

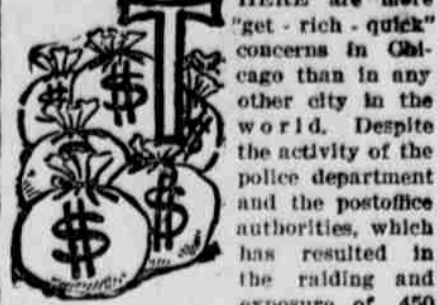


SWALLOW THE BAIT.

QUILLIBLE PUBLIC EASY PREY FOR SWINDLERS.

In Two Years 450 Fraudulent Firms Have Been Halted in Chicago—\$150,000,000 Dropped Yearly in "Get-Rich-Quick" Schemes.

Chicago correspondence:



HERE are more "get-rich-quick" concerns in Chicago than in any other city in the world. Despite the activity of the police department and the postoffice authorities which has resulted in the raiding and exposure of 450 firms of fraudulent character during the last two years, every office building in the city contains companies which are operating in the hope that they will be overlooked for a few weeks or months so that the nets that they have cast can be hauled in full.

A walk down the hallways of the big buildings, even those demanding high rental, will reveal the presence of these business leeches. The offices are furnished in luxury and with an eye to dazzling the man from the smaller town and the country who is lured there by the huge promises made in the advertisements. There are many stenographers, clicking away busily. Men are rushing to and fro from rooms marked "private" to the cashier's desk. The telephones are ringing, and an occasional glimpse of the "president's office" reveals a dignified gentleman sitting at an expensive table and surrounded by imposing books and correspondence. It is a setting that works like a charm.

Scarcely a day passes that victims do not appear in the police courts to tell the loss of insurance money, etc., at the hands of these shrewd swindlers. The swindlers always are represented by lawyers who are familiar with the technicalities of the law, and who, if their clients are charged with obtaining money by false pretenses, insist that the victim invested money as a result of promises or misrepresentations as to the future returns from the business. If charged with a confidence game, these lawyers claim a mere business transaction, and that conversation merged to a written agreement, or at the most, false pretenses and a misdemeanor. The schemes are so cunningly devised that false representations scarcely ever can be proved.

The tentacles of the great system which has centered in this city for so many years have swept out into the farthest regions of the West, made desolate homes, scattered hard earned savings, and dashed bright hopes. The method is simple; the bait alluring. Most of the men in the well organized companies that prey upon the public are well educated. They have the fever in their blood as thoroughly as their victims. They have been known to bite on the hook cast out by some of their disguised "pals." If they would turn their intellects and energies to legitimate business they would make respectable fortunes and be safe. But the lure of the game is as strong as that of the underworld or the wanderlust. Persuasive, clever, picturesque writing forms the main asset of the companies at the start. Literature is the first necessity and the money to buy the stamps to mail it. Then an office with a high sounding firm title on the door and a large bag to hold the coin.

How the Money is Dropped. The last year has overturned several pinacles of graft. Here is the way the money has been dropped in Chicago within a year: Matrimonial bureaus, \$1,000,000; employment agencies, \$200,000; turf commissioners, \$75,000; charity homes, \$300,000; wildcat insurance \$10,000,000; home building associations, \$8,000,000; bucketshops, \$5,000,000; wire tappers, \$2,000,000; book agencies, \$1,000,000; mines and oil wells, \$8,000,000; medicine companies \$500,000. A well-informed official says the American public drops annually \$150,000,000 in these "get-rich-quick" concerns.

Detective Sergeant Clifton R. Woodruff says: "Were the census enumerators of the United States to compile a list of the 'sucker' public the quillible ones would aggregate tens of millions. There is not a township in this great nation that does not contain its portion of confiding persons who are ready to believe anything from the rankest catch penny advertisement to a fallacy in theological dogma. My investigations for years past into the tannest secrets of swindlers impel the belief that their faith passes into the domain of imbecility. Thousands of men are willing to throw money to the man who proclaims that for a few pennies he will impart the secret of raising the dead, or how to make one dollar make a million, or how to hate the savants of science after a day's research. Every mall cart out of Chicago groans under a burden of 'get-rich-quick' mail to be scattered in every direction. The operatives of these schemes are the most dangerous of criminals. They are received with open arms in social and business circles. They contribute to the churches and their wives and daughters visit in automobiles and dazzle at social functions by their silks and diamonds.

