

CHICAGO HINDERED BY COMMISSIONS; TAXES DISSIPATED

Large Number of Semi-Public Bodies Hides Inefficiency and Makes for Waste.

FORM POLITICAL SINECURE

Administration Enabled to Pay Obligations and Also Escape Responsibility.

CIVIC PROGRESS MEETS HANDICAP

WHERE 'WE WILL' THERE'S A WAY
—Chicago's New Proverb.

BY HENRY M. HYDE.
When it comes to the commission form of government it is very doubtful if any city in the country has anything on Chicago. One hastens to add that in the kingdom of Carter the commission is used not to simplify the machinery of government, but to increase its already marvelous complexity.

Here, for instance, is an imperfect list of recent semi-public commissions in Chicago:

- Harbor and Subway commission.
- Chicago City Waste commission.
- Chicago Plan commission.
- Vice commission.
- Commission on City Expenditures.
- Commission on Unemployment.
- Public Safety commission.
- Lake Shore Reclamation commission.
- Commission on Downtown Municipal Improvements.
- Chicago Municipal Markets commission.
- Lake Michigan Water commission.
- Commission on Smoke Abatement and Electrification of Railroad Terminals.
- Municipal Art commission.
- Citizens' Railroad Terminal Plan commission.
- Commission on Work of Juvenile Court.
- Real Estate Board's Commission on Sewage and Drainage Disposal.
- Vice Committee of Fifteen.
- Ventilation commission.

UNDER the commission form of government, of course, there are only four or five officials elected by the people. They, in turn, divide the responsibilities of government among themselves, or, in more recent cases, simply act as a board of city directors and employ a trained and expert administrator as city manager, to whom are delegated all administrative powers.

In relation to Chicago the commission form of government is referred to only as a sorry jest. With its twenty-seven different local governments and with 40,000 people on the public pay roll, one might imagine that the city's work might be done without serious help from the responsible authorities. But it is exactly in Chicago that what one may call, if he pleases, the commission form of government has been reduced to an absurdity.

There have been enough public and semi-public commissions established in Chicago in the last few years to solve all the pending problems of government and tackle the rearrangement of the universe in addition.

THIS is not to say that there are no public questions so difficult and complicated as to require the advice of outside experts in their settlement. The best administrators occasionally call for the assistance of men and women who have given their lives to the study of special problems. No doubt some of the local commissions are doing needed and useful work.

But the commission habit is a dangerous one for a city to acquire. It may be used to cover up the incompetency and inefficiency of public officials. If any matter comes up which is at all outside the regular daily routine, a special commission may be appointed to handle it. Later, when errors are revealed or mistakes are made in administration, the blame may be thrown back on the commission, which has no direct responsibility to the public.

A commission may be used to pay political and other debts. Long term jobs at very high salaries may be provided for friends and allies, and cases have been known where the members of such commissions have apparently shown special favor to still other political allies of the appointing power.

WHEN a question arises which is embarrassing to political or other prospects it is easy to postpone action by referring it to a commission. As a stall-

(Continued on page 4, column 2.)

SUMMARY OF THE NEWS.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1914.

WEATHER FORECAST.

For Chicago and vicinity—Generally fair Wednesday and Thursday, but with some cloudiness; moderate, variable winds.

For Illinois—Fair Wednesday, probably preceded by rain or snow in the extreme southern portion; Thursday fair; moderate, variable winds.

Sunrise, 6:20; sunset, 5:44. Moonset, 12:47 a. m.

TEMPERATURE IN CHICAGO

(Last 24 hours.)

Maximum, 4 p. m. 34
Minimum, 3 a. m. 25

3 a. m. 25 11 a. m. 31 7 p. m. 32
4 a. m. 26 Noon 32 8 p. m. 31
5 a. m. 26 1 p. m. 32 9 p. m. 31
6 a. m. 26 2 p. m. 33 10 p. m. 31
7 a. m. 28 3 p. m. 33 11 p. m. 32
8 a. m. 28 4 p. m. 34 Midnight 33
9 a. m. 29 5 p. m. 33 1 a. m. 33
10 a. m. 31 6 p. m. 33 2 a. m. 31

Mean temperature, 29.6; normal for the day, 30.

