

200,901
129

VETO MESSAGES

TRANSMITTED BY

WALTER E. EDGE, GOVERNOR

TO THE

One Hundred and Forty-third Session

of the

New Jersey Legislature

1919

N.J. STATE LIBRARY
PO. BOX 120
TRENTON, NJ 08646-0120

VETO MESSAGES

By WALTER E. EDGE, Governor

SENATE BILL No. 41.

April 12, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 41.

This bill attempts to define floating indebtedness and to authorize and direct the funding of floating indebtedness and other indebtedness in any municipality of the State, and appears to be a re-enactment of chapter 153 of the Laws of 1917, except that it extends the provisions of that act to later dates and also *provides that its provisions shall only be effective in municipalities which have not made a tabulation of outstanding indebtedness as provided in chapter 153 of the Laws of 1917.*

The query that arises in this case is whether or not the italicized portion above limits the application of this act in such a day as to create an unconstitutional classification, and I am inclined to believe that it does, especially in view of a decision in the case of *Murphy v. Long Branch*, 61 Atl. 593, Public Laws of 1905, page 407, attempting to validate proceedings by cities, being limited to cities "heretofore voting," which act was held to be special legislation, and, therefore, unconstitutional.

Therefore, approval is withheld.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

[SEAL.]

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

N.J. STATE LIBRARY
P.O. BOX 520
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0520

SENATE BILL No. 61.

April 14, 1919

To the State Librarian:

I file herewith in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 61.

This bill, in reality, raises the salary of helping teachers over fifty per cent., which would seem an unusual raise. I would

have been very glad to approve this bill if the system put into effect two years ago had been adopted; that of automatic raises for continuous service, instead of the arbitrary raise, whether the helping teacher had been employed one year or ten.

Again, I object to the bill striking out the provision of the act it amends wherein all such appointments must be approved by the State Board of Education as well as the Commissioner.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL, No. 64.

April 15, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I file herewith in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 64.

Two different plans for meeting the possible emergency of a wholesale and retail liquor license payment after July first have been proposed by the present Legislature. Senate Bills 64 and 65 comprise one plan, a plan of paying for license fees in monthly installments; and Assembly Bill No. 20 provides the other plan, of paying the entire license fee as usual but with the proviso that in case of prohibition there shall be a rebate to the licensee based on the proportion that the period of prohibition for the year bears to the total license fee of the fiscal year. Of course, to adopt both plans would be confusing, and I have chosen the plan proposed in House Bill No. 20 as the better of the two. Therefore, I file this Senate Bill in the Library without my approval.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 65.

April 15, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I file herewith in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 65.

Two different plans for meeting the possible emergency of a wholesale and retail liquor license payment after July first have been proposed by the present Legislature. Senate Bills 64 and 65 comprise one plan, a plan of paying for license fees in monthly instalments; and Assembly Bill No. 20 provides the other plan, of paying the entire license fee as usual but with the proviso that in case of prohibition there shall be a rebate to the licensee based on the proportion that the period of prohibition for the year bears to the total license fee of the fiscal year. Of course, to adopt both plans would be confusing, and I have chosen the plan proposed in House Bill No. 20 as the better of the two. Therefore, I file this Senate Bill in the Library without my approval.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 81.

April 17, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 81.

This bill was undoubtedly intended to serve a good purpose, but after careful investigation I believe that the home rule legislation of the State covers the subject thoroughly. Paragraph 8, Article 25, of the Act of 1917, known as the "Home Rule Act," provides that the owner or tenant of lands abutting or bordering upon the sidewalk of public streets, etc., may be required to remove grass, weeds or other impediments by ordinance. If this section does not cover the specific power sought by the bill under consideration, the same should be conferred by amendment to the home rule act and not by another particular law. Otherwise we would be drifting off into the same condition that existed before the enactment of home rule legislation.

In the interest of systematic and easily accessible municipal legislation, I am withholding my approval from this bill.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL, No. 91.

April 15, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 91.

There is no proviso in the bill to the effect that the act does not apply in the event that the recital in the preamble is true.

