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MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

REVOLUTION IN RUSSIA

Trouble Spreads Throughout the Empire.

THREATENS THE CZAR

Movement Against Aristocracy and Greek Hierarchy.

STUDENTS MURDER A TRAITOR

Rumors of Attempts to Kill the Czar—Five Students Are Killed.

New York Sun Special Service

St. Petersburg, March 20.—Unless prompt measures are taken by the authorities, it is believed here, that a revolution, beginning in this city, will spread like wildfire all over Russia.

The seditious element, consisting of university students, socialists, demagogues and the oppressed wage earners, is massing its forces against aristocracy and the Greek hierarchy, and even threatens the life of the czar. The plotters have already attempted the lives of two ministers.

MURDER A TRAITOR

Students Are Supposed to Have Killed a Comrade.

New York Sun Special Service.

London, March 20.— The Standard has received advices from Moscow, under date of March 15, recording the murder of a student by some of his comrades, ostensibly because he refused to join in their demonstrations, but more likely because he was supposed to have betrayed dangerous secrets.

Large bodies of troops are posted about the city, but they and the police, acting under instructions from Grand Duke Serge, governor of Moscow, treat the demonstrators with extreme gentleness. Consequently no violence has occurred.

The correspondent adds that one of the most curious features of the situation is that not the faintest hint of the universal ferment or of the daily asemblages in the streets is allowed to appear in the newspapers.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Mail says that the rioting there was renewed Monday on the occasion of the mass at the Kazan cathedral for M. Bogolyopoff, the murdered minister of public instruction. The students created disturbances outside the cathedral and the police were obliged to use their revolvers. They fired several volleys and five students were killed and eighty wounded. More than a hundred were arrested. The rioting broke out again at night and the police knouted many of the disturbers. It is believed that the trouble will increase.

KILL THE CZAR

Reports of Attempts on the Life of the Russian Ruler.

Berlin, March 20.—Stories are current of recent attempts upon the czar's life. The first attempt, it is said, was planned for the jubilee of the naval cadet corps, whose ball the czar had promised to attend. Governor-General Kleigels reported that several suspicious persons belonging to the revolutionary party had been arrested at the Nicolai bridge with arms and forged passports. The visit was, accordingly, abandoned. The second affair occurred in the middle of January, when the czar, accompanied by his mother, visited the ceramic exhibition. When entering one of the rooms the members of the committee noticed an unknown man hurriedly approaching the czar. A bomb was found in his pocket. He has since disappeared from public ken, and, the correspondent adds, it will probably be a long time before any one learns of his whereabouts.

London, March 20.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Express says: "Three hundred arrests were made today. The minister of justice was fired at last week and the life of another minister has also been attempted."

OVER 700 ARRESTS

Official Statement of the Riot Sunday in St. Petersburg.

St. Petersburg, March 20.—It is stated officially that during the fights between the students, Cossacks and police in front of the Kazan cathedral Sunday, a Cossack officer and a commissary of police were wounded, and twenty policemen, four Cossacks, eighteen men and fourteen women were injured. There were 760 arrests, including 339 students.

GORMAN'S BILL PASSES

DISFRANCHISES THE NEGROES

Measure Is Adopted by Both Houses of the Maryland Legislature.

Annapolis, Md., March 20.—The new election bill, practically disfranchising the negroes, passed the senate. The house at once concurred in all the senate amendments. It is now ready for the governor's signature.

FIELD MARSHAL SHOT AT

GENDARMERIE DEPARTM'T CHIEF

Attempted Assassination This Afternoon on the Streets of Budapest.

Budapest, March 20.—Field Marshal Jablanczy de Centzyorgy, chief of the gendarmerie department of the ministry of national defense, was shot at in the street this afternoon by a man who offered him a letter, which the field marshal declined to accept. Two passers-by seized the would-be assassin, who gave the name of Johna Gal, a former lieutenant of the gendarmerie department. The prisoner said he had been dismissed for no reason and he wished to kill the field marshal out of revenge.

FRANK L. STEVENS RETURNS

Cashier of the Defunct Bank of Plankinton Gives Himself Up.

