

THE BROAD AX
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In this city since July 15th, 1899, without missing one single issue. Republicans, Democrats, Catholics, Protestants, Single Taxers, Priests, infidels or anyone else can have their say as long as their language is proper and responsibility is fixed.

The Broad Ax is a newspaper whose platform is broad enough for all, ever claiming the editorial right to speak its own mind.

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HON. LEN SMALL BECOMES THE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE
GREAT STATE OF ILLINOIS.

(Concluded from page 1).
of the state public utilities act, the regulation and control of public utilities in such cities should, by a provision of law, revert to such bodies immediately upon the taking effect of the repeal of the state public utilities act, and until such time as the people of such cities may by a referendum vote indicate their desire to submit the regulation and control of their public utilities to a newly created state body or agency as hereinafter proposed, or until they may decide upon some other method.

"There should, no doubt, be some state body or agency exercising governmental authority, with powers and jurisdiction similar to the railroad and warehouse commission which was supplanted by the present public utilities commission. This may be necessary in cases where two or more communities are served by the same utility. The law should expressly prohibit such body or agency from setting aside, modifying, or in any manner impairing any contract heretofore or hereafter entered into between a public utility company and the corporate authorities or people of any municipality, unless mutually agreed to by the parties to such contracts and approved on a referendum vote by the people affected. Such law should also provide for allowing any municipality, through action of its corporate authorities, or by referendum vote of its citizens, to subject itself to or withdraw from the jurisdiction of such state body or agency, either permanently or for a definite period of time to be fixed by statute.

"I earnestly urge that this subject receive the immediate attention of the general assembly and that appropriate legislation be enacted, with the expressed will of the people uppermost in mind, and with a just regard for the rights of the public service companies, their actual investments, and the well being of their employes concurrently in mind.

Asks Home Rule for Chicago.

The people of the City of Chicago have repeatedly voted in favor of public ownership of the street car lines, but the desire of the people for a voice in the management and control of their local transportation has been thwarted.

"The inadequate service under private ownership and operation, and the increase in rates authorized by the public utilities commission in violation of the terms of the contract-ordinance providing for a 5 cent fare intensified the dissatisfaction with private ownership and led to the appointment by the Mayor of Chicago of a 'commission on local transportation,' authorized by an ordinance passed by the City Council at the request of the Mayor.

"This commission, after mature deliberation, recommends the enactment of a law authorizing the creation by vote of the people, of local transportation districts under which the people shall own and operate local transportation systems through trustees elected by the people residing in such districts.

"Believing that the people should have the power to create such transportation districts if they so desire, I respectfully urge the general assembly promptly to enact legislation to permit the citizens of Chicago and vicinity, or of any other contiguous territory in the state, if they so elect, to establish such transportation districts, and to provide for people's ownership and operation of local transportation systems.

Urges Completion of Hard Roads.

"One of the pressing needs of the present day is to find means to bring our city and country populations into closer relationship to the end that the advantages enjoyed by one may be applied to the benefit of the other. The United States census of 1920 reveals the fact that more than one-half of the population of the entire country resides in incorporated cities and towns.



HON. WILLIAM HALE THOMPSON.

Mayor of Chicago, the great or the fighting champion for the rights of the common people, who seemed to be at the height of his glory while witnessing his friend, Hon. Len Small, sworn in as Governor of Illinois.

These cities possess advantages in the way of water, light, heat and transportation services which are not generally furnished in the rural districts. Illinois cannot afford to have its rural population enjoy less of the comforts and conveniences of life than the rural population in sister states. The surest means of bringing city and country together is the only way, that is the highways which bind our towns and communities to each other.

"The state wide system of hard roads provided for under legislation passed in 1917 was approved by the people of Illinois on a referendum vote in November, 1918, by a majority of over two hundred thousand. This vote authorized the issuance of bonds to the amount of sixty million dollars for paying the cost of the system. The validity of this act has been upheld by the Supreme Court of Illinois. The forty-six routes proposed for the roads are described in the law and extend throughout the State of Illinois from boundary to boundary and provide for connections with each other.

"In my opinion, the greatest economic good that can be accomplished for the country districts of our state is to push this road system to completion. Good roads will tend to level the inequalities, both fenced and real, between the country and the city. Good roads will help harmonize political or economic misunderstandings existing between the people of metropolitan centers and suburban and rural centers. Good roads will safeguard the producer and the consumer against extortionate transportation rates, and will insure the people of the cities and of the country districts an uninterrupted interchange of their products at all seasons of the year, regardless of congestion or other conditions prevailing on other means of transportation. Good roads will minimize the opportunities for monopolists to corner the city markets, especially on foodstuffs produced in nearby sections.

