

LAWMAKERS MEET.

Opening Day of New York Legislature Quiet.

GOVERNOR ODELL'S ANNUAL MESSAGE

The Assembly Re-elects Old Officers. Taxation of Mortgages to Be Session's Star Legislative Feature.

ALBANY, Jan. 1.—The state legislature convened at 11 a. m. today instead of at noon, as has heretofore been the custom. The election of officers created little interest and was carried out in accordance with the programme fixed by the caucuses held last night by the Republican and Democratic assemblymen and senators.

The slim attendance was a noticeable feature. Very little interest was manifested in the proceedings, and all signs indicated the belief that the coming session would be a brief and perhaps uninteresting one.

The assembly officials were re-elected, as follows: S. Fred Nixon, speaker; Colonel A. E. Baxter, clerk; Frank W. Johnson, sergeant-at-arms; principal doorkeeper, Jacob Kemple, New York; first assistant doorkeeper, Andrew Kehn, Albany; second assistant doorkeeper, Charles C. Gray, Livingston; stenographer, H. C. Lammett, Kings.

The Democrats named for speaker Hon. George M. Palmer of Schenectady, which honor carries with it the leadership of the minority on the floor.

Taxation of mortgages will be the star legislative feature of this session. All other questions that it was thought some weeks ago would cause a big flurry have slimmered down in importance until they are as nothing at all beside this greater topic. At least this is the opinion of Speaker Nixon, the man of all others who, next to the governor, ought to know.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

Mr. Odell's Recommendations to the State Legislature.

ALBANY, Jan. 1.—Governor Odell's message begins with a statement of the financial condition of the state. This shows that the total debt of the state Sept. 30, 1901, was \$10,075,929, and the total amount received into the treasury during the past year, together with the balance from the previous year, was \$37,834,497.43, against which there have been drawn warrants amounting to \$28,041,146.27, leaving a net balance on Sept. 30, 1901, the close of the fiscal year, of \$9,793,351.16. He adds: "A careful study of the expenditures of the past year, providing as they did for many extraordinary emergencies, leads to the belief that \$30,000,000 will be ample for the coming year and will thus make possible the lowest direct tax in the history of our commonwealth."

The governor next turns his attention to the insane asylums of the state and declares that there should be a change in the methods of administration. The governor finds similar features of undesirable administration in the charitable institutions, declaring that not only are there unnecessary expenditures for maintenance, but unreasonable requests for needless improvements. Recommendation is made that the law which provides for the building of roads in the state be so amended as to give to the state engineer supervision not only during construction, but for all time, over all roads in which the state has so large an interest.

Following this attention is called to the condition of the state prisons, which the governor says are old, antiquated and in some cases positively dangerous to health. Existing conditions, he declares, should be remedied as soon as possible. "The almost total abolition of state taxes will bring home to the taxpayer the fact that his expenditures are to be particularly local, and if they are excessive the remedy rests with him to rebuke those who are charged with the administration of his local affairs. It has been found wise to limit by constitutional enactment the bonded debt of any municipality to 10 per cent of its assessed valuation. The desire to exceed the debt limit leads to overvaluation, particularly in large municipalities, which the unfortunate property owner is powerless to correct except through the tedious delays of law. Fairness should be the basis for the imposition of all taxes, and the state board of tax commissioners should enforce the provision against excessive as well as low assessments. The legislature should amend by general law the powers of the state board, so as to make it a reviewing court to investigate and correct inequalities in the matter of assessments and thus become not only a mediator, as between counties of the state, but also serve to protect the rights of individuals in each locality. I recommend such action.

"I have learned also of excessive salary lists in various municipalities, and while perhaps it may not be proper for the legislature to interfere, yet, as in the matter of debt, there should also be a safe margin to enable each local legislative body to absolutely fix and determine the percentage of total income to be so expended. In looking over the salary list of the city of New York it will be found that there are several officials who receive a larger salary than the governor of the state or of the cabinet officers of the United States, and it cannot be claimed with any degree of truth that the services rendered are always commensurate with the compensation given. I recommend action by the legislature which will absolutely fix a percentage based upon the total tax levy for the salary lists of all municipalities.

The governor says that a small tax upon mortgages could be imposed without any very serious objections and adds:

"A tax could be levied which might be known as a recording tax, to be collected by the county clerks and registrars throughout the state, of say, 5 mills upon the mortgage recorded, and after the payment of one such tax be free from all other taxes except the transfer tax. The total amount of mortgages annually recorded in the state is about \$90,000,000. A tax of 5 mills upon this would amount to \$4,500,000, which sum would increase the revenues from indirect taxation to an amount almost equal to the annual requirements of the state."

