## **PROMPTNESS** IS SOLONS' PROMISE

If Carried Out a Short Session of Legislature Is Assured.

DECKS ARE CLEARED FOR ACTION

Organization of the Two Houses.

Recommendation That Junketing Be Done Away with Finds Responsive Chord-The Committee Assignments.

Tansing, Mich., Jan. 10,-The legislative decks are now cleared for acdon and solons are practically unantnous in their promises of decisive acon on all important matters and the dispatch of work with a promptness that will gladden the hearts of the expayers of the state and issure a

The got! lace and claw hammer argued by the officials referred to that oduction of a new corps of state ofcials into office has been passed, the to houses have chosen their officers, gubernatorial messages have been of the two houses tomorrow evening. the presiding officers have announced the standing committees, the real busi- in the state in which the primary inness of law making and unmaking will be entered upon.

Thus far the session has been wholly evoid of excitement. In the organizaon of the two houses there were no ontests worthy of the name, while he selection in joint caucus of a candidate for United States senator ows reciving the vote of every legiseen decidedly different in some years one by, and, it may not be improper o remark, present indications are that they again take on more strenuousness in years not so far in the future; for there still remain quite a few Embitious statesmen in Michigan. But more of this hereafter.

Messages Well Received.

The messages of Governor Warner and retiring Governor Bliss were very well received by the legislators, who gave special attention to the statements covering the financial needs of the various state institutions and oth- the elections committee from five to er interests. There is a general disposition to economize manifest among representation on the committee to each the lawmakers and there is reason to hope that while no interest will be member at large, thus avoiding any andleapped in any way, all will be state has developed so rapidly of late gears that its actual current needs call | proposition. With every section of the for the appropriation of a vast sum state represented, the charge of bias and the taxpayers should not expect cannot well be sustained. Notwithto escape with a levy such as amply standing the prominence of this quesprovided for all of these needs n de- tion in the last campaign and the fact fault because state expenditures are materially greater today than they pears to have yet prefected a bill covwere "in the good old colony times." or shortly thereafter. The sooner the taxpayers take a businesslike view of this situation the better they will feel tacks," the matter is not such an easy regarding it, and the less disposed will they be to curse the legislators, who, after all, are simply their own creat-

Accommodations for Veterans While, as previously stated, the disposition appears to be to discourage the enlargement of state institutions and the creation of new ones, it is possible that extensions must be made In some cases to meet existing condi-Hons. For instance, the state board of corrections and charities resolved at its last meeting a few days ago that the 170 veteran soldiers who are sleeping in the basement of the hospital and dormitories at the soldiers' home in Grand Rapids should be provided with wholesome sleeping accommoda-Mons above ground, and that the known increase of men who will enter that institution make necessary the crection of more commodious buildings. The board mentioned scans the estimates of the various boards and institutions required by law to report to it very closely and makes recommendations such as the one embodied in the resolution referred to only when the need appears to be imperative.

The recommendation of Speaker Master in an address made upon taking the chair after his election that junkets be done away with finds apparently a responsive chord in the bearts of the legislators generally. In the judgment of the speaker, it will be economy for the legislature to take an adjournment for a week while all the committee visiting of state insti-Intions is being done. The purpose is to have all this visiting done at the same time and not permit it to delay work throughout the entire session, as in some former years when a committee or two was absent at a time. eaker Master sat down hard on the junket feature of former years, givng the members of the lower house to understand that neither the institution officials nor the communities in which the state institutions are located had any desire to entertain visitors in train load lots.

Game Laws Do Not Suit. One of the singular things observed

by those who have watched se course of legislation through several adminintrations is the evident inability to

frame game laws that will suit sports men of the state. For so many sessions that the mind of man runs not to the contrary, the sportsmen's associations have combined and put in appearance as sponsors for legislation guaranteed to cure all existing defects in these laws, but no sooner does a succeeding legislature convene than these same sportsmen are on hand with an entirely new code. This year is no exception to the rule, numerous amendments being asked for.