"Every time a 'get-rich-quick' bubble bursts there follows a long, dreary story of misplaced confidence. But as soon as active publicity ceases the dearly bought lesson is forgotten and the 'sucker' is ready to spring to the next tempting bait. The victims are numbered among all classes, from the laundress to the lawyer, the merchant to the clergyman."

Building operations in Washington, D. C., and vicinity are threatened with an early tieup. Unless there is a quick settlement of the lockout of the plumbers, who have been out for many weeks, the Allied Building Trades will be forced to suspend operations. They will have no choice in the matter.



COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

Chicago.

No striking developments dominate business affairs, but there is a sustained tone of strength drawn from the assurance of great harvests and the enormous aggregate of forward work in manufacturing. Much attention attaches at this time to the distribution of staple merchandise, and it is gratifying that lower temperature has succeeded the recent warm weather and gives a more reasonable stimulus to retail dealings in heavy-weight apparel, footwear and household needs.

Another influx of visiting buyers adds to the activity in jobbing branches, and further heavy sales appear in the leading staples, much being marked for prompt shipment to many interior points. The record-breaking sales of dry goods, boots and shoes, clothing and furniture are fully maintained, making it more evident that the promise of the largest fall trade ever known here is being realized.

While farm producers brought larger financial returns last year, one of the salient features of current operations is the liberal expenditures of the agricultural classes for necessities and improvements. Factory conditions exhibit no diminution in the aggregate output, and, though commitments for furnace product and rails reach only moderate proportions, the new demands make a satisfactory tonnage in semi-finished steel and raw materials. There is also a steady absorption of structural shapes, plates and merchant iron, while the capacity of wire mills is engaged several months ahead. Demands involve day and night operation of forges, foundry work is more plentiful, and gains are being made in deliveries of heavy machinery, hardware, farm implements, electric and brass goods. Notwithstanding dear money, there is much use of funds for industrial purposes. Other encouraging indications are ease in mercantile collections and moderate trading defaults, the latter for this month being conspicuously low.

Failures reported in Chicago district number 19, against 22 last week and 32 a year ago.—Dun's Review of Trade.

Distributive trade is still of a very large volume, but there is enough irregularity to prevent broad generalization. The close of September finds the usual evidences of subsidence in wholesale trade, but retail trade is better on more reasonable weather, except at the South, where severe storms have stopped cotton picking, checked movement, and retarded collections. Cereal crop reports are rather better, thrashing having been resumed in the Northwest, where quality has been injured. Corn has definitely passed out of the range of frost damage, and cutting of a record crop of fine quality is now general.

Industry generally was never so active, and there is much complaint of backward deliveries, particularly of iron and steel and dry goods ordered for fall and winter delivery. Car and engine shortages are a source of annoyance and tend to become more acute as the movement of the later crops is added to the already heavy volume of general traffic offering.

Bradstreet's Commercial Report.

Chicago—Cattle, common to prime, \$4.00 to \$7.00; hogs, prime heavy, \$4.00 to \$6.85; sheep, fair to choice, \$3.00 to \$5.25; wheat, No. 2, 71c to 72c; corn, No. 2, 45c to 46c; oats, standard, 32c to 34c; rye, No. 2, 64c to 65c; hay, timothy, \$10.00 to \$15.50; prairie, \$6.00 to \$14.00; butter, choice creamery, 18c to 25c; eggs, fresh, 22c to 25c; potatoes, 33c to 42c.

Indianapolis—Cattle, shipping, \$3.00 to \$5.50; hogs, choice heavy, \$4.00 to \$7.00; sheep, common to prime, \$2.50 to \$5.00; wheat, No. 2, 71c to 73c; corn, No. 2, 44c to 45c; oats, No. 2, 32c to 34c; rye, No. 2, 58c to 60c.

SEE FINISH OF ZION.

TOO MANY PROPHETS DESTROYING DOWIE'S CITY.

With Religion and Industries Shattered, the Once Thriving Community May Go Under the Hammer—Many Cuits and Creeds.

