COMBINATION NO EVIL

COMMERCE DEMANDS IT.

Beck Tells Republicans Where the Sherman Law Has Failed.

Stories of the times of Abraham Lincoln at the twenty-first annual dinner of the Republican Club of the City of New York at the Waldorf-Astoria last night gave the speakers the opportunity to contrast the Republican party of that day with the party to-day, and to point out what, in the opinion of each, constituted dangers in the trend of affairs at present.

For instance, Congressman Samuel W. McCall, of Massachusetts, spoke strongly in favor of state's rights, as opposed to the absorption of some of those rights as suggested by Secretary Root of the State Department some weeks ago.

James M. Beck, ex-Deputy United States Attorney General, speaking of the Sherman Anti-Trust law and the Interstate Commerce law, said that commerce was being "slowly ground to pieces between the upper and the nether millstones of federal and state governments," and that no one recognized that truth more clearly or dwelt upon it more persistently than President Roosevelt, "who, though not a trained lawyer, has much of the clear sighted vision of his great prototype in the flesh, Alexander Hamilton."

Speaker Joseph G. Cannon, who was to have been the first speaker, has the grip, and was kept in Washington by orders of his physician.

While the dinner was in progress, word of the death of ex-Governor Frank W. Higgins reached Charles H. Young, the toastmaster. Before announcing the next speaker, Mr. Young said:

"I have just received the sad news that Governor Higgins is no more. The state has lost a tried servant. In the name of this club I have conveyed to his family our deep sympathy."

A hush fell over the six hundred diners, and it was some time before the toastmaster felt they were ready to hear the next speaker.

Souvenirs of the dinner were books containing the most famous addresses of Lincoln. The sorbet boxes were made in imitation of the ink well, accompanied by a quill pen, which was used by Lincoln in signing the Emancipation proclamation.

Mr. Beck, in opening his speech, said that the Republican party, which had earned the right to be called the greatest party that ever existed, should be "alive to the rising sun." Likening it to a ship, he said the party must take its reckoning and see how far it had drifted from the true course. He said, in part:

Twenty years ago this nation made a new and stupendous departure in its public policy by the enactment of the Interstate Commerce law. This was followed three years later by the Sherman Anti-Trust law, and since then the policy of federal regulation of interstate commerce has proceeded with rapidity. This attempt to control natural forces by legislative enactment was fraught with difficulty, and was in its nature essentially experimental. Much of enduring value has been accomplished.

The Republican party must base its policy upon the fundamental postulate that that cannot be politically expedient which is economically unwise. The President has himself challenged our consideration of this important subject when, in his last annual message, he said: "The actual working of our laws has shown that the effort to prohibit all combination, good or bad, is noxious where it is not effective. Combination of capital, like combination of labor, is a necessary element of our present industrial system."

In his last annual report and official valedictory to Congress Mr. Moody sums up his personal conclusions with reference to the wisdom of the law by frankly admitting that after sixteen years of trial the precise meaning of the Sherman Anti-Trust law remains unintelligible. I am not criticising the work of the federal government in seeking to enforce this law. Its practical results, however, have made a reconsideration of its policy an imperative necessity.

No reasoning is more shallow or foolish than that which imputes railway and industrial combinations to the ambition or avarice of any capitalist or group of interests. Such consolidation is a world-wide phenomenon, and is the result of an irresistible tendency to eliminate wasteful expenditures and impossible competition. Combination is as inevitable in the business world as gravitation is in the physical universe, and its force is so potent and irresistible that, if it conflicts with the statutory law of any nation, the latter must sooner or later inevitably give way.

In the middle of the nineteenth century the English Parliament sought to prevent the consolidation of railroads by legislative edict, but the amalgamation proceeded with undiminished speed, and twenty years later this attempt to nullify natural forces was abandoned. In our own country there were but few industrial combinations prior to 1890. Since the drastic Sherman Anti-Trust law they have grown and multiplied, until there are to-day nearly five hundred combinations with an aggregate capitalization which exceeds $25,000,000,000. Similarly, railway consolidations have gone on with accelerating speed, notwithstanding the Interstate Commerce Law and the decisions of the Supreme Court. Mr. Roosevelt in his last annual message well says that "this means that the law, as construed by the Supreme Court, is such that the business of the country cannot be conducted without breaking it." Could a more damning indictment be preferred against any law?

Our present policy of absolute repression of all combination, whether reasonable or unreasonable, therefore, is little better than the cast-off rags of British statesmanship. Indeed, the collective wisdom of the world has abandoned the attempt to force competition where competition is impracticable. Mr. Roosevelt, who has never lacked the courage of his convictions, has, therefore, done his party and his countrymen a service when he commends to careful consideration of the question whether Congress shall not abandon its policy of absolute suppression of all combinations of capital. The Republican party must not lag behind its progressive leader.

