THE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE.

The Early Adjournment Bluff Ends in Smoke.

THE SENATE RECONSIDERS.

Senator Goucher Censures the People of Sacramento.

HART'S INVESTIGATION BEGUN.

Some Interesting Evidence in the Johnson Scandal—San Jose Politics—Shanahan and Gould.

The Senate has gone back on its resolution to adjourn the Legislature sine die at noon on March 4th.

When the proposition was put forward Tuesday numerous statesmen took occasion to show their disapproval of the action of the people in declining to extend legislative sessions to 100 days, and their speeches demonstrated that the Senators were inclined to be revengeful—that they were inclined to pout and let the interests of the State go by the board in order that they might have an opportunity to say, "I told you so." This was not the motive that actuated all of the advocates for an adjournment at the end of the allotted sixty days. But some of them did take advantage of the opportunity to show their teeth.

In accordance with the notice he gave when the resolution was adopted, Senator Maher moved yesterday afternoon that the resolution be reconsidered. Then he made a speech. He said there were many measures on the files which it would be impossible to reach before the 4th of March, and he hoped the Senate would repudiate its former hasty action. Senator Seawell hoped so, too. He intimated that some of the Senators who were advocating early adjournment had been favored and had gotten bills they were interested in hurried through; and now

THEY DIDN'T CARE

Whether anything else was attended to or not. He considered this a very selfish disposition. He was not over-anxious to work over-time himself, but he thought that the least the Senate could do would be to reconsider its action, and then hold the resolution in abeyance until something definite was known as to when the business of the session could be closed up. He considered that the press was to blame for the defeat of the proposed 100-day session, and did not think the people should be punished.

Senator Carpenter took the floor and announced with biting sarcasm that he would vote to reconsider the resolution so as to help some of his colleagues out of the hole they had gotten themselves into by trying to make records.

Mr. Goucher spoke again and this time blamed Sacramento for most of the trouble. The Capital City, he said, had deliberately polled a two-to-one vote against prolonging the sessions, in the face of the fact that she gets nearly all of the money the legislators draw from the State. He then defended himself against the slap he considered Seawell had given him, about being selfish. None of his bills had yet become laws, so the Mendocino Senator was mistaken—had been "talking through his hat," as it were. Reverting to the main issue, he said it would be humiliating for the law-makers to work an hour after their time had expired. The Constitution said plainly that sixty days were the limit, and the people at the recent election had said they didn't want the sessions prolonged. He was in favor of getting out when their pay stopped. Certainly, he argued, a Senator's services, after the allotted sixty days had expired, should be worth as much as any of the attaches, yet the colored spittoon-cleaners could get their pay and the statesmen could not.

Senator Gesford wanted to go home as soon as his pay stopped. And he did not blame Sacramento for not desiring to bear with the Legislature any longer than she could help. The session of two years ago was enough for the Sacramentans—they knew all about it, as they were in close proximity.

SENATOR HART'S REPLY.

Senator E. C. Hart of this city replied to the imputations of Mr. Goucher with reference to the verdict of the people of Sacramento in November. "Let me say to your, sir," he began, "that the people of Sacramento demonstrated on that occasion, as they have on all other occasions, that they are not at all selfish. It was not because they did not want you with them, but because they believed, when they voted, that in sixty days all legislation that was healthful could be accomplished." Referring to Gesford's no-pay-no-work argument, Mr. Hart said that members of so great a body as the California Legislature should not be circumscribed as regards their per diem. The paltry sum of $8 a day amounted to nothing to many of them, when the importance of their work was taken into consideration. Such a pittance should not stand in the way of their duty to the people, and he hoped the resolution would be reconsidered.

Mr. Goucher said his friend Hart would not miss the $8 a day because he was at home, but to those who were from abroad it made considerable difference. He declared that if the State Capitol were moved to his city, Fresno, the people there would poll an unanimous vote for a hundred-day session.

Several others spoke, among them Mr. Burke, the author of the resolution. He thought that the resolution should not be reconsidered, that it would invite the law-makers to hard work, and thus they would clean up the file within the allotted time. Senator McGowan spoke in favor of reconsideration, taking the ground that it was premature—that something might happen that would make a few extra days very desirable, and if allowed to stand the resolution would put them in an uncomfortable position. He also reminded them that they had wasted numerous days since the session began for which they had drawn pay, and they should not now quibble over the prospect of giving in return a few days' work for nothing.

When put to a vote the motion to reconsider was carried by 25 ayes against 12 noes. The resolution was then hustled into the hands of the Judiciary Committee so as to be out of harm's way.

THE LATEST SCANDAL.

The investigation of the latest legislative scandal — the charges preferred against Attorney-General Hart that he has been derelict in duty and has unlawfully withheld money belonging to the State—was commenced yesterday by the special committee appointed by Speaker Gould of the Assembly.

