

Farewell address
of
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Farewell Address

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives:

In accordance with a time honored custom, I take this opportunity of rendering to you an account of the affairs of the State as conducted by the executive Department, and to offer such recommendations for future legislation as my experience has shown me should be made.

FINANCES.

During the Session of the Legislature of 1908, the appropriation made for carrying on the Departments of the State, together with special appropriations, were very largely increased from former years, and it is, therefore, very gratifying at this time to be able to state that in spite of this great increase in expenditures, the receipts have been more than sufficient to meet them, and on June 30, 1910, the excess of receipts over expenditures was \$34,828.85. This result has been brought about very largely by the gratifying increase of receipts derived from corporation taxes. In order that you may easily understand how the above result has been arrived at, I will call your attention to the report of the Treasurer for the years ending June 30, 1909, and June 30, 1910. During the year ending 1909, the gross receipts were \$1,822,390.34, while the gross expenditures during the same period, as shown by the Treasurer, were \$1,871,166.16, showing a deficit according to his figures of \$48,775.82; but during that year it was found that the appropriation for the administration of justice was insufficient and that many bills could not be paid because of this fact. This would have worked a hardship to many and arrangements were, made through the kind offices of my successor, Hon. John A. Mead, to provide the necessary funds to pay these bills. The amount so provided was \$25,445.83, and is still a liability against the State. It has also been found that the appropriation for the use of the State Prison is insufficient, and a gradual deficit has been accumulating during the last three years. The amount up to June 30, 1909, was \$6,166.17. The two amounts above specified as deficits, added to the amount shown by the books of the Treasurer amount to \$80,387.82, the amount of the deficit for the year 1909. This being the year during which the Legislature was in session, the expenses were very much larger than for the year ending June 30, 1910, During this last mentioned term., the receipts, as shown by the Treasurer, amounted to \$1,945,753.05, while the expenditures for that term were \$1,822,882.17, leaving a surplus of \$122,871.88. From this amount should be deducted the amount of the deficiency at the State Prison for that year, amounting to \$2,654.21, and \$5,000, the deficiency at the Industrial School, caused wholly by the epidemic, leaving an excess of receipts over expenditures that year of \$115,217.67. Taking from this the amount of the deficiency for the preceding year, the net gain of receipts over expenditures for the biennial term would be, as I have stated, \$34,828.85. I believe that all bills have been paid as closely as possible, and that no more are outstanding than in former years. This result shows that the finances of the State are in such condition that no extravagance can be practiced, but that each appropriation must be expended with great care. I recommend that an appropriation be made at once for taking care of the deficiency in the administration of justice for the year ending June 30, 1909, and that an increased appropriation be made for the State Prison and the Industrial School so that the deficits which have been created may be cared for, and that sufficient funds may be had for future requirements.

It should be understood that in making the above statement I have taken the gross receipts and expenditures from whatever source derived and for whatever purpose expended. I have had a table prepared showing the amount of standing appropriations which will be available prior to June 30, 1911, and find the amount to be \$453,476.28. This amount is subject to some slight variation because some appropriations are indefinite, but the amount is practically correct. It does not include appropriations for such purposes as the administration of justice, or the carrying on of the State Institutions for which provision must be made by each Legislature, but simply includes such appropriations as will go on from year to year without further action of the Legislature. I have thought it wise to call your attention to the matter, as the list should be closely scrutinized to see that no amount is allowed to remain as a permanent appropriation, that is not serving a useful purpose.

I also desire to call your attention to the obsolete methods of bookkeeping used in Treasurer's office. I believe that conditions are as bad there as they were in the Auditor's office before the changes of two years ago were made; this is not intended as a criticism of the Treasurer, for he has simply used the same methods as his predecessors, but is designed to call your attention to the matter for such action as you may decide upon.

STATE HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

The last Legislature appropriated the sum of \$5,000 to be expended at the Vermont State Hospital for the Insane, for the purpose of adding enclosed piazzas, making the criminal insane wards more secure, and such other changes, repairs and purposes as the trustees of the institution might determine. The report of the trustees will show that the work proposed under this appropriation has been performed and that great improvements have been made to the buildings,

On December 24, 1909, a fire occurred which totally destroyed the inside and roof of the third male ward, causing a great amount of damage. Owing to the splendid discipline maintained at the hospital, and to the fact that all fire apparatus was in perfect working condition, the patients were removed to other parts of the hospital, this being done without confusion or injury to any patient. Such a record is most gratifying and the Superintendent, Dr. Grout, and his assistants, cannot be too highly commended for the way in which matters were handled during the conflagration. The management of an institution of this nature is a very difficult task, but I believe an examination will show that in this case it has been handled most satisfactorily; that great economy has been practiced in all departments, and that the care of the patients is of the very highest order. The hospital is at the present time practically filled and arrangements will have to be made to take care of the natural increase in numbers. A large number of State patients are cared for at the Brattleboro Retreat, and the capacity of that institution has been practically taken up, but a new building is being built and when complete will provide additional room where more patients can be taken if the State so desires. The arrangement which the State now has with this institution provides the most economical way of caring for these patients which it is possible for it to make. I therefore recommend that the arrangement now in operation be continued. It is true that the report of the Superintendent at Waterbury shows that the patients there are cared for at a less rate than is now paid at Brattleboro, but in making this statement the item of the plant is not taken into consideration and I believe if this was added to the present cost it would more than equal the price which is now paid at Brattleboro. None of the criminal insane can be sent to Brattleboro, and, therefore, a very difficult problem confronts the management at Waterbury. I believe that a suitable ward for the criminal insane should be erected as soon as possible, and I trust this matter will receive your prompt consideration.

In this connection I desire to call your attention to a matter in connection with the House of Correction and the State Prison. It is often the case when prisoners are sentenced to these institutions that they are afflicted with tuberculosis. It is not right that in this condition they should be confined with the other prisoners, thereby subjecting them to the danger of contagion. There are not enough of these cases to warrant the building of a separate building at either of the institutions, but it is possible that the matter might be properly solved by providing some place for them in such a building as I have recommended. This is a matter which should be taken care of in some manner, because at the present time it is causing much inconvenience.

