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State Capitol Planning Commission

Amos Emery, A.I.A., chairman, Des Moines; William Wagner, A.I.A., Dallas Center; Mrs. Louise Noun, Des Moines; William Gall, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds. Senators Hugh H. Clarke, Belmond; Charles G. Mogged, Fairfield; Representatives Fred B. Hanson, Osage; William E. Darrington, Persia.

The State Capitol Planning Commission was established by the Fifty-eighth General Assembly in 1959 and is composed of legislators, residents of the state appointed by the governor, the superintendent of the state department of buildings and grounds, and the architect employed by the state board of control. The commission's purpose is to advise on location and architecture of buildings and on other aspects of the development of Iowa's state capitol grounds. The commission was provided funds by the Sixtieth General Assembly for planning future expansion and development of the state house grounds. A report of the commission's findings was submitted to the Sixty-first General Assembly and adopted by the assembly as the "master plan and guide for future expansion and development of state capitol grounds of the state of Iowa." The Sixty-first, Sixty-second, and Sixty-third General Assemblies have appropriated funds to the commission to continue studying the expansion and development of the statehouse grounds during the present biennium.

State Car Dispatcher

Frank E. Johnson, Des Moines, State Car Dispatcher.
 (East Seventh and Court Avenue, Des Moines)

Authority to assign all state-owned motor vehicles to state officers and employees, and state offices, departments, bureaus and commissions was vested in the governor by the Forty-eighth General Assembly, effective July 1, 1939. A state car dispatcher was appointed, and all cars were placed under control of this department. In 1941 the Forty-ninth General Assembly provided also for maintenance of all cars and trucks by the state car dispatcher. The costs of maintenance, plus administrative costs and depreciation, for each motor vehicle, are charged back to each department. Rules and regulations for this procedure were approved by the executive council. The car dispatcher department maintains a record of miles driven, cost per mile of each unit, and the overall operation cost.

In 1967 this department had 1,134 cars and 364 trucks, a total of 1,498 units.

The car dispatcher's office receives requests from the various departments desiring new units and with the approval of the executive council holds lettings, and purchases the new vehicles and sells the old vehicles by sealed bids. This office also approves and supervises all repairs to state vehicles and assists in settling insurance claims.

A complete stock of tires, batteries, anti-freeze, spark plugs and points for state vehicles is maintained at the state garage.