

He further explained the provisions of the bill, but said he would not discuss at length the policy of passing such legislation. The House, by passing a similar bill yesterday, had defused its position on the question of policy. All property in the commonwealth should be taxed to support the government. He denied that the bill, if passed, would either prevent foreign capital from coming here or scare out what was already here. He also denied that the enactment of the law of 1892, excluding mortgages from taxation, had been followed by an influx of foreign capital as great as that which came here in the two years previous while mortgages were taxed. Neither had the rate of interest been increased.

The speaker made a lengthy argument in favor of the bill, when Stanford moved the previous question, which was put and lost, the House being evidently desirous of having the measure fully considered.

Hubbard thought it singular that the judiciary committee should have favorably reported two bills on the subject of taxing mortgages or debts secured by them. He criticised the provisions of the bill and its general object.

Allen said the principles underlying the question to which this bill relates had been fully discussed in the House. He showed from the assessments of several years past that the amount of personal property assessed in this Territory had dropped about ten million dollars since the law of 1870 was passed, exempting from taxation notes secured by real estate. He opposed the clause deducting the amount of realty from the assessed value of the property. The injustice of exempting capital from taxation goes to the hearts of the people, and is a great cause of the prevailing distrust. There was nothing in the cry that capital would be frightened by the passage of this bill. He deprecated the idea that the present was not an opportune time for such legislation, and spoke with much warmth in advocacy of the bill.

Tolton criticised the action of the judiciary committee, in its manipulation of the two bills relating to taxing mortgage debts. All the property owned by a poor man was easily found by the assessor, and taxed; but the property of the rich man could be invested in such a form as to be screened from taxation. All property should be taxed alike. The bill that was passed yesterday was half a loaf. If we can make a law of this, we shall have a whole loaf.

Warner said that four or five years ago Utah became a heavy borrower of eastern money, and it was not now an opportune time to tax the mortgages given for it. He would discriminate in favor of eastern capital that far.

Clark made a speech in favor of the bill, and urged that the present law was unjust. He favored Johnson's bill rather than Varian's, and believed the present was an opportune time to pass it.

Moore argued briefly against the bill, and Ivins followed in opposition to it. The latter thought it would be unwise, under the critical financial conditions now prevailing, to pass a sweeping law taxing all mortgages on record in this Territory. He voted for Varian's bill, but thought that measure was a happy

medium and went far enough. He should vote against this bill.

Johnson closed the debate in a brief argument, when the friends of the bill, led by Allen, foreseeing its defeat if pressed to a final vote, precipitated a parliamentary fight for the purpose of postponing the final vote. They were unsuccessful, however, as the opponents of the bill insisted on disposing of it immediately. It was lost by a vote of 14 to 9.

#### SATURDAY.

The matter of placing an appropriation of \$1000 at the disposal of the relief committee of this city, to furnish employment for the poor, occasioned an interesting discussion in the House. It was expected that the money would be spent on the boulevard, as there was no other public work under way on which it could be used. The happy thought of Ivins to amend the bill so as to expend the money in improving the Capitol grounds, disarmed opposition to it and it passed by an almost unanimous vote.

The bill which provided for the veterinary inspection of livestock and animals before being slaughtered for food, and also for the inspection of meats exported for sale as food, was reported adversely by the livestock committee, on account of the expense that it would involve. The bill was killed.

The G. A. R. badge question seems to be agitating the Council considerably. There is pending in that body a bill forbidding the use of those and other society badges, by persons not entitled to them, and this afternoon the subject was under discussion.

H. B. 33, appropriating \$1,000 for the employment of needy persons on public works, under a board of relief created by the bill, came up on third reading. The appropriations committee reported adversely on the bill. Varian spoke in favor of it, citing existing conditions of distress among the poor. Tolton opposed the bill. The Assembly should be just before it is generous. Many just claims against the Territory can not be paid because of the condition of the treasury. He was opposed to such a precedent. Sears pleaded for the bill in behalf of the hungry poor, and Stanford favored it. Hubbard thought the public moneys ought not to be used for such a purpose as that of this bill. Ivins thought the money to relieve the poor in Salt Lake City and county ought to come out of the treasuries of the city and county. Warner said Ogden and Weber county were taking care of their poor, and he did not think it would be right to appropriate Territorial funds to build a boulevard in Salt Lake City. Moore gave reasons why he thought the bill ought not to pass.

Varian regretted that a spirit of jealousy against this city should appear in the discussion. He cited the fact that this city pays far more taxes than she gets the benefit of, and helps to educate the children and build roads and bridges in the counties of the gentlemen who opposed the bill. It was not the purpose of the bill to build a boulevard, but to relieve suffering.

Ivins said if Varian would amend the bill so as to provide that the money should be spent in improving the Capitol grounds he would vote for it, even if the amount should be doubled.

Varian offered an amendment, making the amount \$2000, to be expended on the Capitol grounds. Parsons earnestly favored the bill as amended. The question was asked by Hatch if the title was clear to the Capitol grounds, and Stoker moved to make the bill special order for Monday to give time to find out the facts. Lost. The bill passed by a vote of 17 to 2.

#### MONDAY.

The "printing muddle," as it will be known to history, prevented the reports of the auditor and treasurer from being printed and thereby made accessible to members of the Legislature. The consequence has been that the Assembly has gone on legislating and appropriating public money in ignorance of the condition of Territorial finances. This afternoon, however, the House committee on ways and means rendered a report, one effect of which will doubtless be to impress the solons with the necessity for retrenchment. The report is as follows:

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, February 12, 1894.

Mr. Speaker—Your committee on ways and means respectfully represents that a similar condition financially confronts the present Legislature to that which has attended the last four sessions.

In January, 1888, the appropriation bill provided for an expenditure for the two years ensuing in excess of revenue to the amount of—

In January, 1890, for.....	\$177,775 51
In January, 1892, for.....	303,760 80
	238,343 57

Making a total of.....\$740,999 04

To meet these deficits, bonds were issued in

1888, First series, for.....	\$150,000 00
1890, Second series, for.....	300,000 00
1892, Third series, for.....	250,000 00

Total amount of bonds issued...\$700,000 00

This entire amount has been absorbed in meeting the biennial deficits herein enumerated, leaving a balance for the present Legislature to provide for of \$40,999.04. Your committee have carefully considered every item of expenditure necessary to be made, based upon reports received, for the ensuing two years ending Dec. 31st, 1895, a detailed statement of which is hereto attached. These items represent the amounts necessary for the maintenance of the Territorial public institutions, the payment of salaries of officers, jurors, witnesses, interest on bonds, contingent expenses, World's Fair commission exhibits, etc., and to meet claims now being considered by the committee on claims and public accounts. In this statement your committee have deemed it absolutely necessary to provide that certain salaries should be reduced, and appropriations to counties be limited to about \$15,000, about half the amount appropriated to counties in 1892. In the estimate submitted your committee have not provided for the appropriation of any sums for the erection or repair of public buildings, University supplies, bounties, militia, etc., and in anticipating that the revenue from all sources will be the same as last year, there will then be a deficit of about \$295,000. Your committee do not think it would be good policy or correct business financeering to follow the example of our predecessors, to meet this deficit by the issuance of bonds. Where such a policy would lead to, if continued, is apparent to all. Your committee therefore recommend that the general tax be increased from two to three and one-fourth mills on the dollar on all the taxable property of the Terri-