HOME RULE IS ASKED FOR PHILADELPHIA BY GOVERNOR

Continued from Page One

people under proper regulation to settle for themselves this vexed question. It will remain a source of increasing aggravation until it is settled and settled right. In view of the lessons taught by our recent elections throughout the nation, I am more than ever convinced that this Legislature should heed the will of the people and give the legislative relief so widely prayed for."

ON WOMAN SUFFRAGE

The reference to woman suffrage is brief, although clear and to the point.

"Two years ago," the message reads, "I asked you to submit the question of an amendment to the Constitution permitting women to vote. You did so. The amendment was defeated. Since then a great national election has been held and women have more largely than ever exercised the franchise. They should be allowed another opportunity to lay their claims freely and fully before the people, and I request that your action may be favorable in this matter."

The closest approach to a mention of politics in the entire message is in a single paragraph on civil service. Too much time of the Governor is taken up with the demands of officeseekers, according to the Governor's own admission, and State civil service reform is, therefore, urged, as follows:

"There is need for an efficient and economic State civil service enactment. Until we have this means of securing dependable and continuous public service we shall not be able to conduct the public business as wisely as its importance requires. Too much of the time of the executive is taken up with the claims and demands of officeseekers. It were better to have this time for constructive service, leaving to some capable agency created by law to secure the best agents for the public service."

HOME RULE FOR CITIES

In urging legislative consideration to the problems concerning the cities of the State and advocating that the largest possible degree of home rule be given the cities, the message continues:

"The Commonwealth can well afford to grant larger local initiative to municipalities. There can be no effective control of city administration at arm's length. The people may be intrusted with the duty and necessity of working out in each city a system of government best calculated to promote its welfare. There are problems of local taxation that concern these municipal units in a vital way. It does not appear that the State should limit the will of the people in deciding how these problems should be met.

"In some cases it has become manifest that the boundaries of cities are not coterminous with territory having many matters in common. In the matters of water supply, sewage disposal, transportation agencies, lighting facilities, flood control and related interests groups of municipalities have but one common concern. It may well be that the provision for metropolitan districts, each district being a unit for action in specified cases, would greatly promote the welfare of the people.

"Suggestions of importance affecting the government of our largest cities have come to my attention, and I commend to your consideration the wisdom of granting to these great cities the largest degree of home rule consistent with the common rights of all the people of Pennsylvania. A smaller body of Councils, a unicameral legislative agency, the trend to some form of managerial or other business form of government and a wider responsibility upon the individual citizen for the quality of government are all instances of movements of moment. It may be that a competent commission created by you could best analyze this situation and suggest such legislation as will prove most helpful to our great urban centers."

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

The Governor's legislative program for the present Legislature is outlined as follows:

"I should like to see this Legislature take the initial steps in a great constructive service to our people:

(a) By providing for a topographical and geological survey of our State.

(b) By taking the initiative in impounding flood waters and securing a steady flow throughout the season for the benefit of our people and of our industries.

(c) By securing at the source of our streams largely increased areas of watersheds from which to obtain potable water for our increasing millions.

(d) By inquiring into the feasibility of irrigation and the supplying at minimum cost of water power at its source to the great utility and industrial agencies that would welcome this power and that would distribute it for the welfare of our people.

(e) By beginning now the construction of some of these great reservoirs, such as the Pymatuning Dam and others in the Allegheny range.

(f) By considering freely and fairly the utilization of our waterways as the basis of great systems of water transportation such as prevail in many of the most advanced industrial communities of the world.

(g) By planting on our forest reserves seedlings that will in time give our people the protection and the revenue a forest will generously give.

(h) By organizing upon a scale commensurate with its importance the force that has to do with the prevention of forest fires, the protection of game and fish and the encouragement of our people to live a part of each year out under the sky, near to nature, upon lands made rich in welcome and beneficence to our people.

(i) By computing the decrease in our mineral resources and determining our obligation to posterity in the taxation wisely to be laid now upon this diminishing asset of our people.

(j) By co-operating with the national Government and local municipalities to make our navigable streams heavy with the traffic from our mills and mines, our forges and factories, thus linking Pennsylvania industry directly with the world markets.

(k) By encouraging great industries to establish themselves in increasing numbers in Pennsylvania with the assurance that the Commonwealth will by its constructive service make this increasingly the greater industrial Commonwealth in the Union.

