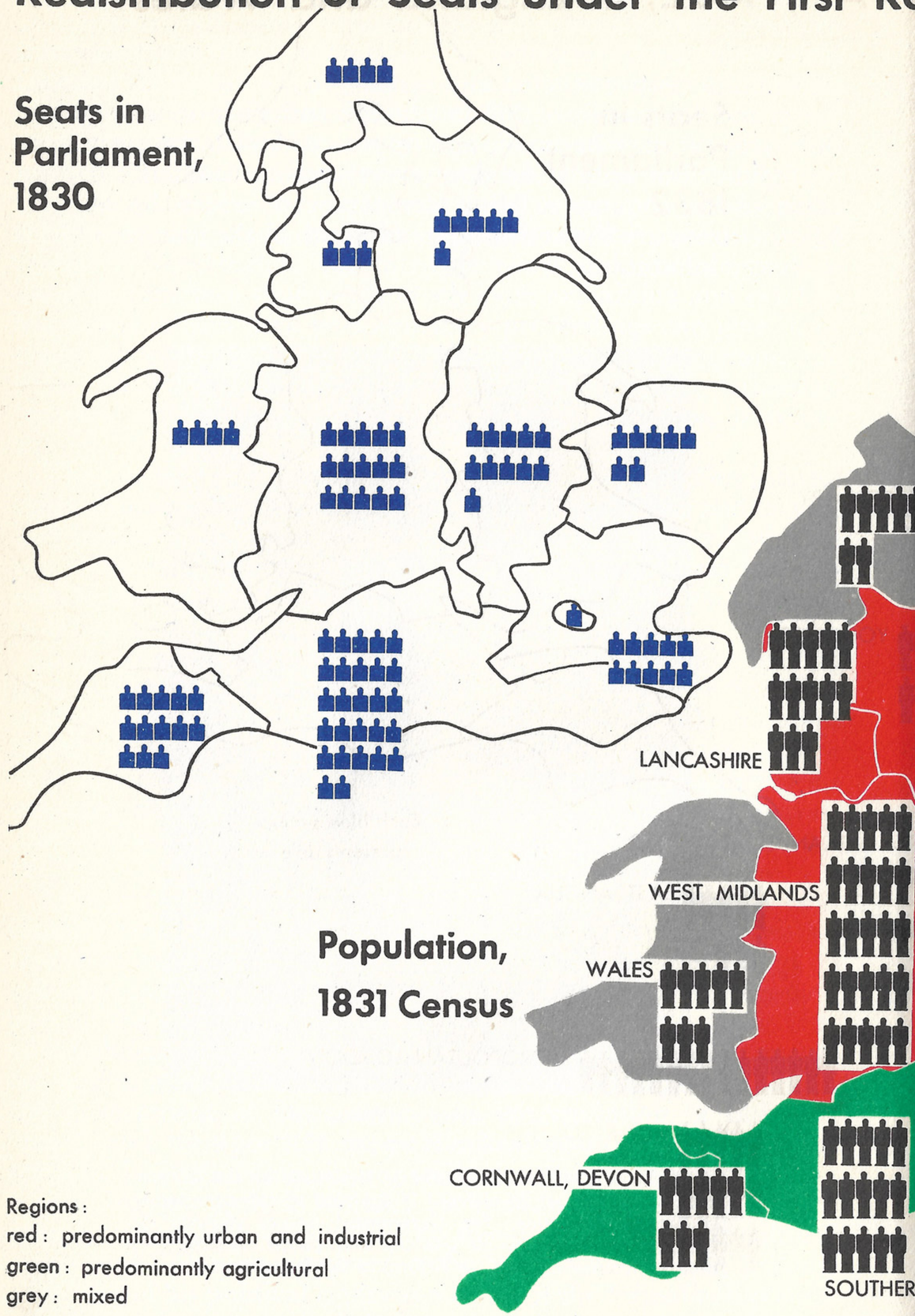
1928

Black symbols on blue background : number out of every 10 men or women over 21 years old who could vote in Parliamentary elections.
Green column : Voters who were land-owners.
Red column : Voters who were house-holders.
The higher columns indicate a higher qualification.

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Redistribution of Seats under the First Reform Act, 1832, in England and Wales

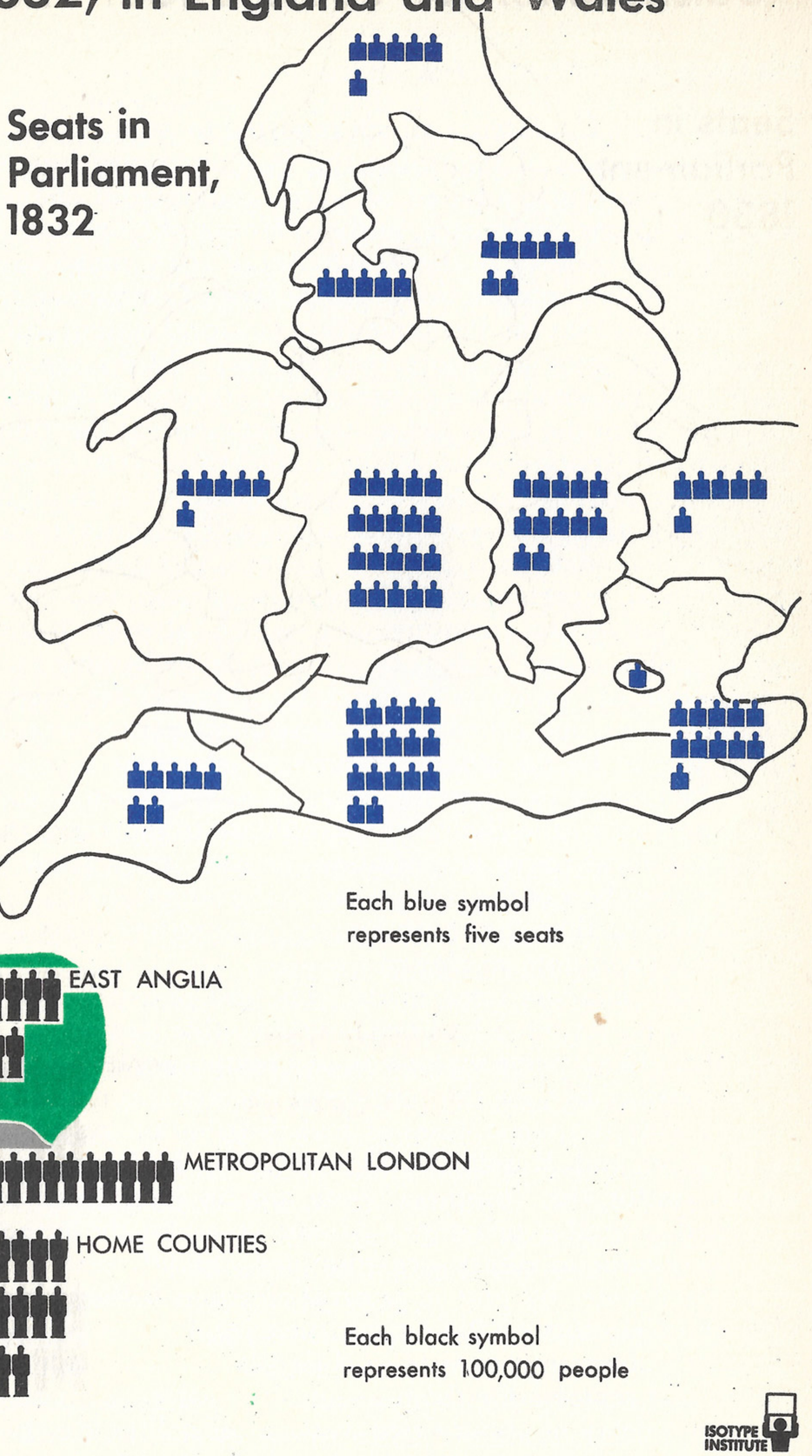
Seats in Parliament, 1830



Population, 1831 Census

Regions :
red : predominantly urban and industrial
green : predominantly agricultural
grey : mixed

Seats in Parliament, 1832



Each blue symbol represents five seats

Each black symbol represents 100,000 people

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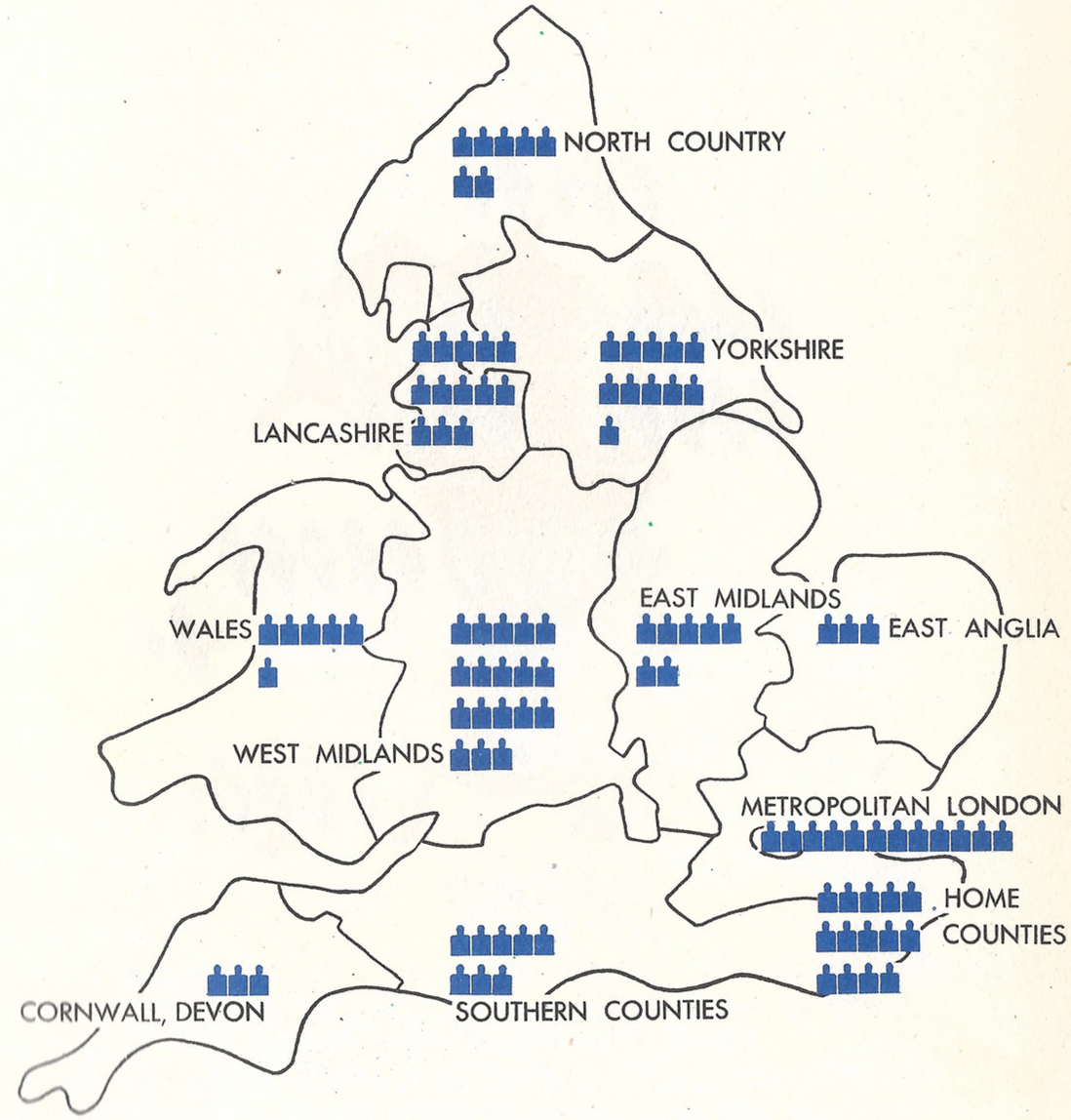
Population in 1931



Each group of 5 symbols represents 500,000 people

NOTE—The Redistribution of 1832 (see pp. 24–25) had been most inadequate, leaving London and Lancashire, for instance, grossly under-represented. In the twentieth century a more even distribution has been achieved, and redistribution is in future to be more frequent.