Action should be taken, he declares, to restrict the attendance at normal schools to those who are intended to enter the profession as teachers and registrars. The governor declares that laws which are repugnant and injurious to other portions of the state and counties are: "If by local option is made the right to determine whether the doors of the saloons may legally remain open on Sundays, a departure is proposed from the fixed rules which have governed the administration of our excise laws, and it then becomes a question which concerns not only a particular city, but every section of our state. Before submitting a referendum to the cities the whole question should be passed upon by the people at large in the same manner as were the provisions which gave the mayors the right of veto and other

features of home rule now guaranteed them by the constitution enacted in 1894. I feel, therefore, that no legislation should be enacted except there is more of a general demand than is apparent at present, and that under no circumstances should a referendum be permitted to municipalities until sanctioned by the entire electorate of the state."

The governor discusses the subject of canals at some length and says that he is convinced a definite policy as to future expenditures should be determined upon by the legislature. He says: "If the locks of the present canal were enlarged, it would expedite traffic and shorten the time between Buffalo and New York. This lock enlargement, while aiming to provide for the future, would be of vast benefit at the present time."

The governor suggests the appointment of a court of arbitration to decide disputes between employers and employed. The governor recommends an amendment to the election law which will provide for the placing of the names of all candidates upon a single ticket and that what constitutes a marked ballot be more clearly defined.

CHARGED WITH MURDER.

Coroner's Jury in Hallenbeck Case Holds Four Nephews.

HUDSON, N. Y., Jan. 1.—Columbia county never witnessed such a scene as was presented last night in the county courthouse at the inquiry into the death of Peter A. Hallenbeck of Greenport, who was murdered Christmas eve, when the three Van Wormer brothers and Harvey Bruce were brought into the courtroom in charge of Sheriff Best and Chief of Police Lane to hear the charge of murder in the first degree read to them. The building was densely packed with spectators, who struggled frantically to get a glimpse of the prisoners. In their efforts to see them they jumped on the back of the heavy oak benches, which gave way with a crash under them, causing great confusion.

It was confidently expected that at least some portion of the confession of Harvey Bruce would be disclosed, but the district attorney and coroner positively refused to let any part of it be made public.

The grand jury will act Jan. 13 in the case, and the trial will probably take place in May.

IN BLIZZARD'S GRASP.

Northern New York Town Shorn of Power and Light.

OGDENSBURG, N. Y., Jan. 1.—Ogdensburg was caught in the grasp of a snow blizzard from the northwest yesterday afternoon. The gale snapped off the monster pole at the entrance to the Ford Street bridge, and in falling the telephone, telegraph, electric light, fire alarm and trolley wires were torn loose and carried to the ground in a tangled mass.

Never was such a brilliant electric display as followed witnessed here before. Sheets of flame shot to a great height, and there was a continuous blazing of the swaying wires. Many persons going to work were crossing the bridge on the girders, on which many live wires were lying, but no one was injured.

Two hundred telephone wires were useless and all communication from outside the city shut off. The electric light and fire alarm systems were useless. Linemen are busy repairing the damage.

The verdict of the jury was as follows: "We, the coroner's jury, having been duly summoned and sworn by Dr. I. Fearing to inquire into what caused the death of Ella M. Cropsey, do hereby report that from the investigation made by three physicians of Elizabeth City and from their opinions and also from our personal observation said Ella M. Cropsey came to her death by being stricken a blow on the left temple and by being drowned in the Pasquotank river."

The jury recommended that James Wilcox, Jr., who was last seen with the girl, be held for examination.

The Depew-Palmer Nuptials.

NICE, France, Dec. 28.—Miss May Palmer and United States Senator Chauncey M. Depew were married yesterday by the civil ceremony required by law. The civil marriage took place in the American consulate and was conducted by United States Consul Harold S. Van Buren under a special dispensation of the secretary of state. Miss Palmer being a Catholic, the first religious ceremony took place in the Church of Notre Dame today at 11 a. m. Then followed a wedding in the American church at 12 noon.

Costly Gems Stolen.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Jewelry valued at more than \$55,000 was stolen from Paul G. Thebaud of 158 Madison avenue yesterday morning, including an eleven carat diamond, famous in jewelers' circles as one of the purest of pear shaped stones and valued at \$20,000. A valet has disappeared and is suspected of having committed the theft.

Johnson Declines Treasurership.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—First Assistant Postmaster General Johnson has declined a tender made to him by Governor Voorhees of the office of state treasurer of New Jersey. Mr. Johnson said that, while he appreciated the honor done him, he preferred to remain in his present position.

Jeffries and Sharkey Matched.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—Jim Jeffries and Tom Sharkey have been matched for a contest which will involve the heavyweight fist championship of the world.

THE RAILROAD WINS

Temporary Injunction Against Northern Pacific Dissolved.