"As these roads are extended throughout the state, grade crossings over railroads should be avoided as far as possible, and the general assembly should provide for the protection of human life at the points where the highways cross the railroads. During the past year, the toll of the life taken at these grade crossings averaged more than one per day, for our state, and to this list must be added the lesser casualties where many victims escaped death but were seriously injured.

"These roads in order to be always available, at all seasons of the year, must be permanently maintained by the state in much the same manner that the steam railroads are kept up. For this reason I recommend that our state aid roads be subdivided into sections of reasonable lengths, each section to be in charge of an employee of the state whose duty it would be to constantly keep his section in repair and in a passable condition.

"Immediate construction of the hard road system approved by the people was one of my platform pledges and I shall exert every effort to push the work to early completion. Should it develop that additional legislation may be unnecessary delay in the completion of this most important improvement.

Favors Speed on Waterway Project.

"The construction of the Illinois waterway will be continued without delay in accordance with the mandate of the people and the laws enacted by the general assembly.

"I desire to call to the attention of the general assembly to the fact that there are in the state vast areas of rich lands along its water courses which are not under cultivation because they are subject to overflow. These should be reclaimed for cultivation, and I recommend legislation to encourage the reclamation of this valuable addition to our natural resources.

"As a further means of aiding our agricultural resources, I favor the de-

velopment of cooperative buying and selling in order to place at the disposal of the country districts just as effective organization as are found in the cities and towns. Co-operative buying and selling, intelligently conducted and free from dishonest or grasping tendencies, will insure to the country producer a fair price for his labor and commodities, and to the city consumer the saving of the extortionate profits of corrupt combines, speculators and profiteers.

Wants Law to Nab Tax Dodgers.

"A more than even distribution of the burdens of state and municipal taxation should be attempted without delay. Rich tax dodgers who conceal millions of dollars worth of property from state and local assessment officers should be forced to schedule, under oath, all their wealth and pay their just share of the expense of government. With an honest scheduling of property in Illinois, the tax rate for all purposes would be materially reduced and millions of dollars added to state and local revenues, thus relieving the burdens now borne by the taxpayer of moderate means.

"I therefore recommend the amendment of our revenue laws so that all tax dodgers would be compelled to file honest returns, just as they are compelled under federal laws to make true and accurate returns of their incomes, and I further recommend that the state inheritance tax be materially increased.

"The state tax commission created by the general assembly in 1919 possesses power over the assessment of all real and personal property, railroad property, capital stock and franchises in this state superior to those delegated to any local assessor or boards of assessors or boards of review. It is the function of this commission to see that

all assessments of property be made relatively just and equal.

"I direct the commission to avail itself of the ample powers granted it by the general assembly for the purpose of bringing to light the extensive holdings now hidden from local authorities, but accessible to federal agents for the purpose of relieving the injustices now prevalent in the assessment and collection of state and local taxes.

"The redistricting of the state into senatorial and congressional districts on the basis of population as shown by the 1920 federal census is a matter requiring urgent attention. Such lines should be established with reference strictly to the equal representation of the people and their convenience in choosing representatives who reflect their will without regard to partisan or factional considerations.

Requests Revision of Parole Laws.

"The penal institutions of the state should be operated, first, to protect society against the depredations of the criminally inclined, and, secondly, to bring about, if possible, the reformation of those confined there. It was this humane idea that was responsible for the indeterminate sentence and the parole law, under which offenders committed to penal institutions might be released when, in the opinion of parole officials, there had been sufficient reformation of the prisoner so that it would be safe and advisable to allow him to make a new start in life under the watchful eye of parole officials with power to recommit him in the event that experiment failed.

"While such an experiment be justifiable in the case of the first offender, I do not believe habitual criminals should be released repeatedly to commit further crimes. It has been found in our populous centers a great deal of the crime committed is by experienced and seasoned criminals who have been released under the provisions of the parole law again to prey upon the public.

"I recommend a careful survey of this situation by the general assembly with the view of denying to those convicted of previous delinquency the benefits of the parole law. The startling increase in robberies at the point of a revolver suggests the enactment of more drastic penalties for this form of crime, and I request the careful consideration of the general assembly of this problem.

Opposes Freedom for Insane Patient.

"The care of the wards of the state in our charitable institutions must be in the hands of managing officials of the highest standing, and they will be held to a strict accountability of their stewardship.

"Cases have been brought to my attention where I regret to say, helpless patients in our hospitals for the insane were subjected to cruel and brutal treatment by attendants. Criminals have disguised their patients in our insane institutions have obtained at the hands of other patients, serious injuries resulting in death. Such a condition is shocking and intolerable.

