

NIXON'S BOASTS OF QUEER TRICKS

New Appropriation Bill, Says, Means an Era of Economy.

SMALLER THAN LAST YEAR.

Supply Measure to Come Later, However, Will Be Watching.

CUT IN THE PRISON ALLOWANCE.

Saving Thus Made Is Portioned Out to More Favored Departments, Which Get More Than Hitherto.

Albany, Jan. 21.—The annual appropriation bill was reported from the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means this morning with boasts from Leader Nixon that the early preparation of the measure meant an early adjournment of the Legislature and an economical disbursement of the State funds.

The bill calls for an aggregate of \$9,700,000, which is, in round numbers, \$183,000 less than the appropriation bill of last year.

The bill contains what might be termed the "fixed appropriations" for the support of the State government, such as salaries and supplies and the like.

The supply bill, which comes later, has all the suspicious items, according to the legends of the Legislature.

Tax Rate Not Indicated. It is acknowledged by the Republican leaders that the bill may be largely increased as the wants of the Republican heads of departments are made known.

Certain exuberant Republicans made statements to-day that the tax rate would be reduced from 2.60 to 2.25. This claim is not borne out by the real leaders in the Legislature.

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The most striking reduction is one that a State official says will result in the underfeeding of the convicts. It is a bold cutting of the appropriations for the maintenance of the State Prisons from \$500,000 to \$300,000.

An interesting fact in connection with this "economy" is that the prisons department is one large department that will not come under Republican control until after the appropriation has been spent.

The plan of the Republican leaders is to have the hands of Superintendent Lathrop tied unless he will give to the Republicans such patronage.

Slap at Milholland. No appropriation for any State department is cut except that of public buildings. In some cases there is a large increase. The Excise department gets \$15,300 more than last year, the Comptroller \$5,000 more, the State Factory Inspector \$15,000 more, the State Commissioner of Labor Statistics \$5,000 more, the State Tax Commissioners \$3,000 more, besides providing for a deficiency of \$5,000 for last year.

There is also an increase of \$50,000 in the amount for the compensation and mileage of the members of the Legislature, the total amount allowed being \$450,000. Down the whole list there are increases built on the cutting of the prisons and printing appropriations.

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MATTEAWAN FOR A MODEL. Pennsylvania to Establish an Asylum for Insane Criminals.

Albany, Jan. 21.—The State Commission in Lunacy has notified that a committee from the State of Pennsylvania, composed of a number of jurists, lawyers, physicians, legislators and officers of charitable institutions, will visit the Matteawan State Hospital for Insane Criminals on Saturday next with a view of gaining information in the direction of establishing a similar institution in Pennsylvania.

That State at the present time has no such institution, and there is a large number of insane criminals confined in its State prisons, who, owing to their condition, are a source of great annoyance, as they cannot be cared for properly in these institutions.

SUCCESSOR TO LEO XIII.

Cardinal Svampa, Archbishop of Bologna, May Be the Next Occupant of the Vatican.

By Luigi Ferrari. Rome, Jan. 21.—The indifferent health of a Pope has caused a considerable stir in the Sacred College with respect to the choice of his successor. The situation may be summed up as follows, on the authority of a prelate of the highest rank: If a vacancy should now arise in the Papacy there would be a great confusion of names. There are no strong parties in the Sacred College, but there are, on the contrary, many personal ambitions.

Probably at the last hour the cardinals would divide themselves into three groups—the diplomatic cardinals, the bishop cardinals and the foreign cardinals. The second group would be the strongest, and if it should succeed in carrying out its wishes, the new Pope would either be Cardinal Ferrari, Archbishop of Milan, or Cardinal Svampa, Archbishop of Bologna.

This will probably be what will happen, since the diplomatic cardinals, such as Yantuffelli, Jacobini, Cretoni, Ferrata, Agliardi and others, have no authority in the Sacred College. As far as indications go at present the Archbishop of Bologna has the best chance of succeeding the present Pope.

CZAR OPPOSED COERCION.

Salisbury Had Difficulty in Inducing Russia to Act Against Turkey.

London, Jan. 21.—The Government has issued a Blue Book containing the official correspondence in regard to the projected reforms in Turkey.

