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**April 9, 2008**

**THIS WEEK:** Excerpts from Governor Beryl Carroll's Condition of the State Address on January 10, 1911

**BACKGROUND:** Beryl Franklin Carroll (March 15, 1860 – December 16, 1939), was a two-term Republican Governor of Iowa from 1909-1913.

Governor Carroll was born in Davis County, Iowa; he graduated from the Missouri State Normal School (now Truman State University) in 1884. He worked as a livestock dealer, teacher, and newspaper publisher. He was a member of the Iowa Senate (1895-98), postmaster of Bloomfield, Iowa (1898-1903), and Iowa State Auditor (1903-09). He was elected Governor in 1908 and reelected in 1910. On November 30, 1910, Governor Carroll was hailed as a hero for entering a burning building in Des Moines and retrieving a trunk containing valuable property. After leaving office, Carroll worked in the life insurance business in Des Moines.

**Journal of the House**  
January 10, 1911

ENLARGE CAPITOL GROUNDS.

There seems to be no question but that in the course of time the State will of necessity be compelled to acquire additional ground in the vicinity of the State House for the erection of buildings. While it would be very desirable that a number of blocks of ground be acquired both with a view to locating other buildings and for the purpose of beautifying the State's property, I am convinced that even if nothing more be done there should be a reasonable allowance placed at the disposal of the Executive Council for the purchase of the lots facing the State House grounds. During the last year, opportunities for making such purchases have been afforded, but there being no funds available the property was purchased by private parties.

#### COMMITTEE ROOMS OCCUPIED.

During the last biennial period, several commissions which were created have been without permanent quarters. The Executive Council has found it necessary either to domicile these commissions in committee rooms or to rent quarters outside the State buildings. We believed it to be expedient and that it would meet your approval if committee rooms were occupied, so that we have placed the State Board of Education in the Speaker's room, the Soldier's Roster force, the Conservation and Waterways Commission and the Chief Oil Inspector in committee rooms. A number of departments and offices are located by the Legislature either by resolution or by statute so that the Council has not absolute freedom in readjusting or rearranging the location of various departments. I believe that your body should either take these matters entirely into its own hands or should turn it all over to the Executive Council.

We have not yet moved the State Board of Education from the Speaker's rooms, because we have no quarters other than committee rooms in which to lodge it and we felt it advisable to wait until we might know your pleasure and convenience as to where we might locate this department during your session.