Distribution of Seats in 1935

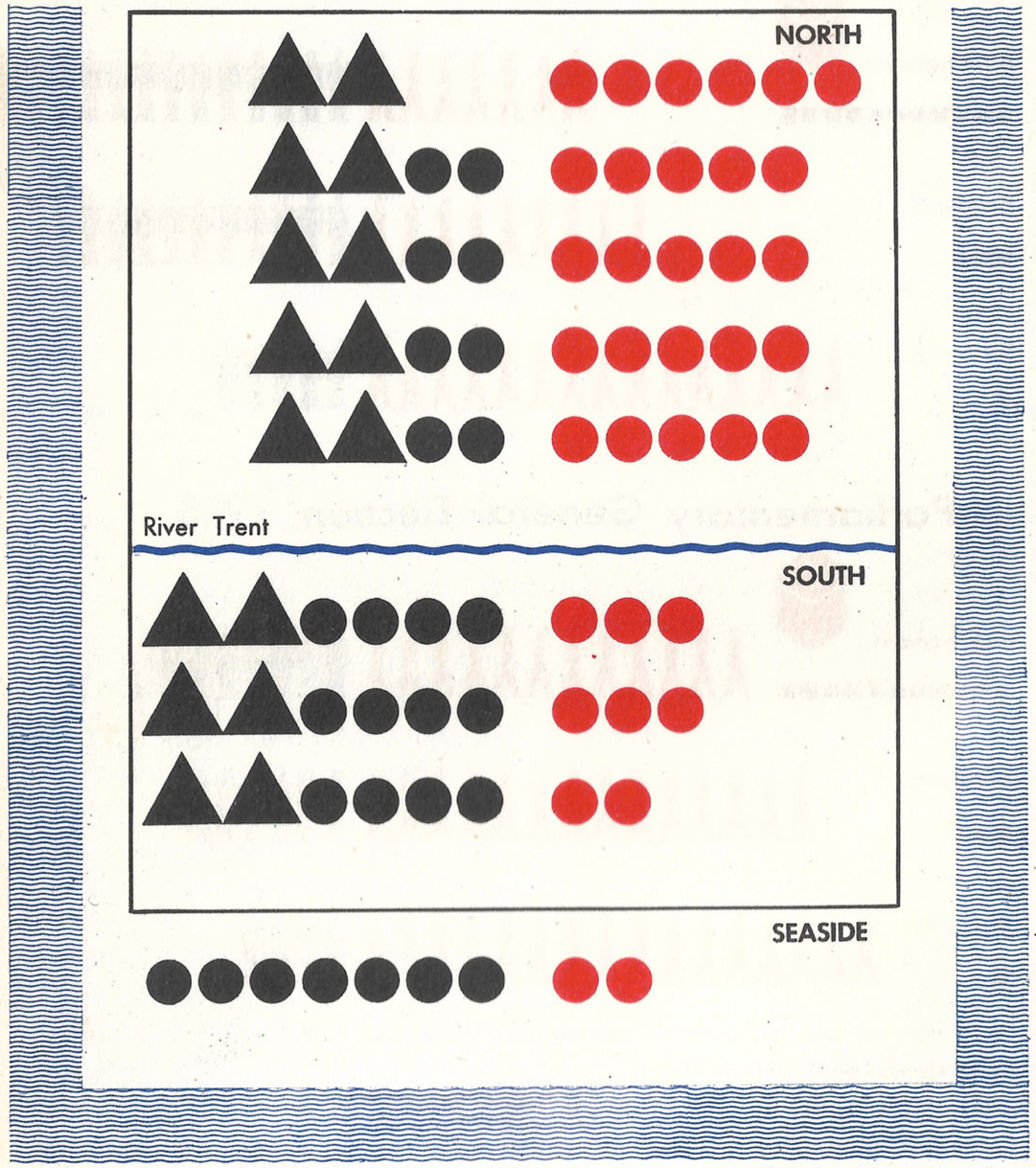


Each blue symbol represents 5 seats in Parliament

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Voting Record of the Larger Towns

England and Wales

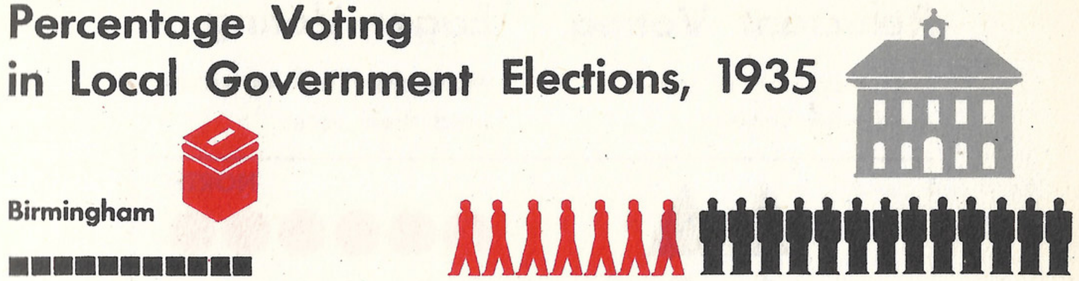


Each triangle stands for one town of 200,000 and more inhabitants
Each circle stands for one town of 50,000 to 200,000 inhabitants
Average voting, Parliamentary and Local, 1933-1937

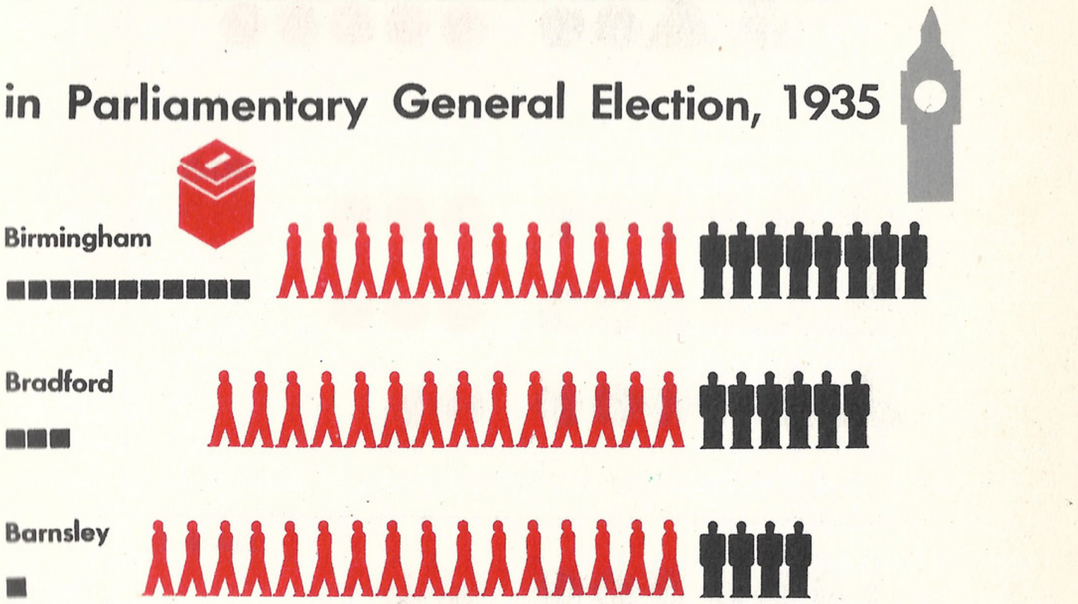
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Electoral Apathy and Enthusiasm

Percentage Voting in Local Government Elections, 1935



in Parliamentary General Election, 1935

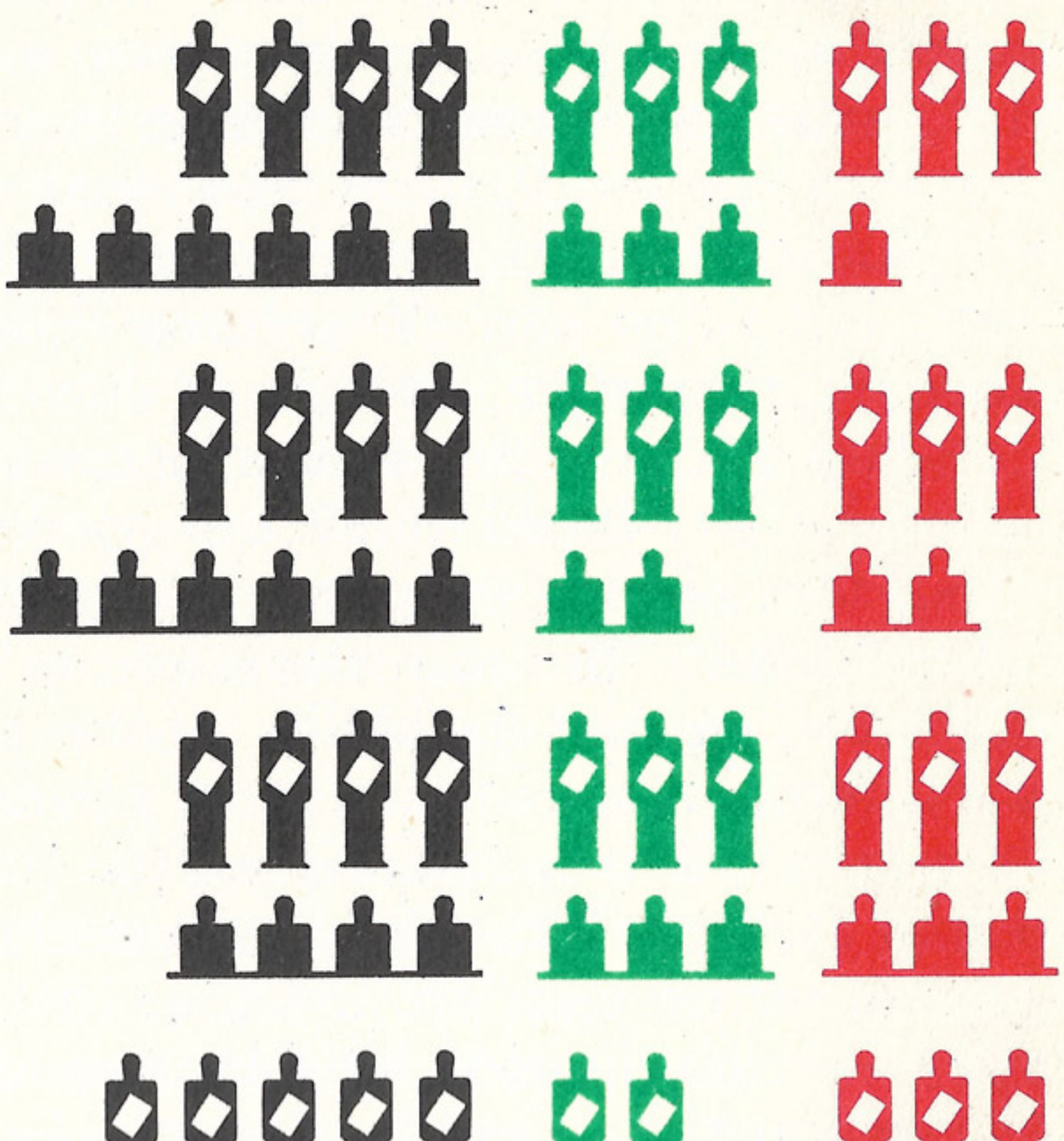


Each man symbol represents 1 among 20 entitled to vote.
Red: Voters. Black: Non-Voters
The squares under the names of the towns indicate the number of inhabitants
Each square stands for 100,00 persons

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NOTE—The Chart on the left (which excludes the London area from consideration) shows that voting is worse in the largest than in the medium-sized towns, worse in the South than in the North, and worst of all in seaside resorts, north and south. The Chart on the right analyses the question in more detail. Birmingham's record was little better in 1945 than in 1935.

