

# The Weekly True Democrat.

VOL. 1.

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA, APRIL 28, 1905.

NO. 9.

Good Government; Honesty in Public Office; Equal Justice to All--Special Privileges to None.

## LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS

### Abstract of Business Transacted by the Senate and House.

#### FRIDAY.

A concurrent resolution was adopted in the Senate (and later in the House) for a joint committee of nine to report on the compilation of the statutes submitted by the revision commission. A concurrent memorial to Congress asking for the improvement of the Ocklocknee river was adopted by the Senate (and later by the House). The Governor transmitted data concerning uniformity of text books in the public schools of other States. A substitute for Senate bill authorizing Pensacola to issue bonds for public improvements, etc., was passed. Confirmations were released as follows: H. C. Gordon, judge, and Geo. P. Raney, Jr., solicitor of criminal court, Hillsborough county.

In the House, among the bills introduced, was one by Mr. Noble, of Lake, to prohibit the use of automatic and repeating shot-guns in hunting, and one by Mr. Wall, of Putnam, to require the trustees of the internal improvement fund to deliver to the State auditor all books, records, vouchers and accounts, and requiring the auditor to check and credit the same and report thereon. This bill, by waiver of the rules, was passed by a unanimous vote. The Avery street car bill was passed on its third reading by a unanimous vote.

Both Houses adjourned to Monday.

#### MONDAY.

Among Senate bills introduced was one by Mr. Canova, making Sunday games of football and baseball unlawful. (The same bill was also introduced in the House by Mr. Baker, of Clay.) Senator Crane introduced a bill to suppress opium dens, and Senator McCreary a bill amending the act of 1903 providing for the publication of the laws in the newspapers. The Senate indefinitely postponed a bill for the relief of Marion county, and a House concurrent resolution providing for a committee to visit the St. Petersburg Normal and Industrial school. Senator Stockton's bill for a general board of trustees of colleges, set as a special order, went over to Tuesday. The Tampa bond bill was passed; also House memorial for improvement of Blackwater river; also Senate bill amending Pensacola city charter.

In the House, Mr. Bryan, of Washington, introduced a joint resolution to amend the Constitution, Article XIX, Section 1, as follows: "Section 1. The manufacture, transportation and sale of alcoholic liquors as a beverage shall be, and hereby is forever prohibited in the State of Florida."

#### TUESDAY.

Senator Blount introduced bills to provide for the appointment of assistant coroners in certain counties; to require record of instruments relied on as color of title, and to define the effect of record of deeds or mortgages acknowledged or defectively acknowledged. Senator Bailey introduced a bill to authorize the Comptroller to draw his warrant in settlement of the indebtedness of the State of Florida to S. I. Wailes for services rendered and expenditures made in the adjustment and settlement of the Indian war claim, and to appropriate the necessary moneys to pay the same. This bill brings the Wailes' claim issue directly before the Legislature in the simplest possible shape. Senator Stockton introduced a bill to forbid the employment of children under 14 years of age in factories, etc. Senate bill amending incorporation of Braidentown was passed unanimously, and Senate bill imposing a penalty on any State, county or municipal officer for accepting a free pass, free transportation, etc., was indefinitely postponed. Senator Stockton's bill for a general board of college trustees was again postponed to May 2nd. Senate bill providing for the sale of certain property in the hands of the Jacksonville police, and for the creation of a pension fund for members of the police force from the proceeds of such sale was passed unanimously. The Senate held an executive session and accepted an invitation to attend a reception to the Daughters of the Confederacy, May 7. The president and secretary signed enrolled act concerning Tampa city bonds, and the Senate passed Senate bill authorizing town of Graceville to issue bonds for a brick school house.

Among the House bills introduced was one by Mr. Stephens, of Jackson, to authorize the employment by county commissioners of counsel in certain cases before courts of county judges and justices of the peace, and one by Mr. Buckman, of Duval, to make Good Friday a legal holiday. Strangely enough, this bill was referred to the "Committee on Unfinished Business." The House passes the Senate Tampa bond bill, and took up the House bill taxing dogs on special order, amending same, and after an effort to indefinitely postpone, the bill was ordered engrossed. The House indefinitely postponed House bill relating to the violation of

contracts made for teaching the public schools; House bill to authorize the State Normal School to issue teachers' certificates, and House bill amending the law relating to carrying firearms.