"Patients are sent to these hospitals for the protection of the public and for their own protection because they are unable to care for themselves. They should be suitably clothed and supplied with an abundance of good, wholesome properly prepared food, and given the best medical attention, and made as comfortable as their physical and mental conditions permit. Upon being committed to the institution, the state owes an obligation to the public and to

the patients to see that patients shall not be allowed to roam at large, as has been a common practice, exposing themselves to injury or to death and to public to possible violence. In cases where the condition of patients justifies freedom it should be only under strict observance.

"Another practice which will be discontinued is that of placing young, inexperienced girls in charge of disturbed male patients, where the attendants are subjected to the indecent language and acts of men who do not know what they are saying or doing.

"I believe in reasonable physical exercise, light labor, athletic games and sports, as well as hand concerts and other clean entertainments for the patients, in order to make their surroundings as pleasant as possible, thereby assisting in removing from their minds their real or imaginary troubles.

"I fully believe the above suggestions if carried out will cause the patients of our state hospitals to respond more readily to medical treatment and hasten recovery where recovery is possible.

"We should make it known that real service and merit, and careful, considerate treatment of the wards of the state will be rewarded. We now have many faithful men and women in the service who are conscientiously devoting their lives to this worthy calling. Those so engaged in the care of the inmates of the institutions should be paid a sufficient salary to justify them in making this work their business.

"I shall devote my time and energy to the best of my ability, to the service of the state, and I shall require all appointees or employees in places under my control to do the same. Every appointee and employee is expected to give his best and most efficient service to the state. No lazy, incompetent or brutal employees will be retained in the service under any pretense.

Urges Increase in Teachers' Salaries.

"It was ordained in the first American charter for the government of the territory in which we live that schools and the means of education should forever be encouraged. This sentiment was embodied in our state constitution, which declares that 'The general assembly shall provide a thorough and efficient system of free schools whereby all children of this state may receive a good common school education.'

"Our state has never failed in its duty in this regard, and it will not fail now. On account of the importance and bigness of this subject, I shall not attempt here a discussion in detail of particular changes, and shall reserve definite recommendations until the developments of the session, particularly with reference to the amendment of the revenue laws, shall show how far we can go in the adoption of further legislation required by our advancing civilization.

"The position of the teacher in our social fabric is one that needs thorough re-examination. Underpay and inequity on the part of the public for the valuable service rendered to the state by the teaching force employed in our public schools has been, too often, the common lot of these faithful servants engaged in the noble work of true Americanization. There should not be an underpaid school teacher in the State of Illinois.

"Salaries and school equipment should be such that the very best and highest types of men and women are attracted to the profession of teaching. The common schools, the normal schools and the state university are all seeking to enlarge their respective fields. If we are to extend their usefulness, we must be prepared to increase their appropriations. I say now, as I said before my election, that our educational institutions are the foundations of good government and of the well-being of our state. Their improvement should be constantly sought and their growth should be encouraged, for with them lies the future stability of our commonwealth.

"The worthy additions requested could be granted without increasing the tax rate if the general assembly gives favorable consideration to the recommendations made in that portion of my message devoted to the subject of taxation.

"The upbuilding of healthy citizens, the prolongation of life is one of the purposes of good government. The physical well-being of the mothers, fathers and children of our commonwealth is worthy of the highest consideration. Sound preventive measures and adequate relief provisions are the essentials of a healthy state.

"Sanitation, good housing conditions, wholesome surroundings of employment, healthful recreation, pure water and milk, efficient food inspection, all make for clean, red blood coursing in the veins of our people, sound, vigorous bodies and clear, industrious minds.

"I stand for a strict enforcement of the laws of Illinois directed toward the prevention and remedying of physical or mental ills which produce disease and epidemics and underlie insanity and crime.

"The recent epidemic of influenza in our country has served to call the attention of our people to the need of greater health supervision. I recommend to the general assembly that full time medical health officers be provided for each county in the state such as are now provided for in Chicago, Springfield, La Salle, Bloomington and other cities. I further recommend that every city in Illinois have local health organizations qualified to cope with disease. These health organizations should have under their supervision trained visiting



HON. FRANK O. LOWDEN.

Ex-Governor of Illinois, who with tears in his eyes bade farewell to his friends and followers in the House of Representatives, Springfield, Monday noon, declaring that it was a hard and difficult task for him to relinquish the duties of his office.

nurses, and doctors and nurses should be provided for the medical inspection at all our schools.

"I am reliably informed that at least 20 per cent of the inmates confined in the insane asylums of the state are there as a result of paresis due to venereal disease. Such contagion should be wiped out of Illinois and the United States, and more rigid provisions made for its prevention. Illinois should go further and abolish all places where such diseases have their inception and whence they are spread. This will be true economy for it is cheaper to prevent than to build and maintain institutions to care for the criminal and the infirm.