Mr. Hart was present, and the charges made by the Ways and Means Committee were read to him. He was asked what he had to say in defense, and replied that he considered he was treated unfairly by not being served with a copy of the charges. He had not known of the report of the Ways and Means Committee save by street rumor. He claimed unjust treatment by the Ways and Means Committee in not being given a hearing, but he wanted to have a fair chance before the special committee.

Dr. Mathews, Chairman of the Committee, assured Mr. Hart that no previous meeting had been held to investigate the charges against him, and he did not want the Ways and Means and the special committee confounded. A wrangle ensued between Hart and Mathews, during which the Attorney-General was served with a copy of the charges.

If ever a body intended to give a man fair treatment, the Chairman said, it was certainly intended to accord Mr. Hart a full hearing and an opportunity to introduce all evidence at his command. Mr. Mathews also said the Ways and Means Committee endeavored to serve him with a copy of the charges, but Mr. Hart was out of town, and it was at first intended to telegraph him, but learning he was en route to Sacramento, it was thought sufficient to notify him on his arrival.

BARNES TO DEFEND.

Mr. Hart announced that he had retained W. H. L. Barnes to conduct his defense, but that gentleman is engaged n trying another case, and he asked that the examination be postponed until Monday, which was granted. Mr. Hart will have subpenaed about a hundred witnesses to testify in his behalf, among whom will be State Harbor Commissioners C. F. Bassett, C. O. Alexander and Mr. Brown; Secretary Keegan of the Commissioners, and the following well-known San Franciscans: John Miller, J. P. Langhorn, A. R. Cotton, Thomas Bergin, P. S. Heller, Arthur Rogers, Isaac Helman, J. F. Bassett, W. H. Knight, Hon. George C. Perkins, J. S. Emery, Daniel E. Hayes, A. Betts, Oregon Sanders, O. H. Jackson, F. S. Stockton, L. H. Sharp, —— Hetton, Fremont Older, M. H. De Young, W. H. L. Barnes, A. B. Hodgkis, C. B. Darwin, A. Pattison and E. P. Coleman.

It was suggested by Mr. Kahn that it would be cheaper for the committee to hold its investigation in San Francisco, as it costs $6 80 to get a witness up from that city.

The committee adjourned until 10 o'clock Monday morning.

GOULD AND SHANAHAN.

The "Tall Sycamore of Shasta" and Speaker Gould of the Assembly have delighted for the past few days in firing hot volleys of epithets at each other. By inuendo, bad motives of the other have been imputed by the respective gentlemen. They poured forth their pyrotechnics yesterday over a bill which provides for the appropriation of $50,000 to build a road from Mariposa to the Yosemite Valley.

Mr. Shanahan opposed the bill with all the energy he possesses. He said if the State has more money than it knows what to do with, it could be appropriated to feed the thousands of hungry people and to clothe the naked. He contended that the appropriation would benefit only the rich and wealthy, mostly English tourists, who could afford to view the wonders of the magnificent Yosemite. There was no more reason for making the appropriation, he said, than there is for building a road from the foot to the top of the grandest mountain of the world—Mount Shasta.

Speaker Gould made a speech full of sarcasm, and at times eloquent, in reply. He dwelt on the beauties of Yosemite, which to the poor man is no less admirable than to those of more favored circumstances. The poor people, he said, were the ones who would be benefited, as they were the ones who would be given employment in the construction of the road.

Messrs. Marston, Alford and others had their chip pro and con, but when the vote was taken on the second reading of the bill, a good majority was found in its favor.

PROCEEDINGS IN DETAIL.

THE KINGS COUNTY BILL PASSED BY THE SENATE.

Wilson's Anti-Option Bill Goes Through—The Adjournment Resolution is Rescinded.

The Senate convened at 10 A. M., Lieutenant-Governor Reddick in the chair.

The roll was called, prayer by the Chaplain and reading of the journal.

The body took up the second reading of the committee substitute for several Senate bills in regard to the road law. The committee asked for further time but presented a substitute which was read and ordered to the printer and made the special order for Friday morning, when the bill will come up again for second reading.

Voorhies opposed the amendments because of the compensation of Supervisors while acting as Road Commissioners.

Ostrom said that the bill was a compromise measure and was as near satisfactory as could be drawn.

Several Senators presented petitions, one of which contained 15,000 names, praying for woman suffrage.

The Committee on County Boundaries reported back the bill changing the boundary between Sacramento and Yolo Counties, and recommending that it pass.

Messages from the Assembly being called for, a number of bills that had passed that body were referred to appropriate committees, while others were substituted for bills on the Senate file.

On motion of Ragsdale, Assembly Bill No. 60, was substituted for Senate Bill No. 112, amending the Civil Code relative to proof and acknowledgment of instruments. Both bills are identical.

Senator Ford informed the Senate that Assembly Bill No. 227 was identical with a bill that had passed the Senate a day or two ago. At his suggestion it was placed on the file without committee reference. The same gentleman also secured the substitution of Assembly Bill No. 96 for Senate Bill No. 51, both being the same. They relate to the payment of taxes under protest.