After the fire occurred at Waterbury it became necessary to re-build and repair the buildings at once, and the trustees were confronted with this condition: the buildings were insured and a fair settlement was made immediately with the insurance companies but the money so received could not be used for the purpose of re-building and repairing and as there was no other provision by which money could be furnished for that purpose, the situation was embarrassing. Fortunately, however, part of the appropriation which was made for repairs and additions had not been expended and there also remained part of the annual appropriation that would not be required for paying the necessary expenses for running the institution. The Attorney-General ruled that the balance of those appropriations might be expended for the necessary repairs, providing the ordinary running expenses of the institution were first cared for and no bills allowed to go over that should be paid in the regular course of business. All repairs have been made, the bills have been met, and no bills of the institution for its running expenses have been allowed to accumulate. This is a very gratifying outcome of a rather serious condition, and the State is to be congratulated on having a Board who have the desire and the ability to produce such results.

Act No, 320 of the Laws of 1908 appropriated the sum of \$6,000 for putting in water at the Brattleboro Retreat for fire protection. This has been accomplished and the Retreat has good fire protection at the present time.

PENAL INSTITUTIONS.

The sum of \$15,000 was appropriated by the last Legislature to be expended for the Vermont Industrial School for the purpose of making additional repairs on buildings and for other purposes, and in conformity with that Act a new kitchen has been built, needed repairs have been made on the girls' dormitory and much other that was necessary to put the buildings in proper condition. This appropriation was also intended to cover the building of a hospital, but the demands for other improvements were so great that it was found impossible to do anything about this.

On October 20, 1909, a very serious epidemic of diphtheria broke out in the school and it was March 1, 1910, before the quarantine was raised. The great difficulty encountered in stamping out this epidemic was that there was not sufficient room to separate the convalescents from those that were diseased, and thus prevent contagion; the result being, that many of the pupils and teachers were afflicted with the disease several times. An epidemic of this nature shows conclusively that hospital facilities are needed at the school, and I recommend that a sufficient appropriation be made for that purpose.

This school, as at present conducted, is, in my judgment, one of the most valuable institutions provided by the State. The children sent there are surrounded by the best influences possible, and are given an opportunity to go out from there and become self respecting men and women, with sufficient education to assist them to gain an honest livelihood. Many of them are sent there because of insubordination and truancy, and the care and instruction received while there is such as to make them self respecting and self reliant. The system of manual training practiced in this school is, I believe, at least equal to any in the State, and I have been much impressed by the results obtained. The Superintendent, Mr. J. N. Barss, and his wife, are especially fitted for the work and too much praise cannot be given them for what they have accomplished since they took charge of the school. Their labors performed, especially during the time of the epidemic, are worthy of the highest praise. An institution of this nature cannot fail to be of the greatest benefit to the State, and I think the Legislature should show it great consideration and grant every reasonable request for its maintenance.

As I have stated in my summary of the financial condition of the State, a deficit has been created at the State Prison. This has been the cause of much anxiety, thought and study on the part of the Board of Penal Institutions, as well as myself. I have been unable to find any extravagance in the management of this institution, but on the other hand believe that it is a well and carefully managed as any institution in the State. A very careful comparison of the cost per prisoner at the House of Correction and the State Prison shows that the actual cost is almost exactly the same, with a very slight difference in favor of the State Prison. Both of these institutions are economically managed and the influences thrown around the prisoners are the very best, and I cannot too highly commend the work of the Board having these institutions in charge. Its members have brought to bear not only the great business ability with which they are all endowed, but have also taken a deep interest in the influences surrounding the prisoners, believing that a penal institution should be a place of reform as well as of punishment.

GRANTING OF PAROLES.

It has been customary and permissible for some years for the Governor to grant paroles to deserving prisoners and impose conditions under that parole for their conduct and good behavior with the right to issue a warrant for their return, providing the conditions of the parole were violated. This has proved a very beneficial act and has been used to a large extent by my predecessors and myself. The law previous to the last revision of the Statutes was entirely plain and had been passed on by the Supreme Court and was considered valid, but under the Public Statutes this law is apparently repealed and it is at least questionable at this time whether the Governor has the power to issue a warrant for the return of a prisoner who has violated the conditions of his parole. I believe that the Governor has such power, but as there is some question in regard to this and as it is a matter of such vital importance, I believe that the Statute should be amended in such a way as to leave no doubt as to the authority of the Governor to return such prisoner.

Prisoners may, by their conduct, show that they have a desire to become good citizens, and I have felt in such cases that it was the duty of the Governor to give them an opportunity to do so under such conditions as he saw fit to impose. I have exercised this privilege in many cases, and in nearly all of them I believe it has proved beneficial; the prisoners so paroled have kept the conditions of their paroles and have become better men and women because of the consideration they have received. In other cases when they have violated the conditions of their parole, they have been promptly returned.

The whole matter of pardons is a very difficult one to handle properly. In my opinion there are two reasons for confining criminals; the first is the protection of the public. Those, who by their acts, show themselves to be without regard for the rights of others, and because of this are dangerous to the public, should be confined for such length of time as may seem just according to the crime committed. The second reason is for the reformation of such criminals, this being largely brought about through the opportunity which is given them to fully consider what they have done and, by proper punishment throughout their confinement, lead them to a better conception of their duties as law abiding citizens. The larger number of criminals confined in our State institutions, in my judgment, are not susceptible to great improvement, and they should be confined for the safety of the public. On the other hand, there are men and women who have enough self respect left to make them desire to become better, and to such I believe every opportunity should be given to do so. At the same time it is very difficult to tell whether they are sincere or not, and control should be retained over them so that they may understand that if they do not fulfill their promises and live up to the conditions imposed on them, they may be again confined under the authority of the State. Therefore, I recommend that such changes in the Statue be made as will enable the Governor to retain this control without question.

TRANSFER OF PRISONERS.

During my administration I have, under authority of No. 176 of the Acts of 1908, transferred 480 prisoners from the county jails to the House of Correction. It has been my intention to transfer all prisoners having a sentence of 20 days or more when they could not be worked at the jail to which they were sentenced. In some of the counties an effort has been made to work the prisoners under the law, and this has been particularly successful in Washington county, but in most of the counties apparently no effort is made to do this, and I have, therefore, made the transfers as stated. I have placed the limit at 20 days, because I believed, as a whole, that it would be the most profitable for the State. While this law causes the governor and his secretary, especially the latter, a great deal of trouble, yet I believe it is a good one and that it is the most economical way for the State to handle this matter.