Unquestionably the centripetal influence of steam and electricity have led, as was their inevitable tendency, to a centralization of political power in the federal government. To commerce the best energies of the American people are thwarted and burdened, not merely by a division, but an unnecessary multiplication of governmental authority. Unless directly engaged in interstate commerce, a New York corporation doing business in other states is in the position of the Chinese merchant who, in traversing the forty provinces of China, is obliged to pay tribute to the cupidity and the avarice of the mandarin of each province. At present commerce is being slowly ground to pieces between the upper and the nether millstones of federal and state governments. To one, and not forty-six conflicting governments should it be subject.

No one has recognized this truth more clearly or dwelt upon it more persistently than the President of the United States, who, though not a trained lawyer, has much of the clear sighted vision of his great prototype in the flesh, Alexander Hamilton.

Congressman McCall said the time was ripe for a warning against "the tendency to overthrow the balance of the Constitution and to regulate each and all of us from Washington." His principal points along this line were as follows:

The system of government that Lincoln stood for and that emerged victorious from the Civil War was a dual system, under a constitution which as distinctly reserved powers to the states and the people as it granted others to the national government. Nullification by states of the action of the national government would be entirely repugnant to this system, but no more repugnant than usurpation by the national government of the powers reserved to the states.

The states are ideally constituted to deal with the great mass of questions relating to personal government. They do not possess the war power. They can have no foreign policies, and the most important cause of governmental infatuation and of dangerous ambition is thus taken away. They conduct their operations under the very eyes of the people and there is far less temptation to theatric government than where actors are performing to very large and very distant galleries, and in order to thrill them are compelled to make up heavily to impose upon nearer spectators.

The time is ripe for a warning, but a warning directed in the opposite direction. It should be rather aimed at the tendency to overthrow the balance of the Constitution and to regulate each and all of us from Washington. That there is such a tendency is too palpable to be denied.

Our citizens may be trusted to learn how to spell and to regulate their diets and their baths, without too much governmental assistance from Washington. The time may come when the muckraker shall sit in the seat of the publicist, and the sensational demagogue take the place of the statesman, and when we shall be given over to the herald of a statutory milennium, who would make everybody equal and perfect by penal enactment; but I trust the Republican party will make its first duty to resist the coming of that day, and, while always ready to exercise when necessary any national power in its full vigor, will safeguard the autonomy of the states.

Charles H. Young, president of the Republican Club, acted as toastmaster. In opening the speaking he said:

"It is proper that men of other political faiths should be with us on this occasion, for Abraham Lincoln represented all that is best in the aspiration and inspiration of men of all faiths, all creeds, all shades of political opinion."

There were a number of Democrats present, including Controller Metz, Justice Victor J. Dowling and Justice Vernon M. Davis.

Explaining the absence of Speaker Cannon, Mr. Young said there were many points of likeness between Cannon and Lincoln. In a letter, which Mr. Young read, Speaker Cannon regretted that he could not be present to join in celebrating the memory of that "representative American, who, in the hour of greatest peril to the nation, moved through the babel of compromises, makeshifts and radical demands, and controlled by one single purpose the preservation of the Union."

He added:

If I were to propose a sentiment to-night it would be the toast: "Abraham Lincoln, the best demonstration that a free people can produce statesmanship for any emergency; the best leader of the doctrine that the power of the sword may be used without destroying the liberties of the republic; that great reforms can be accomplished without violating elementary principles and tax the freedom and security of the humblest citizen is the purest foundation of a mighty nation.

Mr. Young then introduced Lieutenant General O. O. Howard, to speak in place of Speaker Cannon, to the toast, "Abraham Lincoln." He said that General Howard so revered the memory of Lincoln that he founded the Lincoln Memorial University at Cumberland Gap, Tennessee.

General Howard related many interesting anecdotes of Lincoln. Among them was this:

One day Mr. Lincoln saw Fessenden, for example, coming toward his office room. Mr. Fessenden had received the promise of some appointment in Maine for one of his constituents. The case had been overlooked. As soon as Mr. Lincoln caught sight of the Senator he saw that he was angry, and as he approached his door he called out: "Say, Fessenden, aren't you an Episcopalian?" Mr. Fessenden, taken aback by the question, answered: "Yes, I belong to that persuasion." Mr. Lincoln then said: "I thought so; you swear so much like Seward. Seward is an Episcopalian. But you ought to hear Stanton swear. He can beat you both. He is a Presbyterian." By this time Fessenden was in hearty good humor, and the President, sending for the papers, settled the case to the Senator's satisfaction.

