PRIMARY HIT BY SHURTLEFF

Speaker Shurtleff of the Illinois house of representatives told the New York legislature who were seeking primary election information that the Illinois primary law recently annulled by the Supreme court was a monstrosity.

Speaker Shurtleff catalogued the faults of the law for three hours and did not credit it with a single virtue. He left no doubt as to the attitude that will take in the special session which will be called this fall to consider the passage of a fourth state wide primary statute.

His declarations may be regarded as an official utterance reflecting the position the Lorimer-Shurtleff forces in the legislature will take.

The speaker's indictment of the plurality primary system may be summed up briefly as follows:

"The direct plurality primary law is a corrupt office holders' law."

"It is a rich man's law."

"It is a demagogue's law."

"It is a law that builds up political czars."

"Under it the man with the loud voice and fat purse, or the office holder who lavishly distributes public patronage for political ends, has an advantage which can not be overcome.

"In the end such a law will destroy parties as they are known now, that is as voluntary organizations of voters supporting a set of principles. The successful candidate who by some coercion, by newspaper calojlery, by use of money, by patronage or in any other way can control a plurality of the vote becomes the party, and he is bound by no pledges and is loyal to no set of principles.

"If this law were re-enacted I predict that in three elections the results I have pictured would be brought about."

Mr. Shurtleff began by recounting briefly the history of Illinois' primary experiments. The law of 1906 under which conventions were able to defeat candidates who had received the popular vote, he said had been generally unsatisfactory. Then he took up the act of 1908, the direct plurality act known as the Oglesby law. The candidates nominated under it, he said, had been generally satisfactory. But its effect upon party organization had been bad.

"Voters generally did not know for whom they were voting, except in the case of local officers, and the head of the state ticket, he added. Complaints had been made against the clause compelling voters to state their party affiliations. The general tendency was to regard the primary election as an election to office rather than simply a nominating election. Democrats thought they had a right to help nominate the republican candidate if they wished.

"My personal view is that the direct plurality primary idea is absurd, as applied to party government," explained the speaker. "The results to which it eventually will lead have not been apparent in Illinois. But it will inevitably make a party leader of the man who gets 20 per cent of the party vote, if that happens to be a plurality, although 80 per cent of the voters are against him and divided in their opposition. He will become the party in himself, not answerable to any party principles.

"Money has greater power to influence individual voters, in my opinion, than to influence delegates what are responsible to a constituency. This makes the law a rich man's law. And a corrupt office holder has these chances of renomination and reelection under this law where he has not under the convention system.

"He can [illegible] any [illegible] any man in office [illegible] for every [illegible] of what [illegible] trouble it [illegible]

MURPHY AFTER LARGE STAKES.

The Boss of Tammany Hall Sees Millions to Spend.

NEW YORK CITY MAYORALTY.

Tammany Officeholders Have Asked Increases Amounting to More Than $27,000,000 For Next Year—If Murphy Can Control These Expenditures He Hopes to Grab the Canal and Good Roads Appropriations at the Next State Election.

New York, Sept. 20.—Charles F. Murphy, the acknowledged leader of Tammany Hall and the real leader of the Democratic organization in the state, as was shown last year, is just now devoting his time to the city of New York. It is absolutely necessary for him, if he is to again control a state convention and make another struggle for possession of the canal and good roads funds as well as the public service commissions, that he intrench himself by re-electing a mayor and enough other officers to control the board of estimate and apportionment in New York city.

Millions in It.

The size of the pot in New York city is such that he thinks it is well worth while devoting his entire energies to it. The various Tammany officeholders a few days ago made up their estimates of the amounts of money which they will want to spend during the next year. In spite of all the extravagance, the padded payrolls and the reckless use of city money generally which have been developed during the last year, these Tammany men, with an effrontery which is hard for any one not thoroughly familiar with their grasping methods to understand, have almost without exception asked for more for next year. The requests are not all in, but the statements already submitted call for more than $[illegible],000,000 as the proposed cost of carrying on the city for one year. This is an increase of about $27,000,000 over the exorbitant figures of this year. The increases also affect almost all departments, asked for salaries and for additional city departments. The proposed increases of city officers, judges and the boards and commissions are as follows:

[illegible] Mayor, [illegible] Aldermen, [illegible] Assistant Aldermen, [illegible] City Chamberlain, [illegible] City Clerks, [illegible] Civil Justices, [illegible] Coroners, [illegible] Corporation Counsel, [illegible] District Attorneys, [illegible] Judges of General Sessions, [illegible] Judges of the City Court, [illegible] Justices of the Municipal Court, [illegible] Justices of the Peace, [illegible] Marshals, [illegible] Supreme Court Justices, [illegible] Surrogates, [illegible] Tax Commissioners, [illegible] Traffic Commissioners, [illegible] Trustees City Hospital, [illegible] Trustees City College, [illegible] Trustees Public Library, [illegible] Trustees Museum of Art, [illegible] Trustees Museum of Natural History, [illegible] Trustees Zoological Garden, [illegible] Trustees Botanical Garden, [illegible] Trustees Aquarium, [illegible] Trustees Institute of Arts and Sciences, [illegible] Trustees Public Baths, [illegible] Trustees Children's Museum, [illegible] Trustees Museum of the City of New York, [illegible] Trustees Museum of the American Indian, [illegible] Trustees Museum of Science and Technology, [illegible] Trustees Bronx Park, [illegible] Trustees Prospect Park, [illegible] Trustees Queens Park, [illegible] Trustees Riverside Park, [illegible] Trustees Morningside Park, [illegible] Trustees Van Cortlandt Park, [illegible] Trustees Pelham Bay Park, [illegible] Trustees Crotona Park, [illegible] Trustees Washington Park, [illegible] Trustees Tompkins Square, [illegible] Trustees Mount Morris Park, [illegible] Trustees Seward Park, [illegible] Trustees Central