Votes Cast and M.P.s Elected

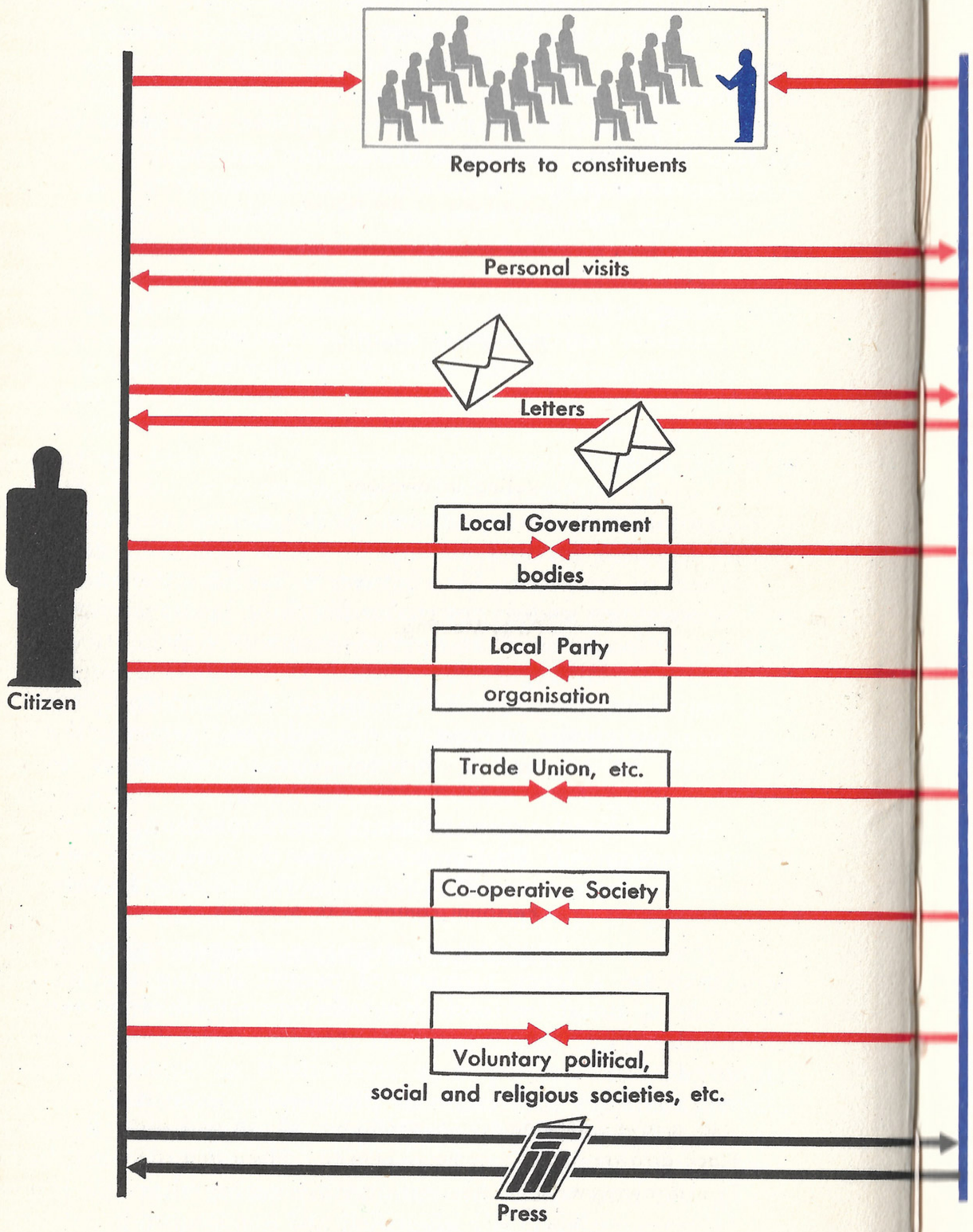


Each standing man symbol represents 1 among 10 voters and each sitting symbol 1 among 10 M.P.s

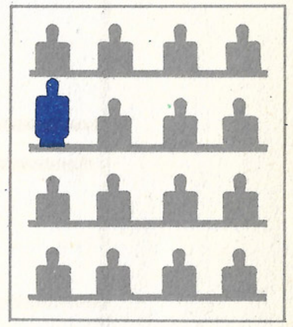
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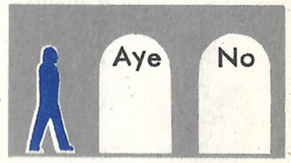
Spheres of Activity of the Ordinary Citizen and of His M.P.

Channels through which their influence can be exerted

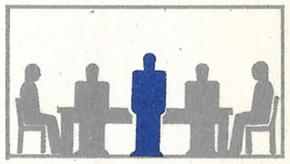


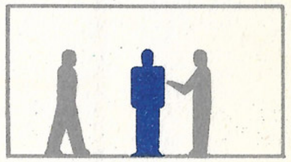












Questions in the House

Speaking in debates

Voting in divisions

Party Meetings

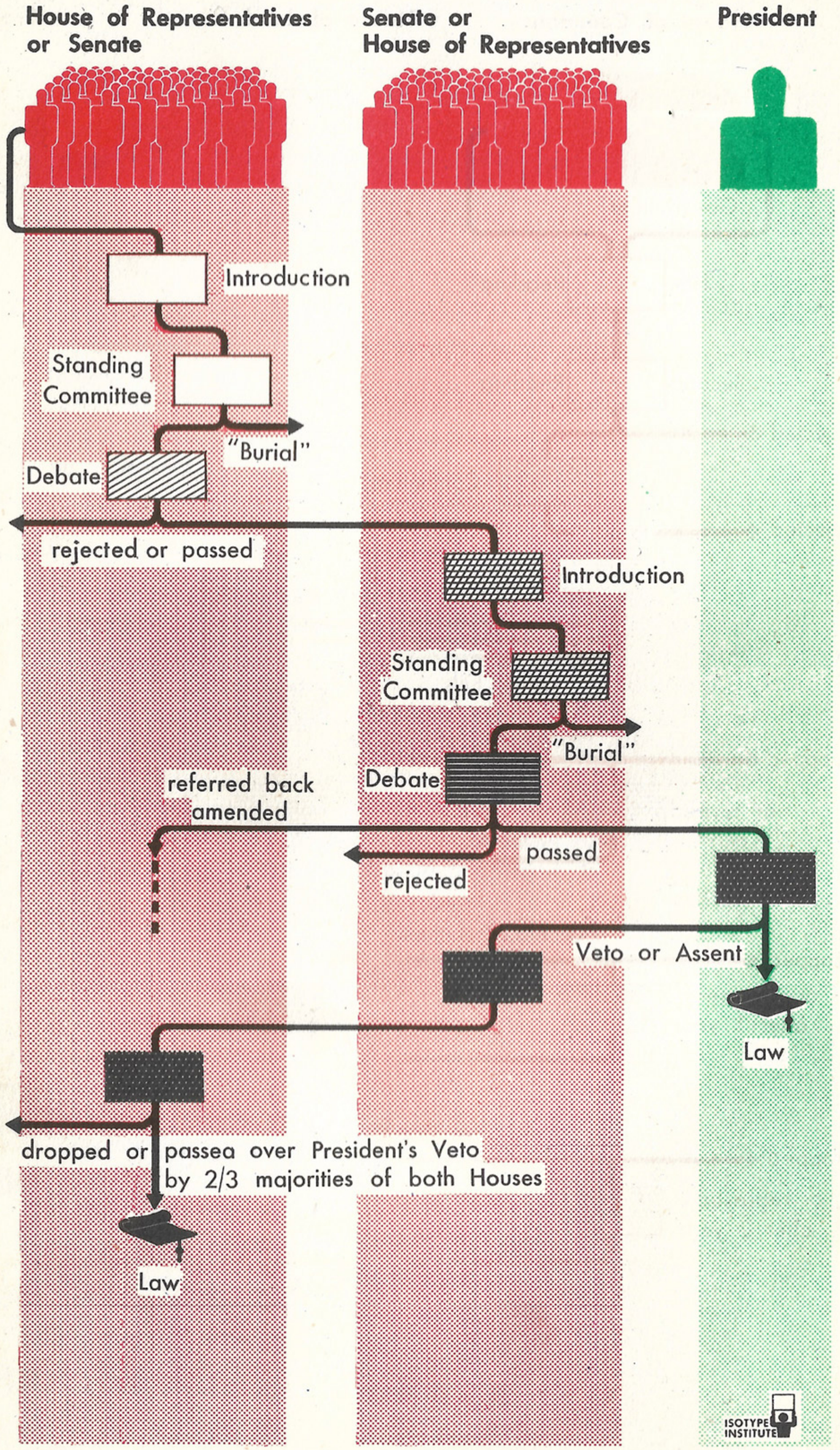
Work on Committees

Personal contact with Ministers and other M.Ps.