Special to The Journal.

Plankinton, S. D., March 20.—The defunct bank of Plankinton matters are in a fair way to come to a head soon, as the cashier, Frank L. Stevens, who has been in hiding for nearly a year and a half, will reach home this evening. His coming is voluntary. He is ready to stand trial and take the consequences. Bail bonds properly executed are now in the hands of the authorities, ready to be approved by the clerk of the court. The trial will come off at the regular term in September next. Until then Mr. Stevens will remain at his home here.

PRESIDENT OF THE ERIE RY.

Fred D. Underwood Accepts a Tempting Offer.

MR. PENNINGTON STAYS

Former Soo Man wanted His Successor to Join Him

AS GEN. MNGR. OF THE ERIE LINES

Mr. Pennington, However, Decides to Stick to the Soo Line and Minneapolis.

F. D. Underwood, general manager and second vice president of the Baltimore & Ohio, will become president of the Erie railroad within a few days. The exact date is not known, but April 1 is a safe guess. This information may be regarded as authentic, as it comes from an absolutely reliable source, and further denials by Mr. Underwood or other interested parties will scarcely avail against the facts. Mr. Underwood has not only been offered the position of president of the Erie but he has accepted it, and there's an end of the matter until he assumes his duties.

It is conceivable that an exigency might arise to defeat such a consummation, but one thing is certain, Mr. Underwood does not expect any such thing. He has accepted the place and is making all preparations to take hold in a few days. This much is known positively.

One of his first acts after assuring the directors of the Erie that he would become their official head, was to communicate with E. Pennington, general manager of the Soo line, a position to which he was promoted on the accession of Mr. Underwood to the ranks of the B. & O. But Mr. Pennington will not become general manager of the Erie railroad, much as his eastern railroad friends would rejoice at such a decision on his part. He says he will stick to the Soo in spite of the rumors to the contrary.

Mr. Pennington's Statement.

A Journal man put the question direct to Mr. Pennington this morning. He said:

There is no truth in these Erie reports, so far as I am concerned. The west suits me very well. No country in the world has such a future, and I was greatly pleased to note that the financial interests of the country, as represented in Wall street, are more than ever cognizant of the fact. They are enthusiastic over conditions in the west, and now realize what a mighty impetus has been given to all business since the return of prosperous times. Our partial crop failure of last year is a mere speck on their horizon. It may appear large to us, but it is lost sight of in the great volume of business to which the west can lay claim.

Mr. Pennington was disinclined to discuss his own case further or that of his old chief, F. D. Underwood. "I am not at liberty to say anything regarding Mr. Underwood's plans," he said. "I saw him while east and made a trip over the Baltimore & Ohio with him. I found Mr. Underwood in high favor with the company, and the property greatly improved since he took hold of it. He has certainly accomplished a great work on the Baltimore & Ohio."

Pennington Will Stay.

Mr. Pennington's reticence is easily understood, but it is known that Mr. Underwood made him a most flattering offer. While it is impossible to get at the size of the salary temptation held out to him, it is known to have been a strong one. But after a conference with President Lowry and other prominent Soo people, Mr. Pennington concluded to remain in his old position in Minneapolis. This was done apparently without reluctance, as Mr. Pennington was quoted as saying on his arrival home that he "would rather be identified with a young, growing property like the Soo in the west than an old eastern road."

President Lowry is still in New York, but it is known that he induced Mr. Pennington to put the tempter behind him. Senator W. D. Washburn said that he had heard the rumors connecting the names of Messrs. Underwood and Pennington with the Erie, but he was not advised as to their authenticity. "We need Mr. Pennington here," said the senator, "and I don't believe he will leave the Soo."

The Erie is one of the great railway systems of the country, and when Mr. Underwood takes hold of the reins he will find himself in charge of a line extending from New York to Chicago with numerous important branches threading the industrial centers of the eastern and middle states.

SCHLOSSER IS THE MAN

POSTMASTER AT SIOUX FALLS

Contest for the South Dakota Postoffice Is Ended—Bennett Named Again.