It cuts off the claims of any person which are founded upon claims granted by the State of New Jersey. In other words, it vests the title in the party named in the act to the exclusion of any person or persons who may have received an interest in said lands directly from the State. What was intended, no doubt, was to cut off the interest of the State itself, but the act goes further than that and precludes anyone claiming from the State Treasurer, or in any other manner from the State itself.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL, No. 106.

April 17, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 106.

I regret exceedingly the necessity of filing this bill without my approval, as it bears evidence of a great deal of hard, conscientious work and of remarkably careful preparation. However, in going over the bill section by section and as a general

proposition with legal experts and with men experienced in the practical operation of our election laws, I am convinced that the enactment of this codification would serve only to add to the confusion which already exists with reference to the election laws of the State. The bill does not contain any specific repealer, but merely provides that any act or parts of acts inconsistent with Senate 106 are repealed. The effect of this would be to oblige anyone endeavoring to find out what the law of the State was on any particular question to consider the codification along with every other election act now on the statute books. The confusion that would result is manifest. Certainly, any codification which requires such a painstaking reference to all previous legislation on the subject of elections is not a good basis for codifying and beginning anew. It occurs to me that when any codification of election laws was attempted the method adopted for home rule legislation ought to be followed—that is, the codification should be made to take effect a year in advance of its enactment and there should be specific repealers of each and every statute relating to the subject codified, so that municipal officials, State officials, and others conversant with the practical workings of election laws would have ample opportunity to study the proposed codification and to call the attention of the Legislature to any errors or amendments found necessary at a succeeding session of the Legislature in advance of the date of the act becoming effective.

I have found a number of more or less serious omissions and errors in going over the various sections, but these are for the most part of a trivial nature, and I should have unhesitatingly approved of the codification but for the general and fatal defect referred to.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

[SEAL.]

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 149.

April 15, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 149.

Chapter 152 of the Laws of 1917 (the "Home Rule" Act)

to purchase engines, apparatus, equipment, etc., for the fire department.

Chapter 252 of the Laws of 1916 confers authority for the issuing of bonds for the purchase of fire engines, etc., which bonds shall mature in not exceeding ten years. Another section of this same act permits the issuance of temporary improvement notes or bonds, but compels them to mature in one year.

Chapter 243 of the Laws of 1918, by section 4, requires the Sinking Fund Commission of each municipality to make calculations of sinking fund requirements for the year and to include the amount necessary to retire the proportionate share of the bonds or indebtedness during that fiscal year to be included in the annual budget and tax ordinance.

Therefore, there is at present sufficient legislation upon the statute books to permit a town or village to carry out the purpose of this act without any additional legislation. It has been the policy of the Legislature during the last few years to delegate to municipalities powers by general laws, and it seems inexpedient now to nullify that action by the passage of special acts for particular cases.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

[SEAL.]
Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 158.

April 14, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I file herewith in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 158.

While the raise from \$300 to \$600 for the purpose of superintending the burial of soldiers where the family or friends cannot be found does not seem excessive, at the same time it appears to me that this is hardly a responsibility which ought in the first place even call for a special salary, but rather should be handled by the authorities who would ordinarily look after such a responsibility. I see no reason for the increase.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

[SEAL.]
Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 178.

April 15, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 178.

I heartily approve of the humanitarian purpose of this bill, but I withhold my approval for the following reasons: First, because the title is defective in that it is apparently intended to amend chapter 147 of the Laws of 1918, but fails to do so; second, the section mentioned as amended in the bill does not appear in chapter 147 of the Laws of 1918; and third, I feel that this bill ought not to become a law at this time for the reason that the entire subject should be taken up and a comprehensive revision provided according to a carefully thought-out plan devised by the State Department of institutions and agencies and the courts.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION No. 2.

April 12, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library Senate Joint Resolution No. 2, for the reason that the sum of money required to carry out the provisions of this Joint Resolution has not been included in the Appropriation Bill as passed by the Legislature.

