

for supplies that are not needed. In other cases illegal fees are charged purposely and with intent to defraud, and bidders for supplies and county work are let in on the ground floor through favoritism or for a division of the profits. . . . In addition to ferreting out abuses and seeking to prevent graft the work of the new accounting board is to be largely educational. In connection with it a system of uniform accounting for all public offices has been devised, and books and forms to be used in keeping records and making reports have been prepared, and all officers will be required to adhere to them.

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#### Boston Under Her New Charter.

Boston will hold her first election under her new charter (vol. xii, p. 1091) on the 11th. The provisions for the nomination of non-partisan candidates for Mayor and for a smaller council of eight members, upon nomination papers signed by 5,000 voters each, have produced political activity on somewhat new lines. James J. Storrow, a prominent banker (vol. xii, p. 1154); Mayor George A. Hibbard, former Mayor John F. Fitzgerald and Nathaniel H. Taylor, a journalist, are the mayoralty candidates. Mr. Storrow has thus announced his platform:

I am a candidate for Mayor because I hope to advance the welfare of all the people of Boston.

I don't want to be called a reformer. I don't want to be called a business candidate. I do want to be called a candidate who stands for clean, practical, progressive government.

I don't pretend to be any better than 100,000 other men in Boston. I have made mistakes. If you elect me Mayor I may make some more. I can only promise to do my level best in the interest of all.

Boston is too often spoken of as a corporation. I see in the city government some people working for all the people. I won't ask any city employe to work any harder than I will.

We must all work together to make Boston a better city. We want Boston to be the ideal city of homes and industry.

I shall try to keep the streets in the tenement sections of the city as clean as Tremont street.

I am opposed to giving any special privilege to any corporation or to any individual.

The problem is how to spend \$85,000,000 during the next four years so as to get the most for the people of Boston.

It is a big problem. It will require hard work. It will require systematic planning.

We must not put our money into miles of useless unconnected sewers. Sewers must be built, but they must be built for use.

Money must be saved for schools, more streets, better streets, cleaner streets and other things the people need.

A small part of the money wasted, if put into the hands of a determined, intelligent and tireless Board of Health would prevent much sickness and save many lives.

Why should we not have a Board of Health famous for its efficiency? Why should not our city be

known all over the country for its good streets and its clean streets?

Good and efficient government means that Boston will go forward. It will be a gain to the laborer, the mechanic and the merchant.

If extravagance reigns at City Hall, if the debt continues to pile up, the tax rate to increase, capital will become timid, industries languish and our people suffer. The growth of the city will be stunted and more men out of work.

He who sets class against class is an enemy of the people. To attain his selfish end he divides the house against itself.

I do not intend to be a routine Mayor. I will cooperate with any group of citizens to get new industries for Boston, new steamship lines, better railroad facilities, and do anything in my power to build up the city.

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#### Mayor Gaynor Installed.

William J. Gaynor assumed his duties as Mayor of New York (vol. xii, p. 1095) on the 1st. On the same day he offered the position of Park Commissioner for Manhattan and Richmond to Herman Ridder (vol. xii, p. 968), the publisher of the Staats Zeitung. After considering the offer, Mr. Ridder declined it on the 3d. Other appointments were given out on the 2d. Calvin Tomkins has been appointed Commissioner of Docks, and Edward W. Bemis is to be First Deputy Commissioner of Water, Gas and Electricity. Professor Bemis has been, under Mayor Johnson, the head of the water department of Cleveland, which, Mayor Gaynor says, "it is conceded he has made the model water department of the country" (vol. xii, p. 1026).

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#### Close of Mayor Johnson's Administration.

On the 1st Herman C. Baehr succeeded Tom L. Johnson as mayor of Cleveland.

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One of the last acts of the retiring city council was to authorize at its final meeting on the 27th, the erection of a rostrum, by Thomas G. Fitzsimons as trustee, for a memorial to the late Dr. L. B. Tuckerman, father of municipal ownership, as he has been termed by his admirers. City Clerk Witt had had a model of the rostrum in his office for some time.

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On the day before his assumption of office Mr. Baehr announced that Supt. Jas. F. Jackson of the Associated Charities was to become Superintendent of Charities and Correction, a new office; and that R. R. Christian, defeated candidate for the Republican nomination for city treasurer, would be made superintendent of the Warrensville farm.

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At the City Hall on the 1st, in welcoming his

successor to the office from which he was retiring, Mayor Johnson thus spoke of his nine years' service, reports the Cleveland Plain Dealer:

"I have served the people for nearly nine years," he began. His voice began to break then and it was with a perceptible effort that he continued. A hush that reached to the furthestmost corner of the open rooms fell over the assemblage.