The forestry question is likely to receive considerable attention this winter. This has come to be considered by public men as a matter of grave importance, and the indifference of a very few years ago has given place to active interest. Doubtless this No Contests of Importance in the change in public sentiment is in no small measure due to the activity of the state forestry commission during the past three or four years. It is proposed to agitate this matter still more vigorously during the next few weeks, the subject being given a prominent place on the programs of the numerous farmers' institutes to be held throughout the state. The forestry commission has thus far done excellent work, and it is probable that the present legislature may enact legislation that will extend its usefulness.

May Abolish Mill Tax.

If the educational officials of the state have their say the legislature will provide for the abolition of the so-called mill tax. The proceeds of this tax can be used only for the payment of teachers' salaries, and it is ont period, which always marks the owing to the increase in the primary school interest money which is semiannually apportioned among the counties of the state, the mill tax is no longer needed. Under existing condiad, the scentorial caucus has been tions substantial surpluses are being old, and when, upon the reconvening piled up to many districts, a fact which leads to abuses. It is estimated that there are fully 200 school districts terest money paid by corporations paying specific taxes is more than sufficient to pay the salaries of all teachers employed, while there are five times as many districts in which the mill tax and primary fund combined more than provides for this expenditure. The result is that there are inwas unanimous, Julius Caesar Bur stances of district treasurers turning an honest penny by loaning these surator. Matters in this connection have plus funds and pocketing the interest, while in other cases the supervisors ignore the law and refuse to spread the mill tax, knowing full well that the money is not needed.

Committee Assignments.

Just at present there is much specu-Ition and strife over committee as signments, but it is useless to predict as the "secret" will be out tomorrow, Speaker Master, realizing that the primary reform questions will be probably the most important matter to be considered this winter, conceived the idea of increasing the membership of thirteen. This will enable him to give congressional district and have one possible charge of stacking the com ield strictly to imperative needs and mittee against general primary reform new projects encouraged. The by placing thereon legislators who favor only one side or the other of the de or more ago. It is folly to find that it is still being more generously ering the subject. There has been worlds of talk, but it would seem that when it gets right down to "brass one to handle. The legislative committees of the state grange and state association of farmers' clubs will probably present bills before many days, and doubtless there will ere long be a flood of reform measures introduced. Just what the two houses will be able to agree upon along this line cannot be safely predicted at this

Home rule for cities, especially for the city of Detroit, will again receive consideration this winter. Two years ago the Detroit delegation were greatly interested in this measure, but could not break through the opposition of the chairman of the committee to which the bill was referred. Bills will he introduced in both house and senate during the coming week, and a vigorous effort will be made to enact one of them into law.

Local Legislation.

It is, of course, figured that if the great flood of local legislation which now fills the legislative hoppers can be done away with, the solons will not only have more time to give to the consideration of matters of general state interest, but the length of the legislative sessions will be very materially reduced, to the great benefit of the taxpayers and everyone else. Under the system which has thus far obtained in Michigan a municipality is required to come to the legislature and ask permission to do pretty much everything it deems best for its people. The local acts always constitute about two-thirds of all the legislation enacted, and so far as the legislators are concerned no one has the slighest inberest in it or gives it the least atten-Bon, except the member who represents the locality affected by the bill under consideration at the time. Whatever be says goes, no one else bothering his head about the matter. It all costs time and money, however, and could be vastly better done by the committee directly interested. It will be necessary to amend the constitution before this reform can be completely accomplished. This is one of the rea-Pors rdvanced by those who advocate ulmission to the people of the

JAMES V. BARRY.

HANDS AND FEET TIED.

Italian Woman Mysteriously Killed In Buffalo.

Buffalo, Jan. 10,-Marie Dessaati, aged 24 years, was found dead by her husband in a room on the third floor of the Terrace Park hotel. Her hands and feet were tied and she appears to have been strangled to death. A few days ago she had informed neighbors that she had received a letter from the "Black Hand" society, demanding \$200 under penalty of death.

A man is said to have visited her room the night before and evidence of drinking was found. The woman had been reported to have about \$2,000, and it was said that she was to return to Italy shortly.

Noted Woman Anarchist Dead.