Therefore the resolution, if enacted, without the necessary funds, would be inoperative, and cannot, for this reason, have my approval.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION No. 3.

April 14, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Joint Resolution No. 3.

Nothing can be accomplished by appointing a commission to do business, for which no appropriation is made. The rule of the State House Commission is that they cannot appropriate any money from the Supplemental Fund, except to supplement an appropriation of a department already recognized and for which money has been appropriated by the Legislature. If the State House Commission assumed the power to finance propositions that had not been so recognized by previous legislative enactment it can readily be seen where a justifiable criticism of the Commission's actions would most naturally follow.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION No. 4.

April 12, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Joint Resolution No. 4 for the reason that the funds necessary to carry out the provisions of the resolution were not included in the annual appropriation bill, and, therefore, the resolution, even if approved, would be inoperative.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 52.

April 12, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 52.

This bill would change the provisions of chapter 193 of the Laws of 1876 by providing that only one director of a water works or water supply company need be a resident of the State, whereas chapter 193 provided that a majority of the directors should be residents of the State, and also by eliminating the requirement that notice of election for directors should be given the stockholders. The requirements as to the notice contained in chapter 193 is as follows: "Three weeks' notice thereof shall be given by publication in at least two official newspapers, if so many there be in general circulation in such municipality."

I believe the elimination of both of these requirements, and especially the requirement of notice of election of directors, are unsafe and unwise, and I am unwilling, therefore, to give the bill my approval.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 53.

April 12, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library Assembly Bill No. 53, without my approval.

This bill attempts to amend section 8 of chapter 210 of the Laws of 1918 by providing that only one of the directors need be a resident of this State, and by eliminating the requirement that notice of election for directors should be given to the stockholders. The requirements as to the notice contained in chapter 210 are as follows: "Three weeks' notice thereof shall be given by publication in at least two official newspapers, if so many there be in general circulation in such municipality."

I believe the elimination of both of these requirements, and especially the requirement of notice of election of directors, are unsafe and unwise, and I am unwilling; therefore, to give the bill my approval.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 64.

April 12, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I file herewith in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 64.

Instead of expressing the real meaning of this bill in clear and concise language, as all laws ought to do, the drafters of this bill have left the construction thereof entirely to the courts, and this makes the bill undesirable and troublesome, and because of this I withhold my approval.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 71.

April 17, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I file herewith in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 71.

Lines 41 to 46 of Assembly Bill No. 71 provide that in the case of a corporation engaged in the business of manufacturing or mining in this State as aforesaid, which has all or a part of its shares issued without nominal or par value, the location of the investment of the capital represented by such shares without nominal or par value shall be used in determining the applicability of this act or the deductions to be made as aforesaid. I am

wondering if in the case of a corporation which has both par value and non-par value stock, and perhaps more than one kind of each such class of stock, it is always going to be practicable to tell what particular property is represented by any particular kind of stock. For instance, is it not possible that several properties, some located within and some without New Jersey, a corporation might issue both par value and non-par value shares without allocating all or any part of either thereof to the purchase of the New Jersey properties? In such a case I do not see how the riddle is to be solved. While in the ordinary case there might be no such complication, still I do not feel like approving this legislation in view of the doubt.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 73.

April 17, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I file herewith in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 73.

I have concluded that it is necessary to disapprove of Assembly Bills 71 and 74, which are the bills seeking to give the State non-par value stock legislation, and since the bill under consideration, Assembly 73, simply provides for fees and certain other details under the non-par value system, of course, it is necessary to file this bill in the Library without my approval.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 74.

April 17, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I file herewith in the State Library Assembly Bill No. 74.