Excess since Jan. 1, 1914.

Precipitation for 24 hours to 7 p. m. 0. Deficiency since Jan. 1, 46 inch.

Wind, S.W.; max., 10 miles an hour at 10:12 a. m.

Relative humidity, 7 a. m., 63%; 7 p. m., 64%.

Barometer, sea level, 7 a. m., 30.17; 7 p. m., 30.07.

For official government weather report see page 18.

SHIPPERS' ADVICES.

Special Forecast for Shipments Within Radius of 500 Miles.

Prepare shipments to reach destinations by Thursday night for temperatures as follows: North and northwest, 20 to 25 degrees; west, south, and east, 25 to 32 degrees.

SHOPS YOU OUGHT TO KNOW—PAGE 10

LOCAL.

Greatest foes of modern crime solve four mysteries with captures. Page 1

Change in Pullman fares makes it easy to take your wife along on trip. Page 1

H. N. Higginbotham makes public correspondence on World's Fair fund. Page 3

Jury acquits Miss Aileen Heppner, central figure in Funk conspiracy cases. Page 3

Coughlin's plan to change movies censor board gives rise to protest. Page 3

County board expected to give big boost to the good roads movement. Page 4

Women's organizations push campaign against "family entrance" sign. Page 5

Du Page county officials drop inquiry into death of Broker Fairman. Page 5

Arguments in the Ellis murder case are to begin this morning. Page 5

Rush school must raise \$1,000,000 to retain affiliation with Chicago university. Page 13

Holders of "soft snaps" in city law department on carpet; face discharge. Page 13

MEXICO.

Carranza to investigate Benton death; Britain refuses to force U. S. to war. Page 1

Aunt who disliked him leaves James K. Hackett, the actor, \$2,500,000. Page 1

DOMESTIC.

One of Hull house founders to be tried today for picketing with waitresses. Page 7

Calumet and Hecla general manager refuses to accept any arbitration. Page 7

WASHINGTON.

S. H. Greeley charges combine of elevator men and board of trade rules mart. Page 13

Both branches of congress are busy with the equal suffrage issue. Page 13

Walter L. Fisher sets forth Chicago's needs of better terminal facilities. Page 16

POLITICAL.

Municipal candidates make debut before Chicago women's first political teas. Page 13

Ald. Nance opens campaign looking to his reelection in the Sixth ward. Page 13

TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

Real estate. Page 15

Commercial. Page 16

Live stock. Page 16

Produce. Page 16

Financial. Page 17

SPORTING.

Feds threaten active war if organized baseball forces continue taking players. Page 14

Manager Hank O'Day names Tommy Leach captain of the Cubs. Page 14

Champion Johnny Coulton and "Kid" Williams meet and bury the hatchet. Page 15

Athletes Kolhmainen and Jole Ray to meet in match race at Kansas City. Page 15

Yamada and Sutton win matches in cue tournament; latter tied with Hoppe. Page 15

MOVEMENTS OF OCEAN STEAMSHIPS.

Arrived.

CHICAGO. New York. Port.

CALABONIA. New York. Port.

KABER WILHELM II. New York. Port.

CORONA. New York. Port.

WILHELMINA. San Francisco. Port.

HAMBURG. Naples. Port.

ADRIATICO. Gibraltar. Port.

CZAR. Liban. Port.

TAMBOUR. Westport. Port.

VENTURA. Sydney. Port.

Sailed.

SANTA CECILIA. San Francisco. Port.

BELLEPROPH. Yokohama. Port.

CARDIGANSHIRE. Yokohama. Port.

CAORINA. Genoa. Port.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN. New York. Port.

DWINA. New York. Port.

NOORDAM. New York. Port.

VIENNA. Seattle. Port.

CHICAGO. Seattle. Port.

WIRELESS REPORTS.

SARDINIAN. Out 240 miles. Wednesday p. m.

MEMORINER. Out 547 miles. Wednesday p. m.

CMYRI. Out 1,350 miles. Friday p. m.

LUSITANIA. Out 1,500 miles. Friday a. m.

RYNDAM. Out 340 miles. Wednesday p. m.

PANAMA. Out 250 miles. Wednesday noon.

HELLIG OLAV. Out 240 miles. Wednesday a. m.