General Howard was followed by Major General James H. Wilson, U. S. A. (retired), whose father was a captain in the Black Hawk War with Abraham Lincoln. Having been connected with the War Department during part of the Civil War, he was able to add a number of good anecdotes to those already known to the world. He spoke of Lincoln's comment on a dispatch stating that a brigadier general and several hundred mules had been captured by the Confederates. He quoted Lincoln as saying: "I don't care so much for the brigadier general. I can make them; but mules cost money."

General Wilson said that, in one of his early speeches, when he was a candidate for the Legislature, Lincoln stated what were to be the cardinal principles of the Republican party, when it was formed twenty years after that. These principles he named as protection, liberty, equal rights for every man and national honor.

"What would Lincoln say to-day," General Wilson asked, "if he could see how the party has changed and its policies as promulgated to-day. If he had lived to guide us, the change would not be so great."

To illustrate, General Wilson told the story of the man who had a picture of his father painted from his own description after his father was dead. When he received the picture, he exclaimed: "Yes, it's father all right, but how he has changed!" Just as General Wilson finished a diner shouted, "What's the matter with Roosevelt?"

Job E. Hedges, the last speaker, was enthusiastically applauded when he spoke on "The Empire State."

The menu follows:

Huîtres de Cotuit.
POTAGE.
Potage à la Veloutine. Crême à la Japonaise.
HORS D'ŒUVRE.
Radis. Olives. Céleri. Amandes salées.
POISSON.
Aiguillettes de Bass à la Sicilienne.
Salade de concombres.
ENTREE.
Ris de Veau à la Traviata.
PIECE DE RESISTANCE.
Mignons de filet de boeuf à la Foyot.
Pommes de terre à la française. Petits pois sautés.
Sorbet de Fantaisie.
GIBIER.
Canards Sauvages, Sarcelles rôties.
Hominy fruit. Gelée de Groseilles.
Salade de chicorée et betteraves.
ENTREMETS DE DOUCHEUR.
Glacés assorties.
Petits fours. Café. Fruits.
Gold Seal. Apollinaris.

COVER OF MENU, REPUBLICAN CLUB DINNER AT THE WALDORF LAST NIGHT.

TABLET IN HONOR OF LINCOLN.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Indianapolis, Feb. 12.—The place where President Lincoln, on his way to Washington in 1861, addressed the citizens of Indianapolis was marked to-day by the unveiling of a bronze tablet containing brief extracts from his speech. Among other things, Lincoln said:

Not with politicians, not with Presidents, not with officeseekers, but with you, is the question: "Shall the Union and shall the liberties of the country be preserved to the latest generations?"

The tablet contains this extract and is placed on the side of the Claypool Hotel, at Washington and Illinois streets.

Governor Hanly and others delivered addresses.

PICTURE OF LINCOLN UNVEILED.

A large oil painting of Lincoln, by Benjamin J. Eggleston, was unveiled at the annual dinner of the Lincoln Club, in Putnam avenue, Brooklyn, last night. Dr. Nathaniel Robinson, president of the organization, presided. The unveiling of the picture was by Vice-President James J. McCabe. The guests, about three hundred in number, then rose and drank a silent toast to Abraham Lincoln.

Three telegraphers who were in the War Office, and with whom Lincoln was in daily contact, spoke. The first of them to speak was Charles A. Tinker, ex-president of the club. He told of his experience in 1857, when he first met Lincoln. He was followed by his companions, David H. Bates and Albert B. Chandler. Chandler sent the last dispatch written by Lincoln, about three hours before he was shot. The other speakers were Congressman Edwin Denby, of Michigan; the Rev. Dr. Robert MacDonald, of the Washington Avenue Baptist Church, and Congressman David A. De Armond, of Missouri.

GRADUATE CLUB DINES.

Justice Peter A. Hendrick, General George C. Eaton, Frederick Trevor Hill, William W. Ellsworth, Gilbert Ray Hawes and F. T. Hill were guests of the Graduate Club last night at its third annual Lincoln dinner. The recently elected president of the club, Dr. Arthur B. Townshend, presided, and nearly 150 members and guests were present. The dinner was given in the rooms of the Aldine Association, No. 111 Fifth avenue.

The principal address was made by Mr. Hill on "Lincoln the Lawyer." Mr. Hill is a lawyer, and the author of a new book of that title. Mr. Hill was followed by Mr. Ellsworth, who gave an illustrated lecture on the Civil War. His subject was: "From the First Gun of Sumpter to Appomattox."

COOPER ALUMNI DINE.

BIRTHDAY OF FOUNDER.

Old 69th Armory May Be Used as School's Library.