#### WEDNESDAY.

Senator Neel introduced a bill for the creation of the county of Bloxham from a portion of Holmes county; Senator Newlan introduced a bill to prohibit certain games on Sunday; Senator Sams introduced a bill to make admission to the bar a qualification for county judges; Senator Bailey introduced (the first of its kind) a special pension bill; and Senator Frank Adams, for the Committee on Appropriations, introduced the general appropriation bill, 300 copies of which were ordered printed. Mr. Adams also reported, as chairman, of said committee, the House bill appropriating the pension deficiency from convict-hire funds with an amendment striking out that feature; while a minority of the committee he reported with strong arguments in favor of the passage of the bill without amendment, pointing out the fact that this deficiency cannot be paid from the general revenue fund, as that fund now only contains \$236,513.85, and all of the regular appropriations, with that for legislative expenses added, must come from said fund. The minority report was adopted. Senator Bailey introduced a resolution for a special committee to examine and report whether or not the Senator from the 20th district (Senator Brown) has accepted a free pass from a transportation company while acting as a Senator. Senator Brown made an explanation that, as an agent or employee of a railroad company, he had received and used transportation when traveling on business for the company and not otherwise. The resolution was agreed to. The Flagler-Key West railroad bill was passed with but two dissenting votes, after the adoption of an amendment striking out the objectionable portions of section 5, relating to the control of the proposed road by the Railroad Commission.

#### RAWLS-LOWRY.

### Brilliant Marriage of One of the Fair-est of Tallahassee's Daughters.

Noday in "rare and royal June" could have been fairer or more propitious than the 26th of April for the celebration of the nuptials of Miss Letitia Dowling, eldest daughter of Hon. and Mrs. W. A. Rawls, of this city, and Mr. Dexter M. Lowry, one of Tallahassee's most honored young business men, manager of the Florida Cotton Oil Company, and a social favorite.

Every detail of preparation and arrangement for the momentous event was apparently in the hands of those whose skill and taste, supplemented by loving devotion to the fair young bride, were of the highest order.

The family residence, where the ceremony took place, was artistically embellished with a profusion of evergreens, potted plants, ferns and cut flowers, and the general effect was rich and entrancing.

The ceremony was performed at noon, by Rev. Mr. McCarthy, formerly pastor of the Presbyterian church. As the large company of invited guests gathered about the improvised floral altar, the bridal chorus "Rose Maiden" was sung exquisitely and with deep feeling by Miss Chittenden, followed by the Mendelssohn Wedding March by Miss Janie Clark and Mr. Hamilton Horsey, on piano and violin.

The bridal procession was headed by six beautifully dressed girl friends of the bride, officiating as bridesmaids, viz: Misses Kate Moore, Clara Lewis, Henrietta Ames, Evelyn Lewis, Augusta Chittenden and Clyde Raney, each bearing a large bouquet of roses and all marching in pairs. These were followed by Miss Genevieve Walton and by the maid of honor, Miss Annie Rawls, the bride's sister. Then came the petite flower girl, Miss Adele Lowry, scattering blossoms in the bride's pathway to the altar.

The lovely bride entered upon the scene leaning upon the arm of her father, resplendent in her bridal robes and veil, and carrying a beautiful bouquet of bridal roses and lilies of the valley.

The groom with his best man, Dr. C. M. Ausley, and groomsmen, Mr. Fred Hardee, met the bridal procession at the altar, and in a few minutes the sacred words were pronounced making the happy couple man and wife. Congratulations and an elegant wedding breakfast followed in the spacious dining-room, which was splendidly decorated in a color scheme of pink and ferns for the occasion.