On motion of Senator Langford, Senate Bill No. 162, to encourage fiber culture, was recommitted to the Committee on Agriculture.

New bills were introduced as follows:

By Biggy—Amending the Civil Code affording a remedy for nuisances. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

By Arms—To pay the claim of B. McMahon & Son of San Francisco for the loss of a dredger; Claims.

By McAllister—Relative to the insurance of property; Judiciary.

By Simpson — Creating a Board of Building and Loan Commissioners; Judiciary.

By Mathews—Relative to records of conveyances; also, regulating the sale of fertilizers; Judiciary.

The Committee on Corporations submitted a report recommending for passage Senate Bill No. 367, relative to the qualifications of officers of corporations.

Assembly Bill No. 75 was taken from the special file, read the third time and sent to the Governor. The bill makes an appropriation to pay the deficiency in the appropriation for the State Board of Forestry.

Assembly Bill No. 269, appropriating money for the Naval Battalion of the National Guard, and Assembly Bill No. 312, for fitting up the Supreme Court-rooms in Los Angeles, were also passed favorably and sent to the Executive.

The following bills on the special file were read the second time and ordered engrossed:

Senate Bill No. 574, to provide for the redemption and payment of certain funded debt bonds of this State, and authorizing the State Controller and Treasurer to transfer the sum of $120,000 from the general fund to the interest and sinking fund.

Senate Bill No. 21, to create the office of Commissioner of Horticultural Statistics.

Senate Bill No. 106, to provide for the publication and sale of an abrigement of the reports of the State Board of Horticulture.

Senate Bill No. 401, to authorize suits against the State.

Senate Bill No. 309, to provide for planting a row of trees around the Capitol grounds.

Assembly Bill No. 127, appropriating $4,000 to pay for the system of heating and ventilating established in the State Normal School at San Jose.

Senate Bill No. 144, to provide for additional improvements and repairs at the Napa State Asylum for the Insane.

Recess.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The special file was resumed, and Senate Bill No. 135, making an appropriation to pay the deficiency in the appropriation for costs and expenses of suits in which the State is a party in interest, was taken up. There was a debate over the measure, and as the special order for third reading of bills intervened, the bill went back to the file without any action being taken.

The substitute for Senator Ford's bill (No. 389), to provide for the appointment, duties and compensation of a Debris Commissioner, and to make an appropriation to be expended under his directions in the discharge of his duties as such Commissioner, was read the third time.

Senator Ford said that it had been agreed by the friends of the bill to amend it so that the expenditures incurred would be under the control of the State Board of Examiners. He therefore moved that Senator McGowan be appointed a committee of one to make the amendment. So ordered. The bill then went back to the file.

Senate Bill No. 105, to prevent the use of fraudulent marks on merchandise, was read the third time and passed finally.

The Judiciary Committee's substitute for Senate Bill No. 359, to regulate the fees of County Clerks in estates of deceased persons, of minors and of incompetent persons, was read the third time and passed finally. The following were also read and passed finally:

Senate Bill No. 313, to provide a depository for the county fund.

On motion of Senator Ostrom, Assembly Bill No. 271 was substituted on the third reading file for Senate Bill No. 278. They are identical, relating to the printing and sale of Supreme Court reports.

On motion of Senator Ford Assembly Bill No. 96 was substituted for Senate Bill No. 51, they being the same—relating to payment of taxes under protest.

Senate Bill No. 155, to add a new section to the Penal Code, relating to dealing in options, was read the third time and was passed finally.

Senate Bill No. 293, to create the county of Kings, was read. On motion of Senator Goucher the bill was made the special order for final passage at 2 P. M. to-day.

Maher called up his motion to reconsider the vote on the Concurrent Resolution No. 6, providing for the adjournment of the Legislature on March 4th at noon. The Senator said he thought the Senate had acted too hastily. Many measures of great importance to the State are before the Legislature, and they should not adjourn until these were disposed of. Seawell also spoke in favor of reconsideration. Several others spoke for and against, and upon roll-call the motion to reconsider was carried. The resolution was then referred to the Judiciary Committee.

The substitute for Senate Bill No. 71, to prevent deception in the manufacture and sale of imitation butter, was read the third time and sent to the Assembly.

Senator Seawell submitted a partial report of the committee appointed to investigate the Home for the Adult Blind. He explained that the testimony taken was voluminous, but was not important. He would not, therefore, recommend that it be printed.

Senator Burke introduced two bills relative to the treatment of employes.

Adjourned.

ASSEMBLY ROUTINE.

Not Enough Attaches Yet—The Money-Lenders' Bill Passed.

The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, Speaker Gould in the chair. Roll called and quorum present. Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. H. W. Conry.

Petitions were presented by Messrs. Drees and Schlesinger for the retention of the Viticultural Commission.

The following reports of committees were made:

Viticulture, Viniculture and Horticulture—Against the passage of Assembly Bill No. 690, repealing the Act creating the Viticultural Commission.

