

THE LAKELAND EVENING TELEGRAM

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LEGISLATURE CONVENES ON NEXT TUESDAY

1913 SESSION PROMISES TO BE A LIVELY ONE.

Some of the Many Measures Which the People Wish to Become Laws.

(By Associated Press.)

Tallahassee, Fla., April 5.—The session of the Florida Legislature which begins here Tuesday, April 8, promises to be enlivened by a vigorous fight to secure the calling of a constitutional convention, and an active effort on the part of the Florida Anti-Saloon League to secure the adoption of a resolution provided for an election on a State-wide prohibition amendment to the constitution. The advocates of a constitutional convention claim the State has outgrown its present constitution, adopted in 1885.

The Legislature also will be called upon to act on the proposed amendment to the national constitution provided for the direct election of United States senators by the people.

Many other subjects of general interest are to be presented for consideration in the session. Among these is a recommendation of Governor Park Trammell that the State adopt a bank guarantee law.

The special tax commission created by the Legislature of 1911 to study the tax system of the State and recommend changes will make its report through the governor and will ask for an entire remodeling of the system of taxation, divorcing State from county taxation. Under the system suggested the State would derive its tax revenues from railroads, telegraph and telephone lines and from occupational license taxes, while all local property, real and personal, would be assessed for county revenue only.

Under the present system the State derives a revenue from taxing real and personal property. The law requires that all property shall be assessed at full cash value, but this has not been done, some counties placing a valuation for taxation as low as 25 per cent of real value. As there is a State board of equalization this is the burden of State taxation which is heavily on those counties where assessors strive to do their duty as near as possible obey the law to adjust these inequalities that change is suggested?

The organized movement is now unopposed to induce the Legislature to pass for an issue of bonds sufficient to give a State-wide system of hard surfaced roads, to be constructed under the supervision of a State engineer.

Secretary of State H. Clay Crawford will recommend the establishment of a State hall of history, with a collection ample to cover its past, and to pay the salary of a permanent librarian.

BUSINESS COLLEGE.

Those who are interested in the location here of a good business college are invited and urged to notify the secretary of the Board of Trade of any students desirous of taking advantage of the special introductory rates offered to the first twenty-five students who apply for enrollment. About half of this number have already sent in their application. Palatka tells us that we shall be very fortunate if we can induce Professor Land to locate here, as they are very proud of their school there and ready to stand by it to the limit.

PART OF PARK MAY BE OFFERED AS SITE FOR GOV'T BUILDING

Movement Looking to This End Will Be Put Before City Council Tonight.

A proposition of considerable interest in connection with the site for the new government building is being discussed on the streets this afternoon, and it is understood that the City Council will be convened in special session this evening to consider it.

The proposition is to have the city sell the government a sufficient space for the building site from the southeast corner of Munn park—approximately 140 feet front on Main street and a like frontage on Kentucky avenue. It is thought that as this is undoubtedly the best location in the city the government would be willing to pay a pretty fair price for it. The plan is to take the money thus secured and use it for the purchase of two park sites of equal value, one to be located on the north side of the railroad and the other on the south side.

The promoters of this plan claim that Munn park would not be greatly injured by the occupancy of this corner by a handsome building, over three-fourths of it being left undisturbed for park purposes, while the city would gain two additional parks, which are, of course, quite desirable. The contention is made that areas can be bought for park purposes in exchange for the square feet surrendered for the government site.

Munn park was donated to the city by Mr. A. G. Munn, or the Lakeland Investment Co., of which he was the principal stockholder, with the proviso that it be dedicated to park purposes only. This restriction, however, can be removed by Mr. Morris G. Munn, who is in position to execute the necessary papers to settle all question of title, and he declares his readiness to do this, as he favors the proposition.

The matter is scheduled to be discussed at a special meeting of the City Council tonight, immediate action being necessary, as proposals for the site must be in Washington by Tuesday, April 8.

AT THE FIRST METHODIST CHURCH TOMORROW.