Inspection of the long list of elegant wedding gifts followed, and soon the bridal pair started on the first stage of their wedding journey to California, a large number of the friends and attendants accompanying them to the station to see them fairly on their way. Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Lowry, of Chattanooga; Mrs. Flavius T. Christie, of Jacksonville; Mrs. J. L. Logan, ex-Governor and Mrs. Jennings, Miss Jennie Cook, of Jacksonville; Miss Genevieve Walton, of Augusta, Ga., and Mrs. Horace Avery and Mrs. Clarence Maxwell, of Jacksonville, were among the guests from a distance.

For neat, clean Job Printing, see Collins.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### Editor TRUE DEMOCRAT:

The last issue of your delightful paper contains several articles regarding State educational institutions which, while doubtless well-meant, are apt to be misunderstood. I am sure you will be glad to allow corrections.

Under the title "The State College" you say many complimentary things regarding that splendid school to which I cordially say "Amen." It deserves your highest praise. You say that the State College, the University of Florida and the East Florida Seminary stand on constitutional foundations, and hence are not subject to 'abolishment or diminution.' You then appear to class all other State schools as 'creatures of legislative enactment, which derive their only or chief reason for existence from the ability of their personal friends and promoters to secure legislative appropriations for their support.' As a matter of fact, the constitution does not refer to any one of the institutions named by you but does provide for the 'establishment and maintenance of two normal schools.' These are the State Normal at DeFuniak Springs and the Colored Normal of your city.

There is no constitutional reason why all three of the institutions you named might not be combined or abolished should the Legislature so decide. Their right to continuance and liberal encouragement rests upon a much more satisfactory basis--their educational importance and intrinsic excellence. In your estimate of the reasons for the existence of the other State schools you probably did not intend to include the State Normal though this has been inferred from the article. Besides the constitutional necessity for its existence, please note that it is the only school established by the State for the training of white teachers. Has a more important 'reason for existence' ever been found for any school? A State Normal school is the fountain head from which flow the ideals which shall prevail in popular education. It is the one school in the State whose students are trained not only with reference to their own betterment but especially for the uplifting of the many thousands whom they annually instruct in the town and country schools of every portion of the State.

Elsewhere you quote and appear to endorse editorially a statement that "we have six schools--the most of them having a beggarly attendance of 50 or 100 students and sad to relate a large portion of them in the sub, fresh or preparatory classes or else taking business courses." Only one of the "six schools" has an attendance of less than 100 which is ascribed to "most of them."

As none of the remarks apply in the slightest degree to the Normal School, kindly make it clear to your readers that they were not so intended. The Normal gives absolutely no instruction except that arranged for teachers. No student can enter the school who has not already a teacher's certificate or who passes an examination sufficient to secure one. This is the requirement for the Sub-Normal class, which is composed largely of second-grade certificate holders and mostly of actual teachers. For entrance to the Freshman class a year's study additional is required. The average age of the students is about 21 years and none under 16 are admitted.

Only 22 per cent of the enrollment is of local students and these are preparing to go out and teach elsewhere. The other 78 per cent come from and return to every section of the State. Recent students are teaching tens of thousands of children in schools of every grade and in every portion of Florida. Among these recent students and graduates are many superintendents and high-school principals.

We hope, Mr. Editor, that the press of Florida will use its whole power to remove all sham and shoddy from Florida schools, and bring about the most economical reform in their organization and maintenance. The more you publish the facts, the more you will help them and the State. If any school or any part of any school cannot bear the searchlight of truth, its abolishment or reformation should be demanded.

To borrow your own expression, the fact that the Normal School rests on "solid constitutional foundation takes it from the realm of speculative propositions, looking toward its abolishment or diminution," but in dealing with all the schools, let the diagnosis be made carefully before the remedy is applied. Much more will be found to commend than to condemn. Respectfully,

H. E. BENNETT.

### Memorial Day.

We have seldom witnessed more impressive and beautiful Memorial Day exercises than we had last Wednesday afternoon.

As usual, the brave survivors of the lost cause, composing the Lamar Camp of Confederate Veterans, together with the Daughters of the Confederacy and State officials, members of the Legislature and a large number of citizens of Tallahassee assembled at the cemetery, to do honor to the memory of the Confederate dead, and to listen to the eulogies on their heroic deeds expressed by the chosen orator of the day.