(l) By making liberal provision for our farmers and farm life to the end that it will be increasingly attractive and remunerative to till our soil, to grow our food, to make life in rural places as wholesomely attractive and educative as a wise people should.

(m) By increasingly liberal provision for education and equalizing its benefits to all our children.

(n) By safeguarding public health and decreasing the ravages of disease and the loss by premature death in this Commonwealth.

(o) By demanding that the cost of production shall include reasonable compensation for death or accident, and such additional elements of relief as industry can support and as social justice may make manifest from time to time.

(p) And, in general, by laying now deep and well the foundation for a realizable good to our people.

ON OVERLEGISLATION

Following a declaration that Pennsylvania is "overlawed," the Governor pleads for the careful consideration of all proposed legislation and the passage of only such enactments as "will unquestionably promote the welfare of our great people."

Increased appropriations to the public schools are urged that the educational system in the State may keep its merited place in the educational work of the nation.

The attention of the General Assembly is directed to the mine caves in the populous sections throughout the anthracite region. Property rights under law, declares the Governor, are directly at variance with surface safety, and the gravity of the situation, he adds, demands the consideration of the lawmaking bodies of the State.

Among the other important recommendations are enactments looking to vocational training in State charitable institutions, the granting of larger local initiative to municipalities, the creation of a division of markets in the Department of Agriculture to give practical information to farmers in matters of marketing and better housing conditions.

In discussing he finances of the State, the Governor pleads for only such appropriations as can be met by the present revenue. The amount available for appropriation by the 1917 Legislature, according to the report of the State Treasurer, included in the message, is $59,465,981.28. The cash balance in the Treasury, November 30, 1916, is given as $5,790,678.95, and the estimated gross receipts for the two years ending November 30, 1916, $76,906,032.30.

STATE ASSEMBLY MEETS IN 122D SESSION

By a Staff Correspondent

HARRISBURG, Jan. 2.—The Pennsylvania General Assembly opened its 122d regular session at noon today, when the Senate and House met and formally organized.

Senator Edward E. Beidleman, of Dauphin County, was elected President pro tem. of the upper branch, and Representative Richard J. Baldwin, of Delaware County, was elected Speaker of the House. The only opposition to the election of the presiding officers was the formality of placing the Democratic candidates in nomination. Senator Henry Washers, of York, was the choice of the Democrats for President pro tem. of the Senate.

The Democrats in the House nominated Representative Wilson G. Sarig, of Berks. Both candidates were the harmony selections of the minority caucuses last night.

HOW VOTE STOOD

Baldwin was placed in nomination as the Republican candidate for Speaker by Representative Aaron B. Hess, of Lancaster; it was seconded by Representative Joseph G. Steedle, of Allegheny.

Representative John M. Flynn, of Elk, placed Wilson G. Sarig, of Berks, in nomination as the Democratic candidate for Speaker. Representative Ira T. Erdman, of Lehigh, seconded it.

The vote was Baldwin, Republican, 167; Sarig, Democrat, 37; absent, 3.

The Senate adjourned at 12:15 to meet again at 2:30 this afternoon. In addition to Senator Beidleman for president pro tem., the Senate re-elected all of its old officers including W. Harry Baker as secretary, Hamilton M. Kephart, clerk, and William P. Gallagher, reading clerk. Both factions supported the entire slate.

Thomas W. Garvin, of Delaware County, was re-elected chief clerk of the House, and William S. Leib, of Schuylkill, resident clerk, without opposition.

The motion to elect them was offered by Representative Woodward, of Allegheny, and did not contain the name of Frank Morrison, a follower of John R. K. Scott, leader of the Fourteenth Ward, as assistant clerk. Morrison was elected by the House two years ago, and the fact that his name was not presented was a slap at Scott.

Just before the Legislature was formally called to order at 12 o'clock, Governor Brumbaugh issued the following statement:

"The contest is over, and we will now proceed with the business of the State."

NO MORE HEADS TO FALL

Asked if any more heads were to fall, the Governor replied: "I am not contemplating asking for any more resignations at present, at least."

In both branches the desks of the Senators and members were heaped with flowers and gifts, and the galleries were crowded with friends of the Legislators and with followers of the Republican organization in Philadelphia.

