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NO. 49

GIST OF MESSAGE

OF RETIRING GOVERNOR TO LEGISLATURE.

REVIEWS HIS ADMINISTRATION

Large Number of Reform Messages Recommended for Passage—Further Reduction of Taxation is Asked.

Baton Rouge.—The gist of Governor Blanchard's first message to the legislature on Tuesday of last week is as follows:

1. Indorses appointive power being taken from chief executive and placed with the people.
2. Relates measures recommended during his administration for reduction of taxation, particularly as to seven tax collectors of Orleans Parish.
3. State Board of Appraisers should be elected, one from each congressional district.
4. General reduction of taxes, immediately.
5. Give Board of Equalization time to show its worth.
6. Separate sources of state and local revenue.
7. Liberal policy toward railroads.
8. Change methods of taxing railroads and other public service corporations.
9. Foreign public service corporations should be compelled to contribute to state on a basis of a franchise tax calculated on their gross earnings.
10. Increased value of stocks in commercial exchanges should be taxed according to the increase and not with regard to par value.
11. Capital should be encouraged in every manner.
12. Mortgages should not be doubly taxed.
13. Advocates New York system of taxing mortgages.
14. Time is past for tolerating frauds in elections in Louisiana.
15. Time is passed for letting charges of fraud go unanswered.
16. Power to investigate charges of fraud is inherent in those vested by law with the power to declare the result of an election.
17. Amend law so that courts will have jurisdiction in all election fraud cases.
18. There must be union at the docks and wharves of New Orleans between the ship on the water and the railroad on the land, to give the perfect terminal facilities needed in a great commercial city.
19. Property acquired by levee board could be used on land side slope of levee for tracks of belt railway.
20. Urges that Congress be memorialized to adopt measures by which Louisiana, enormous work proposed to be done and vast sums of money; to build twelve miles of levees on the east bank, of thirteen miles on the west bank of the Mississippi at New Orleans, to which must be added fifty miles of lesser levees construction in the rear of the city, to protect from extraordinary high storm tides.
21. Orleans Levee Board should be instructed to issue \$3,000,000 of bonds to complete work for the protection of the city.
22. Constitutional amendment providing that New Orleans Dock Board should be allowed to issue \$2,000,000 of bonds additional for dock building, should be submitted to the people.
23. Belt railway is of supreme importance to New Orleans and Louisiana.
24. Louisiana leads Southern states in educational work.
25. Public school teachers should be better paid.
26. School libraries should be increased.
27. State Board of Health should be encouraged in its work.
28. Boards of health of parishes or municipalities of less than 5000 in habitants should be done away with, and single health officers should be appointed to serve in their place.
29. Make it a criminal offense for a physician not to report a death or birth.
30. Laws should be made for forest preservation.
31. Louisiana must have good roads.
32. Roads should be put under supervision of road commission, and police juries should provide road tax.
33. Advocates attitude of Texas toward life insurance companies.
34. Good results can be attained by uniform legislation with other states.

THE LEGISLATURE

VARIETY OF MEASURES INTRODUCED.

DOINGS OF THE LAWMAKERS

Briefly Related So That "He Who Runs May Read"—What Our Representatives Are Doing at the Capital.

Despite the brevity of the session, a little business has been transacted by both branches of the general assembly in the four short days during which it sat at the capital, and the way now seems clear for a plunge into the whirlpool which will swallow many a measure.

Beyond the canvass of the vote of the general election and the announcement of the election of Governor Lambremont the most important work of the week has been the presentation of notices of bills to come and the introduction of several measures in both houses, these lists including the following:

Senate Bills.

Senator Cordill—Concurrent resolution extending time for report of New Orleans Port Investigation Commission to June 1.

Senator Marston—To prohibit gambling in cotton, stocks and grain on margin.

Senator Stafford—Concurrent resolution providing that school books used in the public schools be printed in Louisiana and that preference be given to books written and composed by citizens of the state.