Washington, March 20.—The president has appointed George Schlosser, postmaster at Sioux Falls, S. D., and George P. Bennett, register of the land office at Rapid City, S. D.

George Schlosser, appointed postmaster at Sioux Falls, is one of the best known publishers and business men in the state. Years ago he conducted a paper at Blunt and removed from there to become business manager of the Aberdeen Daily News. Later he was appointed manager of the South Dakota Newspaper Union, a patent-inside house, with headquarters at Sioux Falls. He is a tireless business and political hustler and has always been prominently identified with the interests of the republican party.

The appointment is a compromise between factions, Senator Gamble having indorsed ex-Warden Nye Phillips for the place and Senator Kyle supporting Editor C. M. Day of the Argus-Leader. Phillips' appointment was about to be sent to the senate at one time, but was held back at the solicitation of Senator Kyle. Every Protestant pastor in Sioux Falls sent a protest against Mr. Phillips' appointment, and a great deal of bad feeling has been engendered during the contest.

George P. Bennett, register of the land office at Rapid City, is a state senator, and well-known business man of the Hills. The appointment was made prior to adjournment of congress, but was not reached in executive session. Hence the recess appointment.

JOB FOR MICHIGAN MAN

Senators File Claims for the Brewer Vacancy.

Washington, March 20.—Senators Burroughs and McMillan of Michigan, called on the president to file a caveat on the vacancy in the civil service commission created by the death of Mr. Brewer. They have not yet selected a candidate but they think the place should go to Michigan, and they expect to recommend a candidate.

BIGGER GAME IN SIGHT.

Joe Chamberlain—Here, I've wasted my powder on that pesky Boer, and look at what's a comin'!

JUST PASS THROUGH

President McKinley Not Likely to Stop in Minneapolis.

SOUTH FROM THE YELLOWSTONE

His Train May Go Through Minneapolis on the Way to Duluth.

From The Journal Bureau, Room 45, Post Building, Washington.

Washington, March 20.—The official itinerary of the president's trip to the far west will not be out for several weeks but it has been practically settled that he will not return from the Pacific coast by way of the Dakotas and Minnesota.

The party will probably come east from Seattle over the Northern Pacific to Helena and Butte, whence it will visit Yellowstone park, going south from the park to Salt Lake City, and thence east to Denver and Colorado Springs, and thence still east through Kansas, stopping at Topeka and Kansas City. From the latter point the special train will go north to Duluth, where the lake trip to Buffalo will begin. On the way to Duluth the train will probably pass through Minneapolis, but whether by daylight or dark has not yet been settled.

It is the president's plan to see as much new country as possible during this trip, and since he has been through Minnesota and the Dakotas he thinks he ought to accept invitations coming from Colorado and Kansas, and especially an urgent invitation from Kansas City, whose people were disappointed at his failure to call on them when he went to the Omaha exposition.

There has been another shuffle of the cards, and President Northrop, who a few days ago was in danger of losing his St. Louis commissionership trick to John F. Miller of Indiana and Ohio, now seems in danger of losing it to ex-Representative Rodenberg of East St. Louis. It is a matter of great surprise that Rodenberg should again have got into the game as a strong factor, but that he has is indisputable. Last Thursday, just before starting for Indianapolis, the president told Senator Cullom in the presence of Congressman Tawney, there was no chance for Rodenberg. He repeated this statement to numerous other gentlemen during the day.

In the face of this discouragement, however, the Rodenberg people have pulled themselves together for a final appeal. They claim that the president, in the commission as announced tentatively in the newspapers, has ignored the republican members of the house of representatives. He has apopinted two republican ex-senators, Carter and Thurston, and two democratic ex-representatives. But the republicans of the house he has ignored. This is the strongest plea of the Rodenberg people. Incidentally, however, is the fact that Rodenberg lives across the river from St. Louis and would be to all intents and purposes a resident member of the commission thoroughly in touch with local matters at all points.

The president this morning received several delegations which were booming Rodenberg, one including Congressman Minor of Wisconsin. It is the understanding he has agreed upon eight of the nine members of the commission, and will take either Northrop or Rodenberg for the ninth. The decision is expected this week.