Section 121 of Assembly Bill No. 74 provides that a corporation may issue and sell nominal or par value shares from time to time "for money or for the purchase of mines, manufactories or other property necessary for its business, or the stock of any company or companies owning mining, manufacturing or producing materials or other property necessary for its business," etc. There is no express provision in Assembly Bill No. 74 against such shares being issued by a company engaged in trade or commerce for the whole or any part of the share capital of one or more other companies similarly engaged where the effect may be to substantially lessen competition between such companies or to restrain trade or commerce, or tend to create a monopoly, as there is in the case of stock authorized to be issued under chapter 195 of the Laws of 1917. The proposed new law contains an express repealer of all inconsistent acts or parts of acts, and if it becomes a law a question may arise as to whether or not the issue by a corporation of its non-par value shares for the shares of one or more other corporations is subject to this wise prohibition of such earlier legislation, which was enacted only for the purpose of removing some of the unwise and harmful provisions of the "Seven Sister Clause," but of putting our law on this important subject in harmony with the Federal law. It is possible, therefore, that the provisions of section 2 of the Act of 1917 would be regarded as repealed by this later act, and that the exchange of non-par value shares for similar shares of one or more other corporations, would not be prohibited even though the result were to permit the evil heretofore sought to be prevented by the act of 1917. On account of this doubt, I withhold my approval.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR ASSEMBLY
BILL No. 90.

April 14, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I file herewith in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill No. 90.

Only last year a law was passed placing the salaries of sergeants-at-arms and court criers in first class counties on a graded basis, based on length of service. The act of 1918 was in accordance with the businesslike policy of basing increases on length of service, and I see no reason for changing this method. The bill under consideration would nullify this act of 1918 and would place the matter of fixing salaries of the officials affected in the hands of the judges of the various Courts of Common Pleas. I like the plan provided in the 1918 statute much better, and therefore withhold approval to this bill.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 108.

April 12, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I file herewith in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 108, for the reason that, in the first place, I consider the increase provided under the bill as a questionable one, and in the second place, the bill is defective in form, as it purports to be an amendment to "An act concerning District Courts" (Revision of 1898), whereas it is really a supplement, and, therefore, cannot have my approval.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 147.

April 15, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 147.

This bill would permit associations of spiritualists to incorporate under the General Religious Society Act of 1873. The effect of the bill might be to exempt from taxation the property of spiritualist societies, providing the organizations were to prove that their buildings were actually and exclusively used for religious worship. As I am opposed to the extension of the tax exemption policy, I withhold my approval.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 161.

April 17, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library Assembly Bill No. 161, without my approval.

I cannot approve this bill for the reason that it is defective in construction. The bill is clearly inoperative because it seeks to amend a title which no longer exists, having been changed by Senate 160, now Chapter 97, P. L. 1919, approved April 11th, 1919.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR ASSEMBLY BILL
No. 165.

April 15, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill No. 165.

This amendment has many commendable features, but likewise covers many misdemeanors under the Crimes Act, and thereby permits a smaller penalty to be imposed than is now provided. The opportunity for abuse under such a bill would be great. I am constrained to believe that the bill, if enacted into law, would even operate to lighten the penalty against persons convicted of violating the laws against white slavery. I have no doubt that the intention of the Legislature was good, but it permits of so much abuse that I withhold my approval.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

N.J. STATE LIBRARY
P.O. BOX 520
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0520

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 189.

April 15, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 189.

I recognize that this legislation is intended to meet particular cases where the enactment of such a law might result in much good. Nevertheless, I hesitate to approve the bill for the reason that as a general proposition I feel it is against the interest of morality.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 171.

April 15, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 171.

I would approve this bill if it provided alone for the raising of the salaries of the assistant prosecutors of first class counties from \$4,000 to \$5,000, as I feel that \$5,000 is not too large a salary for a competent assistant prosecutor with the great amount of work he is called upon to perform in counties of this class. But the bill, in addition to raising the salaries, also increases the number of assistant prosecutors from three to four. In Essex county there are but two regular assistants, and I am informed, from time to time, when necessary, special assistants are retained. This practice has also been in effect in Hudson county, I understand, and, of course, can be continued without this bill. If the bill is approved providing for four assistants, I assume that four will be appointed, and I believe all of the interests of each county could be protected through the present plan of using special assistants as required.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 200.

April 17, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 200.

