

FLORIDA'S LEGISLATURE. Abstract of Proceedings of BOTH BRANCHES.

WHAT WAS DONE IN THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DURING THE PAST WEEK—BOTH HOUSES GETTING DOWN TO SOLID BUSINESS.

WEDNESDAY, May 20.

The senate met pursuant to adjournment.

President Browne in the chair.
 Mr. Baya introduced senate bill No. 237: To exempt the real and personal property of the Mechanics' Steam Fire Engine and Hose Company of Jacksonville from taxation, and to cancel certain tax sales on the property of said company. Referred.

A message from the house announcing that they had amended senate bill No. 83 was received, the amendments concurred in and the bill ordered enrolled.

Committee reports were read.
 Bills on second reading were considered. Then came the joint session.

After reassembling Mr. Wall was given permission to introduce senate bill No. 238: Authorizing and instructing the comptroller to obtain from the war department and keep on file in his office certified copies of all muster rolls and other documents connected with Indian war claims. Referred.

By permission Senator Rogers introduced senate bill No. 239: For the relief of Josiah Spratt, Chas. Boland and others. Referred.

Senate bill No. 214 was amended. Senators Rogers and Swearingen were excused.

Senator Myers introduced senate bill No. 230. Referred.

The senate adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The senate met at 4 p.m.

President Browne in the chair.

Senator Myers, chairman on enrolled bills, reported senate bills Nos. 13, 16, 22 and senate joint resolution No. 5 correctly enrolled.

On motion of Senator Wolfe the rules were waived and bills on third reading were recurred to.

Senate bill No. 129: Amending title and section 4 of the capitation or poll tax act. Passed.

Senate bill No. 89: Amending act abolishing the city government of DeLand. Passed.

Senate bill No. 74: To require railroad corporations to construct passenger depots on the lines of roads and to provide penalty for failure. Placed back on second reading, and on motion of Senator Yancey, recommitted to committee on railroads and telegraph.

Senate bill No. 171: To encourage the propagation of sponges, etc., was taken up, amended and ordered engrossed.

Senate bill No. 143: To amend the law for the proper enforcement of Article XIX of the constitution. Passed.

Senate bill No. 109: For the better prevention of mobs, riots and tumults, etc. Passed.

Senate bill No. 35: Amending the act prescribing the fees of sheriffs. Taken up and secretary ordered to change fee for feeding prisoners to 40 cents instead of 50 cents a day. The bill passed.

Senate bill No. 73: Prohibiting trusts in the state. Read third time.

Committee reports were read.

Senate bill No. 152: To restore Henry A. Keys and others to civil rights. Passed.

The senate adjourned until 10 o'clock Thursday.

In the House.

The speaker in the chair.

A quorum present.

The journal was approved.

INTRODUCTION OF MEMORIALS, PETITIONS, ETC.

By Mr. High, petition No. 71: Petitions of the citizens of Suwannee and Lafayette counties in the interest of railroad depots and crossings.

By Mr. Berry, joint resolution No. 72: In relation to the manner of electing United States senators in the various states.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS BY CALL OF COUNTIES.

By Mr. Brown, house bill No. 334: To prevent the obstruction of neighborhood roads.

By Mr. May, house bill No. 325: To empower the governor to place the name of Mary Bishop of Jefferson county on the state's soldiers' pension roll, and allowing her the sum of one hundred dollars per annum.

By Mr. Burford, house bill No. 326: To legalize the election of municipal officers of the town of Anthony, in the county of Marion, and to make valid the corporate acts of said municipality.

Also, house bill No. 327: To amend act 24 of an act to establish a uniform system of common schools and county high schools.

By Mr. Burford, house bill No. 328: Providing for the indexing of the records of the offices of the circuit court clerks.

Also by request, house bill No. 329: To extend the powers of courts of chancery in the appointment of receivers and regulating the practice therein.

Also by request, house bill No. 330: To incorporate the Ocala Street and Suburban railroad company, and to legalize its corporate acts.

Also by request, house resolution No. 73: To amend section 1, article 19 of the constitution.