Congressman Tawney has not given up hope, and he is to-day working like a beaver, but it is noticeable that the Rodenberg people are in higher spirits than ever as a result of their talks with the president yesterday and to-day.

Representative Tawney and Governor Merriam called at the White House today in President Northrop's interest. Mr. Tawney specially pointed out to the president that Dr. Northrop was the only man who had been suggested for a place on the commission who fully represented the educational and scientific interests of the country.

One of the special objects of all international expositions, said Mr. Tawney, is the education of the people. It is intended to show the advancement in arts and sciences as nothing else can. Mr. Tawney left a letter with the president pointing out these special qualifications of President Northrop.

Governor Merriam also made a strong statement of the reasons why the Minnesota candidate should be appointed. He called attention to the fact that, as indicated in published accounts, the Louisiana purchase was to have only three members of the commission while the people of that section thought they should have a majority of them.

The president listened attentively, assured his callers that he was fully conversant with President Northrop's special qualifications, and had his name under advisement with those of other applicants.

At the conclusion of the interview Governor Merriam was pessimistic, while Mr. Tawney was optimistic.

"I feel sure that President Northrop will be a member of the commission," said Mr. Tawney. "I leave for home tonight and expect to see the announcement of his appointment in a few days."

"I do not know whether the secretary can comply with my suggestion," said Mr. Tawney, "but it is really the only way to get at the truth. The democrats are continually maintaining that the people of this country pay more for their goods than the people abroad are oblized to pay. Manufacturers an others familiar with the subject deny that this is so. There has been no compilation of prices which can be used for comparison. This I want to get in such shape that it can be used when the tariff comes up for discussion next winter."

A report of the controller of the currency of the condition of the seventy-five national banks in Minnesota outside of Minneapolis and St. Paul on Feb. 5 show that since Dec. 13 the total resources have declined from $33,851,066 to $33,218,217; loans and discounts, decreased from $20,307,802 to $20,254,743, and cash reserve fell from $2,140,851 to $1,748,673, of which gold holdings decreased from $1,237,607 to $1,070,718; individual deposits fell from $23,163,616 to $22,428,392, and average reserve held from 28.83 to 26.93 per cent.

Postmasters appointed to-day: Minnesota—Tenstrike, Beltrami county, A. M. Belding. Iowa—Corley, Selby county, William Walters.

—W. W. Jermane.

GOVERNOR TO FARMERS

VAN SANT SPEAKS AT STILLWATER

Favors the Primary Law and Recounts the State's Growth and Early Experiences.

Special to The Journal.

Stillwater, Minn., March 20.—Governor Van Sant addressed the farmers of Washington county at the institute this forenoon. His stay was limited, but he crowded much that was of interest into little time and left an excellent impression. He was introduced by Superintendent Gregg, who gave him credit for being a self-made man and a man of the people.

The governor said he was in favor of the primary election bill before the legislature and hoped to see it become law. He had faith in the people, and laws which give the masses more responsibilities and influence were in the right direction. American citizenship is a priceless boon and proud should be he who enjoys it. All the nations of the world now look to the United States, and from a small and uncertain beginning the union has become a power among powers. The country, he declared, must keep its promises to Cuba and the Philippines, and there must be no taint of deception. Our policy as to the Philippines should be clearly defined. The governor said there was no need of a big standing army in this country, for every male citizen is a soldier and there is no greater patriot than the farmer—the soil owner.

The governor referred to the wonderful advancement in farming methods in Minnesota since its settlement and related personal observations which strongly appealed to his hearers. When he came to the state, he said, it was believed corn could not be grown here and river boats upon which he was employed brought in large loads of the cereal from southern points. He believed in diversified farming; farmers should not have all their eggs in one basket.

The legislature, he said, was trying to help the agricultural classes. It is for pure products and for the advancement of the dairy and stock interests of the commonwealth. The agricultural college was one of the most important adjuncts of the educational interests of the state, and he believed that it should be encouraged in every lawful manner and made the best school for farmers' boys and girls in the land. The governor returned to St. Paul early in the afternoon.