Red arrows: personal contacts between citizen and M.P.
Black arrows: indirect contacts between citizen and M.P.
Blue arrows: M.P.'s activities in Parliament

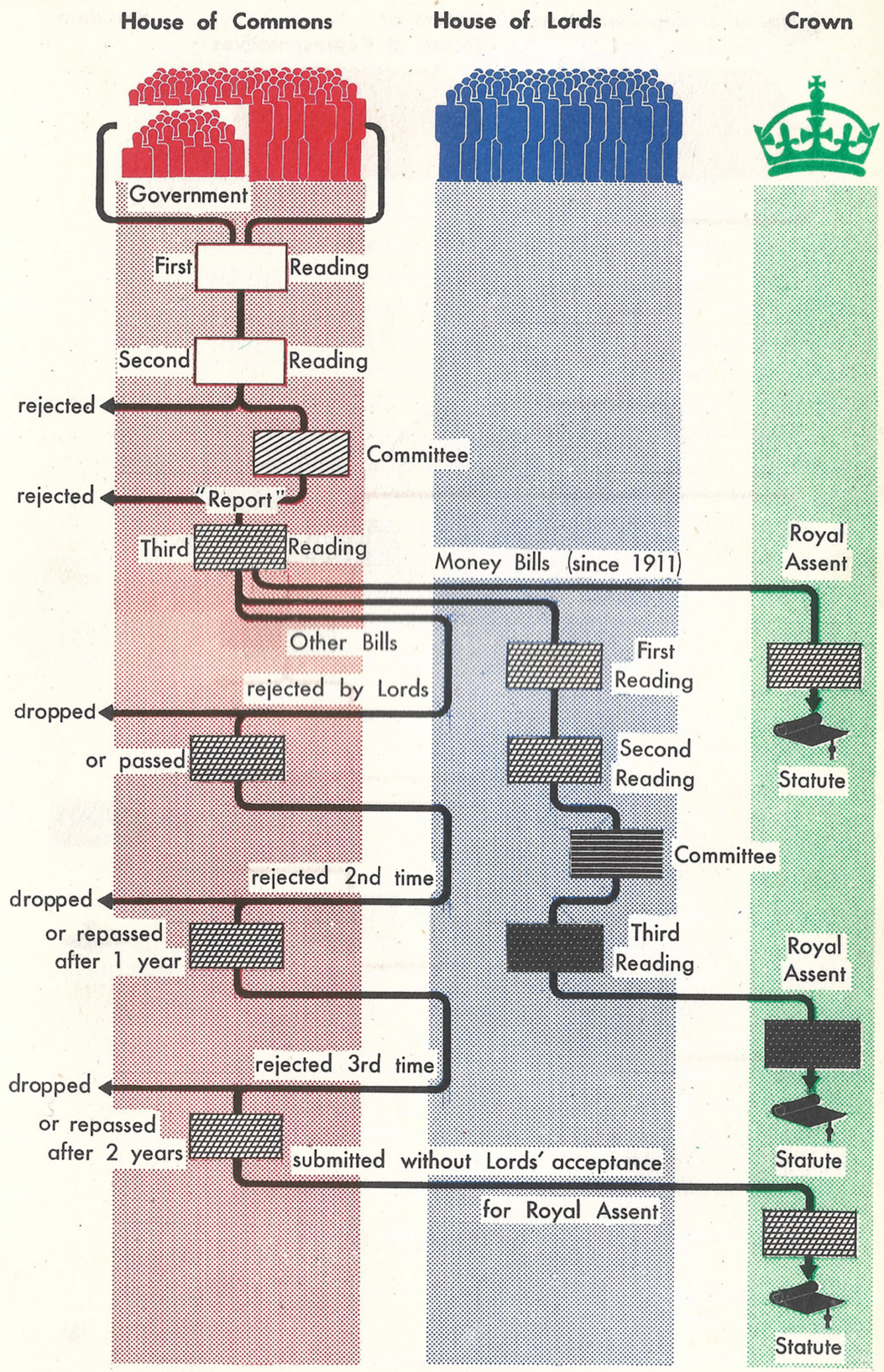
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The Legislative Process in the U. S. A.



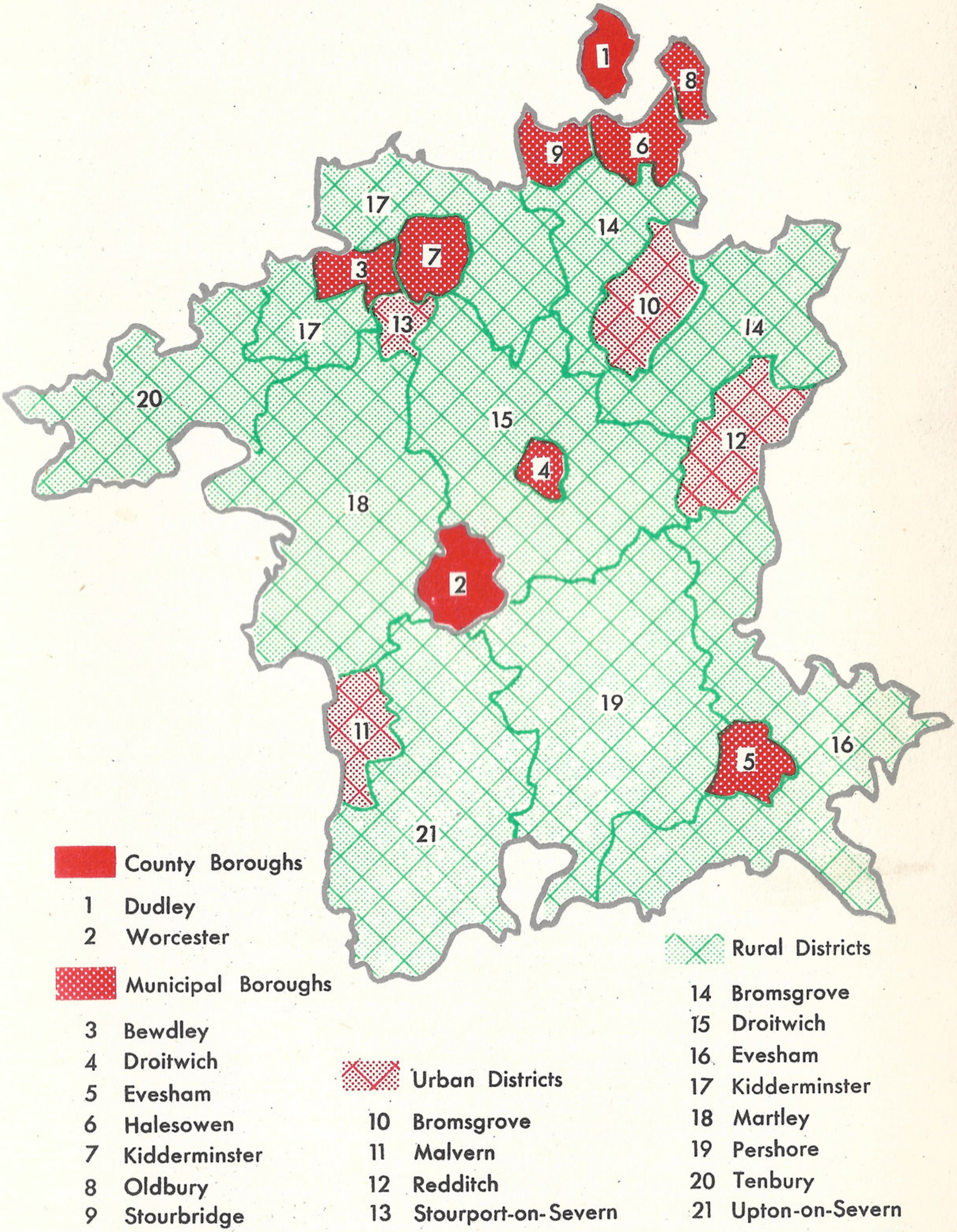
NOTE—There is provision for joint committees of House and Senate to resolve differences and to work out "agreed" measures.

The Legislative Process in Britain



NOTE—For certain important Bills the whole House is the "Committee". Technically a Bill can become Law without the Lords' assent "in the second succeeding session" after its first introduction.

Local Government Areas: Worcestershire



County Boroughs

1 Dudley
2 Worcester

Municipal Boroughs

3 Bewdley
4 Droitwich
5 Evesham
6 Halesowen
7 Kidderminster
8 Oldbury
9 Stourbridge

Urban Districts

10 Bromsgrove
11 Malvern
12 Redditch
13 Stourport-on-Severn

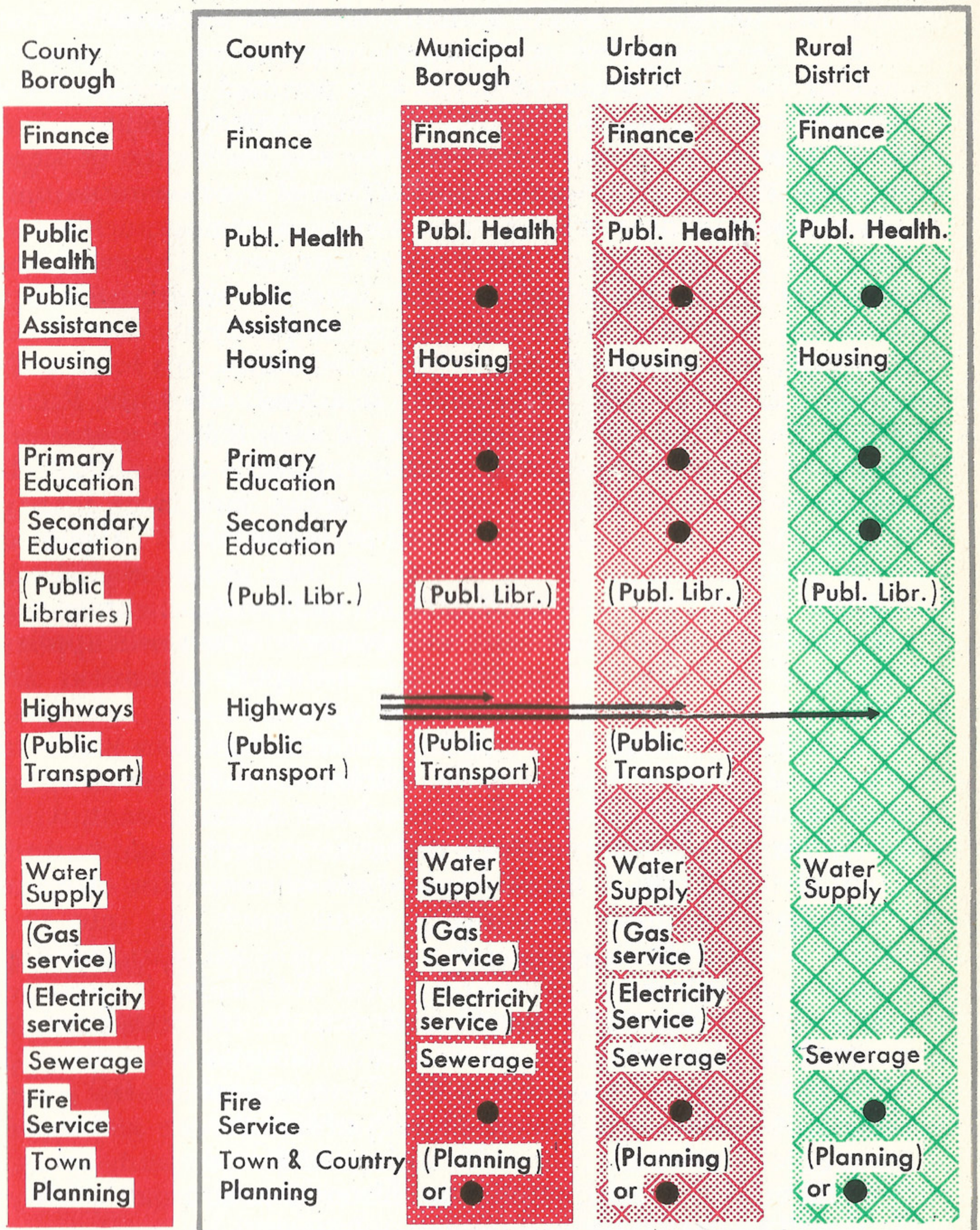
Rural Districts

14 Bromsgrove
15 Droitwich
16 Evesham
17 Kidderminster
18 Martley
19 Pershore
20 Tenbury
21 Upton-on-Severn

Rural Districts alone are divided into Civil Parishes

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Chief Spheres of Activity of Local Councils