ST. PAUL. Dist not given. Friday a. m.

SCHARNST. Out 870 miles. Thursday p. m.

GEORGIC. Out 770 miles. Thursday p. m.

KROONLAND. Out 340 miles. Wednesday p. m.

BALTO. Out 1,100 miles. Friday p. m.

K. AUG. VIC. Out 1,225 miles. Saturday a. m.

CARRANZA ORDERS BENTON INQUIRY BY REBEL BOARD

Takes Action After a Long Conference with Constitutional Cabinet.

BRITAIN FRIENDLY TO U. S.

Its Refusal to Force Intervention in Mexico Gives Wilson Whip-hand Over the Leader.

HUERTA SEEKS SOLDIERS' RELEASE

Status of Mexican Situation

WASHINGTON—Great Britain refuses to take any action in Benton slaying that might force United States to intervene in Mexico. Gives Wilson whiphand over Carranza.

WASHINGTON—Believed further efforts toward investigation of Benton slaying will be dropped.

LONDON—Sir Edward Grey tells house of commons Great Britain cannot force United States to intervene in Mexico as result of investigation fiasco in Benton slaying.

EL PASO—Lawyers employed by Huerta may seek release of 5,000 Mexicans at Fort Bliss by court action.

BULLETIN.

NOGALES, Sonora, March 3.—A commission to investigate the Benton case was appointed tonight by Gen. Carranza.

The decision was made after a long session of the provisional cabinet.

It was said that the death at Juarez of the British subject William S. Benton had occupied practically all the attention of Carranza and his advisers.

[BY A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.]

Washington, D. C., March 3.—[Special.]—With Great Britain and Spain unwilling to force to an issue the outrages committed upon their subjects, the administration is relieved from apprehension that a European combination would be formed to compel American intervention in Mexico.

The president and Secretary Bryan now believe that they can address themselves without danger of foreign complications to the task of making Carranza and Villa see the light.

Carranza's position as set forth in his notes to Secretary Bryan is now pronounced impossible and totally inadmissible. Until he has yielded to what is regarded as reason the attention of the state department will be concentrated on that phase of the Mexican problem. The principle involved is considered sufficiently important to overshadow all other considerations at present.

Carden as Friendly Emisary.

The gratifying effect of Sir Edward Grey's moderate speech in the house of commons was heightened by the presence in Washington of Sir Lionel Carden, British minister to Mexico, who came to this city en route to London for the purpose of calling on President Wilson.

The call was for the purpose of emphasizing Great Britain's genuine friendliness for the United States in regard to Mexico, and to dispel the unfortunate impression in Washington that Sir Lionel is a bitter anti-American influence in Mexico City.

Neither the embassy nor the White House would discuss a conference between the president and Sir Lionel, but it is known the latter defended his pro-Huerta policy in Mexico City.

It developed today that in its determination to effect a virtual withdrawal of Carranza from the position set forth in his notes, the United States will employ Consul Carothers, who has gone to Nogales, and will enjoy the assistance of the Washington agents of the Mexican revolution.

This assistance will not be rendered by reason of any solicitation upon the part of the state department, but because the Washington representatives of Carranza consider that their chief errand grossly in his rebuffs of the United States and Great Britain.

Will Ignore Rebel's Demand.

Great Britain, and also Spain, which is involved by reason of a case against the Constitutional authorities somewhat similar to the Benton case, will not even consider granting Carranza's demand for direct dealing with him, instead of through the United States.

The United States will be no less firm in refusing to accept Carranza's conception of what the Washington government can and cannot do in the Mexican situation.

The rebel leader will be informed that the United States will insist on doing business with him whenever necessary to fulfill the obligations it has undertaken with regard to the protection of European interests in Constitutional territory.

The proposal to investigate the death of Benton, by means of an examination of his body, which Villa says is in Chihuahua, has been shelved, pending the establishment of a satisfactory basis for relations with Carranza. The opinion is generally held here that the proposed American commission will never go to Chihuahua as planned.

The British embassy, and practically every official at the state department except Mr.

(Continued on page 4, column 3.)

HIS FIRST YEAR'S REPORT.

(Copyright, 1914, By John T. McCutcheon.)