Zion City seems to be on the verge of another upheaval, says a Chicago correspondent. Wilbur Glenn Voliva, newly acclaimed at the polls and recognized by the United States Court as the head of the religio-industrial community founded and lost by John Alexander Dowie, is angry and disgusted over recent developments and is said to be on the point of abandoning the



JOHN ALEXANDER DOWIE.

stronous battle he has made for the perpetuation of Zion. It is conceded that if he takes this step, the last vestige of hope for realization of the dream that Dowie and his followers shared will have been shattered and the property of the once thriving community will go under the hammer, leaving nothing to those who enthusiastically joined the enterprise. The greatest asset that Zion City could boast—the unity of the people—



ZION CITY TABERNACLE.

is being disrupted by schism, jealousy and factionalism, and it is this condition that has made Voliva waver in his efforts to restore the peace and prosperity broken by Dowie's ruthless mismanagement.

Overseer Voliva has given a tentative ultimatum to the officers of the church. He demands the undivided loyalty and support of officers and people alike, and if he is to continue the fight, those who are now charged with responsibility for the present crisis must surrender completely or there must come a wholesale ousting of officers and members. The trouble may be summed up in one sentence: Zion City is prophet-ridden. From within the church itself and from far and near outside have ap-



WILBUR GLEN VOLIVA.

pearred proselytes who are scrambling for the fragments that remain from the explosion which ended Dowie's regime and placed Voliva in power. A variety of cults and creeds are represented and meetings are held nightly by self-proclaimed prophets and messengers.

Some of these proselytes have succeeded in gaining recognition and support even among Voliva's officers, and there is no lack of disaffected ones who are willing to listen to almost any call that promises the ideal religious emotion for which they crave. The chief complaint made against Voliva by the disaffected is lack of spirituality. The paradoxical situation is presented of some of the very people who joyously hailed Voliva as their divinely chosen leader when his business and fighting ability was needed, now profess to experience a lack of the spiritual blessings promised in conjunction with temporal advancement.

But that spiritual desires are not alone responsible for the birth and growth of the schism in Zion is evident from a close survey of the proselytes and their supporters, and it even is asserted in some quarters that some of the outside exhorters have been hired to invade Zion by former lieutenants of Dowie, who either went down with him or were decapitated by Voliva in his crusade for retrenchment and reform.

NOTABLE SPEED RECORDS.

Time for Vanderbilt cup race, 1906, 267.1 miles (track fair), 4 hours 50 minutes 10.24 seconds, made by Louis Wagner. Average speed, 61.43 miles an hour. Time for Vanderbilt cup race, 1905, 283 miles (track fast), 4 hours 36 minutes 2 seconds, made by Henry. Average speed, 61.5 miles an hour. Railroad train, North Platte to Omaha, 291 miles, made in 4:30, an average of 63.49 miles an hour, August, 1907. Railroad record for short distance—Egg Harbor to Brigantine Junction, N. J., 4.8 miles in 2:30, at a rate of 115.2 miles an hour, July, 1904. Fastest named miles by man, running—13 hours 20 minutes 30 seconds (professional), Amateur record, 17:36.14. Fastest time for short distance—One hundred-yard dash, Arthur F. Duffey, 9:59 3-5; New York, May 31, 1902. Fastest mile by a horse, trotting—Salvatore, carrying 110 pounds, at Mammoth Park (straight course), Aug. 28, 1890—time, 1:32.9. Fastest mile by horse, trotting—Lou Dillon, against time, Memphis, Oct. 24, 1903—time, 1:28.1. Fastest mile by horse, pacing—Dan Patch, against time, Hamline, Minn., Sept. 7, 1906—time, 1:35. Fastest 100 miles on bicycle, motor-paced, in competition, made by H. Caldwell, Revere, Mass., Sept. 8, 1904—time, 7:45:11 4-5. Fastest mile in competition, Hugh McLean, Charles River Park track, Boston, Aug. 27, 1903—time, 1:09 1-5. Fastest mile against time, paced, Robert A. Walthour, Charles River Park, May 31, 1904—time, 1:07 1-5. Fastest 100 miles in automobile, heavy-weight car, on regular track, made by Clements at Indianapolis, Nov. 4, 1905—time, 1:53:21 4-5. Straightway record, made by Fletcher at Ormond, Fla., Jan. 30, 1905.

COST OF AUTO CUP.

Death Dealing Contest for Vanderbilt Speed Trophy.

