

the Commission has made a final decision, because the Commission, at any time, may order a re-hearing and extend, revoke or modify any order made by it. A Commissioner who did not desire his jurisdiction contested could unreasonably delay matters to the detriment of the parties interested. The experience of litigants has been that even Judges have endeavored to delay appeals in cases of their decisions. If there is an appeal from a Court of Law and Equity in ordinary cases, why should a Public Utility Commissioner be placed in a higher plane? It is not good for one man to have such far-reaching powers.

It was the glory and happiness of our excellent constitution that to prevent any injustice no man is to be bound by the first judgment, but that if he apprehends himself to be aggrieved, he has another Court to which he can resort for relief.

Important and delicate questions involving property and rights of large value are to be submitted under the Act with no appeal. The important curb upon a Judge is to always have the right of appeal hanging over him, an efficacious remedy as it has been proved in many cases. Such an official may satisfy his own mind, but it is quite another thing to satisfy the law. He is subject to no effective discipline, his rulings may have continuity or not, his foot may be long or short.

The appointments of such authorities, as the appointments of many Judges, are political in a sense, and if made for proper qualifications would be satisfactory to that extent, but it is too much to expect that such appointments would always be so from the appointments in the past of other authorities, and even some of those to the Bench.

No doubt the principle, with proper safeguards, of delegating powers to such quasi-judicial authorities has been found convenient, particularly so on this continent where there has always been the conflict between the public utility and the municipal authorities, and the result may be, if the Act is administered and carried out in the spirit in which it was enacted, that evenhanded justice may be administered between conflicting interests. The municipal authorities however represent the masses; the public utility the investment class. The municipality can generally