E means Excellent..... between 90 and 100
G means Good..... between 80 and 90
F means Fair..... between 75 and 80
P means Poor..... below 75

Bona Fide Subscribers of "The Tribune" are allowed to revise the grading to suit themselves.

JAMES K. HACKETT GETS BIG FORTUNE

Actor Will Receive Bulk of Aunt's \$2,500,000 Estate Despite Her Dislike.

RESULT OF OLD DECREE.

New York, March 3.—[Special.]—Mrs. Minnie Hackett Trowbridge died at her home, 72 Park avenue, this morning from the effects of a stroke of apoplexy suffered more than five years ago.

In consequence of a strange combination of circumstances James K. Hackett, the actor, will inherit the bulk of an estate valued at nearly \$2,500,000.

Hackett himself does not know that he became a millionaire this morning. The woman who died desired above all things that others should inherit her property. She had never received him at her home; she had declined to hold any communication with him; she had expressed totally different purposes and plans for her money. Yet for three years, other relatives, her warmest personal friends, lawyers, and financial institutions who had the management of her property have known that the actor must inevitably receive the bulk of it.

They talked it over among themselves, discussed it with friends, but simply waited for the time when the operation of the law would bring about that which the woman herself profoundly desired to have otherwise.

Aunt Couldn't Make New Will.

Hackett will receive the money because as uncle of Mrs. Trowbridge he is nearest of kin and entitled to a residuary estate which had been bequeathed to her husband, Francis E. Trowbridge, who died in 1910. Suffering from aphasia at the time due to the paralysis, Mrs. Trowbridge was the following year declared incompetent by the courts, which made it impossible for her to make a new will, though in lucid moments it was a matter of poignant grief to her.

She had cousins, A. Oakley Hall, Mrs. George Peabody Wetmore, wife of the United States senator from Rhode Island, and Miss Alice Kellett, whom she loved, and Mrs. James L. Clancy, who had devoted years of her life to soothing her and making her comfortable, but she could not do anything for them out of affection, except that which had been done by specific bequest in the will of 1907 or 1908.

It may be that the operation of the law will give these cousins something out of some portion of the estate, but it was agreed today that the bulk of it will go to Hackett.

Family Noted on the Stage.

Mrs. Minnie Hackett Trowbridge was the daughter, and only child of John Kellett, Hackett, a distinguished lawyer, and for years recorder of New York City. He was the son of James Henry Hackett ("Falstaff" Hackett), a great actor of the first half of the nineteenth century. Recorder Hackett was the son of the actor by his first wife, Katherine, who was herself famous on the stage of England and the United States. She died in 1845.

"Falstaff" Hackett took a second wife when he was an old man, and James K. Hackett is the only child of this marriage, born in 1869 when his father was 69 years old. It was a will made early in 1908 which brings the fortune to Hackett. In this will, after making bequests to her cousins and a specific bequest to Mr. Trowbridge, Mrs. Trowbridge left the residue to him and did not provide for his disposition otherwise in case of his dying before her.

WILSON READY TO ADDRESS CONGRESS ON CANAL TOLLS.

President in Person Tomorrow Will Urge Repeal of Clause in Act Exempting American Coastwise Ships.

LOBSTER KILLS A CORMORANT AFTER BATTLE IN THE AIR.

Crustacean, Seized and Carried Aloft, Grips Bird's Tongue in Claw and Suffocates Enemy.

[BY CABLE TO THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE.]

BREITENBURG, March 3.—A desperate fight between a cormorant and a lobster was watched today by a crowd at Dolyment, near Dublin. The cormorant dived into the water and rose with a lobster in its beak. It then descended rapidly and vigorously battered the lobster against the rock. The cormorant then rose again and shook the lobster as a dog does a rat. Suddenly the cormorant began flapping its wings violently and struggled with the lobster until the bird became exhausted, when it fell dead on the beach. It was found that the lobster had gripped the cormorant's tongue and the bird died of suffocation.

FORMER CONGRESSMAN STACK ROBBED BY TWO AUTOISTS.

Revolvers Awe Washington Boulevard Resident While \$7 Is Taken from His Pocket.