The Cooper Union Alumni Association commemorated the 116th anniversary of the birth of Peter Cooper with a dinner last night at the Hotel Manhattan. There were present two hundred members of the alumni of the classes of chemistry, engineering, arts and architecture, amalgamated especially for the dinner. Among the alumni were John F. O'Rourke, John P. Leo and Bernard Rolfe. Graduates of the institution came to the dinner from nearly every part of the country, one of them coming from Springfield, Ill. From Japan came a letter of regret from Fuschai Fuqui, a Cooper Union alumnus, who is now chief engineer of the construction department of the Japanese navy.

George W. K. Taylor, president of the engineering alumni, was the toastmaster. The principal toasts and the speakers were: "Peter Cooper," the Rev. John P. Chidwick; "City of New York," Controller Herman A. Metz; "Abraham Lincoln," ex-Corporation Counsel John J. Delany, and "The Trustees," John E. Parsons.

The speeches for the most part were eulogistic of Abraham Lincoln and Peter Cooper. Controller Metz, in a short address, promised that he would use all his official influence to turn over the old 69th Regiment Armory, at Third avenue and 6th street, to the use of Cooper Union, which has become much cramped for the accommodation of its classes. The armory is desired for use as a library.

Father Chidwick, of St. Ambrose's Church, formerly chaplain of the battleship Maine, and at present police chaplain, paid a high tribute to the character and philanthropy of Peter Cooper. "It is a striking coincident," he said, "that on this date is commemorated the anniversary of the birth of two men of common type—two of the highest type, one of patriotism and the other of philanthropy. Both of them were men of splendid lines. First among those who are responsible for the greatness of New York I would place Peter Cooper. He was an ideal American. He was a man who, undaunted in failure, came through, by sheer perseverance, to his place among the first in American history. It would not be well to place every public man as a model before the young, for many of them are far from being ideal, for, after all, the public good depends upon the private morals of the men in public life, and Peter Cooper was a man without a stain. Philanthropy is often misunderstood in our day. It is sometimes thought to mean the love of society, of the human race, but philanthropy is love of the individual man. Peter Cooper was a true philanthropist, a man without reproach and a model for the rising generation."

Ex-Corporation Counsel Delany's elegy on Abraham Lincoln was an eloquent effort, and his word picture of the pure life and virtues of the great emancipator brought forth liberal applause.

"Abraham Lincoln represented," he said, "the poor boy born under most adverse circumstances who, deprived of an elementary education, rose to his position by persistent and herculean efforts, showing the soul of the man in his youth. Lincoln did not aspire to be President. He was not a man of culture as the world understands culture. Culture is a matter of refinement, not of body, but of soul. He was one of the most cultured men of the United States. He was not a man of physical beauty, but his soul and purpose were beautiful. His was the most exalted and truest form of patriotism. He was a man who loved not money and could not be frightened from his duty. His was a life of honor and exaltation."

John E. Parsons, president of the board of trustees of Cooper Union, and the only surviving member of the board organized by Peter Cooper, related some reminiscences of the philanthropist and told of his work. He said that three thousand young men were waiting to join Cooper Union, but were prevented for lack of space. Mr. Parsons expressed the regret that Peter Cooper could not be present at the gathering to see that his dream had taken form and shape and developed into a fine institution of learning.

Letters of regret were read from Mayor McClellan, Andrew Carnegie and Peter Cooper Hewitt, members of the board of trustees.

The dinner committee consisted of Daniel V. Mahoney, Raphael J. Smyth, James F. Egan, George V. Greey, August Canziani and William H. McKlever.

GOV. HUGHES IN BOSTON.

Discusses State Rights and Federal Powers.

Boston, Feb. 12.—Governor Charles E. Hughes of New York was the principal speaker at the annual banquet of the Middlesex Club, which met at the Hotel Brunswick this evening, in observance of the birthday of Abraham Lincoln. The other speakers were Congressman Julius Kahn, of San Francisco; Governor Curtis Guild, jr., of Massachusetts, and W. H. McElroy, of New York. Ex-Governor John L. Bates presided, and over three hundred members attended.

Governor Hughes spoke upon the question of state rights as connected with the subject of federal powers, and declared the need of increased efficiency in state governments and also of an improvement in the character of public servants.

Governor Hughes said:

As the activities of government increase with the growth of population, and the necessity of adequately protecting the public interest leads to a larger exercise of the governmental functions, the problem of administration becomes more difficult and the importance of a wise segregation of effort becomes more manifest. In discussing questions pertaining to the advisability of increased federal activity, confusion is frequently caused by failing sharply to distinguish between a wider exercise of existing federal powers and the conferring upon the federal government of powers now reserved to the states. The relation of the states to the national government, so far as the issue of state rights is concerned, has been settled.