Irrigation—Favoring the passage of Assembly Bill No. 236 as amended.

State Hospital—In favor of Assembly Bill No. 728, providing for the appointment of a Board of Health for the city of San Francisco.

Public Buildings and Grounds—In favor of passage of Assembly Bill No. 714.

Labor and Capital—In favor of passage of Assembly joint resolution restricting Japanese immigration; also Assembly Bills Nos. 715, 615 and 694.

Corporations — Favoring passage of Assembly Bill No. 94 as amended. That author of bill 421 be allowed to withdraw it. Against passage of Assembly Bill No. 410. Favoring the passage of Assembly Bills Nos. 59, 367, 490, 697, 716, and Senate Bill No. 538. Without recommendation, Assembly Bills Nos. 58, 424 and 451.

Municipal Corporations—Favoring the passage of Assembly Bills Nos. 393, 199, 200 and 691. Without recommendation, Assembly Bill No. 351.

Crimes and Penalties—Favoring the passage of Assembly Bill No. 382.

Claims—Favoring the passage of Assembly Bills Nos. 562 and 588.

The following bills were introduced:

By Anderson—Making appropriation to pay the claims of Charles L. Wilson for the arrest of a fugitive; Claims.

By Duffy—To define the boundaries of Del Norte County; Counties and County Boundaries.

By Bulla—Relating to the recording of conveyances; Judiciary.

By Schlesinger—Relating to the insurance of property belonging to the State; Public Expenditures and Accounts.

By Gately—Relating to the employment of laborers and mechanics by the State; Labor and Capital.

By Adams—To amend the County Government Act; County and Township Governments.

A resolution was offered by Mr. Cusick to appoint Joseph Currington Assistant Engrossing Clerk; referred to Committee on Attaches and Employes.

The resolution appointing R. B. Nathan Assistant Engrossing Clerk was adopted.

Mr. Barlow introduced a bill relating to unlawful contracts; Judiciary.

A bill was introduced by Mr. Alford for the creation of a Board of Building and Loan Commissioners; Corporations.

Assembly Bill No. 2, making an appropriation to pay the deficiencies in the appropriation for costs and expenses of suits in which the State is a party in interest, was ordered engrossed and to a third reading.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for further consideration of Assembly Bill No. 36, to appropriate $50,000 for the survey, location and construction of a free wagon road from the town of Mariposa to the Yosemite Valley. After about an hour's debate the committee reported favorably on the bill by a vote of 35 ayes to 29 noes. A motion that the bill be ordered engrossed and to a third reading was carried by a vote of 41 ayes to 29 noes.

Assembly Bill No. 720, authorizing the State Controller and State Treasurer to transfer from the State school fund to the State school land fund the sum of $189,426 58, was read first time.

Assembly Bill No. 737, to provide for the payment of interest on the outstanding bonds of the State held in trust for the University of California, was read first time.

The Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds reported favorably on the bill appropriating $250,000 for a public building in San Francisco; re-referred to Committee on Ways and Means.

Assembly Bill No. 185, relating to the sale of property for delinquent taxes, was passed by a vote of 56 ayes. Title approved.

Senate Bill No. 49, to appropriate $2,500 for the erection of a monument at Donner Lake, Nevada County, to the memory of the Donner party, was read third time and passed by a vote of 53 ayes to 11 noes. Title approved.

Assembly Bill No. 162, relating to the commissions of the executor, or the administrator, with the will annexed, in cases where the administration is, by the terms of the will, and, in consequence thereof, extended beyond four years, was read third time and passed by a vote of 54 ayes. Title approved.

Recess.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Assembly Bill No. 143, which provides that money lenders shall not charge more than 9 per cent. interest, was read third time and passed by a vote of 45 ayes to 21 noes. Title approved.

Senate Bill No. 72, providing that every employe shall be entitled to one day's rest out of every seven, was read third time and passed by a vote of 56 ayes to 4 noes. Title approved.

Assembly Bill No. 276, which changes the road law in a slight particular by providing that one of the Road Viewers shall be a surveyor, not necessarily County Surveyor, was read second time, ordered engrossed and to a third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 153, which changes the law authorizing the incurring of indebtedness by cities to correspond with the constitutional amendment passed two years ago, relative to the bonding of cities for such indebtedness for forty years, instead of twenty years, was read third time and passed by a vote of fifty-six ayes. Title approved.

Assembly Bill No. 298, to amend Act creating a Board of Bank Commissioners, and prescribing their duties and powers, was read second time and ordered engrossed.

Senate Bill No. 267, which provides that three persons shall be appointed to act as a Board of Directors for the Preston School of Industry, was read second time, ordered engrossed and to a third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 352, providing for the appointment of prosecuting attorneys, was read second time and made a special order for to-day at 2 o'clock.

Senate Bill No. 93, to provide for the maintenance and support of the public parks, was read second time, ordered engrossed and to a third reading.