VENTILATION OF STATE HOUSE.

No. 7 of the Act of 1908 provided for a proper system of ventilation of the House and Senate, Supreme Court Room, and rooms used as offices and committee rooms in the State House and proper sanitary arrangements and improvements for the toilet rooms in the State House. The plans were to be furnished by the State Board of Health, and the work was to be provided for by the Sergeant-at-Arms under the direction of the Governor. In conformity with this Act, and on receipt of plans furnished by the State Board of Health, the Sergeant-at-Arms, under my direction, and with the assistance and advice of the Attorney General, executed a contract for the necessary work with the G.S. Blodgett Co., of Burlington, Vt. The work has been completed and is, I think, very satisfactory in all respects. It is here subject to your inspection, and I trust will meet with your approval. The system of ventilation and sanitation is the best that can be provided, and while the expense has been great, reaching in all probability \$36,000, yet I trust that results will prove to be commensurate with the labor and expense put forth. It is impossible for me to give the exact cost, because some of the bills have not yet been rendered, but the amount will be practically what I have stated. There will also be some extra expense to maintain the plant, but in the future no one should have any cause to complain because of the want of pure air. It is a source of gratification that this work has been accomplished without any friction between the officers of the State and the Company. Those having charge of the work for the Company have apparently been anxious to do everything possible to make it the best in its class. We should be pleased to know that we were able to have this work done so satisfactorily by a company located within the State. It may also be of interest to know that the bid for the work made by the Blodgett Co. was practically \$14,000 less than the other bid

received. I am confident that it has been completed at as low a cost as was possible, and that the benefit derived by the Blodgett Co. will be largely from having done this work for the State.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

In my inaugural message I called attention to some matters regarding our courts, and suggested some changes that I thought would be beneficial and economical. These changes were not made by the last Legislature but the suggestions which I made at that time are still pertinent and should be considered by you. The matter of justice courts in places where municipal courts have been established is a very important one and needs adjustment. I can do no better than to call your attention to the report of the Attorney General and his suggestions in regard to this.

I also wish to call special attention to the recommendations he makes regarding Grand Juries. Both these suggestions are very valuable and if followed would be a move in the right direction. There is another matter which would be the means of reducing expenses very materially in the administration of justice, and I desire to call your attention to it at this time, hoping that some action will be taken to correct what I consider a serious defect in our system, and one productive of much expense both to the State and to parties in litigation. As the law now is, and repeatedly announced by the Supreme Court, whenever that Court is called upon to review the action of the County Court, if the Supreme Court finds any error, a case must be reversed and a new trial granted, unless the record affirmatively shows that the error was harmless. It seems to me the rule should be that the Supreme Court should not reverse unless that Court was of the opinion that the error was such that if a new trial were granted, the result would probably be different. I do not believe it is right that a case should be reversed in the Supreme Court and sent back for a new trial, simply because some slight error may have been discovered even though that error could have had no bearing on the result of the trial. It is manifestly proper that any case should be reversed where an error is discovered which probably would have had any effect on the result of the trial, but where such error could have had no effect it seems to me manifestly improper that such case should be reversed; but as I understand the law at the present time, it is obligatory on the court to do so.

EDUCATION.

This subject is the most important one which will come before you, because the quality of the education of the child determines the degree of intelligence, morality, and prosperity which shall be enjoyed by the people of this State. The last census showed that we had fallen from our position of fourth, as regards literacy, to the twenty-eighth place; a condition very much to be regretted. I do not, however, believe that this is wholly because of the condition of our schools, but is rather because so many foreigners have come into our State to work in our factories, mines and quarries, whose families have not had the educational advantages that we have here. Under the present law it should be impossible for any child of school age to be without an education, and where such conditions exist it is entirely the fault of those in authority. It is useless to pass laws that do not have public sanction and approval and that the authorities either will not or cannot enforce. It must, therefore, under the present law, be simply a matter of enforcement in order that every child may have at least a good common school education. But there is an important matter which confronts us and which we should carefully consider, and that is the quality of the educational advantages that are provided in the smaller districts throughout the State. What is said in regard to this does not apply to all such districts, because in many cases those having charge of this matter are broad minded men, having the desire to provide the best facilities possible. On the other hand, there are a very large number of schools under the control of those who seem to be simply trying to see how cheaply the schools can be managed. It does not seem with them to be a question of quality but of cost; to my mind, this is the most serious matter which confronts us today. No one would expect a carpenter who had never had any training or experience to do a fine job of cabinet work. No one would expect a man without experience in that line to be able to instruct others in bookkeeping, neither should we expect young girls who have had neither experience nor training, to successfully teach the children in our schools. The mind of the child is like the delicate film of the camera on which all impressions received are recorded, and those impressions made during the school age are such as will follow through life. The training received during this period is the foundation on which the future success or failure of the child depends. It is exceedingly important, therefore, that none but those who have had special training and are peculiarly fitted for this work should be employed as teachers in our schools. Under no circumstances should immature girls who

have received practically no training or this work, be employed. It is because of the necessity for trained teachers, that we have in the past, and are at the present time providing Normal Schools where such training is especially given. At present this State maintains three Normal Schools. One at Castleton, one at Johnson, and one at Randolph Center. These schools are under the supervision of the State Board of Education, consisting of the Governor as chairman, and the State Superintendent of Education, as members ex-officio, and three members appointed by the Governor. This Board has a general oversight of the schools, and directs as to the policy to be pursued. Previous to 1908 the Normal Schools had an appropriation of \$22,500 annually. It was found that this amount was not sufficient to provide for the wants of the schools and the last Legislature increased the appropriation by \$7,500; this last amount to be divided between the schools as the State Board of Education thought wise. The report of the Board will show that much work has been done in putting the buildings in proper shape, and the money so expended has provided many necessary improvements. It also seemed wise to change the course of instruction and to provide a more efficient class of teachers. These changes have been made and in the future the schools will offer a very high class of instruction and training. The approximate membership is two hundred or a little over, Castleton having about one-half, the remainder being divided between Johnson and Randolph. The spending of \$10,000 each year for the training of fifty pupils or less is not profitable or necessary, and, in my judgment, either the school at Johnson or Randolph should be abolished. The instruction is practically the same at these schools, therefore, so far as that is concerned there is no choice, but the training school facilities at Randolph are extremely limited and it is very difficult even for the small number of pupils who attend to receive instruction as teachers because of the lack of opportunity for training. It should be noted that a large number of the scholars in attendance on these schools are from the locality where they are situated, the schools not having that reputation which will attract scholars from a distance. This is not intended as a criticism of the schools themselves, but simply of conditions. In my judgment, it is impossible for this State to successfully carry on three Normal Schools, providing such facilities as shall bring to them the better class of pupils desiring training as teachers. This is very unfortunate because we should train the teachers who are to have charge of our schools in the same atmosphere in which they are to teach. Thus they will more clearly understand conditions and will be better able to successfully meet the difficulties which they will encounter. We should, therefore, strive to provide such facilities as will attract pupils from all over the State by assuring them that they will receive the best of instruction and training, and in order to do that, we should concentrate our energies more than we are doing at the present time.

STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY.

Act No. 11 of the Laws of 1908 abolished the Board of Agriculture and created the Board of Agriculture and Forestry. This Board was to consist of the governor, the Directors of the Vermont Agricultural Experiment Station, and two citizens of the State, known to be interested in the advancement of agriculture and forestry, the duty of the Board being to have general oversight of these two departments and decide on the policy to be pursued; an annual appropriation of \$12,000 being made for the carrying out of the purposes of the Act; this appropriation to be apportioned between the two departments as the Board should determine. It also provided that the Governor should appoint, with the consent of the Senate, a Commissioner of Agriculture at a salary not to exceed \$1,000 per year, and the Board to employ a State Forester at a salary not to exceed \$2,500 per year. Under this Act I appointed Mr. O.L. Martin of Plainfield as Commissioner of Agriculture, and he has, under the direction of the Board, organized his department in a very efficient manner. The Board secured the services of Austin F. Hawes as state Forester, and under his direction the Department of Forestry has been organized and has, I believe become a great benefit to the State and its forestry interest. Some land has been purchased for forestry purposes and is being managed for that purpose at the present time. The Governor was also authorized to receive gifts of land and under this authority I have accepted a gift of a large farm in Sharon from the Hon. Charles Downer of that town. This gift is a most desirable one because of its location, its size, and its value. The buildings on the farm are the best and I am sure that under the wise management of our State Forester it will become an object lesson of great value. Mr. Downer has shown himself to be a very public spirited citizen, in making this gift. I only hope his example may be followed by others, and that the State may become the owner of at least one tract of land suitable for forestry in each county. The appropriation made for these two departments is none too large, but on the other hand, might be increased to \$15,000 and well expended with profit. The Commissioner of Agriculture should be able to gather more statistics regarding crops than he can at

the present time with the money now at his disposal. He should be able to advertise the State more freely than he can now. In fact, I fully believe that the State might well expend \$10,000 in judicious advertising, with an almost certain assurance that it would be returned to them tenfold, within a very short time. The great difficulty at the present time is that the beauties of the State are not known, and there is no way in which we can make people so quickly familiar with them, as by advertising. This matter is worthy of your consideration and no mistake would be made if such an appropriation was provided. Do not expect to advertise for nothing, but if the money provided is wisely expended, there is no way in which greater returns can be received.

HIGHWAYS AND AUTOMOBILES.

It is only necessary to return to the report of the Highway Commissioner for you to ascertain that a great deal of work has been done on permanent highways. Practically \$250,000 was expended for this purpose during 1909, and the results are becoming manifest in the improved condition of roads all over the State. Our present system is, I believe, working satisfactorily, and if continued, with appropriations for as much as can be spared, will, within a few years, provide us with highways that will be entirely satisfactory. We cannot expect, and do not need, a system of macadam roads through the State. It would be impossible to construct them without bonding, and it would cost us as much to maintain them as we are now spending for the building of permanent roads. I believe it is generally conceded that the gravel road, properly constructed with a good foundation, is the most serviceable and best suited to our conditions of any material that can be used, and such roads can be built at a fraction of the cost of macadam, the repair bills being almost nothing in comparison. The matter of highways has become of such importance, and has been so thoroughly discussed that you are all familiar with it. I do believe, however, from my experience during the last two years, that, according to the population and valuation of this State, we are improving our roads as fast or faster than any State in New England, and paying for these improvements as they are made. We should continue along the same lines, as much more can be accomplished by some definite policy than by constantly changing.

The provision for the licensing of automobiles has proved of great benefit. The money collected from this source being used to care for the surface of the selected highways has assisted very materially in improving their condition, and would be much more effective if the road commissioners of the towns wherein these highways are located, would take more interest in the matter and use more of the money. I do not think this license tax has worked any hardship and feel that it should be continued. I would, however, recommend that some change be made in the law granting licenses to dealers. There are those who claim to be dealers, who have simply secured the contract to sell a certain machine, many times for the purpose of getting their own at a reduced rate. In this way, too, they can secure a license for less money than they would have to pay in the regular way. This matter should be changed so that none but legitimate dealers could secure license, and then, that some limit should be set to the number of cars they may be running at one time.

I am also of the opinion that it is wrong that towns should be allowed to place a speed limit of less than 10 miles per hour for automobiles running on their streets, or to make any regulation providing for a less rate of speed than this at any point on the highway. A car going at ten miles an hour is under absolute control, and is much safer than is a horse. It can be stopped quicker and handled more easily. It is not good policy to pass any law that cannot be complied with, and it would be impossible for many cars to comply with the speed regulations made by some selectmen on the highways and in the villages. Make it a serious matter for any one to run a car in a careless or negligent manner, whether it be at a speed of ten miles per hour or forty miles per hour, making the penalty enough so that the violator may realize that he is being punished; but let the requirement be reasonable.

The automobile has become such an important part of the problems we have to solve that we must take a broad view of the question involved, and strive for such a solution as shall be equitable and productive of the greatest amount of safety to all concerned. For example, more care should be exercised in issuing operators' licenses. No one should be allowed to operate a car on the highways that has not had sufficient experience to handle it properly. Lights should be displayed on all vehicles on the road after dark. A rule should be established for the passing of one vehicle by another going in the same direction. The action of the State of New York regarding reciprocal privilege for operating cars has brought the matter very forcibly to our attention. I recommend that we provide for full reciprocity, granting other States such privileges as they grant us.