If it should appear that the powers of the state are inadequate to deal with a subject hitherto retained in their keeping, and that the interests of the people, as a whole, imperatively demand the assumption of power by the federal government, the whole people will provide for the assumption of that power. But before that question is determined it is important that there should be, and undoubtedly will be, a cautious and deliberate consideration of the evil to be corrected and due recognition of the importance of local economy to the greatest extent compatible with the general welfare, and the people must be satisfied, on the particular merits of the case, of the necessity of federal intervention.

Few except those who are brought into immediate contact with these questions realize the vast importance of the matters of state concern. Necessary attention to federal activities should not blind the citizen to the powers and obligations of his state.

There should be a generous rivalry between the states in their efforts to illustrate the wisest exercise of state authority. Each should be anxious to establish standards of prudent legislation and of honorable administration, which may win the approval and excite the emulation of sister jurisdictions.

It is at once apparent that to insure the efficient administration of state governments and the settlement of many of the problems that now vex us the state administration emancipate itself from all dependent upon or controlled by private interests of any sort.

There is a determination on the part of the people no longer to be exploited for the benefit of the few through the use of privileges conferred by government or through favors obtained through corrupt administration. No party alignment or declaration of platform can obscure this supreme issue of the day.

Every movement must be organized to be successful. The people have no complaint to make of organization as such, but they do demand that party organization shall not fatten at the public expense. They demand that party leaders shall not be the hirelings of financiers.

But they are determined to defeat any man or any set of men who, under cover of pretended loyalty to party, are simply seeking political patronage and power for their own selfish gain and the protection and enrichment of special interests. They oppose party machinery which is used to secure the election of so-called representatives who are chosen, in fact, to perform the bidding of those who supply the money to pay election expenses.

As we study the larger demand for this political outlook and for high minded leadership, we rejoice the more in the memory which is perhaps our choicest national heritage and in whose honor we are gathered to-night. As the burdens of government increase and it becomes more and more difficult to adjust the administration of government to increasing public needs, we find the emphasis necessarily placed upon character.

The character of him whom we hold in loving memory to-night is a benediction to the race. Burdened with greater anxieties than perhaps any other American has borne, he stood in the emergency, by his simple and noble character, a tower of strength to the nation in the days of distress, and as an example to all citizens, and particularly to all public servants who would learn the lessons of patriotic duty.

FAIRBANKS ON LINCOLN.

Secretary Shaw Also Speaks at Baltimore Dinner.

Baltimore, Feb. 12.—Lincoln's Birthday was celebrated here to-day, the leading features being two dinners to-night, one under the joint auspices of the Union League Club and the Young Men's Republican Club and the other under those of the German-American Lincoln Club. At the former Mayor E. Clay Timanus welcomed the guests, Vice-President Fairbanks responding to the toast "Abraham Lincoln" and Secretary Shaw of the Treasury Department to that of "The Republican Party." Vice-President Fairbanks devoted himself to a eulogy of Lincoln, saying, in part:

Lincoln had a fixed, unchanging faith in the virtue of our political institutions. He looked upon slavery with dread, not only because it was a monstrous wrong, but because it imperilled the Republic. With true prophetic genius he declared: "A house divided against itself cannot stand. I believe this government cannot permanently endure half slave and half free."

He was as "patient as destiny." He was neither moved by those who would go too fast nor deterred by those who would not go at all. He knew that slavery must perish or the Republic die, and he believed that the Republic was immortal.

In hours of doubt and uncertainty in the course of our national career we may turn to the life and service of Abraham Lincoln for inspiration. We find in it all an illustration of the fact that men honor most those who best serve their fellowmen, and who seek to exalt their day and generation. The question uppermost in the days of Lincoln, uppermost to-day, and which will be uppermost to-morrow, is the question of securing men everywhere in those rights which find their enunciation in the immortal Declaration of Independence.

National unity for which Lincoln stood was established through sacrifices which no one but Omnipotence can measure. Great as they were, the end accomplished was worth the cost.

It is given to us to see but a little way into the future. We know that time will bring forth it is not permitted us to know, but we have an abiding faith that to-morrow will be better than to-day, and that as century follows century in their majestic procession to the ages, our country will become stronger and our institutions will grow in true nobility.

Secretary Shaw of the Treasury Department, responding to the toast "The Republican Party," contrasted Lincoln with Jefferson and made an earnest plea for loyalty to political principles. He said, in part:

In a Republic like ours government is by party. No man recognized this truth more clearly than did Abraham Lincoln. He was a Republican, and the same kind of a Republican in 1856 that he was in 1860 and in 1864.

The defeated candidate for Governor last year in New York declared that he was a Jeffersonian Democrat and a Lincoln Republican. Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln had some things in common. They were both Caucasian. Both were born in America, both were twice elected President of the United States, both were patriotic and both were able. I think of nothing else in which they were alike. Yes, they were both married.