At the First Methodist church tomorrow morning the subject will be "The Significance of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper." After a short sermon the sacrament will be administered. An offering will be taken for the poor, as is the custom on this occasion.

In the evening the pastor will preach, beginning a series of sermons on "Sin and Its Nature." The subjects will be as follows: 1. "Lured." 2. "Shackled." 3. "Depleted." 4. "Wrecked." 5. "What Is Sin." 6. "Composure in the Midst of Sin." It will be the endeavor of these six sermons to deal in a lively manner with the subject, setting very close to life. A cordial invitation is given to come as long as the church has seating capacity and hear the first of the series.

The stewards are called to meet at the church Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. This meeting is very important. Every steward is urged to attend.

PROSPECTS FOR PEACE ARE NOW MUCH BRIGHTER

ALLIES' DEMANDS ARE ACCEDDED TO BY POWERS.

All Financial Questions Will Be Left for Commission to Decide.

(By Associated Press.)

Sofia, April 5.—Prospects of peace in the Balkans looked bright today. Although allies, in a reply to mediation suggestions of the powers, demanded numerous radical changes, the powers replied with concessions designed to bring prompt cessation of hostilities. In a note presented to the Bulgarian government the powers proposed that the new frontier should be formed on a line from Midia on Black sea to Enos on Aegean sea. In accordance with Bulgarian demands the powers also suggested that all financial questions such as indemnity be left to decision of a technical commission.

Eight Warships Form Blockade.

(By Associated Press.)
Cettigne, April 5.—A blockade of the Montenegrin seaport Antivari by eight warships of the European powers was begun this morning.

TAMMANY POLITICAL LEADER SHOT AND KILLED TODAY

Was Recently Involved in a Gang Feud and His Life Had Been Threatened.

(By Associated Press.)

New York, April 5.—Eugene Smith, a Tammany political leader, was shot and killed by four gangsters early this morning on Park row. Smith was on his way home from a hall of the Eastside Democratic organization at Tammany Hall. The gangsters escaped. Smith's brother said the slain man was mistaken for some one else, but the police were informed that Smith was recently involved in a gang feud and moved to Brooklyn on account of threats against his life.

ATTENDANCE AT PUBLIC SCHOOL PASSES 900 MARK.

The Lakeland public school is drawing to a close, May 2 being the last day of the session, and, in looking over the past year's work, we feel that it has been one of the most successful the school has ever known.

In the first place the attendance has outstripped any previous year, the present enrollment now numbering 966 pupils, 439 boys and 467 girls. This would have totaled 1,000 had there been more room, but under present conditions the principal was forced to turn away a large number. It is hoped that this condition will not exist another year.

The faculty, which is composed of twenty-two teachers, is made up of trained instructors who have bent every effort to raise the school to the highest standard possible and their efforts along all lines have been eminently successful. There has been a feeling of pleasing harmony pervading the school atmosphere which has been most gratifying to the patrons and all cannot but feel that the session of 1912-1913 passes into history as a most profitable one.

DEMOCRATS FAVOR WILSON'S DECISION

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, April 5.—A Democratic majority of the ways and means committee voted unanimously this afternoon to accept President Wilson's final decision as to the sugar schedule. The committee will agree either to free sugar or a low duty to be eliminated entirely within three years.

The twelfth annual meeting of the Florida Audubon Society was held on the 25th of March at Maitland. About a hundred members and friends were present.

SUFFRAGETTES ON WAR PATH IN EARNEST

TWO WOMEN CAUGHT TRYING TO BURN GRAND STAND

Spent Last Night in Breaking Windows, Wire Cutting and in Other Depredations.

(By Associated Press.)

London, April 5.—Two suffragette fire fiends were captured red-handed this morning while setting fire to the grandstand at the Kelso race course in Scotland. Rags saturated with petroleum were placed beneath the stand and ignited and when this was accomplished watchmen sprang from hiding and seized the women.