While the purpose of this bill is most commendable, I cannot give my sanction to the method of appropriating moneys which is provided for in section 14. This section provides for a mandatory annual appropriation of \$3,000, to continue indefinitely, the money to come out of the treasury belonging to the general funds, and not otherwise appropriated. On numerous occasions the Administration has given notice of its opinion that this method of appropriating money, entirely aside from the regular

appropriation bill and without regard to the wishes of succeeding Legislatures, is not in line with the policy of business which the State has been attempting to follow. For this reason, and this reason alone, I withhold my approval.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 207.

April 17, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I file herewith in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 207.

The intent and purpose of this bill are good and I approve of both. However, the bill is so drawn as to strike a blow at the civil service system in this State. I refer particularly to section 2, wherein power is given to the board of managers of a county hospital to appoint and to remove at pleasure not only a superintendent or warden, but also such other officers or employees as they may deem necessary. This means that all employees under the superintendent or warden are automatically taken out of the civil service, and the bill is, therefore, bad in principle.

I find another objection in section 4, which apparently allows the issuing of emergency notes or bonds if an appropriation has not been made to maintain the hospital. It appeals to me that this is a loose method of financing.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 210.

April 11, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I hereby file Assembly Bill No. 210 in the State Library without my approval.

The present Civil Service Commission is the result of a reorganization of civil service put into effect under my recommendation at the Session of 1917. The terms of commissioners under the reorganization bill are five years. I selected the Civil Service Commissioners, as provided, by the bill, and the term of said commissioners has not been half served. It is inconceivable to approve a bill raising a salary of these officers even before the end of the first five-year term.

I thoroughly appreciate the importance of this work, but the positions are not such as to require the entire time of the commissioners, and such service is not expected. If it was, of course, the salary of two thousand dollars would be totally inadequate. From my personal knowledge, a majority, if not all of the members of the commission, are engaged in other business, which it is expected they should be, and, therefore, I do not measure the salary of two thousand dollars at all from the standpoint of expecting for the State the entire time of the members of the commission.

In addition to this, any efforts to increase the salary of any official before he has at least served out the original term for which he was appointed, is a practice which should be emphatically disapproved.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 219.

April 15, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I file herewith in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 219.

There has not been any provisions made in the appropriation bill for any increase whatever, so that if approved there would be no funds from which to pay such increase.

While I am convinced that there should be a readjustment of salaries of the county superintendents of schools, at the same time I am not satisfied with the classification as provided by this bill. It is well known that particularly in the counties having larger populations that the responsibility of the superintendency of schools is to a great extent divided because of many city superintendents, where in many large rural counties there are no city superintendents and a county superintendent has the entire responsibility. Therefore, it does not appeal to me as an equitable classification to use the ordinary classification of counties as considered in arriving at salaries for county judges, prosecutors, sheriffs, etc. Again, I cannot approve of the provision of a minimum and maximum, the exact amount to be decided by the Commissioner of Education with the approval of the State Board. This, in my judgment, will result in great dissatisfaction if all superintendents are not given the same consideration. Salaries for public service must be fixed, and then it is my judgment that for periods of service automatic increases should be allowed, and this policy I have been putting into effect in many departments of the State service. I regret the necessity of this veto because, as stated, I really feel that for this very responsible position some increases are justified, but the bill in the form it reaches me cannot have my approval.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 232.

April 17, 1919,

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 232.

The effect of this bill is to nullify the so-called Winne Acts, which placed certain offices in first class counties on a self-sustaining basis. The bill excludes the office of county clerk from the provision that salaries and the compensation of deputies and assistants shall not in any year exceed the revenue of the office. In my judgment, the legislation placing offices in first class coun-

ties on a self-sustaining basis, in the interest of economic administration, has met State-wide approval, and I will not be a party to the weakening of it in any respect. I might add that the bill could not be approved under any circumstances for the reason that it has reached me with an amendment, adopted on the last day of the legislative session, in separate typewritten form and in no way a part of the bill which has been presented to me for consideration.

[SEAL.]

Respectfully,
WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 233.

April 17, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I file herewith in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 233.