The Committee on Ways and Means submitted a report, out of order, in favor of the passage of Assembly Bill No. 469, to pay the claim of heirs of Thomas A. Springer, ex-State Printer; in favor of paying claim of A. L. Rhodes, for legal services, as amended; in favor of appropriation to pay deficiency in appropriation for improvements for the Southern California Insane Asylum; in favor of passage of substitute for Assembly Bill No. 506 making appropriation for additional improvements of Whittier Reform School; in favor of substitute for bill making appropriation for Mendocino Asylum; in favor of substitute for bill No. 482, making appropriation for improvements of Southern California Insane Asylum; favoring passage of Assembly Bill No. 688, to pay deficiency for compiling State school books; also, favoring appropriation of $20,000 for construction of a sewer for Agnews Asylum; also, in favor of appropriating $145,000 for Preston School of Industry. That authors of Assembly Bills Nos. 231, 206, 207, 208, Senate Bill No. 5, and Assembly Bill No. 484 withdraw them. In favor of passage of Senate Bill No. 177 as amended, making oppropriation for the Glen Ellen Home.

The following bills were read second time:

Senate Bill No. 346, to provide a system of street improvement bonds to represent certain assessments for the cost of street work and improvement within municipalities, and also for the payment of such bonds. Ordered engrossed.

Assembly Bill No. 296, to provide for work upon streets, alleys, lanes, courts, places and sidewalks, and for the construction of sewers within municipalities. Amended, ordered engrossed and to a third reading.

Substitute for Assembly Bill No. 167, providing for the destruction of ground squirrels and other destructive crop pests. Ordered engrossed and to a third reading.

The Committee on Public Expenditures and Accounts reported in favor of placing the names of C. E. Cunningham and W. H. Hevener on the payroll, at a salary of $4 and $3 respectively, for heating the Capitol building at nights. The report was adopted. The committee reported in favor of allowing three members of the Committee on Military Affairs to visit the military companies of Stockton, Fresno, Los Angeles and San Diego. An amendment was offered to include a clerk, but was voted down. The recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Second reading of bills was taken up and the following read:

Assembly Bill No. 377, to establish what shall constitute lawful fences. Ordered engrossed and to a third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 277, to prevent the sale of short-weight rolls of butter. Ordered engrossed and to a third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 265, to provide for the payment of $363 to C. C. Rockford. Ordered engrossed and to a third reading.

Assembly Bill No. 90, to prevent deception in the manufacture and sale of butter and cheese. Amendments adopted and bill ordered engrossed and to a third reading.

On motion of Kennedy, the resolution appointing Misses O'Neill and Jones Assistant Engrossing Clerks was adopted.

Assembly Bill No. 117, to provide for the planting, maintenance and care of shade trees upon streets, etc., was read second time, ordered engrossed and to a third reading.

The special committee appointed to investigate the Home for Adult Blind at Oakland reported in favor of retaining the present management, recommending to the Governor the reappointment of Mr. Greenhood to succeed himself as Trustee. Also, that the Board of Trustees in future shall consist of three residents of Alameda County and two members outside that county.

Adjourned.

M'KENZIE "INTERVIEWED."

ASSEMBLYMAN JOHNSON'S FRIEND TELLS HIS STORY.

A Threatened Arrest for Election Fraud—Manager Edwards' Enemies—Spicy Testimony.

The charges of Railroad Commissioner James W. Rea against Assemblyman Johnson of Santa Clara were further investigated last night by the special Assembly committee.

More witnesses were called, and by their testimony attempted to blacken the character of Messrs. Rea, Barrington, McKenzie and Edwards.

John H. Garnett was first called. He did not know anything about the character of Mr. Edwards, but the reputations of Rea, Barrington and McKenzie he considered bad.

Orlo Phelps, an attorney-at-law and member of the City Council of San Jose, said the reputation of Barrington, McKenzie and Edwards is bad. In answer to Attorney Richards, Mr. Phelps acknowledged he was opposed to Mr. Rea and his friends politically.

The next witness sworn was H. E. Schilling, resident of San Jose for thirty years and at present Mayor of that city. He knew the reputation for truth, honesty and integrity of McKenzie and Barrington to be bad. He and McKenzie, he admitted to Mr. Rea's attorney, have been opposed politically. They live in the same ward in San Jose. Major Barrington had assailed the City Council, and himself in particular. He believed that the San Jose *Herald* is supported by his friends, but would not directly admit he gave the paper more support than merely subscribing for it.

Attorney McPike asked the Mayor if it were not a fact that a great many persons in his ward other than McKenzie clashed with him in politics, yet whose reputations were good.

"Yes," replied the Mayor.

"And there are a great many who agree with you in politics in your ward whose reputations are bad, are there not?" asked Attorney Richards quickly.

"I suppose so," said the Mayor, and a laugh followed.