The grandstand at the Ayr race course in Scotland was burned this morning, the loss being \$15,000. Several suffragette placards and suffragette literature were in the vicinity.

Window breaking, telegraph wire cutting and many other outrages were committed during the night by the militants in various parts of the country. A bomb and arson campaign is threatened by the wild women causing intense alarm in the provinces. Historic estates are guarded day and night.

STORMY SCENES ATTEND TRIAL OF LABOR ORGANIZER

Was Declared Not Guilty and Will Not Have to Serve His Sentence.

(By Associated Press.)

Patterson, N. J., April 5.—Hundreds of striking silk mill workers flocked to the court room today, where William D. Haywood, organizer of the Industrial Workers of the World, is making a fight against the sentence of six months imposed upon him a week ago for disorderly conduct.

Thousands gathered outside the court building and the city's entire police force was on hand. The court proceedings were on a habeas corpus charge is pending against him for causing an unlawful assemblage. Nearly two hundred of Haywood's followers were arrested last night and today for picketing.

Haywood Discharged from Custody

(By Associated Press.)
Patterson, April 5.—Haywood was discharged from custody as was also Adolph Lessig, who was arrested with him. The court held that there was no intent to commit crime shown.

Amid scenes of riotous demonstration on the part of several thousand strikers Haywood and Lessig were escorted to the hall for a mass meeting.

MR. T. E. TAYLOR PASSED AWAY AFTER PROLONGED ILLNESS.

The many friends of Mr. T. E. Taylor will be deeply pained to learn that he passed away yesterday afternoon at his home south of town after an illness covering a period of several weeks.

The funeral is being conducted at Medulla this afternoon, being in charge of the Masons, of this city, who went out in a body to officiate. Mr. Taylor having been a member of this order.

A good man, a kindly neighbor and a fine citizen has gone in the passing of Tom Taylor. He was respected by all who knew him and during his long residence in Polk county he had won for himself a large circle of friends, who are grieved to learn that he is no more. He is survived by a devoted wife and daughter, who have the deepest sympathy of the community in their great loss.

Numerous entertainments are being given in Jacksonville for the benefit of the flood sufferers of the Middle West.

COMMISSION FORM OF GOVERNMENT TO BE DISCUSSED APR. 10.

Lakeland Evening Telegram, Lakeland, Fla.

Dear Sir—There will be a meeting of the citizens, voters and taxpayers of the city of Lakeland at 7 o'clock Thursday evening, April 10, 1913, at the Board of Trade rooms, for the purpose of considering the advisability of taking steps to put Lakeland under a commission form of government. Everybody is invited. There will be some interesting addresses made by parties thoroughly informed along this line.

JEREMIAH B. SMITH,
W. D. EDWARDS,
SAMUEL F. SMITH,
D. O. ROGERS.

BOARD OF TRADE HELD INTERESTING SESSION LAST NIGHT

The Matter of Finding Out Who Are Really Members Up for Discussion.

In spite of the inclement weather last night, there was a fair attendance at the regular meeting of the Board of Trade, and an unusually long session was held.

Reports of various committees were received, showing progress on various plans of the Board.

Private individuals having offered to bear the expense, the secretary was empowered to personally confer with the officials of the Coast Line in Jacksonville with regard to securing the use of the plot of ground north of the passenger station for the purpose of a park, and the matter will be taken up very shortly.

The Board discussed at considerable length the report of the secretary, which was asked for at a previous meeting, relating to the membership acquired in the recent contest. The Board was disappointed that so many otherwise good and substantial men of the town had backed down from their position last fall, apparently for no other reason than indifference and a failure to realize the needs and opportunities of Lakeland at this important period in her history. Just as the condition of the town can be advanced and all her many interests multiplied and developed, so the individual interests of each one of her citizens can be advanced and helped by good and effective work on the part of the board. To do this work, it is absolutely necessary that every man who earns his living in this community should show at least that much interest as to take care of his membership in the Board of Trade. Good will and wishes will not help him and it does not materially aid the Board, and if Lakeland is to be advanced into that class to which she aspires and has present opportunity, she must have a united support.