I withhold my signature from this bill for the same reasons as I gave for withholding approval from Assembly Bill No. 232. It strikes at the principle of self-sustaining county offices as provided for in the so-called Winne Acts, which have met with public approbation. If enacted, it would have precisely the same effect as Assembly Bill No. 232 in that it would permit the salaries of employees of the county clerk's office in first class counties to exceed the revenues of the office. Like Assembly Bill No. 232 this bill also comes to me with the eleventh hour amendment in typewritten form instead of being incorporated into the bill which has been presented to me for consideration.

[SEAL.]

Respectfully,
WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 244.

April 12, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 244, for the reason that under Senate Bill 192, now Chapter 98, P. L. 1919, Atlantic and Monmouth counties, which House Bill 244 affects, are given the benefit, along with certain other counties in the State, of a higher maximum salary for county detectives and for a chief detective at a salary practically equalling the maximum which House 244 would fix. Furthermore, Senate 192 permits the length of service which any county detective may have had in a municipal police department to be taken into consideration in ascertaining the length of service on which salary increases are based.

It seems to me that under these circumstances Assembly Bill 244 is unnecessary. I might add that I cannot agree that it is consistent to pay county detectives in counties of 82,000 and 107,000 population, respectively, a higher salary than is paid to detectives in many other counties of the State of considerably greater population, including Passaic with 236,000.

To enact Assembly Bill 244 would be to absolutely destroy any uniformity of county detective salaries among the various counties of the State.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 254.

April 12, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I file herewith in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 254.

The object of this bill is most commendable and I heartily endorse it. The bill, however, provides for a mandatory appropriation of \$75,000 to carry out the provisions of the act, *i. e.*, the further development of rehabilitation of industrial victims through the agency of the State's industrial schools. The appro-

priation bill has passed the Legislature without including this item, so that the bill is thus rendered inoperative.

However, another bill, Senate 118, providing for New Jersey's development and further solution of the same problem has become a law and \$55,000 has been appropriated in the appropriation bill for that purpose.

I am endeavoring through the appointment of the commission provided by Senate 118 to combine the activities of the industrial schools with the Department of Education, the Department of Labor and such other State agencies as have been working on the subject.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 257.

April 17, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I file herewith, in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 257, Committee Substitute.

This bill provides a different method of paying the salaries of court interpreters in different counties. This seems to be a very doubtful proceeding and subversive of uniformity. Furthermore, the real purpose of the bill seems to be to pick out one man in one of the counties of the State and to give him certain advantages which would not accrue to other court interpreters in practically the same circumstances. I very strongly disapprove of the principle of such pointedly special legislation.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 267.

April 12, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 267.

It is my belief that legislation which would affect proceedings now pending for the altering or vacating of any road might lead to confusion and tend to complicate such proceedings. Pending proceedings ought not to be disturbed, and the approval of this act might have that effect.

Therefore, approval is withheld.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 281.

April 12, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 281.

This bill provides for the postponement of the first payment on bonds that have been issued for work or improvements authorized under a general act relating to boroughs (Revision of 1897), in cases where the work has been commenced but not completed. This is clearly in violation of Article IV, section 7, paragraph 3, of the State Constitution, which provides, among other things, that "The Legislature shall not pass any * * * law impairing the obligation of contracts or depriving a party of any remedy for enforcing a contract which existed when the contract was made."

The bonds issued by the municipality form a contract between the municipality and the purchaser. The consideration therein expressed, as well as the due date of the principal and interest thereon, represent in all respects a complete contract. Any at-

tempt made by the Legislature to impair the obligation so made, in my mind, is a direct violation of the constitutional inhibition above cited.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 283.

April 17, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 283.