As the brave band of veterans headed

by Hon. W. H. Ellis, the orator of the day, and Mr. Joseph Edmonson marched to the seats reserved for them the vast assemblage stood with reverently bared heads until they were seated. The chorus sang that stirring old war song "Onward Christian Soldier," after which the Rev. Mr. Bigham opened the ceremonies with a most appropriate prayer, which called forth well deserved praise from the audience. That well-known patriotic anthem, "My Country 'Tis of Thee," was next rendered and then Mr. Joseph Edmonson with a few well chosen words introduced Hon. W. H. Ellis as the orator of the day.

Mr. Ellis' address was a masterpiece of logic and of oratory and was frequently interrupted by the applause of the delighted and appreciative hearers. It was a speech that bore the stamp of much research and study, and proved by many historical references the postures of the Confederate cause. It was replete with beautiful thoughts, well expressed and most gracefully delivered. In it he dwelt upon the importance of the youth of our dear "Southland," the sons and daughters of those dead heroes lying so silently by, should be taught the true history of those times in order that they may be assured of the justness and righteousness of the cause for which their forefathers gave their lives. The Daughters were very happy in their selection of an orator, and most certainly the audience are to be congratulated on being given the opportunity of listening to such an oratorical treat. That sweet old hymn, "Nearer My God to Thee," was next sung after which Mr. Edmonson with a few words of praise, conferred the "Crosses of Honor" on the following veterans: Hugh Black, B. F. Page, N. B. Glover, Thos. Isler and R. C. Long.

These crosses are made of bronze, and are only conferred by the Daughters of the Confederacy, upon the recommendation of the local chapters; in the present instance upon the recommendation of the Anna Jackson Chapter of the Daughters of which Miss Caroline M. Brevard is president. These were the first that have been thus publicly conferred, and their presentation added much to the occasion. They will be among the most cherished heirlooms of the children of their present happy recipients. The little children next decorated the graves, and a collection was taken up after which Rev. Dr. Carter, the venerable pastor of the St. Johns Episcopal church made the benediction and then the choir sang "God Be With You 'Till We Meet Again," during which the audience dispersed. That devoted band of women, "The Daughters," did not forget the dead heroes that lie buried on the many battle fields of the South and had the monument erected, in the Capitol square, to the memory of the Leon Volunteers who fell in battle, beautifully decorated for the occasion.

### Cassels-Lowe.

The marriage of Miss Ada Gertrude Cassels, the daughter of Mrs. W. H. Cassels, of Monticello, Fla., to Mr. L. D. Lowe, of this city, was solemnized at Monticello in the Methodist Episcopal church at 2 p. m. Wednesday, the 26th inst. Owing to the poor health of the bride's mother, the ceremony was performed as quietly as possible, there being no bridesmaids, and only the relatives and close friends of the family being present.

The charming bride was the recipient of many valuable and beautiful presents, both of glass and silver, from her many admiring friends. After the ceremony the couple took a long drive, and later boarded the evening train for this place, where they will make their future home.

The happy couple went immediately to housekeeping, at present being domiciled in the Maxwell cottage, on West Gaines street.

Mr. Lowe is one of our leading contractors, and his many friends yesterday were extending him their congratulations over the happy event, in which The True Democrat most cordially joins.

### An Interesting Lecture.

Hon. George G. Matthews, author and lecturer, will deliver within two weeks, a highly entertaining lecture on Brazil, that vast republic of South America. Knowledge about that country should be of interest to us as many of the southern people, including many Floridians sought refuge there, immediately after the war.

Hon. George G. Matthews spent 23 years of his life in Brazil, being five years United States consul at Para, under the Cleveland administration. He is thoroughly conversant with the habits and manners of the people, and the varied and extensive resources of the country. His lecture will be illustrated by splendid panoramic views, and will be a thoroughly enjoyable one, as Mr. Matthews has the reputation of being quite an orator as well as the possessor of rare literary talent. A part of the proceeds will be given to some local charity, as yet undetermined.

Miss Rosalie Sewell, after a pleasant visit to relatives left for her home at Pensacola today.