With more than a quarter of a million spectators to cheer his skill and daring, Louis Wagner, driving a 100 horse power Darracq, Saturday won the third contest for the Vanderbilt cup over the Long Island course by 3 minutes 18 2/5 seconds. France has now won the three contests. The winner traversed the 267.1 miles, ten circuits of the course, in 4:50:10 2/5. His average speed an hour was 60.2 miles—a little faster than a mile a minute. It was slower than last year, when Hemery took the prize for the second time to France, but under the circumstances, weather, track and crowd considered, it was equal to last year in point of merit.

Second place went to Italy, with Lancia and his 120 horse power Fiat, while France was third with Dury's 120 horse power De Dietrich, and fourth with Clement's 120 horse power Clement-Bayard, and Germany took fifth with Jenatzy and his 120 horse power Mercedes. Not one of the Amer-

AFFAIRS IN CUBA.

UNCLE SAM'S PROTECTORATE IS TO BE ONLY TEMPORARY.

Rebels Laying Down Their Arms and Peace Being Restored—Cuban Elections Are Still a Long Way Off—Winthrop Governor.

In spite of her shortcomings and of the revolutionary methods which have produced anarchy on the island, Cuba is to be saved from herself. An American provisional government has been proclaimed by Secretary Taft to take the place of that which ceased to exist when the Cuban Congress failed to choose successors to President Palma and the Vice President, Mendez Capote, both of whose resignations were tendered to the Congress. Previously the resignations of the members of the cabinet had been accepted by President Palma, so that Cuba found herself without a government.

Secretary Taft thus became by proclamation the temporary provisional head of the Cuban government. The unique feature of the temporary change of government is that so far as possible all public officials are retained, the Cuban flag is kept flying over public buildings and the government is being administered in accordance with the Cuban constitution. Formerly, intervention and protectorates meant the substitution of the flag and laws of the intervening power; but in this case there is no such substitution—an object lesson to the world of the disinterestedness of the United States government.

Cubans Well Disposed. The action of Secretary Taft, representing the United States government, has been received admirably by the Cuban people, with rare exceptions, and now the work of administering the gov-



TROOPS LEAVING FORT SHERIDAN FOR CUBA.

ernment, of disarming those who had taken the field in opposition to President Palma and of restoring order and confidence is being carried on smoothly. A commission on disarmament, at the head of which is Brig. Gen. Funston, was appointed to co-operate with a similar commission appointed by the insurgents. This mixed commission is visiting the military camps, receiving the surrender of the arms of the insurgents and sending the latter to their homes.

Meantime American marines, who are being strengthened by the addition of 6,000 troops ordered to Cuba by President Roosevelt, are maintaining order on the island. Secretaries Taft and Bacon are now working energetically to effect internal reforms. They hope to have things in such condition as to be able to leave Cuba soon, feeling satisfied that after the arrival of Gov. Beekman Winthrop of Porto Rico the new provisional head of Cuba, their services will no longer be required. The first and most pressing reform will be the revision of the election laws. When the new elections will be held has not been determined. The Cuban constitution calls for the election of half the members of Congress a year from next December, but the last election, whereby the other half was selected, having been declared illegal, and there being no President or Vice President in office, the election of those officials and that half of Congress whose title was questioned will be held as soon as the island is thoroughly pacified.

An important movement in connection with the Cuban elections, no matter when they may be held, has started among the foreign residents who have considerable property interests on the island. They all want annexation or permanent American occupation in the form of a protectorate, and they believe one proposition or the other can secure votes of enough Cubans of property to enable them to carry out their purpose if they can get it to a vote.

A league is forming to urge the provisional government to allow the submission to the people at the next election of these three propositions:—Shall Cuba remain a purely native government; shall it be annexed to the United States, or shall it have a government under the protection of the United States. It is said that all persons with property interests will vote for one of the two last propositions and that they will be able to influence so many native votes that one of them will be carried. This, of course, means that all foreign residents shall be allowed to vote on the propositions, which they are now prevented from doing by law.

Of course in this particular the provisional government will be guided by the attitude of Washington and this attitude is still unknown. Judging by the time that must elapse before the Cuban elections are held, the American military occupation of the island will be long continued, for of course the military power of the United States must be maintained until Cuba is again able to look after her own affairs. The 6,000 troops ordered to Cuba will, it is expected, be able to deal with the situation, but if necessary, additional troops will be sent. The maintenance of peace and order is the first consideration.