This bill, while introduced by Assemblyman Finley, of Essex county, apparently only affects in a serious way Bergen and Middlesex and Morris counties. I have heard no expression on the part of Bergen county officials in favor of this bill. The feeling in Bergen county seems to be that the present debt limit is sufficiently liberal and that it is not wise or prudent to increase it. Both Middlesex and Morris counties will receive a substantial return under the provision of chapter 16 of the Laws of 1919. This will relieve the road situation, which is the matter which is urgent in those counties. The bill is the only one passed this session that in any way seriously interferes with the Pierson Finance Law. It would break down the safeguard of our debt limit. The bill provides for increasing the borrowing capacity of counties to the extent of one half per cent. of their average ratables, whereas the present law provides a limit of two per cent. for county indebtedness, but gives an extra leeway of one-half per cent. after the passage of the act so as not to entirely restrict borrowing until such time as the counties can readjust their improvement program. I believe an extension would reflect seriously upon the credit of every municipality and county within the State. The belief that the extension would run only for a year fails to remove my doubt, as once this privilege is granted and used to any degree, it is difficult to blot out the precedent. My doubt is not dissipated either by the fact that the bill originated apparently in Essex county, whereas, as a matter of fact, the legislation can scarcely be needed for counties like Essex and Hudson, which at this time have a free borrowing

power of about \$4,000,000, their net debt now being about one and one-half per cent. of their ratables. To approve this bill would be to increase their free borrowing power about three and a half million dollars in each case.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 291.

April 14, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 291 for the reason that the official records show that it did not pass the Senate, and, therefore, reached the Governor's office improperly.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 298.

April 12, 1919.

To the Legislature:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 298.

This bill is an attempt to do away with the necessity of going through the formalities of extraditing a fugitive from justice where he is willing to waive his right to demand requisition papers for his return to the State in which he is charged with an offense. This would open up a very loose method of securing fugitives from justice and might possibly permit the trumping up of charges against persons, where if they had to go through the formality of requisition papers, such charges would not exist.

Under the provisions of the law the requisition papers are forwarded by the Governor to the Attorney-General to determine

whether they comply with the formalities of the statute, and this protection the fugitive would be asked to waive if this bill becomes a law.

I do not feel that I am ready to let down the bars in the matter of extradition, and, besides, I deem it very questionable whether any legislation affecting extradition is a matter for State legislation. It is a matter governed almost entirely by the Federal Constitution and Federal statutes, and is thus a matter for Federal regulation.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 331.

April 14, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 331.

To my mind this bill would give too much power to the Commissioner of Education. I do not believe in putting any obstacle in the way of persons wishing to become nurses, other than is already prescribed in the law. The demand for trained nurses is very great, especially at this time, and for this reason I believe Assembly Bill No. 331 can serve no good or necessary purpose if enacted at this time.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 334.

April 15, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I file herewith in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 334.

The bill is intended to permit local improvements started under earlier laws to be completed under the provisions of this bill, but it is not apparent to me how the amendment extends the power to complete improvements heretofore started. In its present form the amendment seems to merely make a change in the phraseology of the section without changing its scope and effect.

The object of the bill may be a proper one, but in my opinion the amendment, as drawn, does not accomplish the purpose that is intended.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 341.

April 15, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I file herewith in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 341.

I can see no real necessity for any such legislation. Chapter 223 of the Laws of 1914 provides that the child to whom a schooling certificate is issued in order that he may work shall be above the age of fourteen years. Chapter 252, Laws of 1914, provides that no corporation, firm or person owning or operating industries shall employ, hire or permit any child under the age of sixteen years to work therein unless that child shall produce an age and schooling certificate as provided by law. Therefore the class of children under consideration in House 241 is that class who are between fourteen and sixteen years of age and yet who have not succeeded in advancing themselves in the schools above the seventh grade, whereas the present law puts the limit at the fifth grade. It seems to me that nothing worth while is to be accomplished by legislating in such a way for children of

that subnormal mentality that has operated against their concluding the seventh grade at their fourteenth year. Normal children certainly complete the seventh grade by the thirteenth year, and, in fact, I have ascertained that the great majority of school children graduate from the high school at seventeen or eighteen or thereabouts. In the case of the child of fourteen years who has not passed their seventh grade of schooling, I should think it would be a hardship to prohibit him from going to work in those cases where the necessity for earning a livelihood is apparent.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 412.