Names **without** brackets: mandatory duties and powers

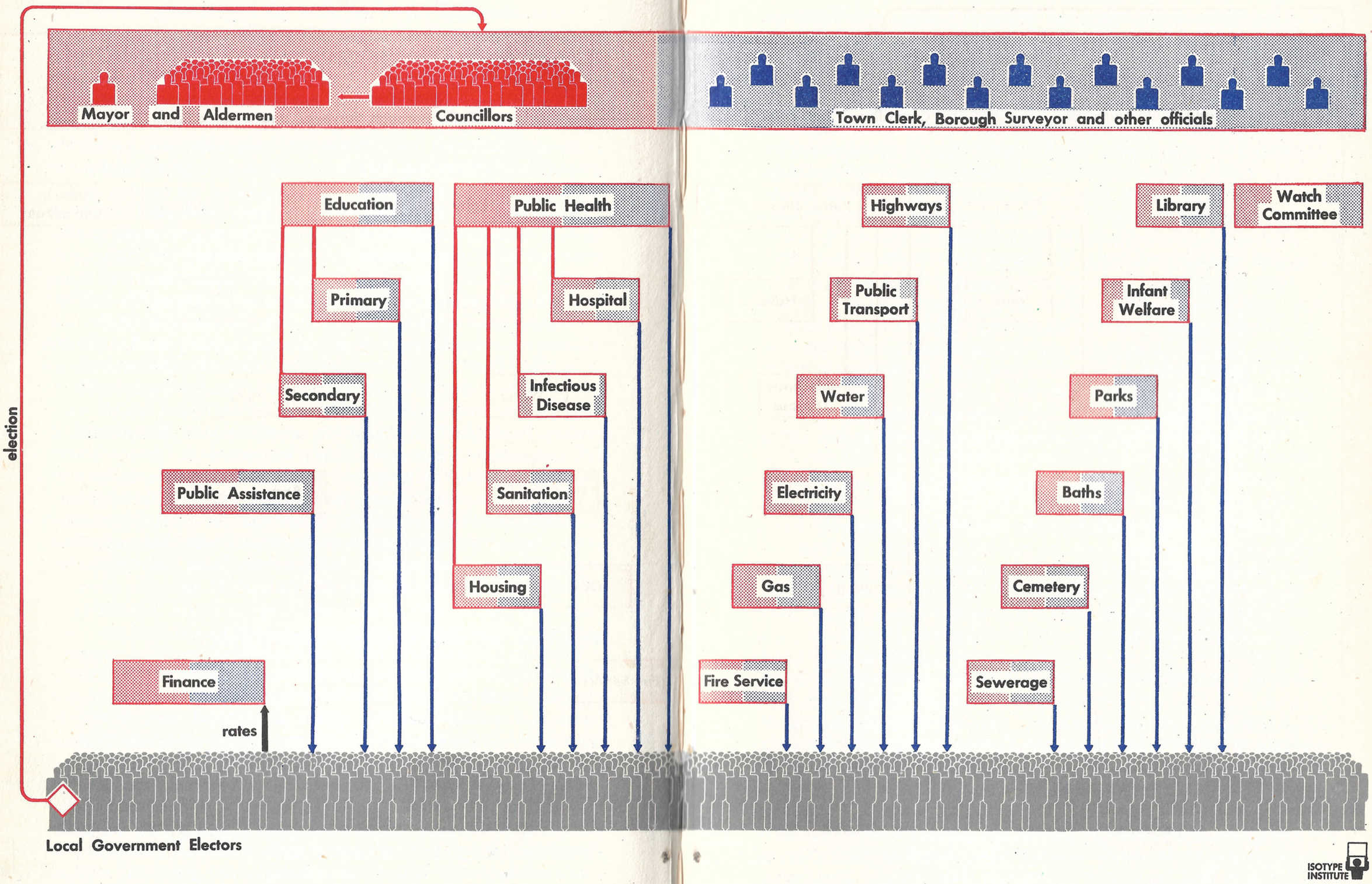
Names in brackets: **optional** or **adoptive** powers

⟶ **indicates** delegation of powers from county to lesser areas

● **indicates** county **responsibility** in lesser areas

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The Working of a County Borough Council

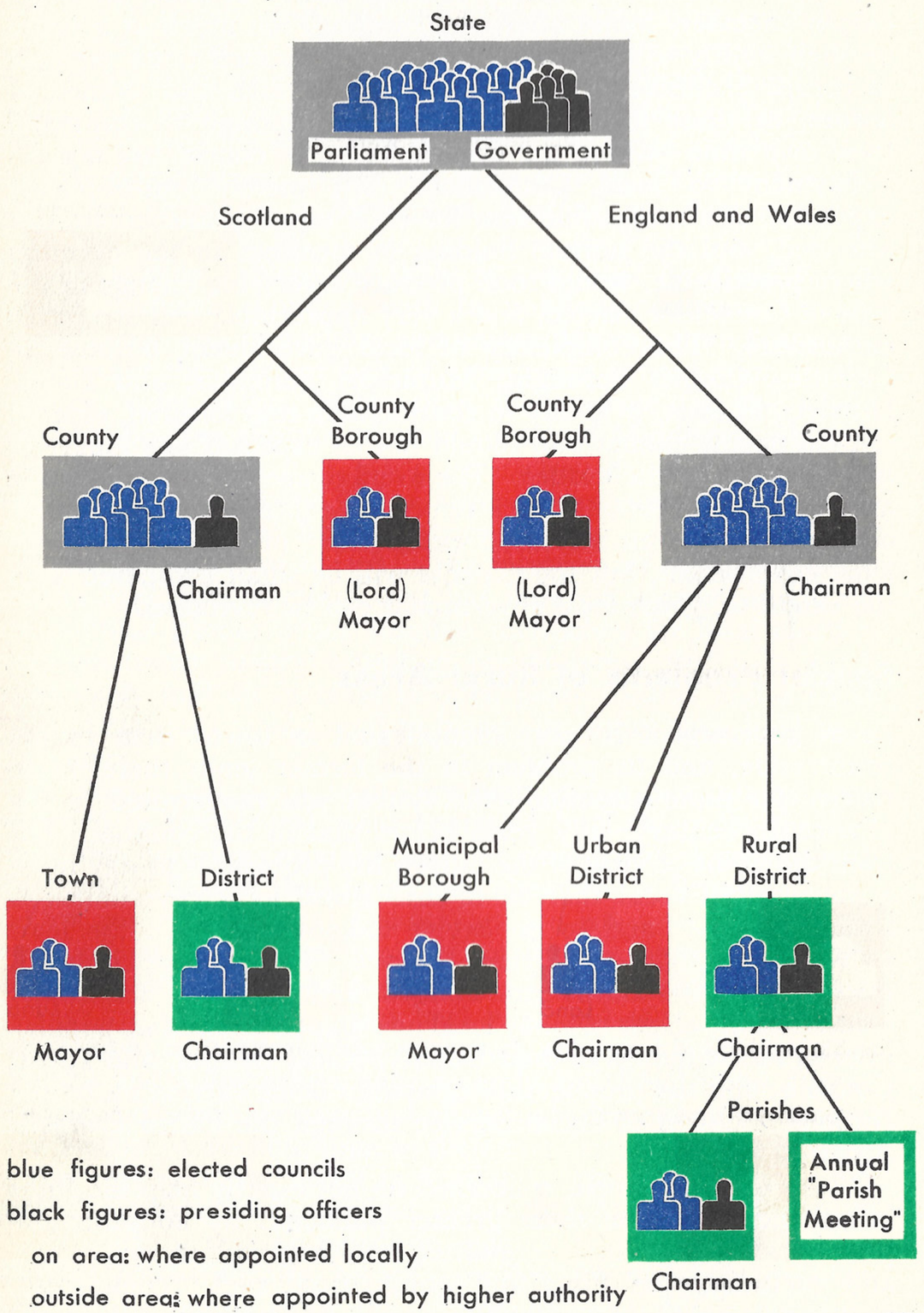


red areas: committee blue areas: departments blue lines: services
red symbols: elected blue symbols: appointed

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NOTE—The names indicate the functions rather than the actual titles of committees, which vary from Council to Council.

The Local Government Hierarchy in Britain (after 1929)