The correspondence shows that on September 23 last Lord Salisbury proposed that the powers take measures to enforce their proposals and that in the event of unwillingness on the part of any power to assume its share in the coercive measures applied, that power should not oppose the action of any other.

Russia objected to any scheme which involved the application of coercion to make it operative. Lord Salisbury expostulated with the Russian Minister, saying that it would be useless for the powers to make further concerted representations to the Porte in regard to reforms unless they were prepared to enforce their proposals.

M. Stishkin wrote to Lord Salisbury November 24 saying that the Czar had agreed to consider the question of coercion if the Sultan should prove recalcitrant, and the other powers were unanimously in favor of resorting to coercion.

About the end of December France gave a similar assent to measures of coercion, and the governments of Russia, Austria and Italy re-asserted their adhesion to that plan of action.

2,500 PERSONS KILLED.

Earthquake in the Island of Kishm Results in Terrible Loss of Life and Property.

London, Jan. 21.—The Globe publishes a dispatch from Bombay sent out by a news agency which says that three shocks of earthquake occurred on the island of Kishm, in the Persian Gulf, on January 15, destroying thousands of houses and killing 2,500 persons.

BRITISH STEAMER LOST.

L'Oriflamme Goes Aground in the Seine and Is Burned.

London, Jan. 21.—The British steamer L'Oriflamme, from Philadelphia for Rouen, was destroyed by fire in the river Seine to-day. She went aground in the river and afterward caught fire. The crew was saved.

Foreign Notes of Interest.

The English House of Lords adjourned yesterday for a week.

In the German Reichstag Count Posadowsky-Weber, Minister of the Imperial Treasury, stated that the Government was preparing a new customs tariff designed to reform the defects in the existing commercial treaties which would terminate in 1901.

The Canadian Parliament will visit the Duke and Duchess of York to visit the Dominion. The official returns of the output of the gold mines of British Guiana for the year 1896 show that it was in excess of \$2,500,000.

The Pope yesterday received the ambassador of Rome.

AUGUSTUS SHAFER ARRESTED.

Placed Under Bonds, Charged with Assaulting His Wife.

Because he could not obtain the weekly allowance of his six-year-old stepdaughter, according from the estate of her grandfather, on account of objections raised by the child's mother, Augustus Shafer, a prominent club man of New Brunswick, had trouble with his wife on Wednesday night and is now under bonds on the charge of assault and battery.

The complaint was made by Charles Van Sickle, brother-in-law of Mrs. Shafer. Since the trouble Mrs. Shafer has been dangerously ill, but will probably recover. Mr. Shafer is well known in local society.

His marriage a short time ago created a great sensation. It is probable that husband and wife will enter suits for divorce.

Abnensers-Busch Brewing Assn.

recommends the use of the greatest of all tonics, "Malt-Nutrie," and guarantees the merits claimed for it. For sale by all druggists.—Adv't.

BRIDGE PROMENADE.

Rails Charged with Electricity Within the Reach of Passengers.

WARNING SIGNS ONLY.

Promenaders Might Be Severely Injured if They Failed to See One of These.

ONLY A LITTLE CURRENT NOW.

When the New Electrical Motors Are in Full Operation These Rails Will Be Charged with a Dangerous Current.

DANGER. DON'T TOUCH THIS RAIL.

This simple admonition, done in silver letters on a brilliant red background, is all the protection foot passengers on the Brooklyn Bridge have against a continual

Information which comes from authentic sources has been laid before the committee of the unemployed gas workers showing exactly the part played by the gas combine in the fuel gas agitation in this city.

According to the chairman of the committee, when the success of fuel gas companies in other cities had aroused some Wall Street investors to prepare to organize a company and ask for a charter, the owners of the old light companies became alarmed and began to take steps to prevent any such organization from obtaining a foothold here.

As 43 per cent. of their entire profits is derived from the sale of gas for fuel the introduction of a cheap fuel product would mean a loss of millions, saying nothing of serious competition later on, in the illuminating field.

It was asked yesterday, as it was asked at the Mayor's hearing, who should the great companies want a franchise for laying mains when they already own the streets of the city. The answer was to prevent rival companies from getting a right to pipe fuel gas.