In political belief they were as unlike as is possible in men fully committed to a representative form of government. Jefferson incorporated the idea of plurality into the terminology of the treaties of the United States; Lincoln gave the full measure of an earnest life to the ultimate determination of the truth that the United States is one and indivisible. Though Jefferson deprecated slavery, he defended its extension into Missouri; Lincoln made it a proverb that this country cannot exist half slave and half free. Jefferson was a slave holder; Lincoln the Great Emancipator. Jefferson expressed doubt whether the Constitution even authorized the acquisition of additional territory and suggested the possible need of an amendment to legalize the Louisiana Purchase; Lincoln believed that the United States possessed every right, every power and every prerogative of sovereignty. As well might a man claim to be a John Knox Calvinist and a John Wesley Armenian as to claim to be a Jefferson Democrat and a Lincoln Republican.

A political party should be like a great church, teaching its youth in the Sunday school, and its adults in the pew the same grand principles and tenets and maintaining throughout a consistent policy.

A political party should be like a great army, its officers from time to time promoted on merit, thence passing to the retired list, the personnel constantly changing, but the army itself remaining ever the same. Such a church, such an army and such a party are indestructible.

The speakers at the dinner of the German-American Lincoln Club included Congressman Washington Gardner, of Michigan; Francis W. Cushman, of Washington; Frank C. Wachter, of this city, and Frank P. Sargent, Commissioner General of Immigration.

SORROW AT ALBANY.

Legislature Will Adjourn—Committees to Attend Funeral.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Albany, Feb. 12.—Political differences were forgotten to-night when word of Mr. Higgins's death was received here, and Democrat and Republican alike spoke in terms of warmest regard of the man and the official. Men who had served at his side for years in the Senate and sat under him as the presiding officer of that body recalled his splendid and unflagging attention to official duty. Even those who had not agreed with him on questions of policy to-night gave him credit for a record as Governor of high achievement and untarnished reputation.

The Legislature to-morrow will attend to a few affairs of routine, make fitting arrangements in connection with the funeral of the ex-Governor and adjourn until next Monday night. It is probable that a committee from each House will be chosen to represent the Legislature officially at the funeral, instead of the entire Legislature attending. Probably those Senators who served with Mr. Higgins and a corresponding number of the senior Assemblymen will be selected.

EX.GOV. HIGGINS DEAD.

Continued from first page.

ing in the list of freemen there in 1633. He married Mary Yates, of Plymouth.

Dr. Timothy Higgins, grandfather of Frank Wayland Higgins, went to Allegany County, N. Y., in company with two brothers, and settled there before the Erie Canal was opened and while the region was still undeveloped. Dr. Higgins's son and grandson were born in Rushford, Allegany County. Orrin Trall Higgins, the son, became a successful storekeeper in Rushford, and also maintained a system of stores in the oil region. The boy who was to be Governor of New York State was born on August 18, 1858.

Early in life he developed a fondness for "trading." He wanted some money when he learned that a circus was coming to town. He made a contract with his grandfather to do a certain piece of work on the farm. For this he was to receive $2. Somehow he succeeded in persuading his grandfather to pay him the money in advance. Then he went to the circus.

It is said of him that he won no honors in school, but was full of pranks. The uniform of a soldier appealed to him, and decided him in his choice of a school after he had entered his teens. He informed his father that he desired to go to a military school because uniforms were worn there. "All right, my boy," said his father, "pick out your school and I will send you there. But if you go you will have to stay until you finish." To this the boy agreed and selected a military academy at Poughkeepsie. He stayed there long after the desire for military trappings wore off, and when he went back home he was ready to work.

Frank Wayland Higgins began to take an active interest in politics when he was sixteen years old. He "sassed" his father the only time in his life because they disagreed in the Greeley-Grant campaign. The father, who had been a Democrat many years, advocated the election of Mr. Greeley, while the son was enthusiastic in support of General Grant. When the boy said hotly that he had no respect for his father's political opinion the father rebuked him in kindly fashion and added: "We will not talk politics any more."

For sixteen years they carefully avoided politics in speaking to one another, although the son became well known as a local Republican politician. In 1888 young Higgins was sent as a delegate to the Republican National Convention that nominated Benjamin Harrison. When he returned home, his father came to him and said: "You have nominated a good man for President and I am going to vote for him."

At nineteen Mr. Higgins was manager of one of his father's stores in Rushford, but a young woman from Sparta, Wis., went to Rushford about that time. When she returned westward Higgins decided that he would engage in business in the Middle West. When he returned home, three years later, he brought her as his bride. They had three children, Orrin Trall, who is married and lives in Denver for the benefit of his health; Josephine, and F. Harrison Higgins.