CATTLE COMMISSION.

During the Session of 1908 it was discovered that very large sums of money were being expended in payment for diseased cattle. This sum was so large that it seemed wise to restrict the amount to be paid for this purpose, and the law was therefore changed, limiting it to \$40,000 in any one year. This law became effective February 1, 1909, and as showing the necessity for such a change, I would call your attention to the fact that from July 1, 1908, to February 1, 1909, there was expended for this purpose \$83,822.03. A certain number of cattle were condemned and killed, the bills for which were not rendered in season to be taken care of under the old law, and these have never been paid for. As a matter of justice, provision should be made for this payment. From February 1, 1909, to July 1, 1910, there has been expended in payment for diseased cattle, the sum of \$68,749.06, and under the law which permitted of disposing of them to some rendering plant, a return has been made to the state for the same period of \$7,208.16. I believe the provision limiting the amount which can be paid for this purpose is a proper one, and should be continued. Some progress is being made in stamping out this evil, but it will be a long time before it can be accomplished. In my judgment, some part of the burden should be placed on the owner of the cattle, and he should be compelled after a test has been made of his herd, and he has received payment for the cattle condemned and killed, to thereafter keep his herd free from diseased cattle at his own expense. This would compel him to use greater diligence, not only in the purchase of this cattle, but in the care of them, which, to my mind, is the only way in which great progress can be made in stamping out the disease. I think some step of this nature should be taken or we shall never be successful in accomplishing the desired end. On August 27, 1909, the former commissioner, Henry L. Willson of Arlington, died. This was a severe blow to the State, for he had proved a very efficient and intelligent commissioner. Fortunately, I was able to secure the services of Hon. Fred L. Davis of White River Junction, who had had large experience such as would fit him for that position, and I appointed him to that office. He was proved very efficient and the work has been carried on successfully under his administration.

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

It is now the well settled conviction of our people that reasonable and fair supervision and regulation by the State of all railroad and other public service corporations within its jurisdiction is necessary in order adequately to protect the rights of the public. To accomplish such regulation and control, the Legislatures of 1906 and 1908 have created the present Public Service Commission and endowed it with powers calculated to give it such jurisdiction over substantially all public service corporations in this State as would enable it to prevent unjust discrimination and insure reasonable precautions for public safety and convenience.

The Executive Department has fully realized the importance of this legislation, and that its purpose might be easily jeopardized if not actually frustrated, unless the Commission was constituted of men of such character and ability as would give weight and respect to their decisions, and give all concerned the assurance of fair and just treatment, without fear or favor. To that end alone have appointments been made; and the work of the Commission for nearly four years has justified the confidence placed in its ability, fairness and efficiency. Their administration of the law has resulted in gaining the confidence and respect of the conflicting interest subject to their control. Great care should be exercised in the filling of vacancies on this Commission; and that should be done only with an eye single to the public good, to the end that the Commission may continue to be a body of just experts in the important matters subject to their supervision. And no small care should be exercised by the Legislature to see to it that no legislation is enacted that in any way tends to weaken or lessen the powers of this Commission.

No legislation of greater public benefit was ever enacted in this State than the law of 1906 which looks to the ultimate elimination of all our railroad-highway crossings at grade, by the annual elimination of a designated number. It appears that when this law took effect, there were in this State 924 grade issued orders eliminating substantially 76 of them, which eliminations have been so distributed that every section of the State has had the benefit thereof.

In their report for the last two years, the Public Service Commission says:

“As time goes on the grade crossings that remain present problems of increasing engineering difficulty and expense; and now the Legislature should consider whether the public good does not require a larger annual

appropriation for this work. So far we have been able to keep the expense within the requirement of the Statute, which, in effect, limits the annual expense for the elimination of grade crossings to \$100,000, for it provides that the State shall not be assessed more than twenty-five percent of such expense, nor more than \$25,000 annually.”

Those who were responsible for the enactment of this legislation realized that as time went on the condition outlined in the above quotation would later inevitably exist; that the crossings whose elimination were most difficult and expensive would not at first be eliminated. But it was hoped that when this time arrived, so many dangerous crossings would have been eliminated in all sections of the State, that our people would be so impressed with the manifest merit of the scheme, and its intimate relation to the “good roads movement,” which increases the value of every home and the enjoyment of every citizen, that such an increased appropriation would be made as would enable the work of eliminating these grade crossings to go on till all are abolished. And I earnestly commend to your careful consideration whether the time has not now arrived when an increased appropriation should be made for this work of eliminating these grade crossings.

BENEFICIARIES.

The sum of \$20,000, annually, is available for the education and care of the deaf, dumb, blind, idiotic, feeble minded or epileptic children of indigent parents, it being the object of this appropriation to educate such as are susceptible to being taught, and care for those whose condition is such that they should be in some institution peculiarly fitted for their trouble. Under the provision of this Act there are at present sixty-eight receiving State aid, being divided as follows: Feeble minded, thirty-two; deaf and dumb, twenty-two; blind, seven; epileptic, four; blind adults, three. [I] have, during my administration, approved accounts to the amount of \$35,935.78, and have made eighteen designations. While the amount which I have approved does not come up to the amount provided by the appropriation, there has been no time when the number of beneficiaries has not been sufficient to use up practically the entire amount. The reason that the full amount has not been approved is, that the accounts have not been rendered. I have had several requests to make designations, but have been unable to comply because of the conditions of the fund. There are now five applications on file. I am unable to state whether they would all be entitled to the benefits of this fund or not, but in nearly all cases where application is made, it is shown that the parents are not in financial condition to give the child the benefit of this class of schooling, or proper care in an institution. Each county clerk has been supplied with circular letters to be sent to the selectmen of each town in their respective counties, calling the attention of the Boards of Civil Authority to the requirement of our Statute, that they report the number of defective children in their towns. All towns have not reported, but from such as have reported, I gather the following statistics: There are a total of fifty-three, of which twenty-two are feeble-minded; twenty deaf and dumb; two epileptics; seven blind, and two that the ailment is not stated. None of these children are included in the number which I have given you as being in school or in some institution. It is easily seen that the number of these beneficiaries must increase from year to year. It takes practically eight years to complete the education of a child that is blind or deaf and dumb. It is manifestly poor policy to give these children a start and not allow them to complete their education. Those that are epileptic or feeble minded are constant charges and must be in an institution for many years. Therefore, if the State is to care for these unfortunates, the appropriation must be increased or some provision made to care for them within the State. They are not sufficient in number to warrant an institution with departments to care for each class, and I, therefore, recommend that the arrangements which are now in force with the different institutions be continued. I believe that all these unfortunate children of indigent parents are entitled to the same treatment, and if this is accorded them, it will be absolutely necessary to make a larger appropriation. In two cases the question as to whether the parents were able to support their children at the school has been so doubtful that I have made arrangements for the State to pay part of the expense, the parents bearing the remainder. This should be done in as many cases as possible, but in most cases it is impossible for ht parents to do practically anything.