blue figures: elected councils

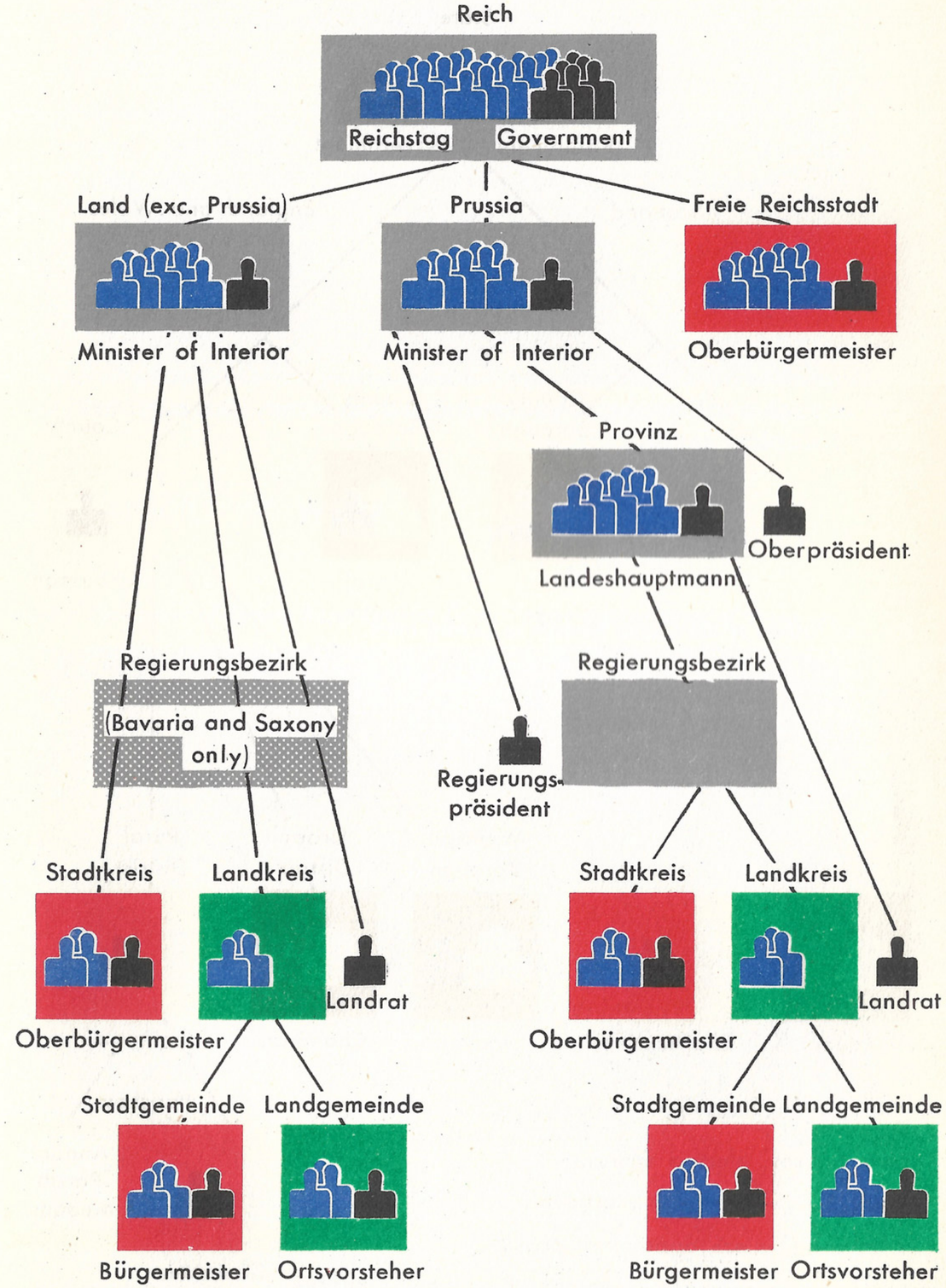
black figures: presiding officers

on area: where appointed locally

outside area: where appointed by higher authority

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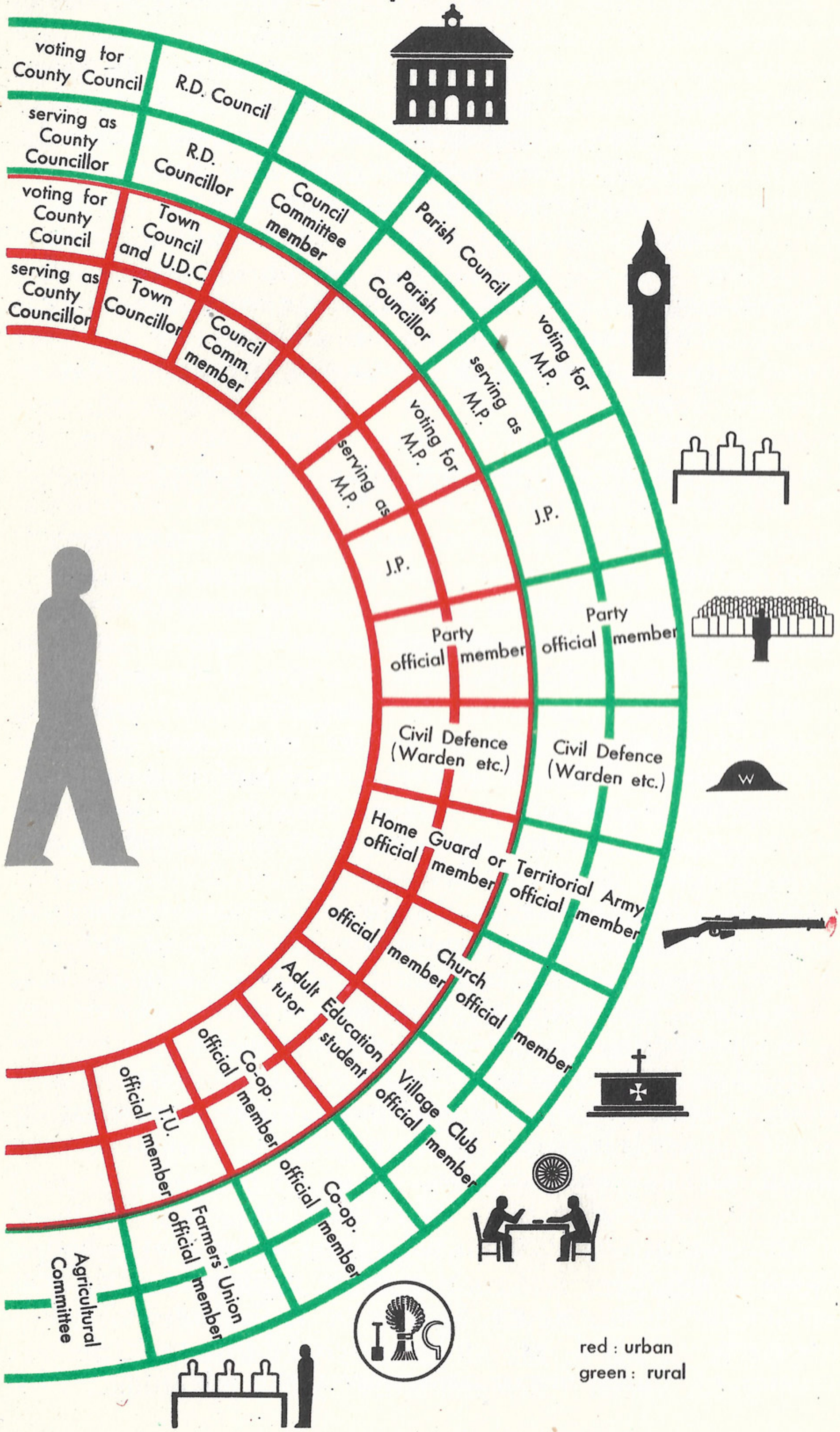
in Germany (1918-1933)



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The Active Citizen in Urban and Rural Areas