"I have had more of misfortune in those nine years than in any other period of my life," continued Mr. Johnson. "As that is true it is also true that I have had more of joy. In those nine years I have given the biggest and the best part of me.

"I served the people of Cleveland the best I knew how."

Then turning to his successor he said: "I thank you very much and wish you success in every way."

The Cleveland Press of the 1st thus sums up the work of the retiring Mayor and the promises of the incoming Mayor:

**What Citizen Tom Did When Mayor:**

Won long battle for lower street car fare.

Started the group plan of municipal buildings.

Took "keep off the grass" signs from the parks.

Added \$17,000,000 to public service corporation valuation for taxes. Later lopped off by the Republican state board at Columbus.

Fought for a better municipal code after street railway interests had knocked out the old code.

Established free public bath houses and developed bathing beaches.

Eliminated 16 grade crossings.

Secured annexation of Newburg, Brooklyn and Corlett. Municipal lighting plant came in with Brooklyn.

Made garbage collection and reduction a municipal institution.

Gave clean streets, and more miles of paved streets and sewers than all his predecessors combined.

Reduced price of electric street lighting from \$87 to \$57 a lamp a year.

Reduced price of street gas from \$32 to \$12 a lamp a year.

Established municipal ash and rubbish collection.

Was chief figure in securing Paine municipal code and civil service law.

Established boys' farm at Hudson.

Started Cooley farms at Warrensville.

Developed park, boulevard and playground systems.

**What Mayor Baehr Promises:**

To secure a new union depot.

To build a high level bridge.

To erect a new city hall and push the completion of the group plan.

To straighten and deepen the river and improve harbor facilities.

To complete negotiations with the passenger steamship lines for use of East Ninth street pier.

To reduce running expenses of city. He has begun by cutting \$500,000 from appropriations ordinance.

To run the city as he would a big business establishment.

On the afternoon of the 1st Mr. Johnson left Cleveland for the East for a five weeks' rest. Upon his return he will take up quarters in his new offices in the American Trust Building.

## NEWS NOTES

—The French Chamber of Deputies (vol. xii, p. 1139) passed a high tariff bill on the 29th, by a vote of 365 to 42.

—The aged Leo Tolstoy (vol. xii, p. 1163) is reported to be suffering from bronchitis and inflammation of the liver, and to be very ill.

—The home of Lincoln Steffens at Riverside, Conn., was seriously damaged by fire on the last day of the year.

—The American Institute of Architects held its annual convention in Washington on December 14, 15 and 16. I. K. Pond of Chicago was elected president.

—Herbert John Gladstone, youngest son of the "g. o. m.," or "grand old man," is to be the first Viceroy of the Federated States of South Africa (vol. xii, pp. 875, 891, 915).

—Colonel James Gordon of Okolona has been appointed to the United States Senate by the Governor of Mississippi, in the place of the late A. J. McLaurin (vol. xii, p. 1256).

—D. O. Mills, banker and philanthropist, died suddenly at his home near San Francisco on the 2nd, in the 85th year of his age. Mr. Mills was the founder of the Mills hotels for men in New York.

—Philip S. E. Griffith, of Greenfield, Mo., was nominated by the Republicans of the 6th Missouri District on the 28th, to succeed the late David A. De Armond in the United States Senate (vol. xii, pp. 1163, 1256).

—A general strike is threatened by so-called anarchists at Barcelona, Spain, unless amnesty shall be granted to those still in prison on charges of having taken part in the disorders of last summer (vol. xii, pp. 780, 825).

—The Turkish Grand Vizier, Hilmi Pasha, has resigned with his entire cabinet (vol. xii, p. 469). Disagreements among the more radical factions, among which Hilmi Pasha belonged, are held to be the cause of the resignations.

—The editor of The Public, who sailed on the Lake Champlain from St. John's, N. B., for Liverpool on Christmas day (vol. xii, p. 1225), cabled from Liverpool on the 5th that he had arrived at that port on time, had had good weather, and was well.

—The seismograph in the weather bureau at Washington recorded violent earth shocks on the morning of the 1st, originating apparently about 2,000 miles south of Washington. Shocks have been reported from the Yucatan peninsula in Mexico and from the West Indies.

—The centenary of the birth of William Ewart Gladstone was commemorated on the 29th, not alone in England, but also in such countries as Greece, the Balkan provinces and Armenia, where the memory