CELEBRATION OF THE TERCENTENARY OF THE DISCOVERY OF LAKE CHAMPLAIN.

Act No. 205 of the Laws of 1908 provided for the appointment of a commission for the public celebration of the tercentenary of the discovery of Lake Champlain and the State of Vermont, and appropriated \$25,000 for this purpose and for the erection of a suitable memorial in the Champlain Valley, either by itself, or acting with

the New York State Commission, or United States Government, or societies. Under this Act a commission was duly appointed, and in connection with the New York State Commission, appointed for the same purpose, a joint celebration was held. The report of this Commission will be before you, giving in detail the work accomplished and proposed. Having been a member of that Commission I prefer that the record shall speak for itself, but I believe it to be generally conceded that it was a most successful celebration and has been productive of much good through exploiting the Champlain Valley. Thousands of people have become better acquainted with the beauties of this region because of this celebration. Other thousands have heard of Lake Champlain for perhaps the first time, and have become interested in it because of the publicity given to the exercises held at the various places on the lake. We were honored by having with us the President of the United States, and the French and British Ambassadors, as well as distinguished representatives from Canada. The bringing together of the representatives of these different countries and states has had the effect of making a stronger bond of union and friendship between them than ever existed before. Especially is this the case as between New York and Vermont, and it has seemed, therefore, to the two commissions, that it was most fitting that a joint memorial be erected to Samuel de Champlain. Many different sites have been considered and much discussed, but it has been finally decided and agreed upon by the two Commissions to erect this memorial in the form of a lighthouse at Crown Point. This form of a memorial seems to be peculiarly fitting, in view of the fact that Champlain was one of the great navigators of his time, and the placing of this lighthouse at Crown Point comes as near being on common ground as it is possible to have it. The report will give you figures showing that the Commission was able to provide the celebration, pay all necessary expenses and still have in excess of one-half the appropriation for the purpose of erecting this memorial. I wish to testify to the faithful and earnest work performed by the members of this Commission. They have labored without hope of reward except the sense of a duty well done.

DIGEST OF THE VERMONT REPORTS.

No. 204 of the Acts of 1908 provided that "in case the Digest of the Vermont reports authorize by No. 115 of the Acts of 1900, and by the contract made with Robert Roberts therein, is not published and ready for delivery on or before the first day of July, 1909, the Governor shall forthwith after said date appoint a committee of not more than three members to arrange and provide for the compilation and issue in proper and serviceable forms of a Digest of the reported decisions of the Supreme Court of this State, which shall include all cases reported up to the time of the publication of such Digest." The Digest authorized and contracted for with Robert Roberts, not having been ready for delivery on the first day of July, 1909, I immediately appointed Hon. O. M. Barbers of Bennington, Hon. Marvelle C. Webber of Rutland, and Hon. O. S. Annis of Troy, as a committee to provide a Digest under the provisions of this Act. They have completed a contract with the West Publishing Co. for such a digest to be delivered at some time during this year, and I have no doubt but they have made a wise decision, and that a Digest will be provided that will be entirely satisfactory.

EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY.

In my inaugural message I called attention to the necessity for the passage of an employers' liability act. I wish to reiterate my recommendation and to urge upon you the necessity of the passage of such a bill. Time has arrived when it is necessary that this legislation be passed, not only in the interests of the employee but of the employer. It is a matter of good sense and of justice. It should be made as general as possible and should not be confined to simply one class of employers.

JOINT RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES.

I have had forwarded to me to present to you for your action, the following joint resolution adopted by the Sixty-first Congress of the United States of America.

"Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), that the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the several States, shall be valid to all intents and purposes as a part of the Constitution:

“Article XIV. The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration.”

It will be necessary for you to take some action on this resolution, and I have no doubt that you will give such consideration to it, as a matter of such grave importance demands.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION APPOINTED TO PREPARE PROPOSALS OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

Joint resolution, No. 419, approved November 11th, 1908, provided for the appointment of a commission to propose amendments to the constitution. Under this resolution, I appointed the following commission: Hon. Frank C. Partridge, as Chairman; Hon. Frank L. Green; Hon. Allen M. Fletcher; Hon. Willis N. Cady, and Hon. Matthew G. Leary, and on January 6th, 1910, they presented me their report, which is now before you for your consideration. In making up this commission it was my desire to appoint those representing all shades of opinion and different interests, so far as possible, and I was highly gratified at being able to select a committee as nearly ideal in these respects as is this one. Their recommendations consist of eight proposals of amendment, all of which, in my judgment, should be adopted by this Legislature. Some are of greater importance than others, but all would be of benefit to the State if adopted. In this connection I wish to call your attention to a fact which is a source of great gratification, not only to myself, but especially to the committee, and that is, that this report is submitted to you as a unanimous report. Each member of this committee is, in my judgment, an independent thinker, and probably they have suggested matters which they would prefer as their personal choice, but have apparently believed that the subject was of such importance that it was much wiser to concede small things than to lose the great benefits which will be derived from the adoption of these proposals, and this is the spirit in which I hope you will deal with this matter in making your decision as to the changes suggested. It is only once in ten years under the present rule that the constitution may be changed. It has served us well, but the time has come when we should take a step forward, and keep up with the march of progress in other States. The proposals which are before you will do this, and I sincerely hope that nothing will stand in the way of their adoption.

I wish at this time, and in this public manner, to thank the members of this commission for the faithful work which they have performed without compensation. Their report will stand as an evidence of progressive thought in this State whether their recommendations are accepted or not.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION TO REVISE THE LAWS RELATING TO BANKING AND BANK INSTITUTIONS.