Among the speakers to-day were Forrest Henry of Chatfield, T. B. Terry of Ohio and Henry Van Dresser. Hog and cattle raising, clover and ensilage were the principal topics and were effectively handled. The question box again proved a good feature.

CAUCUS A FAILURE

The Nebraska Republicans Do Not Agree on Two Senators.

THOMPSON SELECTED FOR ONE

But It Does Not Count Because It Is Unable to Agree on the Other.

Lincoln, Neb., March 20.—D. E. Thompson of Lincoln, who was nominated for United States senator for the short term by the republican caucus last night, failed of election to-day by the joint session of the senate and house.

The caucus adjourned without nominating a candidate for the long term. The caucus call provided that both senators should be nominated at the same session. Failing to do this the whole work of the caucus was without effect. Another caucus has ben called for 8:30 this evening.

To-day's ballot shows much change. Rosewater secured nearly twice the number of votes he has at any time polled, and D. E. Thompson reached his high mark. The ballot: Allen, 54; W. H. Thompson, 42; Hitchcock, 14; Hinshaw, 4; D. E. Thompson, 56; Rosewater, 29; Meiklejohn, 20; Crounse, 10; Currie, 9; Martin, 3; scatering, 3; necessary to a choice, 63.

The Caucus.

In the republican senatorial caucus last night David E. Thompson of Lincoln, was nominated for the short term vacancy, receiving fifty votes, five more than necessary under the rules of the caucus.

Republican members of the legislature to the number of fifty-four, having abandoned the old caucus calling for the doublt nomination of senators, met in accordance with a new caucus call providing for forty-five to participate and nominate. Thirteen republicans declined to enter caucus as long as D. E. Thompson of Lincoln continued as a candidate. Of the thirteen absent republicans ten assert absolutely they will force an adjournment without election if Thompson insists on continuing as the caucus nominee. Their objection to him is based on the allegation that he sought to secure an election as senator two years ago, with the aid of populist votes, and thereby forfeited his right to claim himself a republican.

The voting was continued for the long term with Rosewater, Meiklejohn and Currie as the condidates.

Forty-nine ballots had been taken when at 3:30 a. m., when the caucus recessed. The last ballot stood: Rosewater, 30; Meiklejohn, 15; Currie, 8. When the caucus reconvened the balloting was continued, Rosewater leading.

At 4:30 o'clock the caucus adjourned without nominating a long term senator and without material change in the standing of the candidates.

ATTORNEY GENERAL KNOX

PITTSBURG MAN WILL BE NAMED

President Has Decided on Attorney General Griggs' Successor.

Washington, March 20.—It is understood on high authority that the president has decided to appoint P. C. Knox of Pittsburg to fill the vacancy in his cabinet that will be caused by the retirement of Attoney General Griggs April 1.

SOWA BOUND OVER

He Must Stand Trial for the Murder of Marshal Moore.

Special to The Journal

Thorpe, Wis., March 20.—The preliminary examination of Wajech Sowa, charged with the murder of City Marshal John Moore of Stanley, was completed to-day and the prisoner was bound over for trial.

MICHIGAN'S HARDEST STORM.

Special to The Journal.

Ironwood, Mich., March 20.—The worst blizzard of the season is prevailing in this locality. The street railway is tied up and trains are a half day late.

Warships Move to Korea

Shanghai, March 20.—A dispatch to the China Gazette from Tokio, March 20, says that all the Russian warships in Japanese waters have sailed for Korea, and that the Japanese squadron is mobilizing for an immediate departure to the Korean coast.

"DAMNABLE SYSTEM OF CORRUPTION"

Representative Jacobson's Words on the Floor of the Minnesota House of Representatives This Forenoon.

An Investigation Cannot Be Avoided---Jacobson's Charges Doubtless the Result of a Well Laid Plan.

