

GOVERNOR DICKERSON'S MESSAGE

Nevada's Chief Executive in a Lengthy Letter, Advocates all Sorts of Reforms.

Gentlemen—The death of Governor John Sparks, which occurred at his home, the Alamo farm, near Reno, on the twenty-second day of May, 1908, deprived this state of a tried and true executive and the legislature of the benefit of the wise counsels of a ripe and experienced man of affairs. As the acting governor of this commonwealth, it is my duty to report to you the condition of the state and to call your attention to such matters as, in my judgment, the public interest demands should receive attention.

I am pleased to announce that notwithstanding the whole country is just emerging from a long period of business stagnation and financial depression, reliable statistics demonstrate that Nevada has made wonderful progress during the past year, that every visible indication points to renewed and continued prosperity; and I congratulate you and through you the citizens of the state upon the splendid condition in which you find the state's finances.

STATE FINANCES.

The state controller's report reveals the gratifying fact that the state treasury is in a satisfactory condition, with a cash balance on hand of over \$800,000.

The wealth of the state, as indicated by the valuation of taxable property has increased more than 10 per cent over last year, notwithstanding the all pervading business depression of the past eighteen months, resulting in the depreciation of all property values. The total valuation of property in Nevada for 1908, as returned by the various county assessors, is \$73,856,142.45, an increase over 1907 of \$8,771,276.45. The mineral output of the state is steadily increasing and with numerous large mining properties in various sections of the state nearing the productive stage, the future of Nevada is, indeed, bright with promise.

STATE PRISON.

Of all the state institutions the penitentiary presents the most perplexing problems and more of them. Conditions at that institution are deplorable and must be ameliorated. The report of the warden goes fully into the details and by informing yourselves of the facts you will recognize the imperative necessity of meeting the situation by prompt and comprehensive action.

MENTAL DISEASE HOSPITAL.

The Nevada hospital for mental diseases is another institution suffering from an overcrowded condition. Two hundred and ten patients are now under treatment, the vast majority of whom are hopeless mental wrecks. Every provision possible under the circumstances is made by the management for the care and comfort of these unfortunate wards of the state, but the number is so much in excess of the present accommodations that three and four patients are required to occupy rooms intended for two and entirely too small for a greater number. The increase in population of the hospital keeps pace with the increase in population of the state and to delay longer in making necessary improvements and extensions is neither good business judgment nor justice to inmates and management. The recommendations of the superintendent are, in the main, logical and reasonable and should be accorded your hearty cooperation.

STATE UNIVERSITY.

The report of the board of regents of the state university shows the affairs of that institution to be in a satisfactory condition. One of the pleasantest and most profitable incidents in its history occurred during the past year, when the handsome, splendidly equipped school of mines building was dedicated and the Mackay statue was unveiled, comprising a portion of magnificent donations from Mr. Clarence H. Mackay, in honor of the memory of his father, a Nevada pioneer. The sincere thanks of the entire state are hereby officially extended to the generous donor.

It is peculiarly fitting that this

state, the chief resource of which is precious metal mining, should give generous support to its school of mines, which has already done so much towards intelligently advancing this industry. Nor should the academic department be neglected in the slightest degree. The usefulness of an institution of learning lies more largely in the thoroughness and skill with which instruction is imparted than in mere vast piles of masonry, and in recommending ample appropriations I refer more particularly to maintaining a high faculty standard in all departments.

LICENSE COLLECTOR AND BULLION TAX AGENT.

The report of the state license collector and bullion tax agent is replete with valuable statistics concerning the mineral production of the state and should be examined with care by all who would fully understand the progress that is being made by this, our most important industry. This report contains the only authentic information regarding the mineral production of all sections of Nevada that has yet been compiled. It shows that during the first nine months of 1908 (returns for the last three months are not complete) 753,496 tons of ore were produced, with a total value of \$10,066,879.23, making a general average of more than \$13 per ton. The total amount of bullion tax paid the first nine months of 1908 is \$84,339.64 as against \$54,788.32 for the entire years of 1906-1907, showing an increase of 52 per cent over those years.

STATE BOARD OF ASSESSORS.

