Neighbors.  
Randolph.  
Rhea.  
Rudd.  
Seabury.  
Turner.  
Yaughan.  

Absence.  
Bailey.  
Bird.  
Blair.  
Brigance.  
Browne.  
Carswell.  
Cureton.  
Dorrah.  
Dorrah.  
Garrison.  
Gilbough.  
Henderson.  
Hill of Travis.  

Excused.  
Barbee.  
Bean.  
Boyd.  
Collier.  
Dorrah.  
Hill of Gonzales.  

Mr. Peery moved to reconsider the vote by which House bill No. 22 was ordered engrossed, and to table the motion to reconsider.  
The motion to table prevailed.  

GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE.  

On account of important business:  
Mr. Schlick until Monday, and Mr. Kirk until Wednesday, on motion of Mr. Walters.  
Mr. Rogers from last Tuesday morning indefinitely, on motion of Mr. Good.  
Mr. Lotto until Monday, on motion of Mr. Carpenter.  
Mr. Barrett after Saturday morning indefinitely, and Mr. Blackburn until next Tuesday, on motion of Mr. McGaughy.  
Mr. Kimbell until Monday, on motion of Mr. Wood.  
Mr. Edwards until Monday, on motion of Mr. Evans of Hunt.  

On account of sickness in their families:  
Mr. Williams and Mr. Dorrah until Monday, on motion of Mr. Beaird.  
Mr. Bounds indefinitely, on motion of Mr. Pitts.  
Mr. Martin moved to adjourn until 9 a.m. to-morrow, and the motion was lost.  
The Speaker laid before the House, on its engrossment,  
House bill No. 176, a bill to be entitled "An act to quiet titles to lands located and surveyed by virtue of land certificates granted under the act of the Legislature of the State of Texas, entitled an act granting to persons who have been permanently disabled by reason of wounds received while in the service of this State or of the Confederate States, a certificate for 1280 acres of land, approved April 9, 1881, and to validate patents issued on such locations and surveys."  
Pending consideration,  
Mr. Ragan, by unanimous consent, offered the following resolution:  

Whereas, the patient House is tired  
Of the perpetual jaw  
Which is so uniformly fired  
At each prospective law;  
And whereas, too, some are accused  
Of assaulting bills that pass  
With the very weapon Sampson used—  
The jawbone of an ass;  
And whereas, now the day has come  
When our per diem shrinks  
To such a small and paltry sum  
It will not pay for drinks.  

Therefore resolved, that we will hold  
Two sessions every day,  
And, whether it be hot or cold,  
Will try to earn our pay.  
The resolution was read, and went over one day under the rules.  
Pending consideration of House bill No. 176, on its engrossment,  
On motion of Mr. Ewing, Mr. McGaughy yielding the floor, the House at 5.20 p.m., adjourned until 9 o'clock a.m. to-morrow.  

FORTY-FOURTH DAY.  

Hall House of Representatives,  
Austin, Texas,  
Saturday, March 13, 1897.  
The House met at 9 o'clock a.m. pursuant to adjournment.  
Speaker Dashielii in the chair.  
The roll was called, and there was not a quorum present, whereupon  
Mr. Seabury moved a call of the House, which was seconded, and the Clerk was directed to call the roll to ascertain who were absent without leave.  
The second roll call showed the following members present:  

Alexander.  
Ayers.  
Bailey.  
Barrett.  
Beaird.  
Benson.  
Bertram.  
Bird.  
Blair.  
Brewster.
March 13, 1897

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Brigance. McFarland.
Browne. McQuaughy.
Bumpass. McKellar.
Burney. Meade.
Burns. Melton.
Callan. Mercer.
Caron. Moore, Fort Bend.
Childs. Moore of Lamar.
Conoly. Morton.
Crawford. Neighbors.
Crowley. O'Connor.
Cureton. Oliver.
Curry. Peery.
Dennis. Porter.
Dickinson. Randolph.
Dies. Reiger.
Doyle. Reubell.
Drew. Rhea.
Evans of Grayson. Rogan.
Evans of Wichita. Savage.
Fields. Seabury.
Fisher. Shelburne.
Flint. Skillern.
Freeman. Shuler.
Garrison. Smyth.
Gilbough. Stamper.
Good. Staples.
Graham. Stokes.
Green. Strother.
Gribough. Thaxton.
Henderson. Thomas.
Hensley. Thompson.
Hill of Travis. Tracy.
Holland of Burnet. Tucker.
Humphrey. Turner.
Jones. Vaughan of Collin.
Lillard. Wall.
Logan. Ward.
Lotto. Welch.
Love. Wilcox.
Manson. Wolters.
Martin. Wood.
Maxwell. Williams.