Dutch Kill 400 Malays. Another battle in the endless campaign of the Dutch to conquer the natives of the Malay archipelago has been reported at The Hague. In the capture of Paspur, the capital of Badong, 400 natives were slain. The Dutch loss was four killed and ten wounded.

DECREASE IN PENSION BILL.

Death Thins Banks of Civil War Veterans—Interesting Figures.

The net decrease in the pension roll of the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30 last amounted to \$124,470, the largest decrease in the history of the roll. The annual report of Commissioner of Pensions Warner, which has just been completed, in the report the commissioner expresses the opinion that there will be a still more marked decrease during the present year. During the year there were added to the roll 33,509 new pensioners and 1,405 restorations and renewals, making a total addition of 34,914. The total number of pensioners on the roll during the year was 1,033,415. The number of pensioners dropped from the roll during the year was 47,444, leaving the number of pensioners June 30, 1906, at 985,971.

The maximum number of pensioners in the history of the bureau was reached Jan. 31, 1905, when it was 1,004,194, since which date there has been a steady decrease, aggregating to June 30, 1906, 18,225. Death was the principal cause of the decrease of the last year, the number of names dropped on that account being 43,300. Of these 29,208 were those survivors of the Civil War, leaving 9,092 on the roll. There are still four pensioners on account of the Revolutionary War, one a widow and three daughters; 630, all widows, on account of the war with Spain, and 11,472 on account of the Mexican War.

The commissioner calls attention to the fact that, while there has been a material decrease in the number of pensioners, the annual value of the roll is nearly as large as it was last year, arising from the fact that the ratings of many invalid pensioners are constantly increasing. Pennsylvania has the largest number of pensioners—98,289. Ohio follows with 98,564; New York, 89,240. More than 5,000 pensions are paid to persons residing abroad. Of these 3,567 are in Canada, 608 in Germany, and 495 in Ireland, the others being scattered. During the year 23,628 claims were al-



The Political "Pork."

lowed under Order No. 78, allowing old-age pensions. Since the beginning of the Civil War there have been granted by special acts of Congress 17,215 pensions, and an increase of pensioners of which 10,417 are now on the rolls, with an annual value of \$2,937,820. During the last session of Congress 3,507 special acts were passed. The report shows that in the entire history of the country the total expenditure on account of pensions has been \$3,450,800,311, of which only \$90,448,444 had been paid prior to the beginning of the Civil War. Of the total \$3,259,351,266 was on account of the Civil War. The total payment of pensions on account of the Spanish war reaches \$15,438,555 up to date.

The disbursements for navy pensions during the year were \$4,204,004 and the income from the navy pension fund available for the payment of pensions was \$363,618, or less than 9 per cent of the amount required for the payment of navy pensions. Since 1870 this fund has been inadequate to pay navy pensions, and the deficiency has been provided for out of the public funds by congressional appropriations.

The Democratic primaries in Massachusetts resulted in a majority favorable to the nomination of District Attorney John B. Moran of Boston.

The result of the primary elections in New Jersey was a complete triumph of the regular Republican organization over the reform or new faction.

The Democrats of Hawaii have nominated for congressional delegate E. B. Lannahan of Honolulu. He is the first white man to be named for office in the history of the island.

Thomas Benham, a member of the miners' union and an influential leader of organized labor in Ohio, was named by the Democrats at Cincinnati to oppose Nicholas Longworth, the son-in-law of the President, for Congress.

The city of Philadelphia has had the remarkable experience of a reform Mayor suddenly turning upon the reform organization known as the city party, because of its failure to nominate for district attorney the man whom he favored. An indication of the importance with which Socialism is regarded in Colorado during the present campaign is the acceptance of United States Senator Thomas M. Patterson of the challenge to meet Walter T. Mills in debate. The Socialists are making a most determined effort to enlist the entire forces of organized labor in favor of their candidate. In many counties of Texas Democrats had circulated petitions for conventions to instruct legislators against the re-election of United States Senator Bailey, because of the disclosures in the Missouri ouster proceedings concerning his alleged connection with the Standard Oil Company. Senator Bailey has given out a statement in his own defense. In this he says the same kind of fight was made on him six years ago. He declares that if a man in public office has no right to pursue his private business such a doctrine "would confine the public life of this country to only rich men or rascals."