Joint resolution No. 418 approved December 2nd, 1908, provided for the appointment of a commission of three persons to examine all existing laws of the state relating to banking and bank institutions, revise the same and submit such revision, with an accompanying report showing the proposed changes, to the Governor on or before the first day of July, 1910. Under this joint resolution I appointed Hon. Fred A. Howland of Montpelier, Hon. Olin Merrill of Enosburg Falls, and Hon. F.H. Farrington of Brandon. They have performed their duties in a highly satisfactory manner, and I present their report for your consideration. There can be no question but that the laws relating to banking and bank institutions in this State are very much behind those of other States, and should have a thorough revision. Today it is very difficult to tell in many instances just what the meaning of the law is, and many restrictions are placed around our savings institutions which were necessary at the time they were enacted, but which should be changed to meet present conditions. The laws relating to the inspection of these institutions need serious and immediate attentions, and other matters too numerous to mention, but of the greatest importance, are treated in this report. This being one of the important matters for your consideration, I trust nothing will prevent your taking it up immediately, and giving the report serious consideration and approval. The gentlemen composing this commission are men of great experience along these lines, and their judgment has been formed after the most careful study and research. The bill presented is the result of their deliberations, and has been approved with practical unanimity by the Vermont Bankers' Association after very full consideration.

JOINT RESOLUTION RELATING TO A COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE CERTAIN CORPORATION LAWS.

Joint resolution No. 421, approved January 9th, 1909, provides for the appointment of a commission of three to examine the existing laws of the State relating to the organization, formation or incorporation of all

corporations, both public including municipal, and private, and to submit their recommendations as to the advisability of enacting a general law covering the subject matter above set forth, to the legislature at the opening of the present Session. Under this resolution I appointed Hon. Clarke C. Fitts, Hon. J. T. Gleason, and Hon. Charles D. Watson, and I have no doubt but their report will be submitted to you in due season. From the intimate knowledge which I have of the character and ability of these gentlemen I have no doubt but that it will be of great value, and worthy of your thoughtful consideration. I do, however, wish to say a word in this connection regarding the granting of special charters, and to especially call your attention to the recommendations made in the report of the Public Service Commission, which is as follows:

“Our experience and observation during the last two years leads us to repeat what we said on this subject in our last report. Special railroad charters have been granted with provisions absolutely at variance with the general law and the public good. Such provisions may have been obtained by the intention of the incorporators, but probably most often by accident. To our mind there is little, if any, need of special charters for railroad companies. Incorporation under the general law is the only safe method of granting charters to railroad companies. The general law amply provides for the protection of the incorporators and of the public, and looks toward a speedy commencement of construction work. Discouragement in the granting of special charters would mean the encouragement of *bona fide* incorporation under the general law and actual railroad construction. Under the general law charters cannot be obtained and held for purely speculative purposes for its provisions are such that only those who are ready actually to build a railroad, and are sincere in their plan so to do, will apply for incorporation. It is commonly said that special privileges are too freely granted by the Legislature, and some reason for this statement may be found in an inspection of the special railroad charters that have been granted in the past. It is easier to grant special privileges than subsequently to regulate or take them away. We therefore, recommend the passage of such a measure as will bring any inconsistencies in existing special charters into line with the general railroad law and policy of the State; and we further recommend that no new special charters be granted unless some extraordinary reason be shown therefor, and then only after the fullest possible publicity.”

Much of the time of the Legislature is given up to the consideration of special charters, both municipal and private. This is a great expense to the State, which to me seems to be entirely unnecessary, I believe there are but very few cases where it is necessary to grant a special charter, and the refusal to do so would tend to discourage other than *bona fide* enterprises. Without knowing the nature of the report of this commission, I am unable to say whether I approve of their recommendations or not, but I certainly hope that no corporation laws will be enacted that do not provide that a charter issued under the laws of this state shall mean something to the investor. I do not believe that we should grant charters for the sake of receiving revenue, or for bringing in special enterprises, except such as are on an entirely sound and substantial basis. A charter granted by this State should mean that there is something substantial behind the company so chartered, and that stock may not be issued except for a *bona fide* consideration. This matter is of the greatest importance and should be very carefully treated.

EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION.

During the last two years the State has twice been placed in a rather embarrassing position because of a lack of funds to pay its legitimate expenses. I have reference especially to the falling short of the appropriations for the administration of justice, and the re-building of the wing of the ward that was burned at the State Hospital for the Insane. No money can be drawn from the treasury that has not been appropriated by the Legislature, therefore, even though the State has a very larger amount of money on hand, it cannot pay anything in excess of the appropriation, no matter what conditions prevail. No one could be blamed for the falling short of the appropriation for the administration of justice. There was no question of extravagance, but simply that the expenses of that department were larger than were expected. Therefore, unless some one had stepped in and furnished the money to pay these bills, those to whom they were owing, would have been obliged to wait till this session of the Legislature, in most cases at great inconvenience. If the trustees of the Hospital for the Insane had not been able to save something from their regular appropriation, as well as from their special appropriation, it would have been impossible to have paid for the re-building of that ward until the Legislature had convened, even though they had received payment from the insurance companies for the loss. Some

appropriation should be made for such cases, subject to the approval of the Governor or such other state officers as you may designate, but not to be used except in cases of emergency, and then, only when absolutely necessary. I believe that such safeguards might be thrown around an appropriation of this nature as would make it entirely safe, so that it could be used only in a legitimate way.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The matter of fraudulent weights and measures has been brought to our attention more forcibly during the last year than ever before. Some months ago the United States Government sent an inspector through the State to ascertain what conditions were regarding the weights and measures being used. His report was that a very large proportion were not correct, this condition prevailing over the country. In some States there are most stringent laws regarding these matters, and provision is made for the sealing of weights and measures and for a very rigid system of inspection. Because of the importance of this subject, and at the request of some people who became interested in the matter, I called a meeting at Montpelier, consisting largely of those who are specified by law, as having these standards in their possession. The attendance was very gratifying and the interest shown was such that it was manifest that the people were becoming satisfied that a great wrong was being perpetuated. This meeting requested me to appoint a committee of five to prepare a bill and present it to this Legislature, which should seek to remedy some of the evils now so prevalent. That committee has been appointed, with Mr. Henry W. Clement, of Rutland, as its chairman, and the subject has been very thoroughly gone over. A bill will be presented to you for your action, which would be a great benefit if enacted. The matter of weights and measures enters very largely into the matter of the high cost of living. Many of the necessaries of life are bought in packages which are said to contain a certain amount, while in reality they contain very much less. Coal is sold on short weight, and even the honest farmer sometimes makes a mistake and puts up his print of butter so that it is from one to two ounces short. I commend this matter to you, and suggest that you give it very careful study when the bill is presented for your action.

