

INSURANCE LEGISLATION AND TAXATION DISCUSSED
BALLOT REFORM—MEASURE FOR CHEAPER
GAS RECOMMENDED

State of New York, Executive Chamber,
Albany, January 3, 1906.

To the Legislature: In submitting my second annual message, I have in mind that the constitution directs me to present to you a bill for the purpose of amending the constitution in order that the same may be submitted to the people in order that they may be able to vote thereon. In order that the same may be submitted to the people in order that they may be able to vote thereon, I have the honor to recommend that you pass a law to that effect.

STATE DEBT.

On September 30, 1905, the close of the fiscal year, the total amount of the State debt was \$11,135,660, as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Description of debt and Amount. Includes items like 'The sinking fund created for the payment of the canal debt', 'The debt maturing January 30, 1906', etc.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

The total receipts of the State Treasury from all sources for the year ending September 30, 1905, were \$23,479,356.11. The total disbursements for the same period were \$23,479,356.11.

TAXATION.

The great burden of taxation is local and not State. The local authorities are rapidly increasing. The cost of the city government of New-York City for the past six years is as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Year and Amount. Shows increasing costs from 1900 to 1905.

CANALS.

A total of 2,238,896 tons was carried on all the canals of the State during the season of 1905. The total tonnage for the season of 1904 was 2,193,435 tons.

BARGE CANAL WORK.

The total appropriations for the fiscal year 1906 for lock tending and operating expenses are \$1,700,000 less than the amount appropriated for the previous fiscal year.

INSURANCE.

The magnitude and extent of the business of life insurance is starting, even after a year's experience, to become a more important factor in the State of New-York than it has ever been before.

ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Many actions of the utmost importance have been conducted to a satisfactory conclusion by the law department of the State during the present year. In laws and regulations the Attorney General has met with gratifying success.

ELECTION REFORM.

Experience constantly points the way to the reform of the election laws. The present laws are antiquated and the methods of voting are not only slow but also expensive.

STATE WATER SUPPLY COMMISSION.

The present law requires only municipal corporations to submit to the State Board of Health a report of the water supply for the year.

CHARITIES AND INSANE.

More patients have been discharged as recovered from the State hospitals for the insane during the year last past than for any heretofore reported.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.

Seven amendments to the fundamental law of the State of great importance were adopted by the Convention on January 1, 1901. For the most part these amendments gave rise to little discussion.

REAPPORTIONMENT.

The constitution directs that at the first regular session after the return of every enumeration of the inhabitants of the State, the legislature shall divide the State into legislative districts.

PROTECTION TO NIAGARA FALLS.

More than twenty years ago the State of New-York sought to redeem the Falls of Niagara from the hands of the British and create a State reservation as a free pleasure ground for the people.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The State Department of Health is charged by law with functions of vital importance. The present law requires only municipal corporations to submit to the State Board of Health a report of the water supply for the year.

LOCAL OPTION.

The Court of Appeals held some years ago that the Liquor Tax law, like all previous excise laws, is not a "tax law" in the proper sense, as it does not originate with the Legislature.

REGULATION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES.

Private companies control our railroads, telegraphs, telephones, gas and electric lines and other public utilities. It is necessary to regulate these utilities for the benefit of the public.

FOREST, FISH AND GAME COMMISSION.

This department offers an ample field for the activities, not only of the State, but also of the people. It is necessary to protect our forests, fish and game resources.

PRISONS AND PENAL LEGISLATION.

I have appointed, under the provisions of Chapter 715, Laws of 1905, a commission to study the present methods of providing modern prison buildings.

MASSACHUSETTS BOUNDARY.

The State Engineer and Surveyor, in co-operation with the State Engineer and Surveyor of Massachusetts, have been engaged in a survey of the boundary between New-York and Massachusetts.

SPECIAL LEGISLATION.

The constitution provides that private and local bills shall not be passed in certain enumerated classes. It is necessary to pass special legislation for certain public purposes.

WORK AND EARLY ADJOURNMENT.

I would urge upon the legislature the importance of beginning the session on the first day of the year. It is necessary to pass legislation in a timely manner.

EDUCATION.

The reports from the cities and school districts throughout the State indicate a steady increase in the number of children attending school.

LITERACY IN THE STATE.

Of our State population ten years of age and over five and one-half per cent are illiterate. It is necessary to improve the literacy of the State.

