

CITY HOSPITALS INADEQUATE

HEBERD SAYS ADMINISTRATION SHOULD BE UNIFIED

Not Much Improvement Since the Day When Six Children Shared One Bed—Ambulance Service Had—Estimate Board Thanked for Doing Its Part.

Robert W. Heberd, secretary of the State Board of Charities of New York, and formerly Commissioner of Public Charities of the city of New York, said at the American Hospital Association convention at the Murray Hill Hotel yesterday that this city is about a generation behind the age in its public hospital and ambulance facilities. To bring it up to date he urged a unified hospital and ambulance administration and large appropriations annually.

"Only within very recent years," said Mr. Heberd, "has any determined effort been put forth toward bringing the public hospital facilities of the city up to anything approaching a proper standard. To the great credit of the present Board of Estimate and Apportionment he said that that board has recently appropriated nearly \$3,000,000 for the upbuilding and general improvement of the facilities of the hospitals and other institutions of the Department of Public Charities.

"A commission appointed by Mayor McClellan in 1906 reported that the three departments of the city government that administered the public hospitals of the city carried on their work without any definite basis of cooperation. These are the Department of Public Charities, the Department of Health and the trustees of Bellevue and Allied Hospitals. The commission recommended that the management of the public hospitals be consolidated in a single department under the management of a board of trustees, which should appoint an executive officer to carry on the work under the general direction of the board. No progress has been made, however, toward carrying out this recommendation, mainly for the reason that not one of the departments named has seemed to be willing to give up a single institution to a central board."

No survey of Blackwell's Island has been made, the speaker continued, and no layouts have been prepared for the extension of buildings. A poorly paid hospital help system has caused the cause of much inefficiency and complaint. Despite four training schools much of the work of caring for patients is carried on by hospital helpers, nearly a thousand of whom receive less than 50 cents a day. More than 8,000 changes have been made in this service in a single year because of the general inefficiency of those employed.

"It is but a few years ago, and in the interim there has been but little increase in facilities, that a Commissioner of Health publicly admitted that there were as many as six patients in one bed in a children's department of one of the Health Department's hospitals," continued the speaker. "How long do you suppose such conditions would continue if the Health Department itself had not been content with such a state of affairs? Do you not believe that there is any more necessity for the administration of hospitals for the treatment of the ordinary contagious diseases than there is for the administration of the prisons by the City Magistrates, and as the McClellan hospital commission pointed out, the city should no more have three public hospital departments doing its work than it should have three fire departments or three police departments."

"Besides the private hospitals that have contractual relations with the city a number of the larger private hospitals do a vast amount of work for the poor and thereby help to relieve a situation of long continued public indifference and neglect that would become a burning scandal without the cooperation and assistance of the private institutions. The ambulance service of the city has for years been unsatisfactory. New York city has in the lower part of Manhattan no public relief station or ambulances and relies for a large extent upon the crude and entirely inadequate facilities provided by a religious organization. This is, however, but an example of the general lack of facilities that prevail in every part of the city.

"The demand is for a public hospital system that shall be in every respect honest and efficient, scientific and up to date and above all things gloriously humane from beginning to end."

Dr. L. Richardson of the Providence City Hospital spoke on the treatment of communicable diseases in hospitals. He gave a resume of the work of the General Hospital, on "The Development of Typhoid Fever Among Hospital Workers," Frank J. Birch of the Germantown Hospital and Hospital Administration, on hospital efficiency, and Dr. William Neally, assistant superintendent of New York Hospital, on hospital methods of giving anesthetics.

Henry C. Wright of the Russell Sage Foundation and W. J. Forbes, purchasing agent of the hospital bureau of standards and supplies of New York, told how the new bureau of hospital purchasing had worked. There was a general discussion in which the majority of hospital superintendents who spoke said they had found the bureau of standards and supplies of great value. Miss Nancy P. Elliott, superintendent of the Rockefeller Institute Hospital, will speak on the future of the trained nurse. Frederick D. Greene, general secretary of the Hospital Saturday and Sunday Association, will talk on "How to Increase Public Support of Hospitals." Just before the afternoon session yesterday the Lincoln Hospital sent around its new gasoline ambulance to show to the delegates. The crowd that has always watched the workers on the Grand Central Station saw the ambulance draw up in front of the Murray Hill Hotel and hustled over to find out what had happened. When Dr. W. A. Holla got out and explained just what the ambulance worked the crowd melted away. They missed the real excitement.

