

LEGISLATURE--29TH SESSION.

Governor Markham's Desire to Stop Further Official Extravagance.

A Large Saving Possible in the Matter of Public Printing--Yesterday's Proceedings.

The Senate met at 11 o'clock A. M., President pro tem, Fraser in the chair. Roll called, and quorum present. Prayer by Rev. A. T. Needham. Journal read and approved.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE.

The Secretary read a communication from Attorney-General Hart, in response to a resolution adopted by the Senate on the 23rd inst., relative to the condition of the various funds for the use of the Attorney-General. Mr. Hart states that he found but little money unexpended, with unpaid claims of more than enough to consume what is left. He estimates that the deficiencies for the remainder of the fiscal year will aggregate \$3,550. He further says he found the San Francisco office almost destitute of books, etc., and thinks that \$7,000 will be required to place his department in an effective condition.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Preston, from the Committee on Prisons and Prison Buildings, reported back favorably on a bill to purchase \$8,100 to purchase adjacent lands to the San Quentin Prison.

Also, substitute for S. B. 256 relating to appeals, recommending in reference to the Committee on Public Buildings.

Mr. Maher, from the San Francisco delegation, reported back S. B. 443, for the relief of Peter Corley, recommending its passage.

Mr. R. H. Campbell, from the Committee on Irrigation and Water Rights, reported back S. B. 277, relative to viewers, recommending its passage.

Mr. Crandall, from the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Banks and Banking, reported back S. B. 243, recommending its passage.

Also, S. B. 391, relating to issuing duplicate State Tax warrants, in lieu of those lost or destroyed; same recommendation.

Also, S. B. 283, relating to usury; do not pass.

Also, S. C. A. 3, relating to a gun factory at Benicia; no recommendation.

Also, S. C. A. 7, relative to political parties; do not pass.

Also, S. C. A. 9, relative to the judiciary, and S. C. A. 13, relating to the same, recommending their reference to the judiciary.

Mr. Byrnes, from the Committee on Mileage, reported back the resolution allowing mileage to three members and clerk of the Public Buildings Committee, recommending its adoption.

Mr. Heacock moved to strike out the item of \$25.00 for the clerk's mileage, on the ground that the committee did not authorize the committee to take its clerk along, and it was not necessary. Lost--ayes 3, noes 25.

The report was then adopted.

Mr. Dray, from the Committee on Swamp and Overlaid Lands, reported back S. B. 42, relating to the reclamation of certain lands in municipalities, recommending its passage.

Mr. Carpenter, from the Committee on Corporations, reported back the following bills, recommending their passage: S. B. 254, authorizing certain corporations to act as executor and in other capacity.

S. B. 152, relating to the heating of steam passenger cars, and for placing guards on trestles and bridges.

S. B. 235, to provide trial juries.

S. B. 89, relating to life, casualty and endowment insurance on the assessment plan.

Also, S. B. 223, relating to the powers of corporations; no recommendation.

Also, S. B. 239, relating to water and canal companies; no recommendation.

ASSEMBLY MESSAGE.

The Senate, by a vote of 23 yeas to 10 noes, concurred in the assembly amendment to the title of S. B. 32, relating to the salary of the Treasurer of the Deaf and Dumb and Blind Asylum.

INTRODUCTIONS OF BILLS.

By Mr. Shippee--Amending the County Government Act.

By Mr. Simpson--Relating to the registration of voters.

By Mr. Maher--Providing for the construction of fish-ladders.

Also, amending the Penal Code, relating to the protection of fish and game.

Also, relating to hunting and fishing on private grounds in certain counties.

By Mr. Seawell--Substitute for S. B. 32, relating to divorce.

By Mr. De Long (by request)--To pay the claim of Isador Alexander.

By Mr. Voorhies--Relating to the qualifications of attorneys--Amending the Act providing for the organization of irrigation districts, relating to the assessments on property and their collection.

By Mr. Carpenter--To amend Section 1107 of the Civil Code.

By Mr. Dray--To amend Section 1222 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

Also, to amend Section 15 of the Act for the relief of insolvent debtors.

Also, adding five new sections to the Code of Civil Procedure, relating to attachments.

By Mr. McGowan--Amending the Political Code, relating to public schools.

EXTRAVAGANCE IN PRINTING.

Private Secretary Higgins transmitted a message from Governor Markham in relation to the extravagant methods heretofore pursued by State officials and Commissioners in the matter of printing. The message was as follows:

workings of the State Printing office, and upon whose judgment we can rely, have estimated that a saving of from thirty to fifty thousand dollars can be made. I therefore recommend that all regulations upon the State Printer by any institution or official be first approved by some authority designated by you. H. B. MARKHAM.