The present method of fixing taxable valuations on property in Nevada is eminently unsatisfactory, unequal and unjust. The evident purpose of the law was to make the valuations, on all property of like character, uniform throughout the state and to so equalize the valuations that the burden of maintaining the government, state, county and municipal, will fall alike upon all classes of property. In theory, the law is excellent; in practice, a farce.

I am convinced that the state board of assessors is not only of no benefit to the state, but is a positive injury, instead. It has uniformly discriminated, in fixing valuations, in favor of the great corporations and thrown the burden of maintaining the government upon those least able to bear it, the small taxpayers. Railroads are important factors in the upbuilding of the state and should, under all circumstances, be dealt with in a spirit of justice and fair play, not only in the matter of taxation, but in all matters where the authority of the state is exercised.

It is simple justice to require the railroads and other large corporations to pay their proportion of the expenses of government, the benefit of whose protection no class of property receives a greater share. It is quite evident that as long as the state board of assessors is permitted to fix valuations the railroads will escape their just proportion of taxes.

I urgently recommend that the law creating the state board of assessors be repealed.

STATE POLICE.

The law providing for the creation of a state police organization, approved January 29, 1908, is, in my judgment, a practical solution of the problem of maintaining, at the least expense, an efficient armed force for the preservation of the peace and order of the state. While the practical operation of the law discloses some defects that should be remedied, they are few and easy of correction.

STATE AUDITOR.

Useless offices are a useless expense to the state and should be abolished. I have failed to discover wherein any benefit has been derived from the office of state auditor. The primary object of the law creating the office was to bring about a method of keeping accounts by the different officers in all counties of the

(Continued on Page 4.)

PENSION BILL IS PASSED

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—Disposing of the speech of Representative Willett of New York yesterday, attacking President Roosevelt, by referring it to a special committee, the house of representatives today proceeded to take up various appropriation bills. The pension bill, carrying an appropriation of \$160,869,000, passed practically as reported by the committee on pensions. The urgent deficiency bill, which carries appropriations amounting to \$1,062,402, passed. After roll call several votes were called for amendment offered by Representative Heflin of Alabama, providing for an appropriation of \$30,000 for further distribution to seeds by the department of agriculture. The message from President Roosevelt recommending an appropriation of \$20,000 for a commission to investigate the conditions in the republic of Liberia, Africa, was read.

PASSENGER TRAIN SIX HOURS LATE YESTERDAY
Train No. 24, which is due in this city at 11 o'clock a. m., did not arrive until 6 o'clock last evening, being seven hours late. This is the first train for several days that has come direct from San Francisco, owing to the washout of bridges at Sacramento, which has caused considerable delay.

FLOOD GROWS WORSE

(By Associated Press.)
SPOKANE, Jan. 19.—Fifty families have been driven from their homes in the eastern part of the city by high water, and the flood is still rising. The McKinley school building is probably marooned and Saint Anne's Catholic church in Union park may float away at any hour.

Ads in the Daily Bonanza will bring results.

MINE BROKER KILLS HIMSELF AT RAWHIDE

RAWHIDE, Jan. 19.—Thomas B. Niblock, a member of a prominent family in Belfast, Ireland, shot and killed himself at 11 o'clock last night in the office of the Hill-Cramer Brokerage company, on Nevada avenue. He was seen leaving the Nevada hotel in a pleasant frame of mind, and chatted to friends while coming down the street. He said "good night" to those who accompanied him and stepped into the brokerage office. Before the men were ten steps away they heard the shot that ended his life. Niblock has been actively identified with mining interests here and is the pioneer broker of the camp. He came here from Goldfield and was very popular. No cause is assigned for the deed. He leaves a widow and one child.

President's Salary Fixed at \$100,000

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—The salary of the president of the United States was fixed today at \$100,000 per annum so far as the senate could fix it. The salaries of the vice president and speaker of the house of representatives was made \$15,000 each. The salary of the chief justice of the United States was increased from \$13,000 to \$15,000 per annum, and those of associate justices from \$12,000 to \$14,500. An amendment allowing \$5000 to the vice president and speaker of the house for horses and carriages was stricken from the bill. Senator Raynor's resolution calling on the attorney general for information concerning the suit he proposes to bring against certain newspapers on the charge of libel in connection with statements made in relation to the purchase by the United States of the Panama canal property was referred to the committee on judiciary.

