

1 how the state should protect itself in those semi-public
2 interests in which it had invested so unwisely on those
3 many occasions.

4 It was the function of the Board of Public
5 Works to see to it that the Board did not go into too
6 heavy a public debt and it is said in one of the
7 committee records in the 1867 Constitution that the
8 effect of public debt upon communities is the same as
9 debt upon individuals. It shuts the door of hope. It
10 dispirits and paralyzes their energy.

11 The public debt is a public calamity, and on and
12 on the record rolls to talk about the state unwisely in-
13 vesting in these internal improvements in which there was
14 a great deal of private money and unhappily a great
15 deal of public money as well.

16 I simply say to you that the presence of the
17 Board of Public Works in the Constitution of 1867 was
18 predicated upon the State interest in these subject
19 matters and over the years/the legislature has looked
20 for someplace to dump various duties or to place various
21 duties it has decided it would add to the duties of the