By Mr. Haddock, house bill No. 331: To exempt the real and personal property of the M. Olan's Steam Fire Engine and Hose Company of Jacksonville from taxation, and to cancel certain tax sales heretofore made of the property of said company.

By Mr. Carson, house bill No. 332: To furnish protect incorporated villages or thickly settled communities against abuse and destruction of their churches and school houses and places of public assembly.

By Mr. Dougherty, house bill No. 333: To empower the county commissioners of any county to levy a tax to support Florida state troops of each county.

Also by request, house bill No. 334: To fix the legal rate of interest in the state of Florida, to define usury and to provide for forfeiture on usurious contracts. Passed.

Senate bill No. 115: For the relief of Francis F. Beville. Ordered enrolled.

House bill No. 149: To amend section 1 of the act providing for the appointment of harbor masters. Referred.

Senate bill No. 127: To provide for the assessment, levy and collection of taxes by the city of Jacksonville. Ordered enrolled.

House bill No. 173: To incorporate the Florida Loan and Trust company. Referred.

Senate bill No. 44: To amend the act to change the terms of circuit court in the second judicial circuit. Passed informally.

House bill No. 90: To fix the legal rate of interest in the state of Florida, to define usury and to provide for forfeiture on usurious contracts. Referred.

Senate bill No. 98: Was made special order for May 23 at 11 o'clock.

Committee reports were read.

Senate bill No. 235: To amend the act making Alafia river navigable. Read second and third times, passed and ordered certified at once.

House bill No. 75: To regulate the manner of assessing taxes on real property and the improvements thereon. Read second and third times, passed and ordered certified at once.

Senate bill No. 170: To provide for the collection of taxes assessed on railroads and the property thereof for the years 1879, 1880 and 1881, as to which there was no assessment, etc. Passed and ordered certified.

Bills on second reading were considered.

Senate bill No. 135: To amend the act amending the act to abolish the corporations of Tampa and North Tampa, etc., was taken up. Pending which, the senate went into joint session.

After the joint session consideration of the bill was resumed and upon vote it was defeated, President Browne casting the deciding vote.

On motion of Senator Yancey the senate adjourned until 10 o'clock Friday morning.

House bill No. 96: Relating to the Blue Springs, Orange City and Atlantic Railroad company. Read first time and referred.

House bill No. 128: To amend section 1 of an act to incorporate the Fernandina Street and Suburban Railroad company. Referred.

House bill No. 111: To make it misdemeanor to handle firearms in certain ways, and for the better preservation of human life. Read first time, and referred.

House bill No. 112: To keep in repair all public roads and bridges and to open new roads in the county of Orange. Referred.

House bill No. 204: Relating to persons convicted in municipal courts and their employment upon the streets and public works of municipalities. Referred.

House bill No. 277: To define the manner in which entrances to certain public buildings shall be constructed. Referred.

Senate bill No. 123: To enforce the payment of taxes by bankers and brokers. House amendments concurred in. Ordered enrolled.

House amendments to senate bill No. 44 were concurred in and the bill ordered enrolled.

Committee reports were read.

House bill No. 298: To extend and enlarge the boundaries and powers of the town of Ocala, was sent in, read by title and referred to the committee on city and county organization.

BILLS ON SECOND READING WERE CONSIDERED.

House bill No. 81 passed.

Senate bill No. 189: To incorporate the Atlantic and Gulf Canal company of Florida. Passed.

Senate bill No. 93 passed.

Senate bill No. 187: To incorporate the Chipola and Chippewa Lake railroad company. Passed.

Senate bill No. 90: To enable the city of Tampa to levy certain taxes and to provide for a more complete assessment of property therein. Made special order for 10 o'clock Saturday.

Mr. Wilkinson introduced a resolution relative to the death of Judge G. G. McWhorter.

Senate resolution No. 218: In reference to electing senators by popular vote. Committee amendments adopted and ordered engrossed.

Senate bill No. 207: To incorporate the Lakeland, Mohawk and Tavares Railroad company and to grant lands to the same. Passed.

By permission Mr. Baya introduced senate joint resolution No. 240: Proposing an amendment to the constitution. Referred.