When Mr. Higgins returned home from the Middle West he was made manager of the grocery business of Higgins, Blodgett & Co. He acquired an interest in the business and later owned four stores in Olean, N. Y., where he made his home. In recent years he continued to operate these stores, although rarely entering any of them, because he felt it would work harm to the employes if he abandoned them. The source of his wealth consisted of large holdings of timber lands and ore lands in the West. He was at the head of six corporations operating in Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon and Washington. He visited the scenes of their operations yearly, systematizing his business so that nothing could go wrong without his knowledge.

MEMBER OF STATE SENATE.

Mr. Higgins first became known to New York State politics when he was elected a delegate to the Republican National Convention at Chicago, in 1888. In 1893 he was a candidate for Senator and he was elected by a large majority over Urban Prescott, who had the combined support of the Democrats, Populists, Socialists and Progressive Republicans. He was a valuable member of the Senate in 1894 and 1895. In 1895 he was elected to the Senate without opposition, and in later years, until he was made the Republican candidate for Lieutenant Governor in 1902, he had a clear field, his continuance in the Senate being assured so long as he cared to remain.

The first year of his service he was appointed chairman of the Committee on Taxation and Retrenchment, and in this first year's service exhibited a great interest in the proposition to reduce the number of State commissions. In 1896 he became chairman of the Committee on Finance, and he held that place the longest term of service of any member of the Legislature, it is believed. Observing the management of the state's finances, Senator Higgins quickly came to the opinion that that management could be improved. State departments were running into debt without authority of the Legislature, and, it may be said, contrary to the commands of the constitution. Deficiency items were far too numerous. No one could tell precisely what it would cost to support the state government.

Senator Higgins drafted a bill, which became a law, prohibiting any person in the employment of the state contracting any indebtedness on behalf of the state or expending any money, unless the sum contracted for or the money expended should have previously been appropriated by the Legislature. The act has prevented the state from running into debt without authority of the Legislature. Second, Senator Higgins discovered that many of the state departments were receiving fees or payments which were not paid into the state treasury, but were used for various expenses of the departments. A single department, the Commission in Lunacy, had thus at its command many thousands of dollars yearly. The exact sum paid out in the support of a department thus could not always be exactly known, for no report was made to a state officer on the expenditure of these department funds. Senator Higgins induced the Legislature to pass an act providing that all fees and income of departments of this nature must be paid into the state treasury monthly, by the 10th of the month. As rapidly as a department receives money, therefore, from private sources, it is paid into the state treasury and becomes available for the use of the state. Each department's income is thus accurately known, and also the precise cost of supporting it. Third, Senator Higgins crew up and pushed through the Legislature an act classifying the state's employes. The primary purpose of this act is to have the same payment for the same service. Before it was passed one man doing precisely the same kind of work might receive one-third more pay, owing to his being a favorite of the state official in whose office he was employed.

Mr. Higgins was nominated for Lieutenant Governor in 1902, when Governor Odell was renominated. In the campaign they were frequently on the same platform. Mr. Higgins received 668,689 votes, against 653,555 cast for his Democratic opponent, Charles N. Bulger.

Mr. Higgins was nominated as the Republican candidate to succeed Governor Odell in 1904. The Democrats raised the campaign cry that he was "Odell's man," and on the platform in many speeches he asserted that he was "no man's man." On the night of November 4, 1904, as he was in a train entering Albany, a stone was hurled through a window of the car, just behind his seat, and he had a narrow escape from injury. Many thought there had been an attempt to assassinate him, but it was never settled whether it was thrown by intent or was merely a prank of a mischievous boy. He defeated ex-Justice Herrick in the election by 80,000 plurality.

Friction between ex-Governor Odell, chairman of the Republican State Committee, and Governor Higgins developed in 1906, and they drew away from one another. Among the political developments from that time up to the nomination of Charles E. Hughes in which Governor Higgins played a prominent part were the election of Congressman Herbert Parsons as president of the New York County Republican Committee, in December, 1906, and the selection of Assemblyman Wadsworth as Speaker at Albany, with the accompanying reorganization of the Assembly.

Congressman Parsons was selected to take the place of William Halpin, an Odell man. When the primary campaign came up last summer the issue was drawn between Governor Higgins and ex-Governor Odell. The victory of Congressman Parsons at the polls vindicated the stand that Governor Higgins had taken in putting him forward. It meant the retirement of ex-Governor Odell as Republican state leader and left Governor Higgins in absolute control of the situation.

He could have had a renomination, but his doctor told him his retirement from politics was absolutely necessary. He acquiesced heartily in the nomination of Mr. Hughes to succeed him. When the latter made a campaign speech in Olean, Governor Higgins, although scarcely able to stand on his feet, presided at the meeting. He also went against the advice of his physicians in attending the inauguration of Governor Hughes, although physically unfit to do so.