POSTAL DEFICIT REMEDY.

Gen. Grosvenor would reduce Pay to Railroads by \$10,000,000. It is necessary to reduce the postal deficit.

YOU CAN CROWD THEM OUT.

Over your friends in any argument if you have the facts for you.

SCHOOLGIRL HANGED IN TOWEL.

Left room Angry-Suicide Suspected but Coroner Says It Was an Accident.

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AGRICULTURE.

The decrease of our rural population, which has gone on steadily for many years, must be checked. It is necessary to improve the agricultural industry.

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ARMY AND NAVY NEWS.

Washington, January 4. MORE MILITARY UNIFORMITY.—The equipment of the medical department of the army and the medical corps of the navy will be placed on a uniform basis. An effort will be made to have identical equipment and the same methods of work, so that there may be the same uniformity in these branches as there is in other respects in the military and naval services.

NAVY YARD ACTIVITY.—The employees at the Brooklyn navy yard will be greatly interested in the decision in regard to the Olympia, the flagship of Rear Admiral Bradford's squadron in the West Indies, and the Cleveland and the Des Moines, of the same squadron. It is reported that some time ago a great deal of work was done on the Olympia and it seems likely that the Olympia will be placed out of commission on account of the extensive work required on her.

PANAMA SUPPLIES.—An important change is to be made in the personnel of the administration of the canal project in Washington in a few days by the detachment from duty here of Major Hugh J. Gallagher, who has been the deputy purchasing agent, Major Gallagher has been ordered to the Philippines. General Sharpe, the head of the subsistence department, has asked for his detail in the usual way, and Major Gallagher has arranged to go. He has been expecting the assignment to duty in the Philippines, and has been preparing to leave for that duty.

ORDERS ISSUED.—The following orders have been issued: ARMY. Contract Surgeon GEORGE B. TUTTLE, from Philadelphia to San Francisco. Captain ALBERT C. DALTON, 20th Infantry, detailed in the Philippines. First Lieutenant FREDERICK W. VAN DUNE, 2d Infantry, detailed acting quartermaster at St. Louis. Resignation of Captain RICHARD Q. RICKARD, signal corps.

ARRIVED. January 2.—The Don Juan de Austria at Tompkinsville; the West Virginia at Newport News; the Bagley at San Juan; the MacDonough at Bradford; the Lawrence and the MacDonough at Bradford; the Rocket at Washington. SAILED. January 2.—The Missouri from Boston for Hampton Roads; the Illinois from Hampton Roads for Newport News; the Monmouth from Canton for Newport News; the Jupiter from Newport News for the Truxtun; the Lawrence and the MacDonough from Newport for Bradford.

TO FIGHT DISFRANCHISEMENT. Negroes to Hold a Convention in Washington. [From The Tribune Bureau.] Washington, Jan. 3.—President Roosevelt received a telegram today from a number of colored ministers who came to tell him of a convention here on January 24 for the purpose of protesting against the treatment of the race in the South, especially with reference to disfranchisement. The spokesman was the Rev. S. L. Carruthers, pastor of the Sixth Street Baptist Church, New York. Among the others were the Rev. O. J. Scott, pastor of the Metropolitan Methodist Episcopal Church, and Professor W. H. Hart, instructor in law in Howard University.

POSTAL DEFICIT REMEDY. Gen. Grosvenor Would Reduce Pay to Railroads by \$10,000,000. [From The Tribune Bureau.] Washington, Jan. 3.—As a result of the no pass order issued by a number of the Eastern railroad systems, which went into effect on the first day of the year, Congress may lose \$10,000,000 from the annual appropriation for carrying the mails. Representative Grosvenor of Ohio expressed himself in favor of such a move to-day. "There is no reason why Congress should not cut off \$10,000,000 from the \$50,000,000 that it has been giving the railroads, now that they are going to get free riders," said General Grosvenor. "If the statement made by the officials of the Pennsylvania Railroad is to be believed, the roads of the country have been giving away about \$10,000,000 every year to members of Congress. State legislators and other officials in the shape of free transportation. Now if, even with all that money thrown away, the roads still do not do a satisfactory business, it is not my position to say what is likely to be done with it. I can predict, however, that if the Senate passes a bill of this kind, it will only be a question of a very little time before all the ships flying the American flag will pass on the water."

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