PRICE IN THE ADIRONACKS.

Vice-President of Conservation Association Investigating the State Forests.

SARANAC LAKE, N. Y., Sept. 20.—Overton W. Price, vice-president of the National Conservation Association, is in the Adirondacks making an investigation of Adirondack conditions for Gilford Pinchot. Mr. Pinchot himself is expected here about October 15 on his return from Alaska. The investigation is made at the request of the Campfire Club of America and for the National Conservation Association. These organizations will make formal statements based on the report of the investigators to the State Legislature and will ask for legislation to remedy many existing conditions.

The fire protective system in State forests is occupying much of Mr. Price's time while here. He has visited the mountain lookout stations near Elizabethtown, Lake Placid and Saranac Lake, in company with John Harding, superintendent of fires in this district, and is questioning all available officials and employees of the conservation commission as to the results obtained. Mr. Price will recommend an extension of the system now in use.

The State tree nurseries at Lake Clear were visited and the results of tree planting on various sections of State land were noted. Mr. Price was enthusiastic over the work of C. R. Pettis, State superintendent of forests, who has had charge of this branch of the service for several years. Mr. Price says the State may be proud of Mr. Pettis's achievements in demonstrating that the work can be done effectively and economically. It is likely that a broad extension of Mr. Pettis's work will be advocated in Mr. Price's report.

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FEAR NEW GRAND JURY'S WORK

HUDSON COUNTY POLITICIANS ARE ALL IN A WHIRL.

Case Against Sheriff Kelly May Lead to Other Investigations Likely to Cause Trouble for the Machine Leaders—Inquisitors Are Working Hard.

Supreme Court Justice Francis J. Swayze, who dismissed Sheriff James J. Kelly's Hudson county, N. J., Grand Jury in Jersey City on Tuesday instead of swearing it in, made no announcement yesterday as to whether the court will adopt the course of having a new venire selected by one of the three corners or by two jurors to be appointed by the court. It is expected that the Justice will name jurors in a day or two so that an important Grand Jury may be chosen before the case against Sheriff Kelly is heard.

It was whispered at the Court House yesterday that Corporation Attorney John J. Fallon, Sheriff Kelly's counsel, may apply for a writ of certiorari removing to the Supreme Court for review the action of Justice Swayze in dismissing the panel when the Prosecutor challenged the array, one point being made that as no formal complaint in writing had been filed against the Sheriff there were no charges against him and that the Grand Jury selected by the Sheriff was not a legal one.

Prosecutor Garvon said that he will present the case against the Sheriff to the next Grand Jury without going through the formality of having a warrant issued for the Sheriff's arrest. The friends of Sheriff Kelly in the Democratic machine which has controlled Hudson county for many years are disturbed over the probability that the next Grand Jury will be selected by two jurors and the fact that the grand inquest will have the power to investigate all complaints besides the case against the Sheriff. For years there has been much complaint in Hudson county because certain grand juries have refused to indict certain public officials and others against whom charges of crookedness have been made, and several names have been unceremoniously brushed out of court for failing to obey the admonitions of Judges that they should find true bills when the evidence warranted it.

Rumors of graft and misconduct on the part of certain county officials have been rife for a long time, and the prosecutor has tried to bring about indictments against a county collector for landing county funds to private individuals and for paying out county warrants to the wrong party, and several others in other cases to bring justice up with political pulls and had to give it up as a bad job.

Justice Swayze is now making an investigation into the affairs of the county, and James Cameron, an expert probor, and a big staff of accountants are trying to find out just exactly what has been going on in the Board of Freeholders and other county departments. The probor has been on the job for months and he has not yet been able to get a complete list of the names of the county officials that an alleged grand jury would probably have a lot of work cut out for it.

The spies of many men tingled yesterday at the announcement that Justice Swayze had issued notices directing Sandy Clements, William E. Smith and James P. McGovern, members of the county board of freeholders, and Hugh Roberts, architect of the new county court house, to appear before him on Saturday, October 7, at 10 A. M. The notices set forth that testimony given by them will relate in part to the erection and furnishing of the new county court house. James Gordon, a well known Jersey City lawyer, will act as counsel in conducting the investigation.

Three Bronx grocers have reported to the police thefts of horses and delivery wagons within as many days. On Monday a horse and a wagon belonging to Nicholas Stummerman of 931 Trinity avenue were stolen from the corner of 164th street and Trinity avenue. On Tuesday a horse and a wagon owned by William E. Smith of 163rd street and Sheridan avenue, and yesterday morning a horse and a wagon belonging to Gawer & Mertens of 377 Park avenue were stolen from their place in the Bronx. In each case the animal and the delivery wagon disappeared while the driver was delivering goods in a building. In the case of the Stummerman horse and wagon the thieves were seen climbing on the seat and drove off.

