the executive after the Democratic leaders had decided it was necessary to have the Senate and Assembly Judiciary Committees hold a hearing on the measure. Comparatively few legislators were present.

Prior to the hearing the members of the Governor's "war board" assembled in the executive chamber, where they were greeted by the executive.

A list of thirty-three speakers, given out at the Executive chamber, indicated that the hearing would be long drawn out. Among the speakers, not already announced, who, it was said, planned to reach Albany in time to address the hearing were John Purroy Mitchell, Collector of the Port of New York, and Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Franklin D. Roosevelt of Washington.

Meeting of the Judiciary Committees are scheduled for 7 o'clock to-night, when, if present plans are carried out, the Governor's primary bill, and the other proposed changes to the election and primary laws will report for the consideration of the extraordinary session of the Legislature.

SULZER SAYS WELFARE OF STATE IS THREATENED.

Addressing a gathering of direct primary advocates in the executive chamber before the hearing, Gov. Sulzer said:

"There never was a time when the welfare of the greatest State in the Union was more threatened or in greater peril. I know whereof I speak. But the insidious conspiracy which has been launched to discredit my administration of the State's affairs will not beget the results the archconspirators hoped for.

"But I do not want the enemies of this bill to befog the issue and to deceive the people by the bitter, slanderous, vile, malicious and dastardly attack upon me.

"Mr. Murphy beat the bill at the regular session. I challenge him to deny it. Let Mr. Murphy come out in the open and tell the people whether you are going to defeat this bill at the extraordinary session."

MURPHY MAKES SWEEPING DENIAL OF CHARGES.

A general denial of all the charges made by Gov. Sulzer is contained in a statement given out early to-day by Tammany Leader Charles F. Murphy through Thomas F. Smith, secretary of Tammany Hall.

Murphy declares he agreed to meet the Governor only on condition that a third party be present because, as Murphy explains, "I believed that the Governor would not hesitate to swear my life away if he found it to be to his political advantage to do so."

It is understood that A. E. Smith, Speaker of the Assembly; Senator Wagner, Tammany leader in the Senate; Philip J. Donahue, Treasurer of Tammany; Aaron J. Levy, majority leader of the Assembly, and John McCooey, Democratic leader of Kings County, were in conference with Mr. Murphy at Sheepshead Ground yesterday. The Murphy statement was dictated by telephone to Secretary Smith. It was given out as Gov. Sulzer's comment could not be obtained, as he had retired.

According to report, Tammany leaders have been enjoined to "strict silence" on the Sulzer matter, and it is said to be war to the finish between the Governor and the Tammany chief. The order is said to have gone out Saturday. One leader said if it is necessary to touch off any more fireworks after this there will soon be another bomb explosion. The Murphy statement reads:

MURPHY'S DENIAL AND HIS CHALLENGE TO SULZER.

"Gov. Sulzer is absolutely in error when he accuses me of being a party to any so-called conspiracy to discredit him. If, as he says, detectives have been employed in covering the country in quest of something reflecting on his record, I know nothing of it until he himself imported the information.

"Indeed, all his other allegations concerning me are just as false and absurd, and he knows it. He intimates that I profited by the purchase of the Curtis papers. This I emphatically deny. The first I ever heard of the Vermont case was during the recent Gubernatorial campaign, when it reached me with other rumors, which I dismissed as unworthy of serious attention.

"Regarding the Governor's story that I sent a messenger with the declaration that it would be Gaffney or war' if Mr. Gaffney were not appointed Highway Commissioner, I wish to say that I never sent any such messenger and that I never recommended or requested the appointment of Mr. Gaffney, and I ask that the Governor reveal the name of the messenger to whom he refers.

"Had I recommended Mr. Gaffney I would not be ashamed to admit it, because I consider him a man well equipped to fill efficiently and honestly such a position. Gov. Sulzer must have had the same opinion of Mr. Gaffney, for one of his early official acts was to appoint him a member of the Honorary Highway Commission, which he did without consulting me and without my knowledge.

WOULDN'T MEET GOVERNOR ALONE, HE DECLARES.

"The Governor claims that I sought to use the Vermont case 'in a plot to loot the State.' This is a very serious charge, and I defy him to produce one particle of proof to sustain it. Furthermore, he has known me for nearly thirty years, and I challenge him to reveal anything that he knows about my public or private life that will reflect upon my integrity.

"While I was at Albany attending the meeting of the Presidential Electors I saw Gov. Sulzer twice—at the Executive Mansion and in the Executive Chamber. Each time I shook hands with him, but we had no conversation. I did not ask him to come to the hotel to see me. I sought no conference with him. On the contrary, he sent a messenger to me, who stated the Governor desired to make an apointment to meet me. I said I would meet the Governor if a certain condition was complied with. The messenger asked the nature of the condition.

"I said that I would have to decline to meet the Governor unless the messenger or some other third party would be in the room and listen to the conversation, that I would not trust myself alone, because I believed the Governor would not hesitate to swear my life away if he found it to be to his political advantage to do so.

"The messenger said he would see the Governor and report back to me. He did so, and when he returned he said the Governor had decided that he would not meet me under such conditions, as he was afraid I would misrepresent him. I said that I was willing to take the risk of his misrepresenting me, and I would be willing to take the risk of his misrepresenting me, and I would be willing to take the risk of his misrepresenting me, and I would be