Senator McKinnis introduced senate bill No. 241: In relation to landlords' liens. Referred.

Out of respect to the memory of Judge G. G. McWhorter the senate adjourned until 10 a. m. Saturday.

In the House.

FRIDAY, May 22.

The senate met pursuant to adjournment, President Browne in the chair.

The following bills were introduced:

Senate bill No. 122: To enforce the payment of taxes by bankers and brokers. Passed.

House bill No. 95: Relating to the Blue Springs, Orange City and Atlantic Railroad company. Passed.

House bill No. 111: Declaring the town of St. Leo, in the county of Pasco, state of Florida, to be a legally incorporated town. Passed.

House bill No. 129: To amend section 1 of an act to incorporate the Fernandina Street and Suburban Railway Company. Passed.

House bill No. 217: To be entitled an act to keep in repair all public roads and bridges and to open new roads in the county of Orange. Passed.

Mr. Hocker offered the following substitute for the motion of Mr. Bogue:

Resolved, That hereafter the chairman of the committee of the house shall return to the house any bill or resolution which has not been acted on by the committee to which it has been referred, on request of the person who introduced the same. Adopted.

House bill No. 248: For the protection and preservation of certain plumbe birds. Passed.

House bill No. 264: Relating to persons convicted in municipal courts and their employment upon the streets and public works of municipalities. Passed.

House bill No. 277: Act to define the manner in which entrances to certain public buildings shall be constructed. Passed.

The two houses met in joint session at 12 o'clock M. and took one ballot for a United States senator. The vote was scattering, and there was no election.

The senate retired.

The house resumed consideration of bills on third reading.

House bill No. 298: To extend and enlarge the boundaries and the powers of the municipality known as Ocala in Marion county, Florida. Passed.

Mr. Sparkman, by unanimous consent, offered joint resolution No. 76 in relation to the papers on Indian war claims.

Mr. Carter offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the services of the clerks of all the committees of the house of representatives, except the clerks of the committees on enrolled and engrossed bills, be dispensed with after Saturday, the 23rd of May, 1891.

Which was read and made special order for to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

On motion of Mr. Sparkman, the house took a recess until 3 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The house met at 3 o'clock p.m. and proceeded to business. The entire session was taken up in hearing committee reports and considering bills on their second reading.

The house adjourned until 9 o'clock a.m. to-morrow.

In the Senate.

THURSDAY, May 21.

The senate met pursuant to adjournment.

President Browne in the chair.

The following bills were introduced:

By Senator Wall, senate bill No. 231: To incorporate the Punta Rassa, Peace Creek and Alafia River Railroad Company and to grant lands to same. Referred.

By Senator Wolfe, senate bill No. 232: Providing for the forfeiture of franchises, grants, rights, privileges, licenses and immunities in certain cases. Referred.

By Senator Coulter, senate bill No. 233: For the better protection of the public peace and morals. Referred.

Messages from the house were read.

Senate bill No. 115: For the relief of Francis F. Beville. Ordered enrolled.

House bill No. 149: To amend section 1 of the act providing for the appointment of harbor masters. Referred.

Senate bill No. 127: To provide for the assessment, levy and collection of taxes by the city of Jacksonville. Ordered enrolled.

House bill No. 173: To incorporate the Florida Loan and Trust company. Referred.

Senate bill No. 44: To amend the act to change the terms of circuit court in the second judicial circuit. Passed informally.

House bill No. 90: To fix the legal rate of interest in the state of Florida, to define usury and to provide for forfeiture on usurious contracts. Referred.

Senate bill No. 98: Was made special order for May 23 at 11 o'clock.

Committee reports were read.

Senate bill No. 235: To amend the act making Alafia river navigable. Read second and third times, passed and ordered certified at once.

House bill No. 75: To regulate the manner of assessing taxes on real property and the improvements thereon. Read second and third times, passed and ordered certified at once.

Senate bill No. 170: To provide for the collection of taxes assessed on railroads and the property thereof for the years 1879, 1880 and 1881, as to which there was no assessment, etc. Passed and ordered certified.

Bills on second reading were considered.

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