"The registration of births is vital. We have the standard law. We should enforce it. It is essential to the legal and health interests of our new born. It prevents much blindness, aids the feeding and mothering of babies, helps form citizenship and facilities such rights as are involved in the inheritance of property, securing wedding and marriage certificates, and assisting in the registration of births.

Recommends State Care for Sick.

"We are met with a full catalogue of trials to which we are subjected, not only for cases of epidemic, but normally. Illinois should train thousands of women as a health militia, preparing them to render first aid in their own homes and enabling them to care for their neighbors in times of sickness, the same as has been so successfully done in Chicago. Such training need in no way interfere with the hospital training schools for professional nurses. I recommend that the general assembly study ways and means to provide proper care for our sick, especially the 90 per cent who can neither secure nor afford the services of professionally trained nurses.

"I heartily favor the upbuilding of the Illinois state militia and the national guard and naval militia into voluntary organizations of the highest possible efficiency. I shall give my sincere support to all measures and policies, which seek to benefit in proper proportion the military forces of this state. I shall aid and encourage the officers and men of our militia organizations to attain proficiency in their avocations, and quarters and equipment in keeping with the importance and dignity of their generous service to the state.

"The affairs of the State of Illinois are inseparably linked with the affairs of the nation, and we have a right to express ourselves upon national policies to which we may become perpetually bound. I feel that I would be remiss in my duty to the people of Illinois if I did not take this occasion to direct their attention to threatening policies confronting the country of which we form a part.

"We have emerged from the actual conflict of a great world war. The strain and soreness of that conflict still bears heavily upon most of our people. On top of the grief and distress of our people over the shedding of American blood has come their resentment and anger toward the rich and powerful interests that in the nation's most sorrowful hour and exacted merciless tolls of profits on the necessary and essential commodities for the sustenance of human life.

Opposed to Any League of Nations.

"These interests that oppress the people never were and are not now partisan. They operate with equal facility in either the Republican or Democratic party. They are not American, though intensely patriotic in all outward manifestations. They are predatory in character and worldly in their aims and objects.

"It is our duty to ourselves and to the people to investigate closely the interests back of every measure that

comes up for consideration, and thereby prevents the forces of urban, not rural and greed from continuing to rob the masses.

"The so-called covenant of the League of Nations advocated by President Wilson was submitted to a solemn referendum in accordance with the solemnly reiterated by an overwhelming vote of the American people. Nevertheless we hear whistlings of a proposal for a league of nations or association of nations for the purpose of guarantee of world peace. If I interpret aright the sentiment of the people of Illinois, I am of the opinion that they are in no mood to surrender their sovereignty to a league of nations, or to a league of nations which would pool their forces with a league of nations to determine their own policies, or to a league of nations which would restrict their freedom.

"Under no circumstances should the American congress forsake the principles held down by George Washington in entering into any League or Association of Nations which would pool their forces with a league of nations to determine their own policies, or to a league of nations which would restrict their freedom.

"The congress of the United States should again adopt for the approval of the incoming president a resolution declaring our country at peace with the world, that his proclamation may follow lawfully terminating the present war, that, obnoxious wartime legislation may be summarily repealed and that American soldiers now in Europe and Asia in the theater of foreign strife may be returned to our shores forthwith.

Urges Bonns for Soldiers.

"The soldiers, sailors and marines who responded to their country's military and naval needs, jeopardizing and sacrificing their lives, relinquishing their home ties and foregoing their income-earning opportunities are entitled to every honor and consideration that may be bestowed. My platform favored the payment of a liberal bonus to these men and I urge upon our senators and representatives in Congress the consummation of plans that will bring this about.

"And especially do I urge that immediate relief be provided for those who, because of injuries received in the service of their country, are suffering in body and mind, to the end that no American soldier shall become an object of charity.

"Compulsory military service or conscription defies the opinion of a free people. It is the ancient instrument of kings and princes and of despotism and tyranny and inevitably induces war. I recommend to the general assembly the presentation of a memorial to the congress of the United States protesting against compulsory military service and conscription for foreign service.

"The military policy of the United States directly concerns the people of Illinois. They must bear its burdens and share its benefits with the people of other states. To insure domestic tranquility and provide for the common defense are principles on which our system of government is founded. Our national army should be so organized, equipped and disciplined as to serve the fundamental principles of our government comprehensively and should extend no further, and thus help reduce present oppressive taxation.

"The American people are now burdened with an amount and variety of federal taxes, due to the war, which is without precedent in the nation, largely owing to unparalleled waste and extravagance practiced by those entrusted with administering expense during the period of the war and subsequent thereto. To reduce this oppres-



HON. ANDREW RUSSEL.

Popular public official, who can count his friends by the thousands in all parts of this state, who is the best Auditor of Public Accounts that Illinois has ever had.

under their supervision trained visiting