Offices and Influences open to him

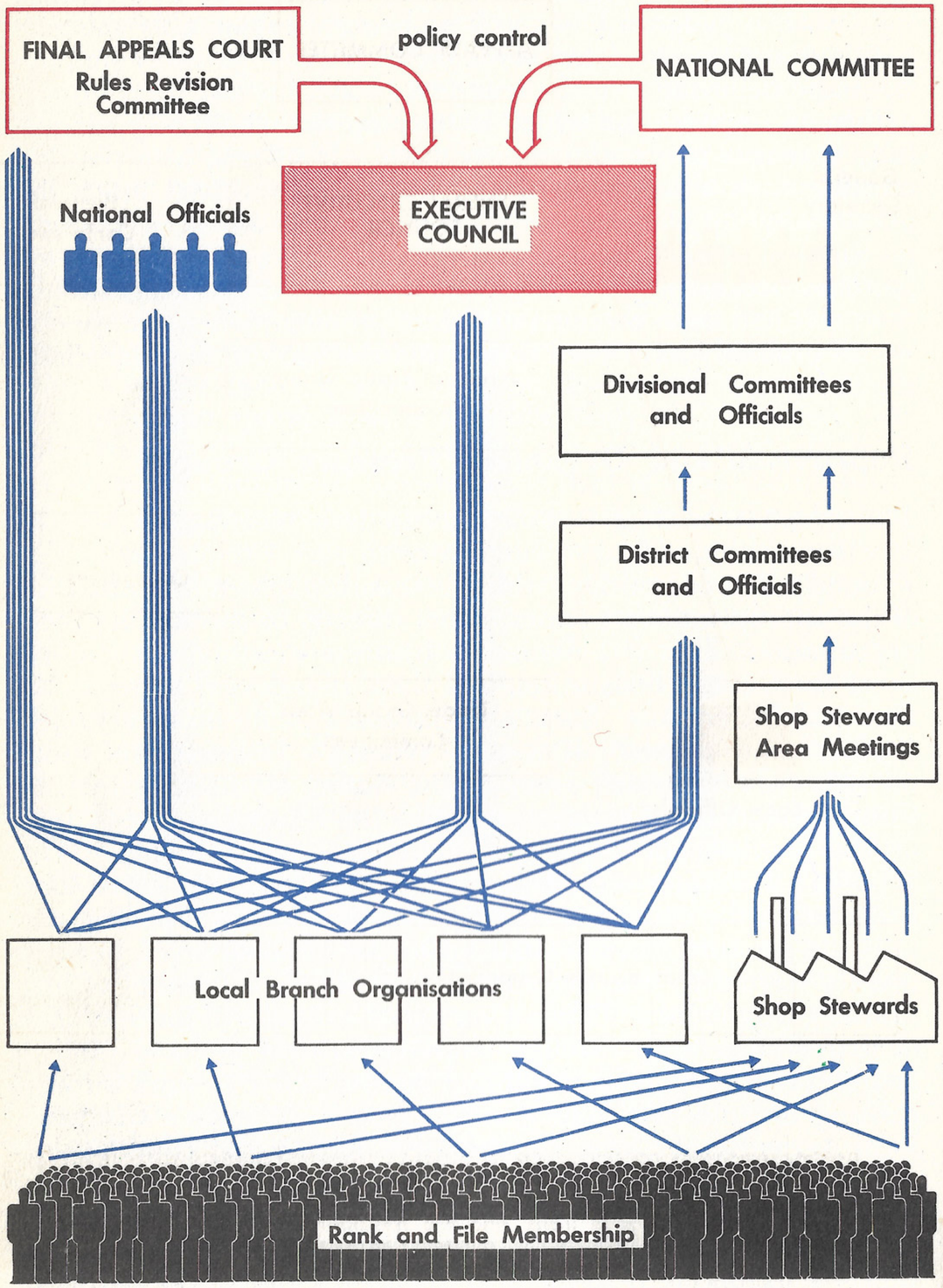


red : urban
green : rural

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Trade Union Democracy

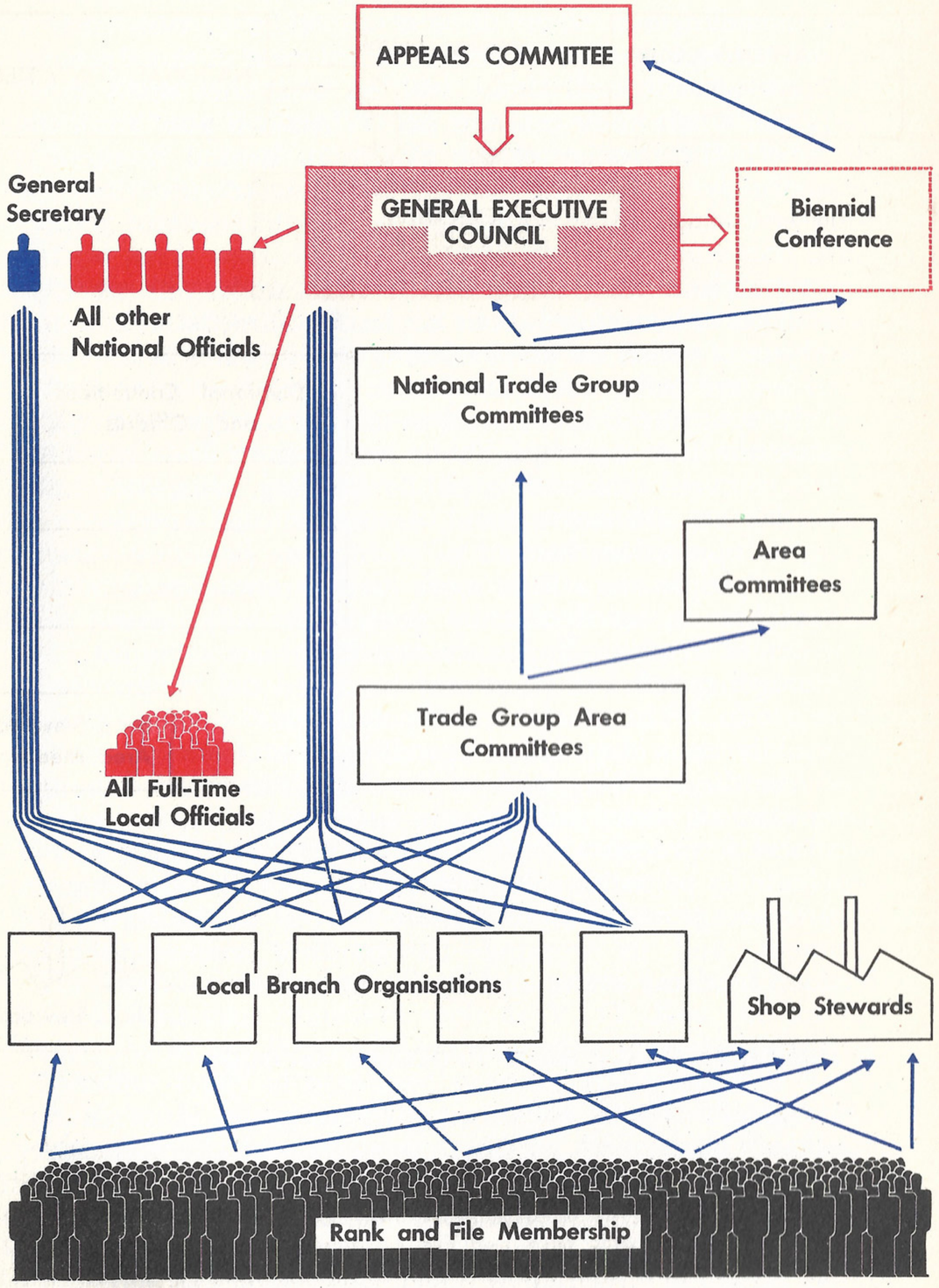
Trade Union with Controlled Executive



Blue lines: elections
Red lines: appointments

Outline arrows: direction of policy control

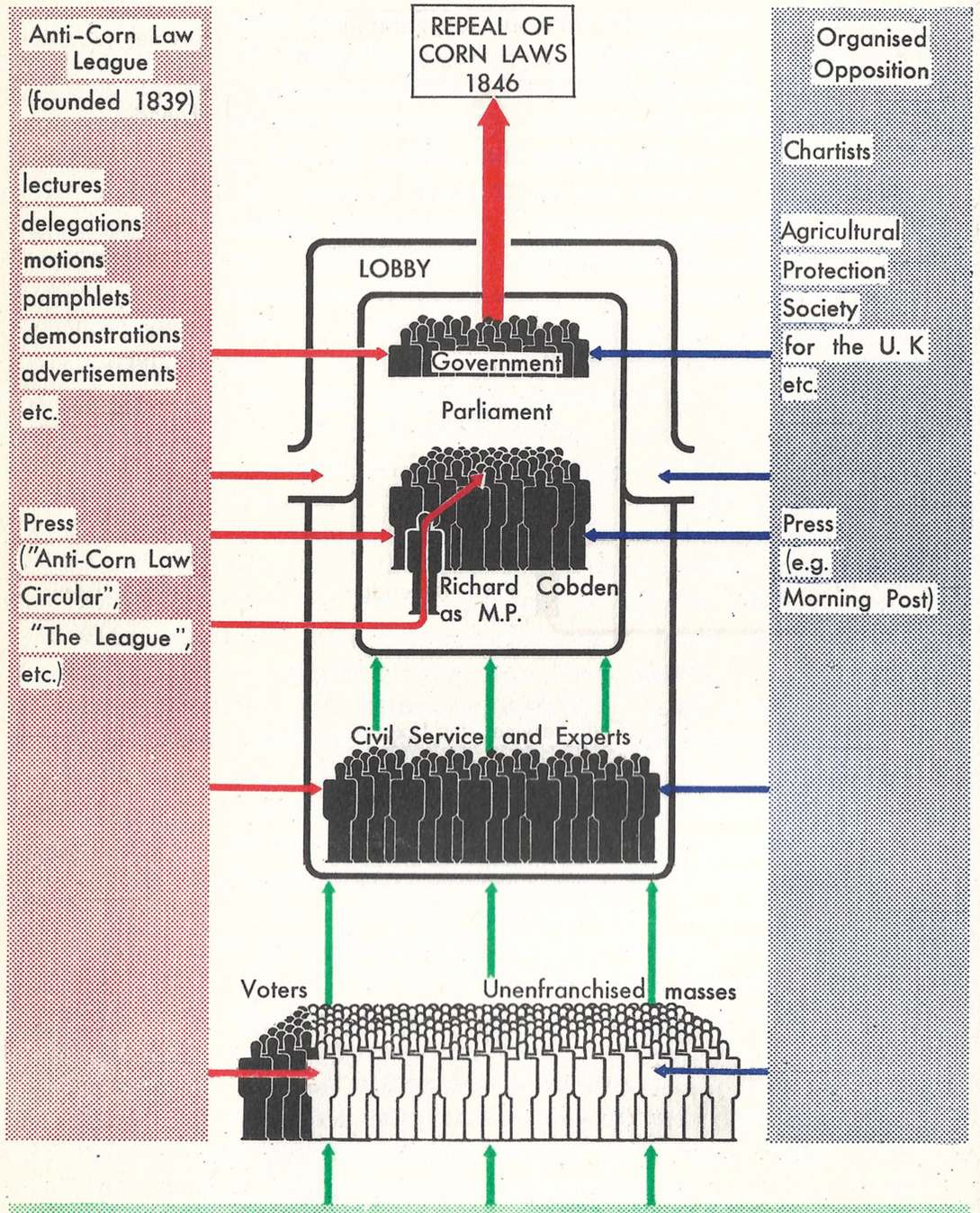
Trade Union with Autonomous Executive



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Old Political "Pressure Groups"

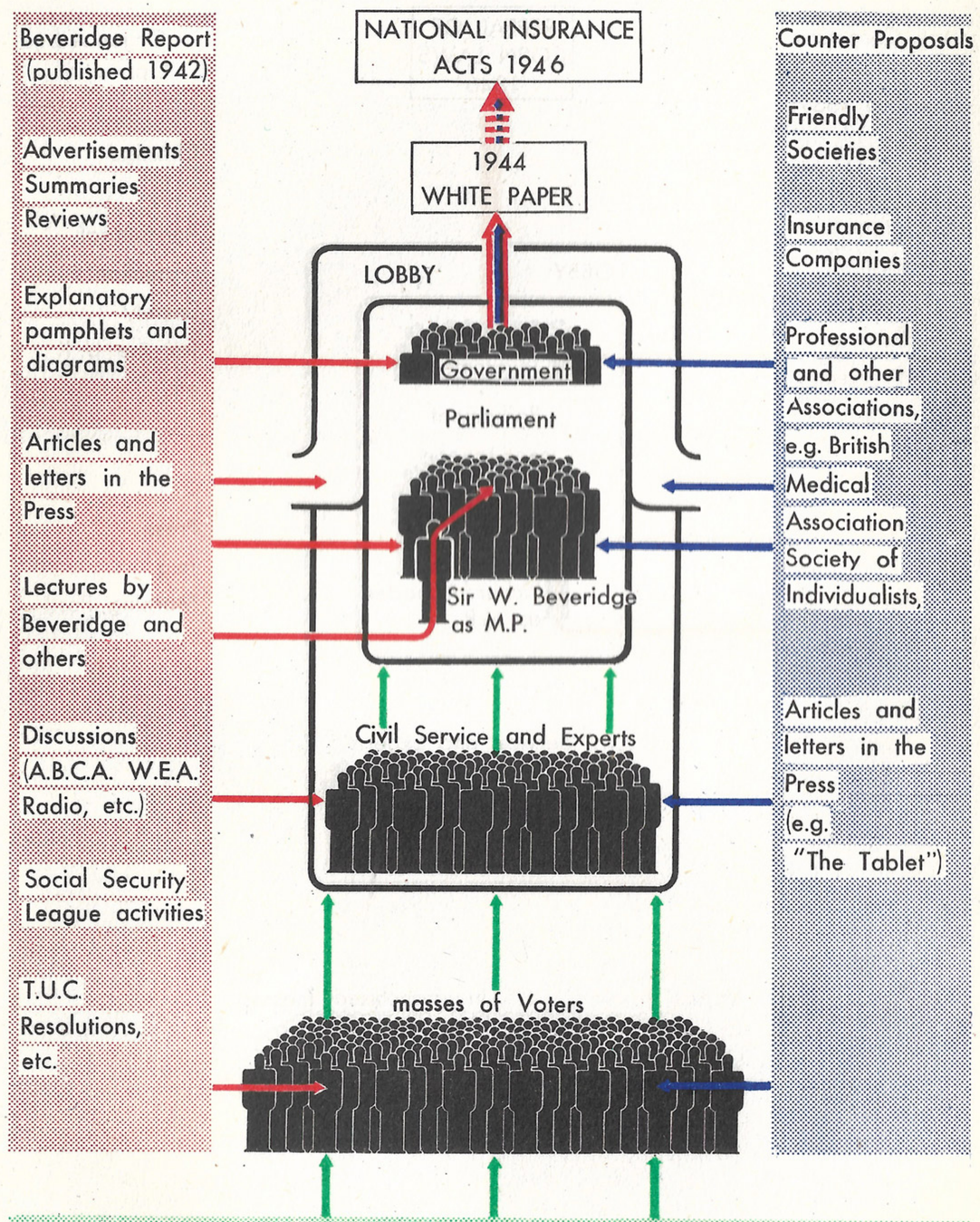
Campaign for and against repeal of the Corn Laws



Experience of Working of Corn Laws, sliding scale, etc., of agricultural distress, low standards of living, etc. 1815-1839

New Political "Pressure Groups"