Absent.
Barbee. Pitts.
Bean. Rudd.
Bell. Smith.
Collier. Vaughan, Guadalupe.
McKamy. Williams.

Excused.
Blackburn. Kimbell.
Bounds. Kirk.
Boyd. Morris.
Carswell. Mundine.
Dean. Patterson.
Dorado. Peffer.
Edwards. Rogers.
Hill of Gonzales. Schlick.
Holland of Harris. Wallace.

A quorum was announced present.
Prayer by Dr. J. A. Jackson, chaplain.

Pending reading of the Journal of yesterday,
On motion of Mr. Bertram, further reading was dispenseu with.

GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

On account of important business:
Mr. Dies indefinitely, on motion of Mr. Randolph.
Mr. Brewster after the morning session until Tuesday, on motion of Mr. Vaughan of Collin.
Mr. Shelburne after the morning session indefinitely, on motion of Mr. Fields.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS.

By Mr. Hensley:
House concurrent resolution No. 16: Whereas, a board of engineers appointed under an act of Congress have reported that the opening of a harbor at the mouth of the Brazos river is feasible, and that there are valid commercial reasons that justify the general government in undertaking the work; therefore be it
Resolved, by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:
First. That we favor an appropriation by Congress for the improvement, maintenance and control of said harbor by the government of the United States.

Second. An appropriation for the improvement and opening of the Brazos river to navigation as far as may be found practicable.

Third. That our Senators and Representatives in Congress are respectfully requested to use their best endeavors to secure such appropriations as may be necessary for these purposes.

Be it further resolved, that the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress a copy of these resolutions.

Read second time, and adopted.

Mr. Fields called up the following resolution, offered by him on Wednesday, March 10, and which went over under the rules,
Resolved, that Rule 56 be so amended as hereafter to read as follows:
"56. No member shall absent himself from the sittings of the House without leave, unless in case of sickness; and every member absenting himself without leave shall for each day of absence forfeit the pay allowed him by law. A majority of the members present may excuse absentees, and no
member shall be excused upon his own motion."

On motion of Mr. Fields, the resolution was referred to the Committee on Rules.

BILLS RECOMMENDED.

House bill No. 483, withdrawn from the Committee on Education and referred to the joint committee on a uniform series of text-books, on motion of Mr. Evans of Grayson.

House bill No. 158 (with majority adverse and minority favorable report), to the Committee on State Affairs, on motion of Mr. Thaxton.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

By Mr. Bailey, Chairman:

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 12, 1897.
Hon. L. T. Dashiell, Speaker of the House:
Your Judiciary Committee No. 2, to whom was referred
House bill No. 451, a bill to be entitled "An act to amend article 909, chapter 3, title 18, of the Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas, 1895, relating to marriages in cases of seduction."

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that it do pass.

BAILEY, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 12, 1897.
Hon. L. T. Dashiell, Speaker of the House:
Your Judiciary Committee No. 2, to whom was referred
House bill No. 540, a bill to be entitled "An act to amend chapter 1, of title 14, or the Penal Code of the State of Texas, defining the crime of forgery and other offences affecting written instruments, and prescribing penalties for violations thereof, by adding thereto article 540b."

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that it do pass.

BAILEY, Chairman.

MAJORITY REPORT.

By Mr. Williams, chairman:
Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 11, 1897.
Hon. L. T. Dashiell, Speaker of the House.

Your Committee on Internal Improvements, to whom was referred
House bill No. 139, a bill to be entitled "An act to regulate the price of fare upon railroads, and of sleeping-car fare, in the State of Texas"; and
House bill No. 146, a bill to be entitled "An act to amend article 4542, of chapter X, title XCIV, of the Revised Statutes of 1895 of the State of Texas, relating to the passenger fare upon railroads in this State."

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that the following substitute do pass: A bill to be entitled "An act to amend title 94, of chapter X, of the Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas, by adding thereto article 4521a, preventing the use of the 'gate system' in the State of Texas, and fixing a penalty therefor."

WILLIAMS, Chairman.

