

to the Governor to forward to the Senate reports of the Goodnow Commission and Harvey S. Chase, efficiency engineer and public accountant, I take great pleasure in forwarding to you all of the reports, of every kind and description, which are now in my hands.

The Goodnow Commission was appointed by the last Democratic State Convention for the purpose of reporting to the next Governor of the State the form of a budget which would be best calculated to carry out the promises and pledges of the Democratic platform, and also to report their own recommendations and suggestions to the Governor along the line of efficiency and economy in the administration of the State Government, to which the Democratic platform pledged the party. These reports were made to the Governor at the direction of the Democratic State Convention.

At the opening of the Legislature and before I was sworn in as Governor, I took up with the members of the Legislature the report of the Goodnow Commission upon the item of legislative expenses. The Legislature had likewise had the benefit of the report of the commission appointed by the preceding Legislature.

Sometime the latter part of January, I received the report of the Goodnow Commission in reference to the budget. Accompanying the report was a Bill which had been prepared by the Commission itself. This report was duly submitted to the Legislature with a favorable recommendation. A Bill was put in shape for introduction into the Legislature at our request by the Attorney-General, and was promptly introduced into the House.

About the time that the Budget Bill was forwarded to me, as Governor, the chairman of the Budget Committee and the Goodnow Commission were of the opinion that they would not have sufficient time to undertake in an effective manner to make a report upon efficiency and economy or the consolidation of offices, but upon my request and solicitation they undertook to do the best they could within the time at their disposal.

Harvey S. Chase & Company had been engaged by the Goodnow Commission and myself both in reference to the budget and as to the economy and efficiency program. Mr. Chase filed his report in the early part of the Session, and at the same time that he filed the report with me and with the Goodnow Commission he gave the report to the newspapers; and, further than that, had his report printed in pamphlet form, and, through his agent, Mr. Beck, distributed the report