SERVICE AS GOVERNOR.

Mr. Higgins's administration as Governor was characterized by the passage of some of the best measures ever signed by a governor of New York in the interest of the people—notably the Page-Agnew 80-Cent Gas bill, the life insurance bills, the act prohibiting corporations from contributing to campaign funds, the stock transfer tax, the amendments to the Raines law, the bill for the removal of the Eleventh avenue tracks and a measure for improvement of roads.

He also extended the Civil Service rules to the larger counties throughout the state. He took the office of Governor in a measure a reformer, though he was a staunch partisan. "To economize rather than be liberal" was one of the business epigrams that appeared in his first annual message to the Legislature in 1905. In lieu of a general property tax, the Governor had a bill passed for the taxation of mortgages at a uniform rate of one-half of 1 per cent. The next year he signed the act, substituting the present recording tax.

For years there had been before the Legislature bills to reduce the price of gas, but until Governor Higgins took up the subject nothing definite was accomplished. The Legislature of 1905, on his recommendation, investigated the cost of gas and then submitted bills reducing the price of gas and creating a state commission to supervise the gas and electric companies. The bill creating the commission was passed and signed by the Governor. The 80-Cent Gas bill, however, was defeated. Governor Higgins strongly recommended its passage in his next annual message, and the Legislature enacted such a law.

In the session of 1905 a conflict arose in the Equitable Life Assurance Society over the subject of its control, which led to an appeal by the agents of that society to Governor Higgins to use his influence for mutualization. Later in the same year, following upheavals in the Equitable and other companies, Governor Higgins sent a message to the Legislature, then in extraordinary session, recommending the appointment of a joint committee of the Senate and the Assembly to investigate the operations of life insurance companies.

Governor Higgins was unjustly criticised for delay in asking for the appointment of the committee, but this delay had not a little to do with the success of the investigation. Had the committee been appointed earlier it might have been one controlled by the insurance lobby, and the investigation would have been fruitless. The work of the committee, done with the assistance of Charles E. Hughes, who became its counsel, is well known. It resulted in the passage of the insurance legislation known as the Armstrong laws.

It was due to Governor Higgins that the general insurance bill was not emasculated by the passage of an amendment doing away with the provision requiring the companies to file public copies of lists of policyholders for use in the campaign for election of directors. He called a caucus of the Republican Senators after the passage of the amendment, as a result of which every man pledged himself to vote to rescind the objectionable amendment. The next day the bill was passed in its original form.

In a speech at a public dinner, long after the investigation, the Governor said:

"The insurance investigation was set in motion by me when it appeared that something was radically wrong in the management of great companies. It was conducted to a conclusion without fear or favor by an impartial committee, aided by counsel of the highest rank."

Despite vigorous objections by the New York Central Railroad, Governor Higgins, on March 29 of last year, signed the Saxe-Stanley bill, abolishing the railroad tracks in Eleventh avenue. The first of the insurance reform bills was signed less than a month later.

He vetoed the Coggeshall bill increasing the percentage of gross receipts to be paid to agricultural associations by the racing associations. This measure was generally considered a sop by the racing people to offset the sentiment in favor of the Cassidy-Lansing Anti-Gambling bill. Governor Higgins declared that, instead of encouraging race-track gambling by legalizing it for the fees extracted therefrom for the agricultural societies, the state should make direct appropriations for those organizations.

At the time of the San Francisco disaster Governor Higgins sent a special message to the Legislature urging an immediate appropriation for the sufferers. The Legislature responded with an appropriation of $250,000 to the relief fund.

One of the last acts of the Governor was to commute the sentence of Albert T. Patrick to life imprisonment.

GOVERNOR HUGHES DEEPLY PAINED.

He Will Issue Proclamation on His Return to Albany.

Boston, Feb. 12.—When informed of the death of former Governor Higgins to-night, Governor Hughes said to a representative of The Associated Press:

I am deeply pained at the death of ex-Governor Higgins. His loss will be greatly felt by the people of New York, and he will be mourned by a wide circle of acquaintances.

Governor Hughes then added that he would issue a proclamation on the death of ex-Governor Higgins upon his arrival at Albany to-morrow morning.

The Governor planned to leave for Albany on the midnight train from this city over the Boston & Albany division of the New York Central Railroad.

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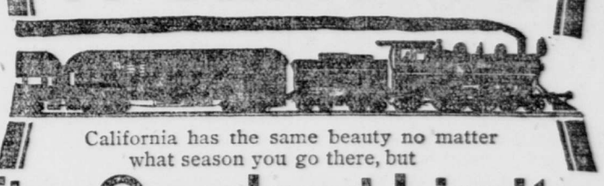

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