MINORITY REPORT.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 13, 1897.
Hon. L. T. Dashiell, Speaker of the House:
We, a minority of your Committee on Internal Improvements, to whom was referred
House bill No. 146, a bill to be entitled "An act to amend article 4542 of chapter 10, title 94, of the Revised Statutes of the State of Texas of 1895, relating to the passenger fare upon railroads of this State."

Do not concur with the majority, and we beg to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that it do pass.

LOGAN,
WOOD,
ROGAN,
LILLARD.

By Mr. McGaughey, chairman:
Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 13, 1897.
Hon. L. T. Dashiell, Speaker of the House.

Your Committee on Education, to whom was referred
House bill No. 553, a bill to be entitled "An act to amend chapter 15, of title 86, of the Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas, by adding after article 3994 a new article to be known as article 3994a, providing for extending the limits of a town or village incorporated for school purposes only, by taking in adjacent territory."

Have had the same under considera-
tion, and I am instructed to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that it do pass.

McGaughey, Chairman.

By Mr. Fields, acting chairman:

Committee Room, Austin, Texas, March 13, 1897.

Hon. L. T. Dashiell, Speaker of the House:

Your Committee on Engrossed Bills have carefully examined and compared House bill No. 426, a bill to be entitled "An act to restore to and confer upon the county court of Franklin county the criminal jurisdiction heretofore belonging to it under the Constitution and general statutes of the State, and to conform the jurisdiction of the district court of said county to such change;"

And find the same correctly engrossed.

Fields, Acting Chairman.

By Mr. Staples, acting chairman:

Committee Room, Austin, Texas, March 12, 1897.

Hon. L. T. Dashiell, Speaker of the House:

Your Committee on Engrossed Bills have carefully examined and compared House joint resolution No. 7, ratifying and confirming the action of the attorneys representing the State of Texas in compromising its claim to the university lands in McLennan county, Texas;"

And find the same correctly engrossed.

STAPLES, Acting Chairman.

Committee Room, Austin, Texas, March 13, 1897.

Hon. L. T. Dashiell, Speaker of the House:

Your Committee on Engrossed Bills have carefully examined and compared House bill No. 172, a bill to be entitled "An act to prevent litigants from pleading the statutes of limitations in the county and district courts in cases appealed from justices' courts, when the same was not pleaded in the justices' courts."

And find the same correctly engrossed.

STAPLES, Acting Chairman.

Committee Room, Austin, Texas, March 13, 1897.

Hon. L. T. Dashiell, Speaker of the House:

Your Committee on Engrossed Bills have carefully examined and compared House bill No. 279, a bill to be entitled "An act declaring the theft of cotton over the value of twenty dollars a felony, and under the value of twenty dollars a misdemeanor, and affixing penalties thereto."

And find the same correctly engrossed.

STAPLES, Acting Chairman.

Committee Room, Austin, Texas, March 13, 1897.

Hon. L. T. Dashiell, Speaker of the House:

Your Committee on Engrossed Bills have carefully examined and compared House bill No. 314, a bill to be entitled "An act to amend articles 529c, 529d, 529g, 529h, 529m and 529n, of chapter 5, title 13, of the Penal Code of the State of Texas of 1895, and by adding articles 529s and 529t to said chapter 5, title 13, of said Penal Code of the State of Texas, relating to offenses for the protection of fish and oysters, and to repeal all laws in conflict herewith."

And find the same correctly engrossed.

STAPLES, Acting Chairman.
And find the same correctly engrossed.

STAPLES, Acting Chairman.

By Mr. Oliver, chairman:

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 12, 1897.

Hon. L. T. Dashiell, Speaker of the House:

Your Committee on Penitentiaries, to whom was referred

House bill No. 498, a bill to be entitled "An act to regulate the employment of persons sentenced to the penitentiaries, and to provide for their compensation in certain cases."

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that it do not pass.

OLIVER, Chairman.

SPEAKER'S TABLE.

The Speaker laid before the House, on its second reading,

House bill No. 464, a bill to be entitled "An act to permit Thomas E., Jesse F., Stella and Drew Finch to sue the State of Texas for the recovery of certain lands situated in Wise county, Texas, and to provide service for the same."

The bill was read second time, and Mr. Crawford offered the following amendment:

Amend, in line 12, page 1, strike out the word "Travis" and insert in lieu thereof the word "Wise."

Adopted.

The bill was ordered engrossed.