Paris, Jan. 10 .- Louise Michel, prominent as a communist and revolutionary agitator for the last thirty-five years, is dead in Marseilles, aged 75 years. Louis Michel first came into prominence during the Franco-Prussian war, when she joined an ambulance corps and took part in the defense of Paris; later siding with the Commune and advocating the burning of Paris to prevent the entry of the Versailles troops. She was arrested and tried for treason and sentenced to transportation to New Caledonia. where she remained until 1880, when she was allowed to return to Paris under an amnesty act. Three years later she was again imprisoned for three years for her activity in communist movements. She then removed to England, where she continued her advocacy of communistic and anarchistic doctrines

Victory For the Maccabees.

Pittsburg, Jan. 10.-Judge Joseph Buffington of the United States circuit court has dismissed the bill in the case of D. St. C. Wineland against the order of Maccabees of the World, on the ground that the court was without jurisdiction. An injunction was asked against the order declaring recent new regulations readjusting the insurance provisions null and void. Some years ago Wineland joined the Maccabees. He was then 64 years old and by an agreement was to pay dues until he was 70, after which he was to receive \$2,000 in yearly instalments. He contended that the new regulations made his contracts void.

Land Officers Fired.

Washington, Jan. 10 .- As the result of the investigation and prosecution of the land fraud cases in Oregon, the president has signed an order suspending from office James H. Booth and Joseph T. Bridges, respectively register and receiver of the United States land office at Roseburg, Ore. The action is on the recommendation of Secretary Hitchcock and was based on a telegram from Assistant United States District Attorney Heney, who alleged that the affairs of the Roseburg office were in bad condition. Special Agent Neuhasen has been ordered to take charge of the office.

President Urges Their Passage. Washington, Jan. 10.-The president e passage of two bills provid ing for the reorganization of the medical and ordinance corps of the army. The bills already had passed the senby Mr. Cockrell, who asked that the layed from time to time until now." message be printed.

Twenty-Four Persons Perished.

Geneva, Jan. 9 .- It is said that twenty-four persons lost their lives in the mountains during the recent blizzard, fourteen of the casualties being on the St. Bernard pass.

GENERAL MARKETS.

Tuesday, Jan. 10.

DETROIT.-Wheat: No. 1 white, \$1.23; No. 2 red, \$1.23; May, \$1.23; July, \$1.03. Corn-No. 3 mixed, 45c; No. 3 yellow, 4614 c. Oats-No. 3 white. 33 1/2 c. Rye-No. 2, 82c. Beans-Jan. \$1.63; Feb., \$1.64. Clover-Spot, \$7.85.

CHICAGO.→Wheat: May, \$1.17¼; July, 991/2c. Corn-May, 441/2c; July, 45%c. Oats-May, 30%c; July, 30%c. Pork-Jan., \$12.27; May, \$12.62. Lard —Jan., \$6.65; May, \$6.87. Ribs—Jan., \$6.35; May, \$6.65. Flax—Jan., \$1.15; May, \$1.22. Timothy, \$2.75. Clover-

Jan., \$12.75. Live Stock Markets.

DETROIT .- Cattle: Choice steers, \$4.25@4.50; light to good butcher steers and helfers, \$2.75@3.25; mixed butcher fat cows, \$2.50@3.50; common bulls, \$2@2.50; common feeders, \$2@ Veal calves, \$5@6.50;, extra, \$7 2.50. @45 each. Best lambs, \$7.25@7.50; light to common lambs, \$5@6; fair to good butcher sheep, \$3@4.50; common, \$2@3. Hogs-Light to good butchers, \$4.50@4.55; pigs, \$4.35@4.40: roughs, \$3.25@4.25

CHICAGO.-Cattle: Good to prime steers, \$5.60@6.10; poor to medium, \$3.90@5.50; cows and helfers, \$1.25@ 5; bulls, \$2@4.50; calves, \$3@7. Hogs -Mixed and butchers, \$4.45@4.70: light, \$4.40@4.60. Sheep, strong; lambs higher; good to choice wethers, \$4.85 It is learned that the Chadwick dia-@5.60; fair to choice mixed, \$4@4.75; native lambs, \$5.50@7.75.