Former Congressman Edmund J. Stack was held up last night by two men who stepped from an automobile as he was crossing Jackson boulevard at Springfield avenue on his way to his residence at 4147 Washington boulevard. The pair, intimidating the former congressman with their revolvers, took \$7, stepped back in the car, and drove away.

HEAR MUSIC 1,000 MILES AWAY

Italian King and Queen Catch Signals When Marconi Gives Demonstration of Wireless Telegraphy.

[BY CABLE TO THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE.]

ROME, March 3.—Guglielmo Marconi gave a demonstration of his wireless telephony today before a gathering of scientists and of King Victor Emmanuel and Queen Elena. Musical notes and signals transmitted from Poldhu station in Cornwall, England, more than a thousand miles away, were plainly heard. Sounds from a station in Tripoli also were heard.

ARMY MAN SERIOUSLY HURT.

Quartermaster Sergeant Ross of Fort Sheridan Leaps Off Moving Train at Highland Park.

Quartermaster Sergeant Ross of Fort Sheridan was a passenger last night on a Chicago and Northwestern train. He was talking to a friend when the train stopped in Highland Park and did not know he had reached his destination until the train had started to pull out. He leaped off the moving train. His head struck the side of the last coach and his skull was fractured. He was taken to the fort hospital.

CHEAPER TO TAKE YOUR WIFE ON TRIP

Eastern Lines Begin Charging Double Fare for Drawing Rooms on Cars.

RAISE COMPARTMENT FEE

Loud roars of protest are filling the ticket offices of the eastern railroad lines this week, owing to a stiff advance in rates charged against passengers who occupy drawing rooms or compartments.

The roads have decided that if a man wants privacy, he can pay for it. Beginning on Sunday he did pay for it. The man traveling to New York and demanding a drawing room found he had to pay the regular drawing room price, the price of his own ticket, the price of a ticket he did not use, and the excess fare rate, if it was a fast train. The trip cost him the extra railroad ticket more than last week.

Good for Wife.

"It ought to be a good thing for the traveler's wife," said a clerk at one of the offices. "It won't cost any more to take her than to leave her at home, because the two tickets must be bought anyway."

The argument advanced by the railroads is that the hauling of the Pullman car costs a definite amount. It makes no difference in this cost whether each compartment is occupied or not. It costs the road as much to carry one passenger per compartment as two, and the officials have figured out that one passenger might as well pay as much as two.

Pleads Reasonable Side of It.

"It seems to please every one except the traveler," said one of the railroad officials. "But he ought to see the reasonable nature of the change. One man complained to me that we were making up for the reduction in Pullman rates. That had nothing to do with it for that was a loss of the Pullman company not borne by us at all. He went away in some disgust, asserting we would not find it profitable. If we don't the order can be rescinded, but I think it is here to stay."

The man satisfied with a compartment, instead of a drawing room fares a little better, being forced to pay only one fare and a half, instead of two fares. There is, of course, no change in the tariff on upper and lower berths. But the man who, desiring to have any one in a berth above him, buys both upper and lower berths, will have to pay double fare as well as Pullman rates for both cots.

DEMANDS LIGHT ON GRAVE.

Mrs. Gertrude Cashman Finds Stranger Buried in Her Lot and Appeals to Court.

When Mrs. Gertrude Cashman went to the cemetery of the Congregation B'nai Moshe to visit the grave of her husband, she found a stranger buried in her lot and appealed to court.

The body, who had made the promise at his dying father's bedside in Danville, N. Y., was caught at his first "crooked trick" in Detroit, Mich., where he forged a check when he found himself penniless. For the first time he felt what it was to be behind prison bars. Prominent friends interceded with the governor and he was released on his promise that he would reform.

Starts on Career of Crime.

Then Whitehead began to build up his criminal reputation as a forger, check raiser, confidence man, and bookmaker. He was arrested and convicted in Chicago, New York, and San Francisco, but seldom served any of his sentences. He called his powerful friends to his assistance, and with attorneys to fight his cases won his liberty repeatedly.

The Pinkertons had been on the man's trail and had brought him to justice on several occasions. In the files of the agency's entire record of Whitehead covered two closely typewritten pages, giving the dates and places of his numerous arrests.

Forty-two times Whitehead rubbed up

GREATEST FOES OF CRIME UNTANGLE FOUR MYSTERIES

Burns and Pink