W. W. Gillespie was called to the stand and testified that Barrington's reputation was bad. On cross-examination by Mr. Richards, Gillespie said he took an active part in politics in San Jose. He didn't like Barrington, because the latter had published an article derogatory to him. It was also developed that the witness was Secretary of the Light and Power Company, which is a business rival of Rea's concern—the Electrical Improvement Company.

In answer to questions asked by one of the committeemen, Gillespie said that the reputation of Manager Edwards of the Improvement Company was bad, as well as Barrington's.

Attorney Richards wanted to show that the witness was prejudiced against Edwards, but McPike objected, saying that the "other side" had no right to cross-examine on points brought out by the committee. The Chairman of the committee ruled, however, that the investigation should not be limited, and directed Richards to proceed.

Gillespie, in answer to the attorney, then admitted that he and Edwards were managers of rival companies, and were unfriendly. They were both interested in gas companies that "combined," and in the fusion Edwards lost his position of Secretary in one of the companies. After that, he admitted, there was animosity between them.

"As a matter of fact you drew a pistol on Mr. Edwards once in the office of the Light and Power Company, did you not?" asked Mr. Richards.

Gillespie admitted that he had, but explained that he did it because Edwards tried to open the office safe. "I told him to get out or I would blow a hole through him," said the witness. "Edwards said he would not look well going down the street with a hole through him."

By close questioning, Attorney Richards brought out admissions from Gillespie that his company had subsidized newspapers in San Jose to attack Edwards' company; that his company had used its money at the last spring election to defeat the Rea candidates for the City Council and other offices; and that corrupt methods were indulged in generally by both companies.

Mrs. H. H. Johnson, wife of the accused Assemblyman, was the next witness. She said they had been married several years, and had four children. She knew Assemblyman Brownlie, and remembered the occasion shortly after election when Mr. Brownlie called on her husband. She heard them talking about the United States Senatorship—particularly about Stephen M. White. She also saw Brownlie hand her husband a card.

Assemblyman Brownlie was brought forward at this juncture and Mrs. Johnson recognized him as the man who was at her house.

The lady was cross-examined briefly by one of the committeemen and then excused.

After a recess of five minutes J. M. Nash, a former resident of San Jose, but now of Sacramento, took the stand and testified against the character of Manager Edwards. He did not know anything about the reputation of Johnny McKenzie.

Cross-examined, Nash said he was a teamster by occupation, but had not been in any business except running an express wagon once in a while during the past two years. He did not mingle in Edwards' "set" in San Jose, and the only persons he knew of who were associates of Mr. Edwards were Messrs. Rea, McKenzie and Holman. The last named is a teamster, who does most of Mr. Rea's trucking. Nash insisted that he had heard Edwards' reputation discussed and had known a saloon keeper, now dead, who had said he would not believe Edwards under oath. He thought a cooper named Rearden had made a similar remark.

A. Castenado, a teamster for Mr. Meserve, Assemblyman Johnson's employer, next testified. He knew Henry Connors. The latter had spoken to the witness twice about Johnson, but he did not know whether it was before or after election. Connors only asked where Johnson was, and the witness told him he did not know.

"Are you a Democrat?" asked Attorney Richards, opening up the cross-examination.

"No; I'm nothin'," replied the witness.

Castenado was asked numerous questions as to the time of Connor's calls, but nothing new was developed. He was then excused.

E. L. Schlact of San Jose, a teamster, was called. He knew Assemblyman Johnson and Major Barrington. He belonged to the same Democratic club that they were members of. He met the Major at the club one evening before election, and Mr. Johnson told him to listen to what Barrington might say. Barrington told Johnson, in the witness' presence, that Jim Rea would put $200 into his (Johnson's) fight if he wanted it.

"Did he say that Mr. Rea had authorized him to make that offer?" asked a committeeman.

"No, he didn't say anything about that," replied Schlact.

In answer to further questions asked by McPike, the witness said that Barrington told him recently that he was not a "go between"—that it was simply a business transaction—and that Rea could not prove anything by him. He also told of a row between Johnson and McKenzie on election day at one of the polling-places. McKenzie was inside of the place and Johnson accused him of buying votes. McKenzie said he was a liar, and an officer ordered Johnson to keep quiet or submit to removal.

Schlact also told about the visit of Johnson to Commissioner Rea's office. Harry Connors had told Johnson to go and see McKenzie, but Johnson would not do it. Afterwards he did go at Connors' suggestion. The object of the visit, declared Schlacht, was to "fix up" the row that occurred between Johnson and McKenzie on election day.

Being asked for further particulars about the Johnson-McKenzie interview, Schlact said that Johnson had threatened to have McKenzie arrested for buying votes, and McKenzie wanted to see him.

"What did you and Johnson go there for," asked one of the committee.

"Well, we wanted to see what he was going to do about it," replied the witness.

"Who?"

"McKenzie."

"But it was Johnson who was going to cause the arrest, you say?"

"Yes."

"Well, then, why should he go to see McKenzie?"

"Well, Connors told us that McKenzie wanted to interview Johnson."