Bald charges of bribery were made upon the floor of the Minnesota house of representatives this morning. They were made in such terms that the house must hold itself in duty bound to order an investigation. The republican membership of the house must of necessity take the lead or stand responsible for a loss not only in prestige, but in the confidence of the public. It must demonstrate to the state at large that in no manner does it encourage corruption or lend a cloak to vicious practices.

The report of the committee on taxes and tax laws upon the Jacobson gross earnings bill precipitated the debate in which the integrity of members was called into question. Mr. Jacobson early in his remarks urging the adoption of the minority report gave a hint of what was to come. He drew the veil aside a little later when he disclosed his purpose, in part, by saying:

> The only change in public opinion in this body has been brought about by the most damnable system of corruption ever practiced in any state in the union.

Just before concluding his remarks the member from Lac qui Parle disclosed the information he had promised the house. Referring again to the changed attitude of certain members, he fixed the responsibility directly upon railroad corporations. He then said:

> I have affidavits in my possession to-day that will demonstrate to an absolute certainty that there is a corrupt lobby, not only on the outside but on the inside of this capitol; and I should produce them now, at this minute, if the members—some of the members—were able to be here to-day. Owing to sickness in their families, it is impossible for them to attend, and I defer action purposely until they may be present.

A Sensation Produced.

There have been ugly rumors during the last few days respecting the unlawful use of money, but it had not been supposed that any direct evidence had come into the possession of those who favored the proposed increase in gross earnings. Mr. Jacobson's bold announcement produced a sensation, and for the time being all interest was lost in the proposed early adjournment, in the reference of the question to the tax commission, and in every other subject save the one charge of bribery. Mr. Jacobson, though even while speaking he must have been aware of the effect of his words, vouchsafed no further information, and his auditors were left to guess as best they might what would be the outcome.

Laybourn Resents Charges.

Mr. Laybourn, followed Mr. Jacobson, replying with considerable emphasis to the argument that the tax commission might not properly consider the rate of taxation upon railroad property. He resented with vigor the imputation that members of the house were not honest. He declared he would not countenance the unwarrantable attack upon Former Attorney General H. W. Childs, one of the members of the commission. But there was no demand either on his part or on the part of Mr. Peterson, who next had the floor, that the house be enlightened.

Members Discuss the Charges.

Conversation among the members during the noon recess indicated a purpose to call for an investigating committee either on the resumption of business or after a final vote had been taken. The impression was general that an investigation could not be avoided, granting that the desire to do so existed.

Result of a Plan.

The charges so boldly uttered upon the floor by Mr. Jacobson were the result of no rash impulses on his part. He had conferred with friends and it is understood that there was laid out a program which will be strictly adhered to, no matter what developments may grow out of the present status of the question. It is hinted that there was a meeting at which both senators and representatives were present, and that before adjourning those who attended came to some very definite conclusions regarding the plans and operations of the railroad lobby.

The house took a recess at 12 o'clock, subject to an afternoon session at 2 o'clock, with the understanding that the debate would be renewed at that hour.

The Gross Earnings Fight.

The adoption of the minority report upon the Jacobson gross earnings bill was put in issue by a substitute motion by Mr. Jacobson. He addressed the house after the reading of the majority report and the following recommendation:

Mr. Speaker, because of the importance of the matters involved, and the many difficult questions both as to the constitutionality of the bill, as to whether it can apply to territorial roads, and as to whether the proposed tax is equitable and fair, your committee is strongly of the opinion that the whole question of taxing railroads should be referred to the tax commission, recently created. We report in favor, therefore, of referring the subject of railroad taxes, together with the bill, to the tax commission, to be reported upon when it reports upon the general subject of taxation, now before it.

Mr. Jacobson Opens.

The opening of Mr. Jacobson's argument was a rehearsal of that which has been employed before to induce the house to increase the tax upon gross earnings. The member from Lac qui Parle availed himself of the statistics so carefully prepared last season and printed in the house journal at that time, necessary changes being made in bringing the totals up to date. Mr. Jacobson estimated the aggregate value of railroad stock and bonds representing Minnesota property at $326,000,000. Applying the usual standard of assessment, one-third, and multiplying the quotient by 25 mills, the average rate other property is compelled to pay, he obtained a total of $2,700,000, a million and a quarter more than the railroads were now paying. Were they taxed upon a 4-per-cent basis the state's income from this source would be $1,900,000, a sum almost a million less than the aggregate would be under the system of taxation adopted with reference to other property.