Most of the Philadelphia ward leaders and their principal lieutenants in both the Vare and McNichol camps were on hand for the opening of the session. Nearly all of the old members who were replaced last November were present, and helped to swell the crowds in both houses.

BALDWIN'S PLEDGE

Speaker Baldwin, in opening the session of the House, pledged "fairness, courtesy and full attention to my duty." He said in part:

That my election should come after a rare contest makes me prize it all the more, for it indicates a healthy appreciation by the membership of the House, of the importance and responsibility of the place with which you have trusted me. I will not burden you with a long declaration of principles and purposes, but I will say that I realize, as we all must, that we have a sacred duty to perform, and that we must all join together for the greatest good to the eight millions of people whom we represent in this great empire of a State. For myself I will pledge fairness, courtesy and full attention to my duty, and I hope to receive the same from my colleagues in the House. We will now get down to business with "economy and efficiency" as our watchword, and with the guidance of Almighty God make this session memorable for its good works for the people of the State.

The opening prayer in the House was made by the Rev. W. F. Stanley, chaplain during the last session, at noon.

The official certificates of election were then received from the Secretary of the Commonwealth and read.

The Senate met at exactly noon. The Rev. Thomas W. Davis, chaplain of the upper house last session, delivered the opening prayer.

Lieutenant Governor Frank B. McClain, who, by virtue of his office, is the presiding officer of the Senate, made a plea for less legislation.

"We have too many laws now," he said, "and it should be the aim of every member of this body to keep from increasing the number of needless statutes in this State."

Senator Beidleman was elected President pro tem. after the certificates of election had been read.

The rules that governed the session of 1915 were adopted by the House.

The Democrats opposed them and sought to have them amended so that they would receive minority representation on all House committees.

The Democrats also wanted the House to elect all members of the committees.

DEMOCRATS STRADDLE "WET" ISSUE IN ASSEMBLY

By a Staff Correspondent

HARRISBURG, Jan. 2.—The Democrats have completely ignored local option in their legislative program for the session. The program was announced in a general way this afternoon by E. Lowry Humes, of Pittsburgh, Democratic State chairman, and head of the legislative committee of the Democratic party in the State.

The liquor question is the only one which threatens to cause trouble in the ranks of the Democrats during the session, and it was only after a bitter fight in the legislative committee's meetings yesterday and today that it was decided to straddle on the issue in order to maintain harmony within the Democratic ranks in preparation for the 1918 gubernatorial campaign.

The Democratic legislative program is comprehensive and contains many reform measures. It calls for:

The repeal of the assistance clause for voters in the general election laws.

A comprehensive and drastic corrupt practices act.

The budget system of State hospital appropriations.

Better roads legislation.

The statement of the committee assails the political conditions that exist under the present election laws and the lack of an adequate corrupt practices measure. The present laws, the Democrats declare, "legalizes" political corruption.

The Democratic legislative statement was received by the Republican Organization members as official notice that the Democrats intend to push the probe into alleged election frauds in Philadelphia and the prosecution of the liquor "slush" fund cases in Pittsburgh.

The statement follows:

The Democratic legislative committee, at its meetings yesterday and today, outlined the initial features of the constructive legislative program for which the Democratic party will contend during this session of the Legislature.

This program will include the repeal of the assistance clause for voters in the election law through which most of the political corruption and bribery in elections is made effective; a comprehensive and drastic corrupt practices act, the terms of which will prohibit and punish political corruption rather than legalize it, as our present corrupt practices act does; hospital appropriation legislation that will place hospital appropriations on an automatic basis similar to the method of making public school appropriations, thereby relieving the hospitals of the State from the political control of the dominant political boss and at the same time destroying the vicious hospital appropriation club that has been wielded over the heads of the individual members of the General Assembly for years to beat them into subjection to the boss; road legislation that will secure for all the people of the State the benefits and advantages to which they are entitled from the enormous sums being annually expended by the State Highway Department.

The committee will meet again in a few weeks, it was announced, to consider additional legislation.