Campaign for and against Beveridge Social Security Plans

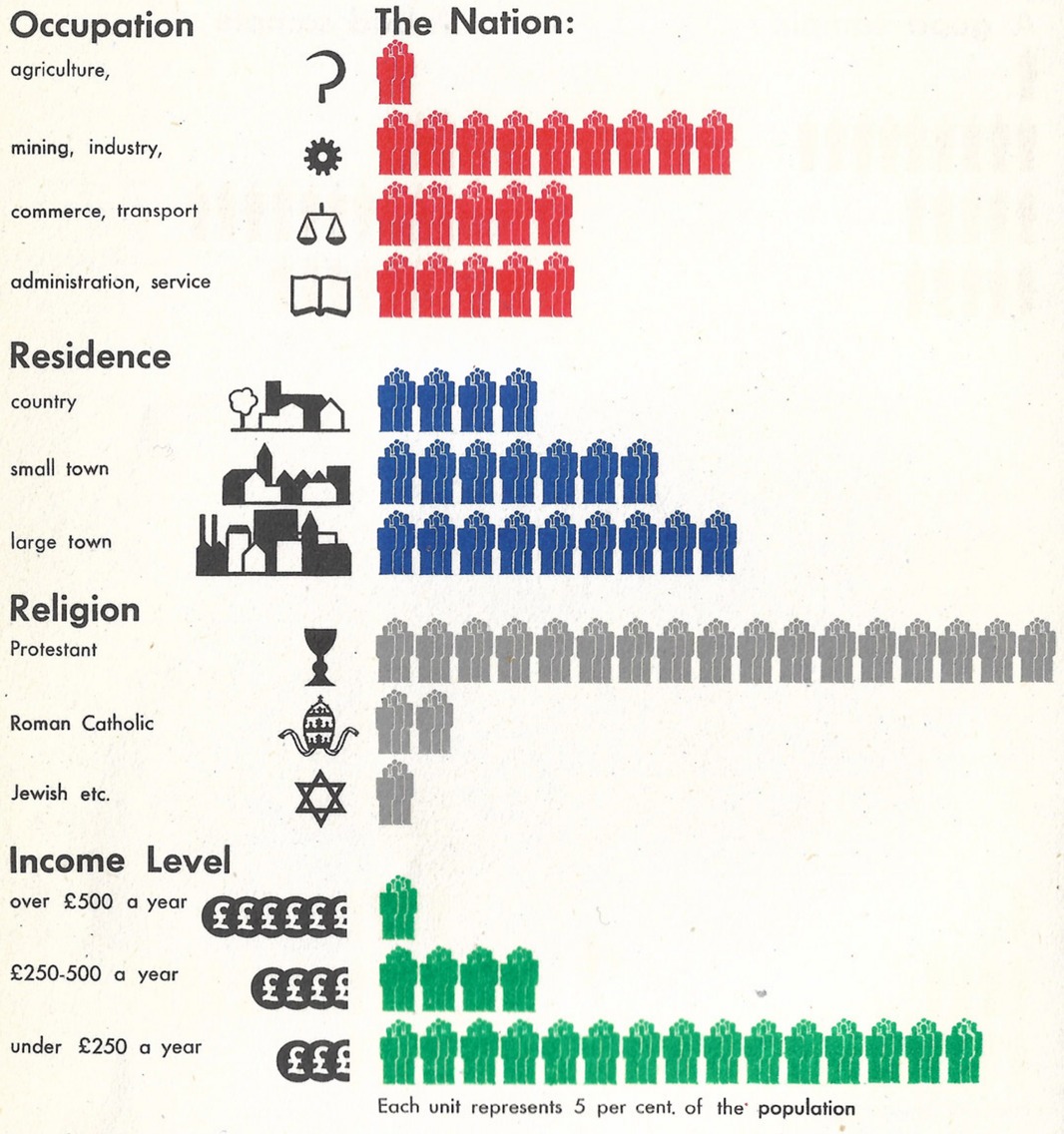


Experience of existing National Insurance, Pensions, and Public Assistance system, 1911-1942.

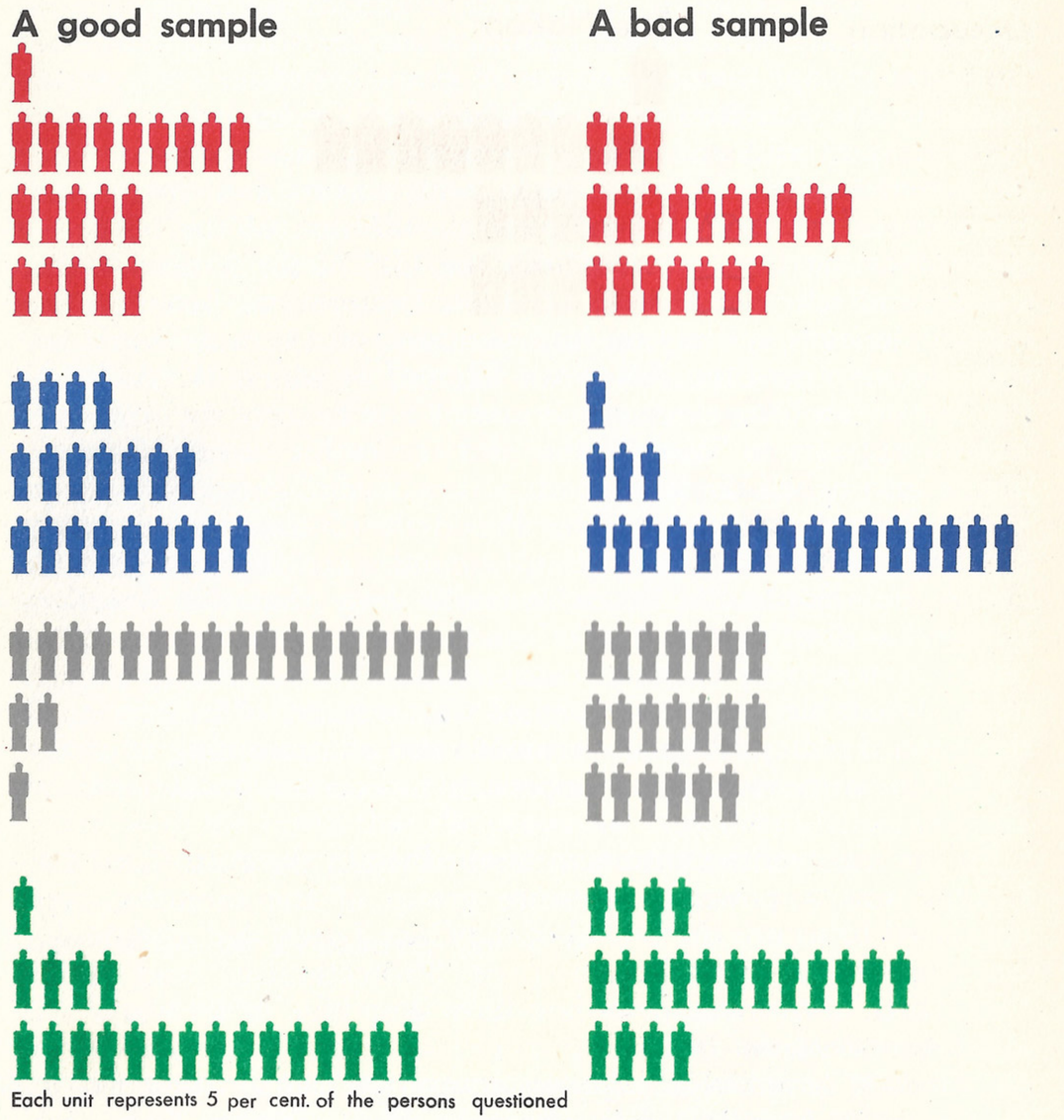
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How a Public Opinion Poll Works

Selecting the cross-section to be interviewed is all important



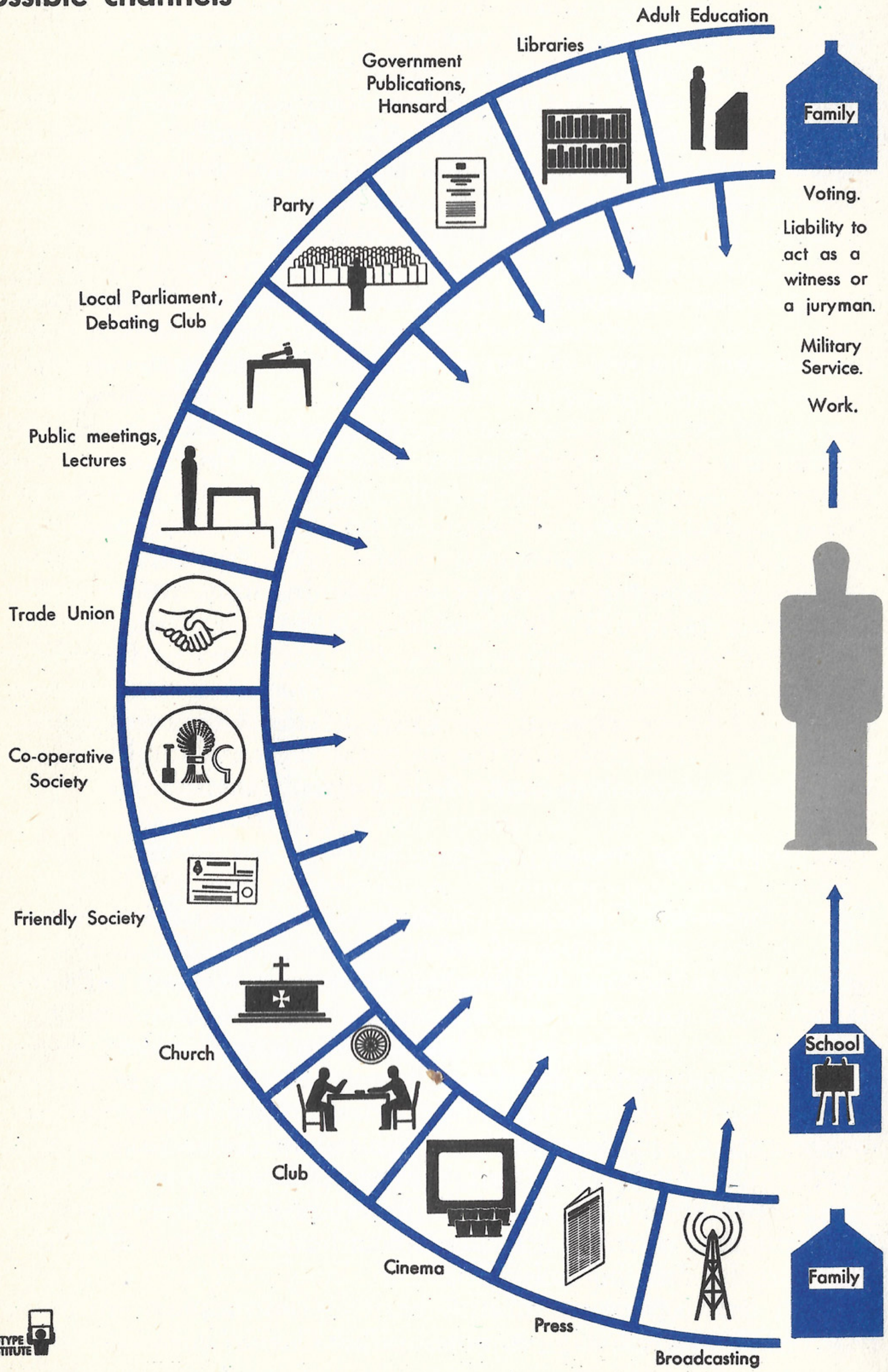
NOTE—The four colours represent four selected cross-sections of a whole Nation. There are, of course, many other possible cross-sections.



NOTE—The good sample corresponds in proportions and visual outline to the national cross-section on the opposite page. The bad sample bears no relation to it and therefore produces a misleading poll.

Education for Citizenship

possible channels



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The Planning Officer with his blue-prints

Villages can be found in England to-day in which one family still completely dominates both the economic and the political life of the community. They may own almost every house and all the agricultural land in the parish—having bought up neighbouring farms during the inter-war depression from families which had tilled them since Agincourt or earlier—they may control the local saw-mill, laundry, waterworks, garage, and many another enterprise; nine-tenths of all the people in the village (and many in the surrounding villages) work for them; they are the patrons of the living; the lady from the big house is President and dictator of the Women's Institute, and the agent's wife or daughter its secretary and her willing slave; the young squire is on both the Parish and the Rural District Council, while his farm-manager is Chairman of the former and his lawyer in the nearby town of the latter. The older villagers are obsequious, the younger ones resentful, but none are in a position to stand up to the all-pervasive influence of the big house. In appearance theirs may be a model village, but as far as local government is concerned they are still living in the eighteenth century. Economic rather than social pressure from the dominating family (for it may not be an eminent county family at all) permits it to have its way, and it demands that the village shall have its life ordered for it and not answer back. Such a situation is too strong for the