Senator Smart—Preventing the sale of liquors on railroad trains while traversing the State of Louisiana.

Senator McVea—Providing for the enumeration of the educable children of the state.

Senator Wimberly—Prohibiting the sale of liquors on trains.

Senator Wimberly—Prohibiting the sale of liquors to minors.

Senator Wimberly—Prohibiting gambling with cards.

Senator Gueydan—To extend the time for the payment of poll taxes.

Senator Gueydan—To regulate saloons.

Senator Gueydan—To amend the primary law.

Senator Boggs—To require railroads to have posted notice and full description of all stock killed.

Senator Boggs—To prevent the drinking of intoxicating liquors in the presence of passengers on railway or street cars.

Senator Boggs—To prohibit and suppress gambling.

Senator Boggs—To prohibit the sale of liquor within five miles of Houghton and Benton high schools in the parish of Bossier.

Senator Boggs—Prohibiting the sale of liquor outside the corporate limits of cities of over 100,000 inhabitants, except for medicinal, pharmaceutical or mechanical purposes.

Senator Boggs—To prohibit common carriers from carrying liquor into places where its sale has been prohibited.

Senator Boggs—To amend article 308 of the constitution relating to increasing the pensions of Confederate soldiers and sailors, removing some of the restrictions in proving up their claims and to provide to pay them all regardless of their financial circumstances or condition at the time of making application.

Senator Smart—To prohibit the drinking of intoxicating liquors on passenger trains.

House Measures.

Mr. Gay—To provide for Louisiana State memorials and markers at the Vicksburg National Military Park; House Bill No. 1.

Mr. Hunsicker—To protect peaceable assemblages; House Bill No. 2.

Mr. Hunsicker—To prohibit drinking of intoxicants on trains; House Bill No. 3.

Mr. Hunsicker—Prohibiting miscellaneons; House Bill No. 4.

Mr. Henriques—To regulate the conduct of the business of real estate agents and to require a bond; House Bill No. 5.

Mr. L. P. Fontenot—To create a new parish, Evangeline, from part of the parish of St. Landry; House Bill No. 6.

Mr. Wilson—To exempt from taxation in 1908, 1909 and 1910 all sufferers in the cyclone of April 24.

MEETING A SUCCESS

GOVERNORS OF FORTY-ONE STATES PRESENT.

A PERMANENT ORGANIZATION

Of Conservation Congress Formed—Roosevelt Defines States Rights.

Washington, May 22.—The meeting for the preservation of the natural resources of the country, President Roosevelt opened the conference of governors called by him to consider the subject. Facing the president when he called the conference to order was the most notable gathering that has ever assembled in the East room of the White House. There were present the governors of forty-one states and territories, experts on natural resources, summoned by the president, the highest officials of the government, captains of industry and leaders in the industrial and official world.

On Friday just before the adjournment of this notable gathering of statesmen President Roosevelt declared that the national government sought no usurpation of state powers; that all he desired was to see the states act where the power to act was vested in them. With a vigor that carried conviction with it he declared that all the national government was seeking was a sovereign power, the exercise of which would work the greatest good for the greatest number at all times.

With this expression before the governors effected a permanent organization. They will meet next year in a place yet to be determined upon. A committee of five, of which Governor Swanson of Virginia is chairman, was vested with the power to carry out this arrangement.

The statement has been made that the calling of the conference was to subordinate the states to the federal government; that the President sought centralization of power and this portent loomed over the conference when it met.

The question of states' rights and federal power was raised by Governor Comer of Alabama, who has been in conflict with the federal courts over railroad legislation and control. The President sought to clear the atmosphere. With a vigor of enunciation, with an emphasis that none could mistake, and with an enthusiasm that brought many of his hearers to their feet before he had concluded.

MAD AS MARCH HARE

THAW SO DEBILATED BY HOSPITAL SUPERINTENDENT.