Demand House Probe of Speaker's Fight

Continued from Page One

statement issued by both camps during the last few days of the Speakership fight. It concluded:

Whereas, these gentlemen have been closely and intimately connected with the affairs, matters and things of which they have assumed to speak, and doubtless base their assertions on matters within their personal knowledge and speak truthfully and accurately, and

Whereas, the condition shown to exist by their disclosures is disgraceful to the Commonwealth; discreditable to her citizens, and demoralizing, corrupt, debauched and depraved, and

Whereas, the disgrace, discredit and infamy of this condition can only be remedied, removed and obliterated by wiping out as destroying the conditions thus existing, and

Whereas, it is necessary, to accomplish this end, that there shall be a full, complete, comprehensive, free and impartial investigation of the said charges and conditions.

SCOPE OF PROBE

Therefore, be it resolved:

First—That a committee, consisting of six members of this house shall be appointed to investigate all and singular the said charges and the implications and intendments thereof, and all matters, facts, circumstances and things directly or indirectly connected therewith.

Second. That all hearings conducted by the said committee shall be open to the public and that the said committee subpoena or otherwise cause to appear before it and to testify and concerning the matters and things involved directly or indirectly in the said charges.

The Hon. Boies Penrose, the Hon. Francis Shunk Brown, the Hon. Edwin H. Vare, the Hon. William C. Sproul, the Hon. Charles A. Snyder and any and all other persons who may have or appear to have any knowledge concerning the premises or to be able to furnish any information concerning them or any of them.

Third. That the said committee shall consist of six members of this House, shall be elected by the vote of this House, and shall consist of two members who supported Mr. Cox for Speaker, two members who supported Mr. Baldwin for Speaker, and two Democratic members.

The resolution quotes the charges made against the Governor, Attorney General Brown and the State Administration as a whole by Senator Penrose, including his charges that attempts were being made to influence members-elect of the Legislature by promises of appointments and by threats of disclosure and also extravagance, absenteeism and misappropriation of funds; the senior Senator's charges against Brown, in which Penrose intimated that Brown had received exorbitant fees from the State, both personally and through his law firm of Simpson, Brown & Williams; the Penrose charges of political activity by the members of the Public Service Commission.

BROWN CALLED UPON

It also quotes Attorney General Brown's charges against Penrose and Sproul, which, Brown declared, would, if proved, "raise such a stench that the people will have little hope for aught else;" and Brown's charges that the Baldwin campaign was really being conducted by Joseph R. Grundy and others who opposed the Child Labor, Compensation and similar measures last session.

It also quotes Sproul's charges against the Attorney General, which were that investigation would show that Brown has received seventy-five per cent of all the money appropriated to his department for legal fees. It ends by repeating the defiance hurled by Congressman William S. Vare and State Senator Vare against Penrose's threats of an investigation.

"Poor Boob, 207 of Him, He Only Has One Vote"

Continued from Page One

rately in his speech nominating Mr. Eyhardt. "My constituents have sent me back to the Legislature," he said, "but I don't know what for." It must have been his constituents' love of oratorical effect, for Mr. Eby went on quite seriously to speak of "these days of manipulation and civilization." He added very frankly that he had been in touch with all the leaders of the Organization and that they had offered him "all the comforts." He did not say whether they meant bribes or jobs or both.

So that, as is apparent, the legislator is the least important individual here. He is led about by the nose, and, if he is attentive, will never be more than two years behind the plans of the leaders. The hierarchy of notables, the social and political strata, are arranged in this order of precedence in the Corps Legislatif:

1. The gubernatorial set, including the Messrs. Vare, the Cabinet officers, the higher officials and Mr. Brumbaugh.
2. State Senators.
3. Newspapermen.
4. Small State officials.
5. Members of the House of Representatives.

It is all right to talk about them so, for they have been insulted by experts as often that they are thick-skinned. What amazes the legislators is that the newspapers and the public take the epithets tossed to and fro by the factions seriously. "Who cares," asked one, "if Penrose called the Attorney General 'Barbarous Brown'? That high-brow talk don't get nothing."

"It was 'Barrtrous Brown' he called him."

"Well, ain't that worse than highbrow? And he calls Brumbaugh a degenerate slob. Who knows what degenerate means?"

No author would dare (for fear of the charge of exaggeration) to put in a book or play the actual politicians, who lay six deep against the Senate bar this morning. They are why Baldwin won and why it could not matter who won. After it was all over those on the inside showed how the whole thing had been settled long ago before this Legislature, which imagines it is conducting a factional fight, was elected. They said the Vare-Brumbaugh crowd knew it was beaten, and explained the Brumbaugh brass band, which was waiting to celebrate a Cox victory, as merely the youthful enthusiasm of Francis Shunk Brown.