EAST BUFFALO.-Cattle: Strong 15@25c higher. Hogs, steady; mediums, \$4.95@5; heavy, \$4.95@5.05; pigs, \$4.70@4.75. Sheep and lambs, strong; best native lambs, \$7.75@7.90; culls, core non, \$6.75@7; best sheep, \$5.25@5.50; wethers, \$5.50@5.75. Veals strong; tope. \$8.50@9.

THEY CWORE FALSELY

Hundred Persons In Montana to Be Tried on This Charge.

THEIR DEMURRERS OVERRULED

Alleged Two Missoula Citizens Induced Them to Make False Oath In Proving Upon Timber Lands-Senator Clark Bought the Property Later.

Helena, Mont., Jan. 10.-Judge William S. Hunt, in the United States court here, has overruled the demurrers of the defendants to the indictments in the case of the United States vs. R. M. Cobban, J. B. Cattlin and many others, charged with subornation of perjury and perjury in connection with timber land entries in western Montana, and the accused will now have to come to trial.

There are twelve indictments for subornation of perjury and ninety for perjury. Among the defendants are many settlers in Powell and Missoula counties, who are alleged to have made false oath in proving upon timber lands, which were afterward accuired by Senator W. A. Clark. It is charged that Cobban and Cattlin, well-known citizens of Missoula, induced their people to swear falsely. The indictments were returned in June, 1901, and the cases have since been pending in

Washington, Jan. 10 .- The following authoritative statement was made last night:

"In the spring of 1902 the interior department was informed that extensive land frauds were being perpetrated in Montana and Idaho under an act of congress known as the timber and stone act. Secretary Hitchcock immediately set on foot an investigation and in the state of Montana it was discovered that at the land office of Missoula and Helena many fraudulent entries had been made.

Conspiracy Organized.

"It was soon discovered, it is alleged, that under the leadership of R. M. Cobban a conspiracy was organized and a lot of people living in the vicinity of Missoula-men and women -were directed to make applications at the land office. Under this act of congress it was necessary for the applicant, when he made his application, to take an oath that the land was not taken for speculative purposes, but for his own use, and that no one else was directly or indirectly interested in the purchase. Cobban and his assoclates prepared all these affidayits and paid all expenses, and \$2.50 an acre for the land and gave these persons from \$100 to \$150 apiece for false swearing and entry.

"There were 102 persons, men and women, indicted and a number of indictments were filed-Cobban being indicted some ten times. These in-Monday sent to the senate a message dietments were for perjury and forgery. All those lands amounting to some 15,000 acres, were sold by Cobban to United States Senator W. A. Clark. Demurrers were filed to these ate. Attention to this fact was called indictments, and these have been de-

MANY CONVICTS KILLED

In Attempt to Break From Prison In Philippines.

San Francisco, Jan. 10.-News from Manila, just received, tells of an attempt of about 500 convicts at Bilbid prison to break jail. It occurred on the afternoon of Dec. 7 and resulted in the killing of sixteen of the prisoners and the wounding of forty others. Six of the wounded are not expected to live and twenty-six others are in a critical condition.

Ship Lost and Many Perished.

Manila, Jan. 10 .- The owners of the iron screw, three-masted schooner Legaspi have given up all hope of the vessel, which probably foundered in the China sea. She carried seven passengers and had a crew of sixty Fillpinos. Her captain was a Spaniard and her first officer an American. The British steamer Nanshan has returned here after an unsuccessful search for the Legaspl. \*

Preacher Murderer Liberated. Indianapolis, Jan. 10 .- The last official act of retiring Gov. Winfield T. Durban was the unconditional parole 67.50. Milch cows and springers, \$25 of Rev. William E. Hinshaw, convicted of the murder of his wife, Thurza Hinshaw, whose death occurred at Winochester just ten years ago last night. Since his conviction Rev. Hinshaw has been confined in the Michigan City Irison. He will be liberated at once.

> Looking For Chadwick Gems. Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 10,-H. B. Skadden, a deputy sheriff of Cleveand, Ohio, is in Jacksonville presumably interested in the Chadwick case. monds and jewelry may be in Jackson-

> > Banks to Combine.

Cincinnati, Jan. 10 .- The Merchants' National bank, with a capital stock of \$1,000,000, and the Equitable National bank, with a capital stock of \$250,000, both in Cincinnsti, have agreed to

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