GOVERNORS' CONFERENCE

Last January I had the privilege of attending a conference of Governors held in Washington, this conference being attended by about thirty Governors, the sessions continuing three days. I became convinced at this time that these conferences were very beneficial, and that Governors attending them would receive much information and gather many progressive ideas that would tend toward more uniform legislation in the various states. At the conference spoken of, which was the second which has been held, it was decided to make the organization a permanent one, and to ask the different States to sanction it, to the extent of making a sufficient appropriation for its maintenance. It is proposed to employ a permanent Secretary, who shall gather necessary information and assist in the preparation of a program for each conference, and this will entail a somewhat larger expense than in the past.

I trust you will see fit to make an appropriation for this purpose not to exceed \$500 annually. These conferences discuss matters relative to the carrying on of the State governments as well as the relations existing between the State and national governments. The next conference is to be held at Frankfort Ky., beginning November 29th, and I hope my successor will arrange to attend, if possible. When I tell you that Governors like Hughes of New York, Fort of New Jersey, Dineen of Illinois, Wilson of Kentucky, Harmon of Ohio, Hadley of Missouri, and many others are leaders in this movement and believe in it thoroughly, you will understand that there is a substantial sentiment behind it, and Vermont should participate. I hope you will act favorably on this matter.

TABLETS AND PORTRAITS.

Joint resolution No 373 of the Acts of 1902, provided for the placing in the State Capitol of a bronze tablet with a medallion portrait of Brigadier and Brevet-Major General George J. Stannard. This Act had never been taken advantage of, but was so manifestly proper, that I have caused a tablet with a medallion portrait of General Stannard to be placed in the lower hall of the State House, to be some slight testimonial of the great services rendered by him during the Civil War. This tablet was furnished by Mr. A.G. Mansur of Burlington, and is of a very high order as regards design and execution.

Joint resolution No. 399 of the Acts of 1908, provided for the placing in the State Capitol of a bronze tablet with medallion portrait of General William W. Wells, and in conformity with this Act, I have caused such a tablet to be placed in the lower hall of the State House. This tablet was designed and furnished by Miss Mary Stickney of Rutland, and it is a great satisfaction to me to have given the execution of this commission to one within the State. I am sure you will all agree with me that the tablet is a beautiful one, and a great credit to the designer.

I consider it an honor to be associated even in this way with so goodly a company as are there represented. It has been my wish to have as many of the portraits of Ex-Governors as possible in the Executive Chamber, and I have invited such as are now living, but have not done so to present the State with their portraits for that purpose. The result has been most gratifying. Ex-Governor E.J. Ormsbee has one ready for presentation that I hope to see in its proper place before I deliver this message, and three others have made definite promises to do so. Without any suggestion of mine, Mrs. Bell has presented a picture of Ex-Governor C.J. Bell, and Senator C.S. Page has presented a portrait of himself. On August 12th, having learned that Chief Judge John W. Rowell was having a portrait painted, I invited him to present it to the State to be hung in the Supreme Court room in the State House. He now informs me that he has complied with my request, which was supplemented by that of the Vermont Bar Association, and the portrait is now in place.

I hope the effort to increase the number of portraits will be continued till the collection is complete.

GRANTS TO OUR COLLEGES.

The Legislature of 1908, made increased appropriations for Norwich University, the University of Vermont, and Middlebury College, and my observation leads me to believe that all these appropriations were deserved and have been wisely expended. Within a reasonable amount there is no danger of spending too much money on our educational institutions. It is a constant struggle for them to maintain such schools as are necessary to come up to the standard that we desire. Departments of pedagogy have been formed in both the University of Vermont and Middlebury College, the appropriation of \$6,000 for Middlebury College having been made for that special purpose. The report of Dr. Thomas, President of the college, which, under the law he is instructed to make, shows that thus far the expending of this appropriation has resulted in much good and it is to such departments as this that we must look for our instructors for high schools. It is difficult to find those that can fill such positions satisfactorily, and, as I have said in another place, these teachers should be trained in the atmosphere where they are expected to teach. This does not in any way interfere with our Normal Schools but is rather an assistance to them as it furnishes a class of instructors that are not furnished by these schools. The University of Vermont has been able to place its medical school on a sound basis, because of the assistance rendered by their appropriation. This is a source of much gratification to those interested in the college. Norwich University shows its great value to the State because eighty-five percent of the scholars in attendance are from this State.

CONCLUSION.

The two years just past have been years of great activity and prosperity in this State. The degree of prosperity is indicated by the great increase in deposits in our savings institutions, amounting to something over \$4,600, 000 during the last year; the greatest increase, with one exception, in the history of the State, and that year was the one just after permission had been given to increase the amount that could be deposited in these institutions. We must, therefore, conclude that prosperity has been greater during the past year than ever before. Our factories, quarries and mills are well employed and there is no reason to fear any serious depression at the present time. There has been much activity along progressive lines. The Tercentenary Celebration was the beginning of a movement for greater publicity and has resulted in exploiting the beauties of the State and its agricultural and manufacturing advantages as has nothing else in its history. The desire manifested for better highways, the demand for newer and better laws, is a sign of progress and everything points to a steady advance for the future. It lays with you to say what legislation shall be passed. I can only recommend that the laws be as few as possible as I can see no need of a great mass of legislation. I fear that many if not most legislators do not improve their opportunities by studying the reports of the State Officers, feeling that they are a mass of dry statistics which it would be hard to comprehend, but this is far from the truth, as the reports are filled with

information that is of the greatest value. The recommendations made therein are the result of a study of conditions surrounding their office and their official acts, and should not be thrown aside without thoughtful consideration on your part. I have been very much gratified at the way the business of the State has been carried on by its officials. Cases have been very rare when I have felt the necessity for fault finding, and as I lay down the duties of my office I do so with a feeling that the interests of the State are in safe hands, and with no fears for the future.

GUY W. BAILEY,

Secretary of State, Clerk.