"Ed" Vare certainly looked as if he expected defeat in the afternoon. In the smoke-filled rooms of the Cox headquarters he stood silent and moody, shaking immovable hands automatically, looking far into the dim future. The diminutive figure of Cox, distributing his own likeness on badges and buttons, buzzed around him, going through the gestures of confidence. The good word was, afterward, that Cox had gone through with a hopeless fight and taken his punishment "like a little man." His candidacy seems to have been simply an advertisement to make the public believe that all Vare men were progressive and all the Penroseites reactionaries, to keep this alignment emphasized for the gubernatorial campaign.

Nothing ever is really what it seems to the poor legislator. He thought he was in a speakership fight and it turns out that he was simply acting in the first part of a drama that will end in the primaries of May, 1918. The Cox parade that almost got arrested was really a John R. K. Scott parade. Scott had plastered the Capitol trees and even the cannon till the Hill looked like the Fourteenth Ward in November. The parade tried to swell its ranks by annexing the Harrisburg mummers' parade. The mummers loathed the situation and tried to join the Cox men on to the sidewalk. In front of the Hotel Columbus the parade began an interneine riot, so the police had to eject the politicians from the ranks of the country mummers.

Countrymen, and particularly country members, object to the tactics of city politicians. But they should come better informed about the game. Take the case of Mr. Reichenbacker, of Honesdale, Wayne County, who came to Harrisburg for the first time yesterday. He was buttonholed at once by an administration runner, who tried to sign him up for Cox. They started to walk over the toll bridge, where the runner produced the money.

"What!" cried Mr. Reichenbacker, "pay toll in the heart of the capital city of this great Commonwealth! Outrageous!" And he pulled out a notebook and jotted down a memorandum to introduce a bill abolishing the Harrisburg toll bridge. Now this is the right idea. It is the way to get things done and certainly all tolls on bridges are folly. Yet this anecdote was passed around as a grand joke on a country member by city politicians who murder the King's English as a regular thing. The Legislature, by the way, seems more illiterate than is usual. It is very fond of the double negative.

The man who seconded Cox's nomination wanted to say Cox would be "partial to none," but he said "impartial to none." Of course, that is nothing against a man in a democracy, but it shows something worse than lack of education. It shows lack of perception, lack of desire for improvement. And after all, laws have to be grammatical, and when lawmakers are illiterate they have to let the lawyers write their laws for them, which is the worst thing they could possibly do.

The members show an utter lack of pride. These men, who are supposed to represent a great State, thought it was a huge joke that Sam Maloney and four of his detectives lined up outside the caucus room to detect bribery among the legislators. When the police made the detectives leave the doorway the Assemblymen just laughed. It was a good joke on Sam. It was natural that, with this callous attitude manifest, the rumors of bribery flew about and gained in strength.

They have no conception of the size and dignity of their job. They sat in the stuffy rooms of the headquarters at the Commonwealth Hotel as if they were debating the municipal Government of Harrisburg, instead of the Government of a State. One could not help wondering how short a time it would take half a dozen western progressive politicians to rout the whole crowd of them and make them look like pikers.

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100.00	Hudson Seal Coats (Skunk or Seal Collar, 40-inch, Chic Model.)	82.50
135.00	Hudson Seal Coats (40 and 45 inch Models, Select Quality, Full Cut.)	101.25
150.00	Hudson Seal Coats (42-inch. Very Smart Model. Very Choice Quality.)	112.50
160.00	Leopard Skin Coats (42-inch Model, Collar and Cuffs of Badger or Raccoon.)	120.00
175.00	Hudson Seal Coats (Very Full Jaunty Model, 6-inch Border and Collar of Skunk.)	131.25
195.00	Hudson Seal Coats (Cape Collar and Wide Border of Silky Skunk.)	146.25
245.00	Hudson Seal Coats (42-inch Model, Collar and 6-inch Border of Silky Skunk.)	183.75
325.00	Scotch Moleskin Coats (6-inch Border and Collar of Skunk, Fox or Flying Squirrel.)	243.75
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