

the purchase of voters. The evil has grown in this State and in every State in the Union.

The further debauching of the electorate by corrupt practices should be stopped. The most effectual way to prevent this corruption of our citizens is to cut-off the source of supply, by the enactment of a law which will prohibit the contribution of money by corporations, individuals or candidates, except for legitimate election purposes and reasonable campaign expenses. The Legislature should promptly pass a law directed against this evil that will be sufficiently conservative to be enforceable and stringent enough to be effective.

Our School law is in many respects obscure, contradictory and obsolete. That it needs revision is admitted by everyone interested in the cause of public education.

The Legislative Committees on Education of the respective Houses should give prompt and careful consideration to the preparation of a bill that will remedy the defects of the present law, and provide for the urgent needs of our public school system.

The Legislature should be the watchful guardian over the public purse, and the Executive should see that the public agents entrusted with the public money promptly and strictly account for the same. The people's money should not be allowed to lie long and useless in their hands. Such a condition affords the opportunity for the improper use of public funds and shows a lax system in the administration of the affairs of the State. I shall do all I can to secure fidelity and the observance of business rules in the conduct of the financial affairs of the State.

Maryland has always been liberal in her aid to eleemosynary and reformatory institutions. This policy should be continued, and the care of our wards should be as generous as their necessities require,—never extravagant, but never niggardly.

To all such institutions receiving appropriations from the State I shall give special attention, so that I may know that the funds appropriated for them are expended judiciously and that good results are accomplished.