Second Week of Calhoun Trial Begins

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 19.—The second week of the trial of Patrick Calhoun upon an indictment charging an offer of bribe to a San Francisco supervisor was inaugurated today without the addition of three men who were temporarily passed last week. It was evident from the proceedings that many days would elapse before the taking of testimony will begin. Out of a body of 150 citizens summoned during the intermission of two days, all but fifty-six escaped service. Late this afternoon a former street car conductor who was discharged by the United Railroads prior to the first strike of its employes, was passed by the defense and was under interrogation by Assistant District Attorney Heney when the day's proceedings ended.

LUMBER COMPANY RESTRAINED FROM MOVING HOUSES

The Tonopah Lumber company was yesterday served with a notice from the district attorney's office asking them to desist in moving any more of the houses from the California heights district to the central portion of town. The houses and lots were sold to the county Monday for the taxes due on them, but this did not keep the lumber company from moving the residences. The matter will be looked into by the district attorney's office, and in all probability the lumber company will be charged with petit larceny or highway robbery.

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SACRAMENTO TRAINS ARE ALL OFF SCHEDULE

(By Associated Press.)
REDDING, Jan. 19.—All trains due to run through Sacramento canyon tonight have been annulled. Heavy rain, accompanied with wind prevail throughout the canyon and the trains are held as a matter of safety against possible washouts and landslides. The season's rainfall here is 25.26 inches, against 19.63 last season.

THE ANTI-JAP LEGISLATION IS CAUSE OF ALARM

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—Although denial was made at the state department and Japanese embassy that any formal protest had not been made by this government against the proposed anti-Japanese legislation in California, yet it is realized that the question is causing considerable concern in both countries.

TABOR AND WILLIAMSON TO BE BROUGHT BACK

(By Associated Press.)
SACRAMENTO, Jan. 19.—Governor Gillett today honored the requisition of Governor Dickerson of Nevada for the return to Searchlight of Homer Tabor and S. K. Williamson, charged with receiving deposits in an insolvent bank. Tabor, whose home is in San Diego, was president, and Williamson, cashier of the Searchlight Bank and Trust company, at Searchlight, Nevada, November last, when the institution failed.

MINER BECOMES INSANE

SAN BERNARDINO (Cal.), Jan. 19.—A miner, supposed to be Jack McCarthy of Rhyolite, was brought to the county hospital, insane from hunger and thirst, suffered while wandering on the desert. The man was crawling on his hands and knees when the Santa Fe section foreman at Kramer caught the first glimpse of him, and supposed the object was a wild animal. The section crew ran away in fright, but the foreman and telegrapher stood their ground, and after watching the antics of the supposed animal for some time, walked nearer and made the discovery that a human being was in distress. Hastening to the rescue they attempted to take hold of the man's arms and were at once attacked. The miner's garments had been torn off and his shoes were gone. He was finally overpowered, put on a handcar and taken to Barstow, where medical aid was obtained. Then Constable Stuchberry removed the unfortunate to San Bernardino. During the trip the prisoner was very violent, and upon his arrival at the hospital he attacked the attaches. When asked his name he excitedly replied, "It's me." Once he mentioned the name of McCarthy of Rhyolite, and from this it is supposed that he is the well known prospector and mining man.

STEAL CASH TO GAMBLE

(By Associated Press.)
BERKELEY (Cal.), Jan. 19.—Charged with breaking into lockers and stealing money and clothing which he sold to obtain money to gamble away at poolrooms, Gerald McKinlay, son of Congressman Duncan McKinlay, and two other students of the Berkeley high school, were expelled this evening. The report prepared by Superintendent of Schools Bunker states that the boys admitted their guilt. The thefts extended over a period of two years' time.

DR. B. F. BOLLER AND ED. MARTIN FIGHT A DRAW

(By Associated Press.)
SEATTLE, Jan. 19.—Dr. B. F. Boller and Denver Ed Martin boxed six rounds at a local theater tonight, the bout being declared a draw. Martin outclassed Boller in cleverness, but the physician showed much aggressiveness, ability to take punishment and finished stronger than when he began.

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