The thefts were reported to the police, but none of the stolen property has been recovered. Each of the rats was valued by its owner at about \$50. The grocers say they think the thefts are the work of a gang of Italian horse thieves which is believed to have been organized in New Jersey. One of the victims said last night that a plumber, horse and wagon also had been stolen yesterday morning from the corner of 168th street and Washington avenue.

Former Brooklyn Senator Alleged to Be \$500 in Arrears of Alimony. Former Senator Frank J. Gardner of Brooklyn, who figured in the racketeering agitation at Albany and was subsequently tried for an alleged attempt to bribe Senator Otto Folkler in the interest of the racketeering men and acquitted, is now in danger of being jailed for contempt of court in failing to pay his former wife \$500 alimony and give security in \$2,000 that he won't be shy in future in making the payments.

BAD FOR ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL.

Varick Street Widening May Mean the End of the Old Church.

If the project to widen Varick street as an extension of Seventh avenue goes through as the Board of Estimate intends, St. John's Chapel will lose its portico and will find itself looking snub nosed at a busy thoroughfare. A spokesman for Trinity said yesterday that the removal of the pillars of the old church might weaken it so much that it would have to be torn down.

Last July, when the Board of Estimate passed the corporate stock budget, about \$3,000,000 was allotted for the Seventh avenue extension. Mayor Gaynor had until last Tuesday to veto the provision. He didn't do it and the money will be ready for the first of next year.

It was said at the office of E. E. Goodrich, consulting engineer for the Commissioner of Public Works, that the map for the widening of Varick street had not been drawn for the extension of St. John's. It was impossible to tell therefore exactly what will happen to the chapel. Roughly, however, the engineers say that twenty feet will have to be taken from the east side of Varick street. The west side cannot be touched because the New York Central freight terminal, which covers the block across from the chapel, is not subject to condemnation. The twenty feet will take in the land right up to the front wall of St. John's. This will mean the removal of the pillars and steps which now ornament the front of the church.

While the money for the city's part of the improvement has been appropriated, the city is not yet committed to the plan. The Board of Estimate will have to pass upon the details as submitted by the city engineer's office and the city board of aldermen will have a chance to be heard. Moreover, the actual work may be delayed until the matter of a Seventh avenue subway is decided. Trinity has not believed that the extension will go through, said a spokesman for the parish yesterday. "We have spent money very recently on improving our property on the east side of Varick street and this is on land which could be encroached upon by the widening of the street. The trustees have not decided what will happen to St. John's in the event of the widening of the street."

The work at St. John's was merged with that at St. Luke's chapel two years ago last May after a discussion which was held by the Board of Estimate in December almost to the time that the change was made. The Rev. William Wilkinson, who preaches work days at Wall and Broad streets and is known as the "Catholic Worker," said that the work had not been a success because the neighborhood did not support it. Some of the furnishings of the chapel had been carried over to St. Luke's, and it was reported that the organ will be taken away also. Very little religious work has been carried on at St. John's for some time.

Government Accuses Naday & Fleischer of Undervaluations. Sigmund L. Fleischer of the firm of Naday & Fleischer, importers of women's wearing apparel and lace at 79 Fifth avenue, and David R. Bratter, an employee, were yesterday accused by the Assistant United States Attorney of undervaluing imports from France, Belgium and other countries. The other member of the firm, John Naday, for whom a warrant has been issued, sailed for Europe last Tuesday.

According to the special agents the value of the merchandise involved in the alleged frauds exceeds \$500,000. United States Attorney Wise said he had not fully investigated the case and did not know the extent of the frauds, but he believed them to be considerable. The complaint cites seven importations involving goods valued at \$6,742,422 francs according to the firm's consular invoices which are alleged to be false. The true values are not given. The offences cover the period from July, 1908, to July, 1911. The complaint, however, covers only a small part of the offences, according to Assistant United States Attorney Walton, who says the firm is a big one and does a business of \$1,000,000 a year.