"Did he interview him?"

"He did."

"And was the difficulty settled?"

"Yes."

Attorney McPike interrupted the examination to say that he did not think that Schlact understood the last question. He did not wish the answer to go on record unless the witness meant it.

The question was asked again, and Schlact replied that so far as he knew the matter had been dropped. He did not think it was so much the result of the interview as it was of evidence that had been given Johnson, showing that he was wrong in his conclusions about vote-buying.

Being asked why he went into McKenzie's office with Johnson, Schlact said they susyected Rea wanted to overhear the interview.

"Why were you afraid of that?" asked Attorney Richards.

"Well, it don't do to let Jim Rea overhear you in San Jose," replied the witness.

"You were not in the room during the interview, were you?"

"No."

"Well, then, several persons might have been in there and overheard the conversation?"

"No, I looked into the room and nobody but McKenzie was there. He told Johnson to come in, and asked me to remain on the outside while they talked."

The witness under pressure admitted that Johnson and Barrington were the best of friends, and that the latter did all he could to elect the Assemblyman. They have been friends since the election.

Prior to the election Johnson had always been against "the gang"—that is, the Rea contingent. When Barrington spoke to Johnson about the probability of Rea helping him, Johnson said "he didn't want any Rea money." When they went to see McKenzie they—the witness and Johnson—didn't know whether they were going to be approached in the interest of Rea or the liquor traffic.

The committee then adjourned until this evening.

WAYS AND MEANS.

MILLER AND LEONHARDT EACH TO GET SOME EXPENSES.

The Bill to Create a Board of Public Works and to Make Appropriation Under Fire.

The Assembly Committee on Ways and Means took up the claims of Messrs. Miller and Leonhardt for contested election expenses last night. The committee came to the conclusion that Mr. Leonhardt had good cause for contesting the seat of Assemblyman Miller, as the vote was very close, and there was a doubt as to what district Mr. Miller was a resident of. The committee will recommend that each of the gentlemen be allowed $825 for expenses and attorneys fees.

Mr. Jacobs was before the committee and made a strong argument for his bill providing for the reclamation of lands, and at the same time assailed the bill which provides for the creation of a Board of Public Works and an appropriation of $50,000 for the reclamation of lands. He was opposed to all salaried Commissioners, and thought the bill asking for the appropriation was a needless and extravagant measure. The bill for which he wanted a favorable recommendation provides for the appointment of members of reclamation districts who shall receive a salary of $10 per day while actually engaged. Mr. Jacobs claimed that his bill will accomplish the necessary results and at practically little expense. He protested against giving the hard-earned money of laboring men for what he called visionary schemes.

Mr. Rose explained the origin of the bill which Mr. Jacobs fathered. It was drawn before the late Reclamation and Drainage Convention met, and does not express the sentiments of the people nor provide for a general system of reclamation. He said Mr. Jacobs was opposed first, last and all the time, and is now, to the reclamation of swamp lands.

The people of nine or ten counties want the appropriation. It will eventually cost about $10 or $12 to reclaim the land, which will be worth at least $50 an acre. The taxable property of the State will be increased millions of dollars. In Mr. Rose's opinion, there is no doubt about the feasibility of reclaiming the swamp lands by the provisions of the bill. It is proposed to dig a waterway which will have sufficient fall to drain the swamp lands.

Resolutions of the Boards of Supervisors of Sacramento and Yolo Counties were read, heartily indorsing the passage of Mr. Anderson's bills asking the creation of a Board of Public Works and an appropriation of $50,000. Beside every person Mr. Rose interviewed favored the bill and Mr. Jacobs was the only objector.

The only question in the mind of Chairman Mathews was whether the lands could be reclaimed under the provisions of the bill. If he thought the bill was feasible he would favor an appropriation of $1,000,000, if the funds of the State could stand that amount.

Mr. Arnold, Supervisor of Colusa, thought the lands could be reclaimed, and many surveyors, he said, were of the same opinion. He has been interested in swamp and overflowed lands for the past twenty-five years, and the only plan to recover them is to provide a deep canal to drain the lands. If the land under water is reclaimed and raises one crop it will pay the cost of reclaiming.

Assemblyman Vann corroborated all the statements made by Rose and Arnold. He portrayed the situation along the Sacramento River, and every year the condition becomes more perilous and the lands decrease in value. Unless something is done to drain the lands the State will lose millions of dollars of taxable property. Progress is now withheld because capitalists will not invest in the lands along the Sacramento River for fear of floods. Mr. Vann hoped the committee would report the bill making the appropriation favorably.

The committee finished listening to arguments, and to-day will take final action on the bill appropriating $50,000.

ASSEMBLY JUDICIARY.

Water Companies Shall Not Make Unjust Exactions.

Assembly Bill No. 751, relating to probate matters, will go back to the Assembly with a recommendation that it do not pass.

Mr. Bulla's bill, relating to jury duty, was slightly amended and will be recommended for passage.