JUDGE REFUSES STAY OF PROCEEDINGS

It is Held by United States Circuit Court That the Road Was Acting Under Authority of Its Charter.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Jan. 1.—Judge William Lochren of the United States circuit court has dissolved the temporary injunction issued in the case of Peter Power against the Northern Pacific Railway company by Judge Elliott of the district court of Hennepin county last Monday.

The injunction which was dissolved by the order of Judge Lochren restrained the Northern Pacific from having any evidences of indebtedness to retire the preferred stock of the company or to retire the preferred stock in any other manner than by the use of the surplus net earnings of the road.

It also restrained the Northern Pacific and its officers from entering into any agreement or doing any act by which the road would be consolidated or merged through the medium of the Northern Securities company with the Great Northern or the Burlington or either of them.

After the decision was made orally by Judge Lochren at the close of a day's argument by the attorneys for both sides an effort was made by the plaintiff's attorneys to have the court fix the amount of bond which would be required in order to appeal from the decision and to stay all further proceedings in the lower court pending the appeal.

Judge Lochren refused to allow a supersedeas bond in any amount to be given.

Judge Lochren held that the Northern Pacific was acting within the authority of its charter, of the contract entered into between it and its stockholders as incorporated in the certificates of preferred stock and of the agreement entered into Nov. 13 in attempting to retire the \$75,000,000 of preferred stock.

He also held that railroad corporations could not do indirectly what the law prevented them from doing directly and that any method by which consolidation of two or more competing and parallel lines would be brought about would be illegal and a writ of injunction would lie to restrain the consummation of the plan, but that there was nothing in the case as presented to him that would indicate the stockholders of the Northern Pacific Railway company were attempting such a consolidation.

Governors Decide to Fight.

HELENA, Mon., Jan. 1.—A definite plan of action to defeat the proposed consolidation of the Northern Pacific, Great Northern and Burlington railway systems has been unanimously agreed upon by the governors and attorneys general of seven northwestern states, in which those roads have mileage. Legal action will be instituted immediately in Minnesota courts with this object in view, and, to quote Attorney General Douglass of Minnesota: "The thing will be fought to a finish." Just how, when or where these suits will be brought neither Governor Van Sant of Minnesota nor Attorney General Douglass would state.

German Cruiser Sent to Venezuela.

BERLIN, Dec. 31.—The small German cruiser Gazelle has been ordered to sail immediately from Kiel to Venezuelan waters. The government intends to send one or two other small warships to re-enforce the present German squadron in the Caribbean sea. The additions to Germany's naval force in the Caribbean will not be sufficient to give rise to suspicions among the people of the United States that Germany meditates anything beyond the collection of claims due German subjects. The German government desires beyond anything else in this matter to avoid disturbing the government or the people of the United States.

Five Shot; Two Killed.

TURNERS FALLS, Mass., Jan. 1.—Louis Bitzer, who shot and killed his clerk, Miss Ida Columbe, and his five-year-old son and attempted to take the lives of his wife and two other children yesterday, was taken to the Franklin county jail in Greenfield and will be given a hearing in the district court today. He will be charged with murder, and it is likely that he will be held for the grand jury, which will convene in March. Friends of Bitzer claim that he was insane when he committed the murders, but the officers, after a careful investigation, say that they have secured no evidence to bear out that claim.

Mrs. Hobart's New Year Gift.

PATERSON, N. J., Jan. 1.—The Children's Day nursery here has received from Mrs. Jennie T. Hobart, widow of the late Vice President Hobart, a New Year's gift in the form of a plot of land 100 by 25 feet in Paterson. In addition to the land Mrs. Hobart also gives \$25,000, with which to erect and furnish completely a modern building adapted to the needs of the nursery.

A Quiet Election.

SANTIAGO, Cuba, Jan. 1.—The elections passed off yesterday without notable incident in this district. The Nationalist was the only ticket in the field, and it was consequently elected. Very few votes were cast in this city, and little interest in the proceedings was apparent. The day was unusually cold and rainy.

CANINE TASTE FOR CHEESE.

The Assertion Is Made That Dogs Prefer It to Any Other Kind of Food.

"Do dogs like cheese?" Well, I should say," exclaimed a waiter in a lunch cafe, reports the Philadelphia Record. "I imagine that dogs prefer cheese to any other food that is going. I didn't know this myself till two or three months ago. Then, one afternoon, a man happened in here with a very nice fox terrier, and I tossed the animal a lump of cheese from a plate which a pie-eater had just abandoned. 'Oh, he won't eat that,' said the owner of the dog. 'Very likely not,' said I. But by that time the terrier had hopped with a grunt of joy on the morsel, and he swallowed it with such a blissful look as I never saw on a dog's face before. And—would you believe it—the next morning, bright and early, that fox terrier came in here alone, and ran to me, and looked up in my face, wagging his tail. I thought I knew what he wanted, but, to make sure, I threw him a bit of meat. He turned away from it in disgust. Then I threw him a bit of cheese, and he was happy. He hung around two days. His owner located him at last and took him home. 'I'll keep a stock of cheese on hand for him hereafter,' said the owner, 'or otherwise I know that he'll return to you again.'"