The perfection of light-running sewing machines--the ball-bearing Wheeler & Wilson. Sold by L. C. Yaeger.

## LEGISLATIVE EXCURSION.

### Members and Others on a Delightful Outing to Pensacola.

On Friday last, at a few minutes after one o'clock a special train of the Seaboard Air Line, commanded by the big, genial Conductor Kennedy, left Tallahassee for Pensacola with a jolly and excited party of excursionists, numbering nearly 200, and composed of members of the Legislature, some of whom were accompanied by their wives and relatives, and quite a large number of Tallahasseeans of both sexes and nearly every age, as well as many of the attaches of the Legislature and a few strangers.

Accompanying the party were also the members of several joint committees who wisely seized the occasion to perform their inspection duties to the several convict camps, the State Normal school at DeFuniak Springs and the State hospital for insane at Chattahoochee.

The run was made in about seven hours including a few necessary stops, the longest which was at DeFuniak, where a brass band serenaded the party, while almost the entire roll of the State Normal students appeared on the platform to welcome the investigating committee. One enthusiastic youth on the train was moved to exclaim that he "never saw so many pretty girls together in one spot in his life."

On arrival at Pensacola the legislative visitors were escorted to the Escambia hotel, where they were received with a brief but pointed address of welcome by Mayor Welles, responded to by Speaker Gilchrist in his happiest manner. Finding suitable quarters with the aid of the local committee, the visitors rested until morning, when an excursion on the bay, with a visit to the big battleship Kearsarge, a monster typical fish dinner, a stroll through the navy yard and a trip outside the harbor where some of the war ships were at target practice, were highly enjoyed accompaniments.

The late afternoon and the following Sunday were spent in street car riding, visits to friends, and attendance upon Easter services at the various churches and on Monday, bright and early, those who had not already returned to the Capital on regular trains boarded their special and arrived in Tallahassee about 2 o'clock.

There were incidents and scenes the relation of which would be intensely interesting, but would also consume much more space than we are able to spare for the purpose; and we are constrained to be content with the final remark that the big excursion was a brilliant success.

The especial care which Conductor Gardner, of the L. & N., exhibited in looking after the comfort and safety of his guests, was the subject of frequent complimentary comment.

The outing did every one of the participants a world of good, and no one enjoyed it more than the Pages of the Senate and House who were in the party.

### An Object Lesson.

Commenting on the demise of the Minneapolis Globe, once a leading and powerful Democratic newspaper, but later becoming the property of James J. Hill, the railroad magnate, and restricted to support of his policy and interests, the Tampa Times sagely remarks: "Herein is a lesson for papers that are merely organs, instead of being newspapers, honest and independent."

Messrs. Houstoun & Montford, at Hancock's stables, are offering the finest lot of horses ever brought to Tallahassee; and selling them, too. On Monday Sheriff Gibson, of Apalachicola, came up to look the stock over, and before he left had purchased three handsome animals, a matched combination pair and a fine single harness roadster.

## NOTICE.

MADISON COUNTY STATE BANK, LOCATED at Madison, Florida, is closing up its affairs. All note holders and others, creditors of said Bank, are hereby notified to present the notes and other claims against the bank for payment, or all notes and other claims of said bank will be paid by The First National Bank of Madison, Florida, upon presentation.

RANDELL POPE, President.  
April 27, A. D. 1905. -- to June 28-29

### Notice of Application for Pardon.

HAVING BEEN CONVICTED AT THE FALL Term, 1903, of the Circuit Court for Leon county, Florida, of an assault with intent to commit manslaughter, and having been sentenced by the court for said offense, to a term of five years in the State's Prison, I hereby give notice to whom it may concern of my intention to make application to the Board of Pardons of the State of Florida for a pardon from the said judgment and sentence of the said court.

WALTER L. TAYLOR.

### ADMINISTRATORS NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given to all creditors of the estate of R. L. Collins, deceased, and to all persons having claims against him or his estate, to present same according to law within two years from this date, the 4th day of December, 1904, otherwise all such claims and demands shall be barred.

JOHN G. COLLINS,  
Adm. Estate of R. L. Collins.