

WHO IS BEING INVESTIGATED; STATE AUDITOR OR TRUSTEES?

No, it was not a mirage—they were there.
Who?
The three accountants employed by the Investigating Committee.
Three—count 'em—three.
Their names, rate of pay and other details. Forget it—Chairman Buckman has issued his ukase—stamped the seal of silence on the work of investigation.
The public wants information—the public be damned.
Chairman Buckman and the members of the committee want executive rule—and have it.

But—
The three accountants are at work on the records.

One thing they worked on yesterday was checking up land sales as printed in the State Auditor's report of the Internal Improvement Trustees.

The State Auditor's report is quite useful to the investigators, apparently, yet it seems to have no standing as a record of accuracy in the opinion of the Investigating Committee, else the work of verifying it would not be going on.

Perhaps it is the State Auditor who is being investigated first.

In the absence of definite information from the committee, who can say?

Then, will the Trustees be investigated? Following which, will the accountants be investigated? And then the Investigating Committee be investigated? And its investigators be investigated? And who will be vindicated?

Big fleas have smaller fleas upon their backs to bite 'em.

Lesser fleas have lesser fleas, and so on, ad infinitum.

But to come back again to a starting point—the same as used by the imported accountants—the report of the State Auditor, it looks like the integrity of that office is assailed, when a report made by it is thus challenged.

Everybody else seems to have confidence in the accuracy of the work of Mr. Amos, with the exception of the Investigating Committee; and it is spending \$60 a day, more or less, of the public funds to prove the truthfulness of his report.

Possibly more than the amount suggested, as last night the gentlemen, skilled in the science of accounts, toiled late in the office of the Comptroller, and they doubtless observe union hours and demand extra pay accordingly.

The President observes union hours at the White House, and as these accountants come from the neighborhood of Wall Street, which is so closely connected with the White House, it is not possible that they will work below the scale.

But that is all right, because they will be able to check the State Auditor's report that much sooner and then investigation of the Trustees can begin, and possibly will be finished before the Legislature adjourns.

Meanwhile the Investigating Committee is crying aloud for counsel, while the public demand is to be taken into council with the committee.

POSTPONED UNTIL TUESDAY NIGHT.

The anniversary of Leon Lodge No. 5, I. O. O. F., that was to have been held last evening, has been postponed until next Tuesday night.



ERNEST AMOS, STATE AUDITOR.

HOUSE VOTED AGAINST CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

Rapid work was done with the joint resolution relative to a constitutional convention yesterday in the House.

It was voted down by 29 yeas against 16 yeas.

The vote stood:

Yeas—Mr. Speaker, Representatives Abernethy, Donegan, Farris, Faulkner, Knight (Citrus), Melton, Milliner, Neel, Olmstead, Pettigrew, Reese, Richbourg, Roddenberry, Rowe and Williams—16.

Nays—Avant, Brashaw, Carter, Cobb, Crawford, Duke, Dudley, DuPont (who changed his vote from yea to nay), Durrance, Griggs, Harvell, Jones, Kilgore, Knowles, Lassitter, McKenzie, MacWilliams, Malone, Mathews, Parkinson, Peaden, Smith, Snell, Taylor, Wartmann, Wells, Willis (Levy), Wilson (Hernando) and Wilson (Lee)—29.

WILL REPORT INSURANCE BILL TODAY.

Senator Trammel has finally succeeded in getting Senate Bill No. 124 out of the hands of the Committee on Judiciary, which has held it since April 9, and it will be reported to the Senate this morning without recommendation.

This is a bill "to empower the State to engage in the life insurance business, to prescribe the powers and duties of the Board of Commissioners of State Institutions in connection therewith."

BY THE WAY

Seventeen pages of bills in the Senate Calendar of to-day, while the House Calendar contains forty pages of measures that their authors believe the enactment of is necessary for the welfare of the State.

Each House has gone far in advance of last session in the introduction of bills, the Senate, of course, having less because it has fewer members, but these have kept up their end nobly in so far as introduction is concerned.

In committee work the House has the Senate beaten many points. That is one reason why the calendar of the former is so much smaller. True, the Senate has passed more bills, but not enough has been done in that way to make material difference in the bulk of the two booklets. It is just a little trick of the Senate by which to pretend that it is doing more work than the House.

Four counties are now up on the slab for cutting—Hillsborough, Dade, DeSoto, Volusia—but no great haste is shown to get test vote of whether the Legislature is favorable to the creation of more counties. The fate of one will be that of all.

The division advocates of DeSoto have planned to make three counties, and a similar proposition has been mentioned concerning Hillsborough. Half and half is the plan for Volusia and Dade.

An important bill on third reading in the Senate to-day is that by Senator Adams, relating to State supervision of county prisoners. This is a law long needed, and if enacted will correct many abuses in county jails and camps, of which complaint is now made.

The bill providing for a geological survey, introduced in the Senate by Senator Crill, has not yet escaped from committee. It is a matter of wonder if this bill will get better treatment than those of preceding sessions. A geological survey of this State has long been a need, and session after session has a bill for that purpose been in the Legislature, but for one reason or another it never gets through.

Care has been taken to provide pure food for Florida cattle, but nothing has been done to provide pure food for the people, except to introduce bills. One bill is in the Senate now, and like many other good bills it is staying "with committee." This is Senate Bill No. 49, of which 200 copies have been printed. It was introduced by Senator Crill the third day of the session, and so if it makes no greater progress toward passage than it has in getting away from the committee it will not be had to forecast its finish.

FAVORABLE REPORT OF DRAINAGE WORK IS PROBABLE.

Work of inspecting the dredging operations and other purposes of the trip being accomplished, the members of the committee returned to Tallahassee yesterday, and judging from their remarks and the impressions they seem to have received, a favorable report of the drainage work is probable.

Applicant (at Western newspaper office)—I'm looking for a job. I can set type and write.

Editor—Good! Just take a seat.

"Have you an assistant?"

"I can't tell yet. I sent him out to see a man and expect to hear a gun go off any moment.—Life.

Never-never Land.
The Australian of the cities speaks of the rest of his continent as "the bush." The dwellers in the agricultural country speak of the district farther inland as the "back country." Those themselves in the back country have behind them a land partly unknown and therefore attractive to the adventurous, which they call the "Never-never land."—London Saturday Review.

The fern is indicative of fascination. In Saxony the present by a lover to his sweetheart of a handful of ferns is equivalent to a proposal.

P. T. Nicholson
The Jeweler



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