DANGEROUS TO SET HIM FREE

First Witness For State Gives Statement of Noted Prisoner's Conduct. Brought Bonbons for Other Inmates of Asylum.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y.—Dr. Amos T. Baker, acting superintendent of the state hospital for the criminal insane, said today that in his opinion it would be dangerous to public safety to have Thaw go at large.

Dr. Baker was the first witness to take the stand. He was called by District Attorney Jerome, to give the court a statement of Thaw's conduct during the three months he was in the Matteawan institution beginning February 1, 1908.

Thaw told Dr. Baker, the latter said, that he used tobacco at 18, used alcohol in moderation and denied ever using drugs. The witness said Thaw described his movements preceding the shooting of White—his return from Europe and marriage to Miss Nesbitt. Thaw told the witness that at his trial some of the doctors had greatly exaggerated their estimates of his condition. Dr. Baker said that Thaw said to him: "If I was ever insane in my life, the attack began the minute before I shot White and ended half a minute after."

He said, said Dr. Baker, that his physicians and lawyers had advised him not to discuss what had occurred on the Madison Square roof that night he shot White. He volunteered, however, this touch: "He compared his situation at that moment to that of a man standing on the brink of a precipice, seized with an irresistible impulse to jump."

While Thaw had said he did not want to be shown any favoritism, yet he was peevish when not given a stimulant and the opportunity to smoke. He solved a mental example in arithmetic fairly well, but he was mixed on many well known dates. Dr. Baker said that a physical examination of Thaw showed him to be generally normal. "On Feb. 25th there arrived at the hospital 200 chocolates eclairs," said Dr. Baker. "I found Thaw had ordered them and wished them distributed among the attendants, who were to have a dance that night. I told him that the rules prohibited gifts to employes. He said he could see no harm in buying the eclairs."

POSTAL MATTERS

Louisiana rural routes have been ordered established as follows:

1—Minden, Webster parish, route 3, population 200, families 144.

2—Shreveport, Caddo parish, route 2, population 600, families 138.

Chas. W. Davidson, appointed postmaster at Arbo, Covington county, Miss., vice S. T. Dent, removed.

Mississippi—Postoffices established: Briggs, Kemper county, Lydia M. Hailey, postmaster; Golden, Tishomingo county, Laomi, postmaster; Holec, Tishomingo county, John W. Martin, postmaster. The postoffices at Williams, Red River parish, and Woodmen, Calcasieu parish, will be discontinued May 31.

INDICTMENT OF HEFFIN

The grand jury has returned an indictment against Representative Jas. Thomas Heffin, of Alabama, charging him with assault with a dangerous weapon upon Lewis Landry, colored, and Thomas McCreary. The indictment is in three counts. This indictment is the result of the affray on a Pennsylvania Avenue car March 27, following Representative Heffin's efforts to eject Landry from a car because he had been drinking and was using improper language in the presence of women passengers.

"IN GOD WE TRUST"

The Senate Committee on Finance voted unanimously to report the bill already passed by the House providing for the permanent restoration of the words "In God We Trust" to gold and silver coins of the United States. The motto was taken off the coins by order of the President.

ABANDONS HIS HOBBY

Senator Foraker has abandoned his bills to reinstate the negro soldiers who shot up Brownsville until next December. This removes the last obstacle to the adjournment of Congress.

UNIFORM BILL OF LADING

Representatives of the New York Cotton Exchange who have been in this city in the interest of the form of bill of lading which was advocated both in bills before Congress and also in hearings before the Interstate Commerce Commission, state that the situation in the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce is far more favorable than at any time heretofore.

APPROPRIATION FOR MINT

The sundry civil appropriation bill as reported to the Senate carries an amendment appropriating \$30,000 for general improvements to the New Orleans Mint building.

APPROPRIATION FOR NEW ORLEANS

The Senate passed the Postoffice Appropriation bill. The provision for a new railway mail division at New Orleans was included in the bill.