Value of Railroad Properties.

Mr. Jacobson then devoted himself to demonstrating that the railroad property of the state was worth the amount claimed in his argument. Values of the various stocks were quoted, showing that during the last two years there had been a pronounced appreciation all along the line. The returns from various well-known railroad properties were also given, both upon common and preferred stocks, and reference was made to the accumulation of surplus as shown by the published statements of the various roads. It was deduced from this that the railroads of the state were not bearing their fair share of the burdens of taxation.

Other Changes.

Among other things, Mr. Jacobson said: It is a peculiar thing, but it is true, that out of the five daily papers in this city (St. Paul) nearly all of them have supported the opposition to this bill. In almost identical language, furnished through the central power, all these papers have persistently and consistently been in the employ of the railroads upon this question. They have discovered, within the last twenty-four hours, that to refer the bill is just exactly the right thing to do. Why do they do it? Because they could not possibly defeat this bill in any other way. There are representatives that have promised, that have pledged themselves to come down here and vote and work for this measure, who would not dare to go home and face their constituents, without taking action upon this question. But it is a much easier way out of it to say, "Why, of course, I was in favor of that measure, but we have left it in much safer hands. We weren't quite sure whether or not we could handle it properly, so we referred it to a commission of three men.

How are you going to answer your constituents supposing the commissioners do not act. I want to say, frankly, that in my judgment there will be no law upon this subject for the next ten years if we fail to act today. There is no use in referring this matter. It will do no good. If you are in favor of it, say so, and say so fairly; vote upon the measure; vote it up or down. I have no sympathy for cowards. I have no respect for a rascal. To deter action on this question would, in my judgment, show cowardice. You dare not face the music. You dare not take action. You declare that you are unable to accomplish the task; that you are unable to judge for yourself.

Pledge to the Course.

You got the vote of the people upon that platform; you stood pledged to do the people justice, and now you say, "Why, we will do it in a different way than we promised. We are not going to lay it down." Next year, what is going to be the report? Mr. Speaker, we will, in all probability, get a report just the same as we have gotten before from that class of men, that raise the question of constitutionality. But nobody is prepared to say to-day what we can or cannot do, and the only way that we will ever know is to enact the bill into a law of this kind. We do know that the other side will carry it to the courts, and then we will for all time know whether or not that teritorial legislature, representing five or six thousand people in this territory, forever could barter away the right of taxation upon this property.

You will come here, I presume, two years from now; you will come here and act upon the action of this commission. You will find this uncertainty still before you, and, with a little greasing of the machine on the other side, an atmosphere can be created here which will change public opinion.

Oh, you say, the people now have changed their opinion upon this subject. I want to say to you that the only place in the state where public opinion has changed a particle is in the capitol of the state. The people demand action to-day.

System of Corruption.

The only change of public opinion is here, brought about by what is the most damnable system of corruption that has ever been practiced in any state in the union. I am not speaking unadvisedly. I know what I am talking about, and when the proper time comes I shall make a statement along those lines. We know what the railroads want us to do. Are we going to heed them? Are we going to submit? Has the atmosphere become too heavy—has it been surcharged to such an extent that we have lost our purpose and reason? On the action of the majority of the committee on tax and tax laws the bill is to be sent to the tax commission. Why send the bill there? They cannot pass it.

Is the tax commission going to be asked, I want to ask you, now to establish a tax rate upon farm property in this state? Are they going to be asked to do that? Oh, no, you will say at once, they can't do that; the legislature will have to do that. That is just exactly what the legislature will have to do here. The tax commission can't fix the rates; that is a legislative action; it isn't a clerical one; it is not codifying the laws.

I introduced a bill of this kind four years ago, when there was no public sentiment for it. We commenced to agitate the question, and we have created a public sentiment that was of sufficient force to make