Combine at Work. Accordingly the big combine set the machinery on foot for the organization of several fuel gas companies—each to be a rival of the others. So deftly was the business carried out and so well did the intermediaries—the promoters, lawyers and others—perform their work that the fine hand of the gas monopoly was concealed.

It is good that the dummies of one company had no suspicion that they were the assistant puppets of the dummies in the other companies, and that all were manipulated by a master hand. The object was to have enough dummy fuel gas schemes afloat to prevent any legitimate rival from securing a franchise. Still another thing was to be considered—the necessity of a right-away for the big four-foot pipes necessary for conveying the heavy unwholesome, unrefined, fuel gas proposed to be used for heating and cooking purposes. If any one of these companies should by a happy chance succeed in getting a franchise from the city, so much the better for the gas monopoly.

Working Up the Public. The next step was to stir up the people in favor of the necessity for fuel gas. The master hand referred to—bested to put the finishing touches on the big Gas Trust, which had been in the process of formation for a couple of years past. Soon working-men began to hear rumors that several thousand of them were to be discharged. Presently gas bills began to increase. The householders' reduced consumption, unnecessary burners were kept turned off, but the bills grew still larger, so that when the fuel gas scheme reached the Aldermen they found their constituents in a bad mood, ready to welcome anything that seemed to promise a reduction of gas bills and competition for the existing companies. These and other factors, of vital importance, are to be elaborated at the mass meeting for cheap gas in Cooper Union on Monday evening.

DOLLAR GAS FOR ALBANY.

Bills introduced in the Senate Affecting the Income of Monopolists.

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 21.—Senator Coffey, of Brooklyn, is preparing by a careful lawyer a bill to be presented as an amendment to the Greater New York charter, when that measure reaches the Legislature. Senator Coffey's bill will provide for the election in the Greater New York of a Lighting Commissioner, who is to be given certain powers of supervision over gas plants, meters and the pressure maintained in the gas mains.

Senator Coffey introduced in Albany to-day a bill providing for dollar gas for the city of Albany. Bills have also been introduced for dollar gas for the city of Cohoes and the village of Waterford. The price of gas in Albany is now \$1.70. The Municipal Gas Company, of which the principal stockholders are Anthony N. Brady, Roswell P. Elmore and H. C. Benedict, has a monopoly for the gas and electric lighting in this city, and will oppose the measure. There is already talk of the company agreeing to a reduction, but not to one dollar.

NO MONEYS IN THE FUND.

River and Harbor Improvements Delayed by Secretary Lamont's Action in Withholding Awards.

Washington, Jan. 21.—There is a well-defined belief in the War Department that Secretary Lamont is purposely delaying the award of certain large river and harbor contracts in order that the projects may not come within the funds of the next Sundry Civil bill.

The principal project of those which are thus held up on the Secretary's desk is that for a stone breakwater in Delaware Bay. The breakwater required nearly a million and a half tons of material, and the Syracuse bladders offered to furnish the stone, in place, at the rate of a fraction more than \$118 per ton. This meant an expenditure to the Government of more than two and a half million dollars.

Colonel Raymond, the army engineer officer in charge, urged the contract to be awarded, and his recommendation appears to have met with the approval of General Craig, the chief of army engineers. The latter sent the papers to Secretary Lamont a day or two after the bids were opened in Philadelphia, and it was expected that everything being regular, there would be no delay in the final action of the head of the War Department. There are no funds available practically for the large project, although the River and Harbor Appropriation act, now in force, allotted \$5,000, a sum which provided merely for preliminary expenses.

The act authorized the Secretary to make a contract for the work to the extent of \$4,000,000, with the stipulation that he should not eventually disburse more than one-fourth of that sum in any fiscal year, beginning next July. The funds to be available for this and other work must be allotted by the Sundry Civil Appropriation bill, which usually names a lump sum to cover work pending or contracts then made.

Electric Power Station Burned.

Toronto, Ont., Jan. 21.—The eastern power station of the Toronto Electric Light & Power Company, situated on the Esplanade, was burned this morning with all its valuable machinery. The loss is \$100,000, covered by insurance.

SLIP CONSPIRACY OF THE GAS COMBINE.

Secrets of the Agitation for Fuel Gas in This City.

TRUST MADE ITSELF SAFE.