WILSON WILL RESIGN

Secretary of Agriculture James Wilson, who has held his Cabinet portfolio longer than any member of the President's official family has announced to several of his intimate friends that he is about to resign. He declared that he had worked hard for the success of the Agricultural Department for eleven years, had seen it grow from a comparatively unimportant branch of the government to a department upon which the whole country relies, and had finally seen a concerted movement for the conservation of the natural resources of the country. Having seen these things accomplished, Mr. Wilson said that he was willing and anxious to step out and make way for a younger man.

REPORT DENIED

The report that Fairbanks would withdraw in favor of Taft for the Republican nomination for President is denied.

NEIGHBORS QUARREL OVER POULTRY IN MEMPHIS TRAGEDY RESULTS

Memphis, Tenn.—A quarrel between members of two families with regard to some poultry led to an encounter between W. W. Brown and J. A. Ward, a police officer, during which the latter was shot and probably fatally wounded. The families occupied adjoining houses.

M. B. CHARLES IN JAIL

Montgomery, Ala.—A Pensacola, Fla., special says: M. B. Charles, Mississippi banker charged with aiding the former cashier of a Pensacola bank in issuing fraudulent paper, was sent to jail here for lack of bail. He was recently connected with a bank at Brookhaven, Miss., and also at Grenada, Miss. His brothers are wealthy men of Mississippi.

POLICEMAN SHOT

Neighbors Quarrel Over Poultry in Memphis Tragedy Results.

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BRIDEGROOM IN SHACKLES

South Norwalk, Conn.—Caught by his friends while attempting to slip away with his bride, Walter W. Rose, a popular young man who became a bridegroom last evening, was shackled and handcuffed with the genuine articles. Then they locked him in his room and kept him there two hours, while his bride, Mrs. Lillian Frances Farrell awaited him.

HUSBAND MERELY IN NAME

Springfield, O.—Charging that the Rev. Alfred J. Wilder, an Episcopal divine, has been a husband to her in name only, Mrs. Wilder has just brought suit for divorce. In her complaint she alleges that her husband said his love for her was purely spiritual, and, therefore, as a minister he could not conscientiously carry out the marriage relation.

TO CHALLENGE SAGAN

De Castellane Waiting For Prince to Reach France.

New York.—A cablegram from Rome says: Count Boni de Castellane has had detectives watching Prince Helie de Sagan and his former wife, now known as Mme. Gould; ever since the latter arrived at Naples from New York. His object has been to get evidence to lay before the French courts when he applies to them to remove his children from her custody, and give them into his care. The count will challenge Sagan to a duel, it is asserted here, the moment the prince sets foot on French soil, for the count is said to have obtained positive proof that the prince persuaded the former Countess Boni de Castellane to get a decree of divorce.

WOMAN TIED BY BURGLARS

Sedalia, Mo.—A man masked with a red handkerchief over his face attacked Mrs. Eugene Hugeschmidt, wife of a traveling salesman, as she stepped from the rear door of her home for a pitcher of water, and, after binding her hands and feet, tied her to a sewing machine. The burglar then took \$75 from her stocking and escaped. Mrs. Hugeschmidt dragged the sewing machine to the telephone, removed the receiver with her teeth, and with difficulty informed central what had happened, requesting that policeman be sent to the house at once.

PLAGUE SCHOONER DRIVEN OFF

Willemsstadt.—A schooner which arrived here from La Guayra was refused admittance to the port, and was not even permitted to remain at the quarantine station, owing to the prevalence of bubonic plague at La Guayra.

CHICAGO.—Actors do not want to put on sensual plays, melodramas and cheap musical farces, but they get no encouragement to put on moral plays. I blame the clergy for much of this. They imagine they should not go to the theatres. They should go and should sit in the first row. These were the statements made by the Rev. J. L. Vaughn, priest and playwright, in an address before the Irish Fellowship club.