Assembly Bill No. 713, which provides that water companies shall collect only the actual cost for making water connections, will be asked passage.

The committee will report favorably a constitutional amendment to provide that free public libraries and free public museums shall be exempt from taxation. The amendment was drawn at the instance of Adolph Sutro of San Francisco, who proposes to give to a Board of Trustees for the use of the people of San Francisco and of the State a free public library, a site for the same and a public museum.

Assemblyman Finlayson's bill, which provides for an advisory legislative commission of seven members, one from each congressional district, to listen to arguments and draft bills for recommendation to the Legislature, will go back without recommendation. The Non-Partisan Reform Association of Los Angeles is responsible for the introduction of the bill.

COUNTY GOVERNMENTS.

Relief to be Afforded Deputy County Officers.

Deputy county officers from various parts of the State appeared before the Senate Committee on County Governments last night. By a decision of the Supreme Court about a year ago, deputy county officers were knocked out from recovering compensation for services actually rendered. The delegates appeared to urge the passage of a bill to afford them relief. In consequence Senator Seymour will probably introduce in the Senate and Mr. Duckworth in the Assembly, a bill to provide for the relief of deputies for the ensuing years.

The deputies will be given titles as county officers, although they will perform the duties required of them now as deputies. Their compensation will be fixed by the provisions of the bill. The Supervisors, under its provisions, are to appoint the new officers or deputies, and it is presumed those officiating now as deputies will be appointed.

A general "omnibus" bill will be drafted in a few days to go into effect two years hence, which will permit of no misconstruction and cause no trouble to county officers. For the framing of such a bill sub-committees of the House and Senate will meet from time to time.

SENATE FINANCE.

Claims of the Injured Allowed—Asylum Appropriations.

The Senate Finance Committee met last night and acted favorably on Senate Bill No. 639, which appropriates $1,600 to pay deficiency in appropriation for the publication of State school books.

The appropriation asked by the Southern California Asylum for the Insane was $296,500, but the committee cut it down to $117,500, and will recommend the bill as amended for passage.

The appropriation for the Mendocino State Asylum was pruned from $261,000 to $100,000. It will be recommended that the asylum be allowed the latter figure.

The committee allowed Maurice Sheehan $3,000, John McGrath $4,000, and the heirs of Michael Denzer $3,000, for injuries sustained by the falling of a stand at the State Fair.

George Nelson, who was imprisoned in the Folsom State Prison for a crime it was proven he never committed, was allowed $2,000 by the committee to compensate him for the mental and physical sufferings he endured.

Federal Relations.

The Assembly Committee on Federal Relations will this morning report without recommendation Conway's joint resolution providing of a Secretary of Labor in the Cabinet of the President of the United States. Gould's bill providing that the Southern Pacific Railroad Company shall make a sworn statement of lands ceded to them by the United States will be likewise reported.

Senate Judiciary.

At their meeting last night the only bill acted on by the Senate Judiciary was that of Senator Mahoney, which declares trusts and combines illegal. The bill will be recommended for passage.

Legislative Notes.

Considerable merriment was created in the Assembly yesterday by Mr. Taylor introducing a bill to prohibit the manufacture, sale or wearing of hoopskirts, to provide the manner of detection thereof on the person of a suspect and to provide penalties for the violation thereof. The bill was referred to the Committee on Public Morals, with instructions to report at once. The committee reported in favor of a committee of five being appointed, Taylor to be Chairman, to ascertain the merits of the hoopskirt and the most practical manner of detection thereof on the person of a suspect by some person who is an asknowledged expert on such matters.

The Assembly is not yet through providing places for office-seekers. Three Assistant Engrossing Clerks and an engineer and fireman for heating the Capitol building at nights were appointed yesterday.

It has been the habit in the Assembly of about a dozen members to continually jump up and introduce bills, resolutions and reports out of order and to endeavor to advance hobby bills on the file. Major Anderson has placed himself on record as opposed to all such tactics, and the probabilities are that the Assembly will accomplish about three times as much work daily.

Senator Wilson's anti-option bill was passed by the Senate yesterday. The author made one of his characteristic speeches, told an "Injun story," said he believed in equal rights for all men, and asked for a call of the Senate. Senator Langford was caught out on the last named formality, but escaped with a reprimand. Senator Mahoney crawled in through a window and was not reprimanded. The roll-call showed an almost unanimous vote for the measure.

Dr. Martin of Placer caused another laugh in the Senate yesterday when the adjournment resolution was under discussion. He said he proposed to go home when his pay stopped, and threatened that if the Sergeant-at-Arms came after him he would "lay him out on the hillside, where he had laid out many before."

OUR INFORMATION BUREAU.

Reponses to Correspondents Seeking Substantial Information.

[For responses to questions of practical value. Mere puzzles, and the curious and common, answers to which ought to be found in the ordinary home library, will receive no attention. Queries published without responses are invitations to furnish answers, to make this department an information exchange also. Communications must be brief