Dummy Companies Put Into the Field to Head Off All Legitimate Competition.

WORKED FOR A MASTER HAND.

Had One of These Spurious Organizations Obtained a Franchise It Would Have Fallen in the Hands of the Old Combination.

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WILL PUNISH THE BENINS.

Strong British Force Preparing to Invade the Country of the Savage African King.

London, Jan. 21.—The expedition which is to punish the African King of Benin, the City of Blood, for the recent massacre of British subjects and their native carriers, will consist of forces of the Niger Coast Protectorate and contingents of sailors from the vessels of the West African Squadron. It has been stated that such an expedition would have to proceed to Benin City in a short time, even had the massacre not occurred, as the whole of the Niger Coast Protectorate was suffering from the cruelties and exactions of the King of Benin.

Slavery prevails in that country, and human sacrifices and cannibalistic heathen rites are matters of daily occurrence. Therefore, if the country is to be made of any value whatsoever, it will be necessary to suppress the King with a strong hand.

FUNERAL OF HENRY DELGADO.

Services Attended by Americans—Body to Be Interred in Havana.

By George Eugene Bryson. Havana, Jan. 21.—The funeral of the late Henry Delgado was held here to-day. American newspaper men and employees of the American Consular office attended the services. The relatives of Mr. Delgado in New York cabled to Consul-General Lee to have the body interred here.

IS FRANCE FOR ARBITRATION?

Minister Hanotaux to Be Questioned About Negotiations with America.

Paris, Jan. 21.—Levi Miran, a Radical Republican member of the Chamber of Deputies, intimated to-day that he would shortly question M. Hanotaux, Minister of Foreign Affairs, as to what negotiations had been or were being carried on with the United States looking to the conclusion of a treaty of arbitration.

GOFF'S SCORING OF THE EXPERTS.

Some Opinions of Medical Men and Alienists Upon It.

DR. HAMMOND'S IDEA.

Alienist Newton Advises the French System for Obviating Abuses.

HYPOTHETIC QUESTION SCORED.

Lawyer Hummel Believes That the Recorder's Recent Denunciations Are Entirely Too Sweeping.

The scoring given to medical experts by Recorder Goff at the dinner of the Medical Society on Wednesday night caused much talk in medical and legal circles yesterday. Nearly everyone was of the opinion that the Recorder was justified in criticising the present system of expert testimony, but some thought that he was too general in his condemnation, while others said he was not severe enough.

"My impression," said Abraham H. Hummel, "is that Recorder Goff's denunciation is too sweeping. When such a man as Dr. Allan McLane Hamilton, the grandson of Alexander Hamilton, is called to the witness stand as an expert in an insanity

case, his testimony as to the action of the human mind is always respected by the highest tribunals in the land. There is no judge on the bench whose integrity is of a higher order than this gentleman's, and I am at a loss to conceive how evidence adduced from the lips of one who has made a life study of the subject under consideration should be open to such public condemnation as Recorder Goff's language furnishes."

"What Recorder Goff says is perfectly true," declared Dr. Robert S. Newton, the well-known alienist. "No one can take an exception to his remarks. The Recorder's views on this subject are not now expressed for the first time."

"In this instance I believe that Recorder Goff does not state what is perfectly true, but that he does not go far enough. The best experts in New York to-day have never seen or examined a criminal, and why? Because all their practice is in their offices or in hospitals, where the patient has no motive to deceive. Consequently their case is made up from the ground of truth."

"But when they come to deal with cases behind the portals of the prison they meet with deceit and lies. Therefore the great expert is utterly worthless as an expert in prison cases unless he has made a study of criminals."

"I've been arguing for years for the adoption of the French preservation plan, whereby medical men can be used in criminology without scandal and with honor and dignity to their own profession. Under the French plan a man is placed under observation from the time the crime is committed until a point is reached where the several physicians engaged are satisfied in this city two examinations are an extraordinary number."

"The divergence of opinion of medical experts on opposite sides," said Dr. Crane M. Hammond, also prominent as an alienist, "is not owing as a rule to prejudice on the part of the experts, but because the questions asked experts on opposite sides are essentially different. If the same question was asked both sides probably the same answer would be given. As a matter of fact the hypothetical question put to one medical expert is quite different from that put to the other."

THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1896.

Table with columns for ASSETS and INCOME. Assets include Bonds and Mortgages (\$32,021,426.97), Real Estate, United States Stocks, etc. Income includes Premium Receipts (\$36,089,357.71), Cash received for interest, etc. (\$8,921,700.67), Total Income (\$45,011,058.38).

We hereby certify that, after a personal examination of the securities and accounts described in the foregoing statement for the year 1896, we find the same to be true and correct as stated. The stocks and bonds in the above statements are valued at the market price December 31, 1896. The Real Estate belonging to the Society has been appraised by the Insurance Department of the State of New York, and is stated at the reduced valuation as shown in the official report of the examination of the Society, dated July 9, 1895.

FRANCIS W. JACKSON, Auditor. ALFRED W. MAINE, 2nd Auditor.

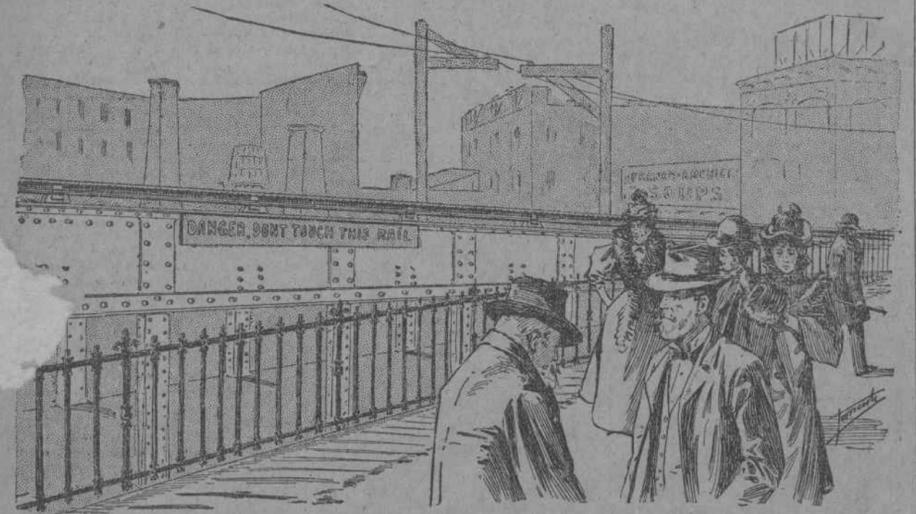
Table with columns for LIABILITIES. Reserve on all existing policies, calculated on a 4% standard, and all other liabilities (\$173,496,768.23). Surplus, on a 4% standard (\$43,277,179.12).

We hereby certify to the correctness of the above calculation of the reserve and surplus. Dividends will be declared, as heretofore, on the basis of a 4% standard.

GEORGE W. PHILLIPS, Actuary. J. G. VAN CISE, Assistant Actuary.

- OFFICERS. HENRY B. HYDE, President. THOMAS D. JORDAN, Comptroller. W. ALEXANDER, Secretary. S. D. RIPLEY, Treasurer. J. B. LORING, Registrar. EDWARD CURTIS, Medical Director.

- DIRECTORS. JOHN A. STEWART, JACOB H. SCHIFF, A. VAN SANTVOORD, DANIEL LORD, WILLIAM A. TOWER, MELVILLE R. INGALLS, THOMAS S. YOUNG, A. VAN BERGEN, JOHN R. SEARLES, DAVID H. MOFFAT, JAMES H. DUNHAM, T. DE WITT CUYLER, JOSEPH T. LOW, JAMES W. ALEXANDER, AUGUST BELMONT, THOMAS T. ECKERT, WM. B. KENDALL, HENRY S. TERRELL, GEORGE W. PHILLIPS, GEO. W. CARLETON, E. BOUDINOT COLT, DANIEL E. NOTES, ALANSON TRASK, BRAXTON IVES, SIDNEY D. RIPLEY, J. F. DE NAVARRO.



One of the Danger Points in the Brooklyn Bridge Promenade.

The rails which carry the current for the new electric motor system are so placed along the tracks, where they intersect the promenade, that foot passengers could touch them in some places with their hands. When the system is in complete operation these rails will be charged with a heavy current of electricity, and the only protection against accidents is some warning signs.

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