Mr. Goucher moved that a committee be appointed to inquire into the matters referred to in the message and to report the result thereof to the Senate.

Mr. Head moved to amend the motion by directing the Committee on Public Printing to make the proposed investigation and report to the Senate at the office almost destitute of books, etc., and thinks that \$7,000 will be required to place his department in an effective condition.

Mr. Goucher accepted the amendment, and the motion prevailed.

Recess until 1:30 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The first business on the reassembling of the Senate was the consideration of the special file.

S. C. A. 4, relative to the incurring of indebtedness by cities, towns, counties, Boards of Education or school districts. Referred to committee.

S. C. A. 8, relating to the pardoning power, was, on motion of Mr. Heacock made the special order for Tuesday next, at 1:30 p. m.

THE FREE SCHOOL-BOOKS.

Mr. Seawell withdrew his motion to reconsider the vote by which S. B. 154, providing for the free use of school text-books, was passed.

Mr. S. B. 83, relating to eight hours being a day's work. Committee amendments adopted.

Mr. S. B. 72, prescribing the form of requisitions for stationery by members of the Legislature.

S. B. 91, providing for the issuance of State bonds for the construction of a general water front on the San Francisco water front.

S. B. 9, providing for the payment of repairs on the quarantine launch Government property.

Mr. S. B. 45, to prohibit gaming.

Mr. S. B. 121, authorizing the formation of county mutual insurance companies.

Mr. S. B. 173, appropriating \$48,85 to pay the claim of William H. Murphy, for money illegally paid the State of California.

Mr. S. B. 209, to appropriate moneys to pay the claim of George Featherstone for services rendered in the office of Treasurer of State.

Mr. S. B. 273, appropriating money to pay the claim of George J. Mothersole for labor and expenses incurred in roofing the Napa Insane Asylum.

Mr. S. B. 172, relating to the appointment of a State auditor.

Mr. S. B. 108, relative to the sale of tobacco to persons under sixteen years of age.

Mr. S. B. 115, to issue arms and accoutrements to regularly organized camps of the Sons of Veterans.

Mr. S. B. 117, to provide for preference in the employment in the public service of non-commissioned ex-Union soldiers, sailors, and marines of the War of the Rebellion.

Mr. S. B. 80, to increase the police force of the city of San Francisco.

Mr. S. B. 127, to provide for the levy and collection of taxes by and for school districts, except in municipal corporations of the first class.

Mr. S. J. R. 1, relative to U. S. Senate bill 8150. Adopted.

Mr. S. B. 75, relating to the duties of officers.

Mr. S. B. 69, relative to the payment of the necessary expenses of witnesses in criminal cases.

Mr. S. B. 118, determining who shall practice law in this State.

Mr. S. B. 74, relative to the non-insurance of property belonging to the State against risk of damage or destruction by fire.

Mr. S. B. 129, to authorize and direct the sale of the site and buildings of the Feeble-Minded Home.

Mr. S. B. 1, relating to a public building at Benicia.

Mr. S. B. 15, relative to the erecting of a gun factory at Benicia for finishing and assembling high-power guns. Adopted.

Mr. S. B. 104, Act to amend the Code of the fifth class to issue bonds for school purposes, and for liquidating indebtedness already incurred.

Mr. S. B. 278, to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors within one mile of any reform schools where juveniles are confined.

Mr. S. B. 288, relative to the preservation of the public health.

Mr. S. B. 116, relating to the office of Superintendent of State Printing, and providing for the election of such officer.

Mr. Heacock--Amending the Penal Code, relative to habeas corpus cases.

Mr. Broderick--Creating the office of Attorney-General of Health and Sanitation.

Mr. Flint--For the investigation of the species of fish in the bays and along the coast line, and to determine the advisability of introducing new ones.

Mr. Maher presented a petition from citizens of San Francisco urging the passage of a bill to increase the police force of that city.

THE ANTI-POOLHOLE BILL.

When S. B. 165, to add two new sections to Chapter XI of the Penal Code, relative to the selling of pools on horse races, came up on the first reading, Mr. Langford moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Public Morals.

bill the best one, I presume the committee are waiting for it before reporting any measure on the subject.

Mr. Dibble--What is called for by the resolution is the special order of performance. The committee desire to hear argument and consider several other bills on the subject at the same time. I therefore move that the resolution be laid on the table. Lost.