SOME HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Radical Methods of Dealing with Certain Domestic Difficulties That Never Fail.

To remove ink stains from carpet—burn the carpet.

Light is essential to health—also to the owners of gas stock.

To rejuvenate ancient butter—turn it over to the soap-grease man.

If you would never have tainted fish, order nothing but salt pork.

If shutters are removed during the afternoon they will not slam at night.

A splendid thing for mosquitoes is a fat man who isn't troubled with insomnia.

Never deposit hot ashes in a wooden vessel. Ask the government to lend you an ironclad.

Never use kerosene to kindle a fire. A load of kindling wood is much cheaper than a funeral.

To prevent preserves from molding—place them on the top shelf of a closet and give the key to a small boy.

WORTH \$300,000,000.

The President of a certain big Oil Company is said to be worth \$300,000,000. A tidy bit of money and no mistake. And yet he isn't happy. In an address to a Bible class he spoke of trials and troubles of the rich and the loads they have to carry. A young lady whispered to a friend that he might wear a Benson's Porous Plaster on his back, or, better still, divide the money among the members of the class. I don't know why her idea about the plaster makes me want to laugh, but it does. All the same I have seen plenty of people laugh after putting Benson's Plasters on their backs or chests, or on any other spot where there was weight, heaviness, weakness or pain. It may be the sharp stabs of neuralgia, the aches and wrenches of rheumatism; it may be colds in muscles or bones; it may be those kidney or lumbago thrusts that make you yell as at a dog bite; or it may be a strain or cramp, anything that wants quieting and comforting. Doubt bother with salves, liniments, lotions, etc., or with any of the stupid and useless old style plasters. Clap on a Benson's. It relieves at once and cures quickly. It stops the pain and makes you laugh for the very ease and good feeling of it. But watch out against imitations and substitutes. All druggists, or we will prepare postage on any number ordered in the United States on receipt of 25c. each.

Seabury & Johnson, Mfg. Chemists, N. Y.

Lots of fellows are overwhelmed by too many ancestors.

WANTED—SEVERAL PERSONS OF character and good reputation in each state (one in this county required) to represent and advertise old established wealthy business house of solid financial standing. Salary \$18.00 weekly with expenses additional, all payable in cash each Wednesday direct from head offices. Horse and carriage furnished, when necessary. References. Enclose self-addressed stamped envelope. Manager, 316 Caxton Build'g, Chicago. (161926)

Pipe dreams are not restricted to plumbers.

CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of CHAS. H. FLETCHER

THE MARKETS.

BLOOMSBURG MARKETS.

Table with columns for CORRECTED WEEKLY and RETAIL PRICES, listing various commodities and their prices.



The Kind You Have Always Bought, and which has been in use for over 30 years, has borne the signature of Dr. J. C. Watson and has been made under his personal supervision since its infancy. Allow no one to deceive you in this. All Counterfeits, Imitations and "Just-as-good" are but Experiments that trifle with and endanger the health of Infants and Children—Experience against Experiment.

What is CASTORIA Castoria is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Paregoric, Drops and Soothing Syrups. It is Pleasant. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. Its age is its guarantee. It destroys Worms and allays Feverishness. It cures Diarrhoea and Wind Colic. It relieves Teething Troubles, cures Constipation and Flatulency. It assimilates the Food, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, giving healthy and natural sleep. The Children's Panacea—The Mother's Friend.

GENUINE CASTORIA ALWAYS Bears the Signature of CHAS. H. FLETCHER The Kind You Have Always Bought In Use For Over 30 Years.

ALEXANDER BROTHERS & CO. DEALERS IN Cigars, Tobacco Candies, Fruits and Nuts SOLE AGENTS FOR Henry Maillard's Fine Candies. Fresh Every Week! PENNY GOODS A SPECIALTY. SOLE AGENTS FOR F. F. Adams & Co's Fine Cut Chewing Tobacco Sole agents for the following brands of Cigars: Henry Clay, Londres, Normal, Indian Princess, Samson, Silver Ash Bloomsburg, Pa.

IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF CARPET, MATTING, or OIL CLOTH, YOU WILL FIND A NICE LINE AT W. H. BROWER'S 2 Doors above Court House. A large lot of Window Curtains in stock.

Advertisement for McClure's magazine, featuring the title 'McClure's' in large letters and text describing the content of the 1902 issues, including 'New Romantic Love Story' and 'True Story of the Standard Oil'.

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