April 15, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I file herewith in the State Library, without my approval, House Bill No. 412, for the reason that I have already approved Senate Bill No. 217, which accomplishes the same thing that House 412 seeks to do.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 437.

April 12, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 437.

This bill gives municipal authorities jurisdiction over brooks and water courses to clear them of obstructions, etc. It is germane to the Home Rule Act, chapter 152, P. L. 1917, and the

subject matter could be properly classified in Article XX under subdivision (j), or in Article XXI, section 4, of the Home Rule Act.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL, No. 442.

April 17, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 442.

This bill is the last of various supplements to an act "to regulate fees," originally passed in 1856. Last year, the last previous supplement was approved on February 18th, in which a classification was made applicable to each county having a population exceeding 140,000 and under 200,000 inhabitants, which was broad enough to escape the constitutional criticism as to the classification being elusory.

This year, by this bill, the classification is limited to between 140,000 and 160,000 inhabitants in each county, a narrow margin of 20,000 inhabitants, which makes a classification with limits so narrow and confined as to make the bill objectionable from a constitutional standpoint, because the classification would, undoubtedly, be held by the courts to be elusory, which invalidates the act, in my opinion.

The restrictions as to population do not seem to bear a reasonable relation to the necessities and proprieties of the grade of municipal government. The line of demarcation which separates the places above 160,000 and below 140,000 from the counties included in this act is so ill-defined as to constitute the attempted legislation as an invasion of the constitution.

I withhold approval for the further reason that the bill is defective in the title and construction, the bill purporting to be a supplement but really amending a section of the former act.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 448.

April 17, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I file herewith in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 448.

I heartily approve of the principle of this bill, but the difficulty is that it has been drawn absolutely without regard to these classes of business concerns and systems whose operations are so large that it would be a physical impossibility to comply with the provisions of such a statute. Many large businesses have monthly or semi-monthly payment plans which could scarcely be interrupted to meet individual cases without untold confusion and hardship. If there had been exceptions provided for such cases the bill would have been perfectly proper.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 449.

April 17, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 449.

I would have gladly approved this bill if the increase in salary had not been so out of proportion to other salaries paid district court judges. The raise from \$1,800 to \$2,600 is almost sixty per cent. and applies to just one judicial district in the State, which, if approved, would make this out of all proportion to other judicial districts where the salary is usually \$2,000. I frankly believe every judge presiding over the responsibilities of district courts is entitled to a salary higher than \$1,800, but the question should have been handled, as I suggested early in the session, by special message, considering these salaries as

related to each other rather than pick out an individual case. I am, therefore, compelled to disapprove this bill.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 463.

April 14, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 463.

The object sought to be accomplished by this bill is all right, but in my opinion the bill is unnecessary. Many institutions of various kinds, of high character, conduct Christmas funds for the benefit of their employees, patrons, etc., and the enactment of this bill into law would work too great a hardship to too many people to warrant its approval in order that it might reach one or two cases of fraud, at which its provisions are most likely directed.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 467.

April 12, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 467 for the reason that I have already approved a bill, Senate 192, now chapter 98, P. L. 1919, which provides precisely what this bill seeks to do.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 492.

April 17, 1919.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library Assembly Bill No. 492, without my approval.

This bill seeks to amend an act entitled "An act to incorporate associations not for pecuniary profit," approved April 21, 1898, by striking from section 11 thereof the words "organized under the provisions of this act," and inserting in lieu thereof the words "not for pecuniary profit." The object of this amendment is to permit certain classes of corporations not for pecuniary profit, organized under other acts, to use the machinery of the act in question for the purposes of dissolution. In my opinion, the amendment does not accomplish the object sought for the reason that notwithstanding the amendment no corporation not organized under the act in question would be entitled to use its machinery for the purpose of dissolution. In addition to this, the very title of the act in question is not broad enough to permit of corporations not organized under its provisions to come within its provisions for the purpose of dissolution.

For these reasons, I withhold my approval.

Respectfully,

[SEAL.]

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

N.J. STATE LIBRARY
P.O. BOX 520
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0520