Mr. Shanahan--I think there should be an opportunity given the committee to report the bill. They have not yet time to meet and consider anything, they might report back without recommendation and give the House a chance for consideration. I believe the duties of the committee are so obvious, the members being on so many other committees that they have not an opportunity to meet and consider anything with reference to election laws; if so, they should report back without recommendation. I believe the bill referred to in the resolution is in the special file, and the people will approve of it if it becomes a law. By reason of the action proposed to be taken by it, if it becomes a law, I am certain it will be the best one, and I have decided in favor of the principle of the bill. I think it should be reported back so that the House can reach it without delay. I believe it is an important measure, very important one, inasmuch as it is proposed by it to ascertain directly the sentiments of the people with reference to the election of United States Senators by a direct vote of the electors.

Mr. Gould--It is not that bill at all. It is the Australian ballot bill.

Mr. Shanahan--You can't get that back. [Merriment.]

Mr. Gould--I desire to inform the gentleman from San Francisco that the bill is not that one.

The Speaker (interrupting)--I cannot allow this. It is all out of order.

Mr. Shanahan--Well, I end the discussion, so far as my part is concerned. I see I am in error as to the bill being introduced from Merced. I understand now that it is the bill for the adoption of the Australian ballot system. I wish to refer to that matter I hardly know; I rather think the committee will have to have a little more information.

Mr. Gould--I understand that the information which I proposed to give the gentleman from Shasta he has obtained, therefore I yield the floor to the gentleman from Merced.

Mr. Dibble--The resolution offered is entirely unfair. There are three or four bills pending before the committee, and it would be entirely unfair to direct them to report upon the particular one introduced by the gentleman from Merced. I have been in attendance on this House every day since the session began, and have worked daily more than ten hours on an average. There has been only one night when I have not been in attendance, and that was on the 23rd inst. late as 11 o'clock. I have an important measure before the committee on Election Laws, with reference to the ballot system, and I wish to report on that matter I hardly know; I rather think the committee will have to have a little more information.

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S. B. 70, adding Section 890 to Penal Code, relative to service of warrants of arrests and other processes in criminal cases. Judiciary.

By Mr. Fowler (by request)--Providing for appointment of commission and arrangements for reception of American Library Association. Ways and Means.

By Mr. Bryan--To amend the Cottleville and Yosemite Turnpike Company to sue the State. Corporations.

By Mr. Dibble--General appropriation bill for forty-three and forty-four fiscal years. Ways and Means.

By Mr. Marion--Amending Political Code, relative to poll-taxes. Judiciary.

By Mr. Renfro--Joint resolution in relation to the election of United States Senators in refusing to adopt the cloture rule and force bill, and indorsing the action of Senator Stanford thereon. Place on file.

By Mr. Lacey--Relative to insurance companies; relative to insurance companies; relative to insurance companies. Judiciary.

By Mr. Barnett of San Francisco--Amending Section 92 of the Civil Code, relative to grounds of action for divorce. Judiciary.

By Mr. Culver (by request)--Amending Section 164 of County Government Act. County Governments.

By Mr. Garrison--Amending Section 290 of County Government Act. County Governments.

By Mr. Galbraith--Amending Political Code, relative to powers and duties of State Board of Education. Providing for compilation, printing, etc., of school textbooks. Education.

By Mr. Robertson--Relative to the hearing of probate cases. Judiciary.

By Mr. Clark--Amending Section 2465 of the Political Code, relative to collection of taxes in reclamation districts. Swamp Lands.

By Mr. Steltz--Adding seven new sections to Political Code, relative to appointment of judges of the first class, Labor and Capital.

By Mr. Johnson--Joint resolution, relative to the release of Chinese patients from State Asylums. Place on file.

SPECIAL FILE.

A. B. 308, to pay deficiency in salary of Executive Secretary. Read second time, and ordered engrossed.

Recess.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

House reassembled at 2 p. m. Speaker in the chair. Roll called. Quorum present.

CAMPBELL VS. EAKLE.

Mr. Clark, as member of the Committee on Elections, filed his report and opinion in the contest case of Campbell vs. Eakle, in favor of the contestant.

Mr. Barnett, of San Francisco, asked that the printing of his report and opinion of Mr. Clark be deferred until the report of the committee was made. So ordered.

RAILROAD COMMISSION.

A. C. A. 9, abolishing the railroad commission. Passed.

Mr. Dibble moved that it be the special order of the House for Monday next at 2 p. m. Lost.

Mr. Bruse--The consideration of the resolution must certainly be completed at some time. We have already postponed it on two or three occasions. We will have a long third-reading file on our hands, and we will not do it until we have a long third-reading file on our hands, and we will not do it until we have a long third-reading file on our hands.

Mr. Dibble then moved that it be made the special order for Monday next at 2 p. m. Lost.

GENERAL FILE.

A. B. 139, providing for levy and collection of taxes by and for school districts, except in municipal corporations of the first class. Passed.