

FROM BAD TO WORSE.

On March 18 Representative Stone of Missouri introduced into the House a bill to abolish the Utah Commission, and delegate its powers and duties to a board, to consist of the Governor and Secretary of the Territory, and the President of the Legislative Council.

To do this would be to go from bad to worse. The Utah Commission is no ornament to the political system of the United States, but to make a law of the Stone bill would be to fasten a repulsive excrescence upon it. To make the man who holds and wields the absolute veto power one of a board of three, empowered to manage all elections in the Territory, would be to carry centralization further than the most extreme advocate of it in Congress would care or dare to go. When the Governor's right hand man, his twin mate, so to speak, who occupies his shoes when he is absent, is named for another member of such a board, the centralization becomes doubly intensified.

As against these two the President of the Legislative Council could do nothing. He would be a mere figure-head. As well make the Governor the autocrat of the Territory at once. Such he really would be, were the Stone bill a law.

BISMARCK'S WITHDRAWAL.

THE complications which culminated in the retirement of Bismarck to private life embraced many elements. Among these may be mentioned the socialist successes in the late elections, which reduced the Chancellor's power in the Reichstag, the influence certain opponents of his had succeeded in gaining with the Emperor, the issuing of the latter's labor rescripts before showing them to Bismarck and in opposition to his known views, and the Chancellor's advanced age. The latter was the reason, coupled with the allegation of failing health, which Bismarck assigned in his note of resignation.

It has been popularly understood that the views of the Chancellor and Emperor frequently clashed, and the threatened resignation of the former has been repeatedly rumored during the last year. It is probable that they were out of harmony all along the lines of their respective policies, and that differences had arisen between them respecting a number of subjects, which were irreconcilable. Bismarck favored

peace, at least until the right time came to strike, but the Emperor's military training and education have given to his mind a different bent, which is significantly denoted by the selection of a prominent general of the army to succeed Bismarck. Germany now has an ambitious military man on her throne, and an arm general for prime minister, circumstances which presage the display of a martial spirit, in both home and foreign affairs, to a greater extent than in Bismarck's time.

It is a remarkable circumstance that simultaneously with this radical change in the government of Germany, a proposition is made by the Pope to act as arbitrator between the nations of Europe with a view to the disarmament of all of them, and the return of the millions of soldiers to employments of peace and the production of wealth. No one believes that the Pope's proposition will be acted upon, or even seriously considered; but there is too much reason to believe that the Powers of Europe will continue to strengthen their armies.

Not much seems to be known in America of the record or abilities of General von Caprina, the successor of Bismarck. He was commander of the tenth army corps, the territory of which embraced a number of important cities. News of his doings and utterances in his new position will be awaited with interest in this country, and with anxiety throughout Europe.

CITY COUNCIL.

The City Council met in regular session at 7:30 o'clock Tuesday evening, March 18th, Mayor Scott, presiding.

J. K. Gillespie asked that the grade of First North Street, between First East and East Temple be fixed and that the street be graded. Referred to the committee on streets.

Eliza Thomas asked permission to occupy "that little house on the westside of City Creek Canyon," and offering \$5 month therefor. Referred to the committee on public grounds.

R. W. Crane and other residents of the Fourth Ward asked for the extension of the watermain on First West Street, from Fifth South to Seventh South. Referred to the committee on waterworks.

G. S. Holmes and others asked that the present dumping ground of the city, on the west side of the Jordan, be vacated, and another location selected; giving as a reason that the ground now being occupied was too valuable for such a use. Referred to the committee on public grounds.

M. Egan asked permission to lease certain land belonging to the city, from which to take rock for building and other purposes. He was willing to pay a rental or a royalty on the rock taken. Referred to the committee on public grounds.

G. R. Bothwell and other residents of Sixth West Street, west of the R. G. W., asked that the city continue to grade Fifth South Street to Sixth West, as that section of the city was building up. They also stated that a portion of Fifth South Street, between Fourth and Fifth West, was fenced in, and asked that the fence be removed. Referred to the committee on streets.

F. Livingstone and others represented that the street gas lamps had been taken from the southwest corner of Washington square, and had not been replaced by an electric light. They asked that a light be placed there. Referred to the committee on improvements.

The Commercial National Bank manager stated that it was proposed to erect a bank building on the corner of Second South and Commercial streets, and asked permission to excavate and pile building material. Granted with the usual restrictions.

D. W. Hunter asked permission to put a bridge over the Ninth South street canal, on Washington street, between First and Second West. Referred to committee on streets.

L. C. Trent and other property owners on Capitol Hill asked that the water mains be extended on Wall and Currant streets and Oak street. Referred to the committee on streets.

S. S. Newton asked that the water mains be extended on Center Street to Sixth North, and thence to Second West. Referred to the committee on waterworks.

E. H. Kahler stated that in the year 1872 Edward Blair owned lot 4, block 13, plat B, and held a certificate which he never presented for a deed. In 1874 he died. In 1888 his administrator applied for a deed, and it was made by the city to the deceased. The property had been sold by the administrator to A. J. White, and then to petitioner. Mr. Kahler now asked that a deed be given him direct from the mayor, to remove all cloud from his title.

Mr. James moved that the petitioner be directed to furnish an abstract of the record for examination. Carried.

The matter was referred to the city attorney.

Richard Griffiths and others represented that on Sixth West Street the R. G. W., in broadening its gauge, had left the crossings in an almost impassable condition, making serious accidents liable to occur. They asked that this wrong be remedied. They also asked that the electric lights be extended on Sixth West Street to Fourth North.

Mr. Spafford said the railways should all be required to fix the crossings, some of which were in a deplorable condition.

City Attorney Merritt said if they did not, they should be notified that if, in sixty days, they did not comply with the order of the Council in