

EDWARDS OUSTS N. J. ROAD BOARD

Commissioners Accused of Neglecting State's Work to Play Politics

DEMOCRATS IN MAJORITY

Special Dispatch to Evening Public Ledger
Trenton, June 30.—Governor Edwards today ousted the Republican State Highway Commission and named a Democratic board consisting of four Democrats and three Republicans. He also issued a proclamation calling a special session of the state Senate for Tuesday, July 27, to confirm the appointments.

The members who were summarily removed were Louis C. Duncan, of Westville; Robert S. Parsons, of Nutley; John W. Herbert, of Helmsville; Anthony R. Kuser, of Bernardsville; and Samuel Haverstick, of Trenton. The new members are John Ferris, Jersey City; George Paddock, of Newark; David Young, Towaco; Walter F. Whittemore, Newton; George L. Burton, South River; William J. Kirby, Somerville; and Thomas E. Collins, Elizabeth. The eighth member will be appointed soon.

In a statement accompanying the ap-

pointments the governor said he had made very definite pledges with reference to the State Highway Department, which he had endeavored to carry out; that he had never believed in the present system, and that the department should be in charge of a small salaried commission which should be required to be at all times available for his work. He also declared that the failure of the present commission successfully to rehabilitate the road system of the state had been, in his judgment, attributed to the manner in which the commission is constructed and the method used in the administration of the department.

"It is not my intention at this time to criticize the general policy of the present highway board," says Governor Edwards in his statement. "There is ample evidence which shows that the route of the state is not being expeditiously constructed. There may be legitimate excuses, but I am of the opinion that a board meeting weekly and vigorously prosecuting this work could have produced far better results than is today apparent."

"My examination of the history of the present Highway Commission indicated that the meetings of the board have been frequently given over to political animus. Efforts appear to have been made to discredit the work of certain commissioners."

"I found that there had been unseemly squabbles between patent paying companies, in conjunction with certain political influences of counties, to the detriment of road building. I cannot be responsible for the action of a board which appears to be entirely out of

harmony with my administration, and as my responsibility is so clearly indicated by the statute, I fail to see any other course than to act."

MAKES GIFT TO RED CROSS

Widow of Navy Man Donates One-tenth of Insurance Money
Mrs. Marie A. Morton, 323 Wilkes avenue, has donated to the Red Cross Home Service Section 10 per cent of the \$500 compensation and governmental insurance received at the death of her husband, saying that "nothing she could do for the Red Cross could

begin to repay what it had done for her." Her husband, Frederick A. Morton, an ex-navy man, was ill when he was discharged from service. He had let his insurance lapse. Mrs. Morton came to

the Red Cross early last October to renew it. Two weeks later Morton died. Now Mrs. Morton is getting her \$10,000 insurance at the rate of \$07.50 a month. This, together with the compensation the Red Cross helped her to

get, is proving adequate for her own support and that of her baby.

Explosion Halts Trolleys
Trolley cars on Eighth and Ninth

streets between Locust and Market streets, came to a standstill last night when an explosion occurred in a manhole of the Rapid Transit Co.'s power plant, on Sansom street east of Ninth. The manhole is in the street, near the curb, just outside the powerhouse. In it is a system of feed wires, supplying power for cars within a limited section.

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