In the harvest of members gathered a few months ago, it was to be expected there would be some chaff when the real threshing was completed, but some of that which at present can only be counted as chaff ought to be developed into good sound wheat, and an effort is to be made by those present last night to give this residuum another vigorous cleaning with a view of getting out of it something of material value.

At the next meeting a final report will be made, and those who can, but who refuse to come to the front in the struggle for Lakeland's supremacy, will be dropped so hard that they will feel the thud.

The feeling was expressed last night that those who are unable in this fair city to earn a livelihood sufficient to enable them to contribute so small a sum as one dollar a month to the work of the Board of Trade should be sympathized with and a God-speed given to their departure for other scenes of activity, and that those who can, but simply will not should be left to realize very emphatically a sense of their own shortsightedness and lack of public spirit.

The meeting last night was very informal and a light lunch was enjoyed.

A. J. HOLWORTHY, Sec.
The Grand View hotel at Eustis will shortly be enlarged and the capacity of the hostelry will be greatly increased. It will be made an all-year-round resort.

U. S. SENATOR IS DECLARED NOT GUILTY

WAS CHARGED WITH UNBECOMING CONDUCT.

He Declared the Charges Had Been Trumped Up to Injure Him Politically.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, April 5.—United States Attorney Wilson who investigated certain allegations of impropriety against a western senator, announced that he had heard the statements of the complaining witness and her friends and found no justification for laying a complaint against the senator before the grand jury.

Jim R. Jacobs, of Oklahoma City, presented the secretary of the Senate a statement containing similar allegations against the senator. The senator's name is withheld by the officials. Four days ago when the matter was first talked about the senator referred to is said to have declared that the charges were absolutely unfounded and that it was nothing but a blackmail scheme concocted by political enemies in his State.

The senator in question was charged by the wife of a western office seeker with making improper advances.

GOODS LAW TO REGULATE FOOLS.

Atlanta, Ga., April 5.—If you point a gun at another person in Georgia and the gun goes off by accident, you are guilty of manslaughter, according to a decision just handed down by the State court of appeals, which holds that the cocking and pointing of the weapon is an act of criminal carelessness, and that in the event the person at whom it is pointed is killed, criminal prosecution is in order.

The decision was handed down in affirmation of the judgment of the Montgomery superior court in finding Richard Baker guilty of involuntary manslaughter and sentencing him to three years on the chain-gang. Baker cocked his gun and pointed it at Shelton Cason. Cason grabbed at it, and it went off by accident, inflicting a wound from which Cason later died.

MOULTRIE LADY BASELY RECEIVED BY A WOODPECKER.

From the Moultrie (Ga.) Observer. T. H. Monk's home paper, we take the following, which shows how badly deceived a Moultrie lady was a few days ago:

"This morning bright and early—early anyhow and fairly bright on the part of all parties concerned—a lady living in a pretty nice section of Moultrie heard a rapid rapping at the door and hastened to throw aside the kitchen apron—she had no help this morning and as hastily brushing back the rebellious little ringlets of hair which had strayed away from their moorings—she went to the door. There was nobody in sight.

"She called to mind that it is not yet the first of April and went back to the rear of the house—to be called again by the same persistent, nervous, determined knocking at the front. Again she went to the door—to be disappointed.

"The program was rehearsed four times, before the ordinarily good, but now thoroughly and genuinely indignant lady, discovered by accident that her visitor was none other than a red-headed woodpecker perched on the front porch hammering on the weather boarding of the gable.

SECTION OF MEMPHIS NOW UNDER WATER.

(By Associated Press.)

Memphis, April 5.—The Mississippi river continues to rise at the rate of a foot and a half a day, registering 42.4 feet this morning. A brick protecting wall, used as a levee along the Bayou Gayoso, broke this morning, flooding a small residence section of North Memphis. This same section was flooded last spring. The damage will not be extensive.