Four Produce Dealers Fined for Crowding Crated Fowl Blame Farmers. Special Agent James D. Miskic of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals took a morning of yesterday and arrested a number of produce dealers in Gansevoort Market for keeping too many chickens packed in small crates. He arrested four of them and brought them to Jefferson Market court in the afternoon. The charges were made up with confining certain living animals by confining them in a coop and causing them to crowd and stamp upon each other. The dealers, each one of them, declared that the crates were not so crowded as they or the society, said they should get after the farmers who packed the chickens, or better yet the express companies that used the crates, and that they had permitted them to remain crated while on their long journey.

The four dealers were fined \$3 each. They were John Franklin Menck of 50 Hamilton terrace, Jersey City; William G. Mohr of 887 Montgomery street, Jersey City; George H. Lewis of 243 Suydam street, Jersey City, and Thomas Bingham of 1683 Eighty-ninth street, Brooklyn. BROOKLYN BOY'S BODY FOUND. William Hansen and Girl Companion Drowned From a Canoe. EAST HAMPTON, Conn., Sept. 20.—The body of William Hansen, 10 years old, of 674 Fulton street, Brooklyn, N. Y., was found floating in the Connecticut River at 1:40 o'clock this morning by Charles H. Clark, Jr., about a mile below the Middle Haddam dock and not far from Becker's Pavilion. Hansen and Miss Clara Carlson, 20 years old, of Middletown, Conn., started on Saturday night in a canoe to attend a dance, but did not appear at the pavilion. It is now thought that the swell from a New York boat capsized them, and not knowing much about a canoe they were being able to swim both were drowned. Search has been continued for the body of Miss Carlson. She was overturned, was found by Charles Bailey eight miles below near Arnolds station. Dr. G. N. Lawson, medical examiner, after viewing the body gave permission for its removal to the Undertaker Rogers and it has been sent to Brooklyn.

TO AMEND LEVY ELECTION LAW

PLAN TO SAVE STATEWIDE PERSONAL REGISTRATION.

It Provides for Personal Registration at Town Elections and That Such Elections Shall Be Held at the Same Time as the General Elections. ALBANY, Sept. 20.—Gov. Dix and the Democratic legislative leaders have agreed upon amendments to the Levy election law which they are sure will stand the test of the courts and will provide personal registration in the rural districts for every voter.

The State Constitution provides for personal registration throughout the State except in places of 5,000 inhabitants or under, and the Democratic legislative leaders say this section of the Constitution does not prevent legislation providing for the personal registration of those voting at town elections. Accordingly they have framed amendments to the Levy law which provide that town elections shall be held at the same time as general elections. This, it is argued, would have the same effect as providing personal registration for general elections, which the Constitution apparently prohibits in cities and villages having less than 5,000 population.

The Levy law as it stands now compels the personal registration in rural districts and places under 5,000 population of all voters not voting at the preceding election, but the constitutionality of this provision is now being attacked in the courts. The Democratic leaders feel that the new amendments will not only accomplish all that was intended by the provision which is being questioned, but that it will in effect compel personal registration of every rural voter who votes at a general election, as he cannot vote at the town meeting in which he is vitally interested unless he has registered previously.

Legislative day sessions will be held to-morrow, Friday, Monday night and Tuesday, but on Wednesday next Majority Leader A. E. Smith will, he says, insist on the Assembly having a calendar embracing the charter and apportionment and appropriation bills and disposing of them whether the Senate is ready or not. Mr. Smith presided in the Assembly to-day, as Speaker Fritch had motored to the Schenhar fair with Gov. Dix. The Assembly passed Assemblyman Cuyler's resolution favoring the establishment of a United States army post at Albany.

The Citizens Union representatives here continued to criticize the New York city charter provisions, and they are issuing statements every few hours adding to their criticisms. Senator Cullen said to-day that the Senate Cities Committee would meet at 2 o'clock to-morrow afternoon and that the New York city charter would be reported favorably to the Senate on Friday. Senator Frawley announced that the Senate would take a vote next Wednesday on the New York city charter and the Congressional reapportionment bill.

While Senator White of Schenectady and Senator Roosevelt of Dutchess and Senator Stillwell of the Bronx are not quite satisfied with their new Congressional boundaries, Senator Frawley, the chairman of the apportionment committee, anticipates no trouble in passing his legislation. Senator Roosevelt of Orange and Putnam taken out of his new district and Dutchess county placed with some of the counties to the north which are not so strongly Republican. He was trying to work such a change to-night on the idea that although his present Congressional district is Republican the Democrats carried it the last time.

Senator Stillwell is also trying to figure out new boundaries for the Bronx districts without throwing the whole apportionment out of gear.

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