The Speaker laid before the House, on its second reading,

House bill No. 473, a bill to be entitled "An act to restore to and confer upon the county court of Leon county the civil and criminal jurisdiction heretofore belonging to said county court under the Constitution and general statutes of the State, and to conform the jurisdiction of the district court of said county to said change."

The bill was read second time, and Mr. Randolph offered the following amendment:

Amend by adding section 10:

"Sec. 10. Owing to the crowded condition of the calendar, and the improbability of reaching the bill before the adjournment of the Legislature creates an emergency and imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and that the bill be put on its third reading and final passage, and that it take effect and be in force fron. and after its passage, and it is so enacted."

Adopted.

The bill was ordered engrossed.

Mr. Randolph moved to suspend the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house, and that House bill No. 473 be put upon its third reading and final passage.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Yeas—96.

Alexander. Manson. 
Ayres. Martin. 
Barrett. Maxwey. 
Beard. McFarland. 
Bell. McGaughey. 
Benson. McKellar. 
Bertram. Meade. 
Bird. Melton. 
Browne. Mercer. 
Bumpass. Moore, Fort Bend. 
Burney. Moore of Lamar. 
Burns. Morton. 
Callan. Neighbors. 
Carpenter. O'Connor. 
Childs. Oliver. 
Conoly. Feery. 
Crawford. Porter. 
Crawley. Randolph. 
Cureton. Reiger. 
Curry. Reubell. 
Dennis. Rhea. 
Dickinson. Robbins. 
Doyle. Rogan. 
Drew. Savage. 
Evans of Grayson. Scobury. 
Ewing. Sheblurne. 
Feld. Shropshire. 
Fields. Skillern. 
Fisher. Sluder. 
Flint. Smyth. 
Freeman. Stamper. 
Garrison. Staples. 
Gilbough. Stokes. 
Good. Strother. 
Graham. Thaxton. 
Green. Thomas. 
Harris. Thompson. 
Henderson. Tracy. 
Hensley. Tucker. 
Hill of Travis. Turner. 
Holland of Burnet. Vaughan of Collin. 
Humphrey. Wall. 
Jones. Ward. 
Lillard. Welch. 
Logan. Wilcox. 
Lotto. Wolters. 
Love. Wood. 

Nays—1.

Evans of Hunt.

Absent.

Bailey. Brewster. 
Blair. Brigance.
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dean.</th>
<th>Rudd.</th>
<th>Lillard.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pitts.</td>
<td>Vaughan, Guadalupe</td>
<td>Savage.</td>
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<td>Seabury.</td>
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Excused.

Barbee.
Bean.
Blacksburn.
Bounds.
Boyd.
Carswell.
Collier.
Dries.
Dorrorh.
Edwards.
Hill of Gonzales.

House bill No. 473 was read third time, and passed.

Mr. Randolph moved to reconsider the vote by which House bill No. 473 was passed, and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

The Speaker laid before the House, on its second reading,

House bill No. 476, a bill to be entitled "An act to restore to and confer upon the county court of San Saba county the civil and criminal jurisdiction formerly belonging to said county under the Constitution and general statutes of the State, and to conform the jurisdiction of the district court of said county to said change."

The bill was read second time, and passed.

Mr. Melton moved to suspend the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house, and that House bill No. 476 be put upon its third reading and final passage.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alexander.</th>
<th>Dickinson.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ayers.</td>
<td>Drew.</td>
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<td>Barrett.</td>
<td>Evans of Grayson.</td>
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<td>Beaird.</td>
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<td>Bird.</td>
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<td>Browne.</td>
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<td>Burney.</td>
<td>Good.</td>
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<td>Burns.</td>
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<td>Callan.</td>
<td>Green.</td>
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<td>Carpenter.</td>
<td>Harris.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Childs.</td>
<td>Henderson.</td>
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<td>Crawford.</td>
<td>Hensley.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crowley.</td>
<td>Hill of Travis.</td>
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<td>Cureton.</td>
<td>Holland of Burnett.</td>
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<td>Curry.</td>
<td>Humphrey.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dennis.</td>
<td>Jones.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Yeas—93.

Nays—none.

Absent.

Barbee.
Bean.
Blackburn.
Bounds.
Boyd.
Carswell.
Collier.
Dries.
Dorrorh.
Edwards.

Hill of Gonzales.

House bill No. 476 was read third time, and passed.

Mr. Melton moved to reconsider the vote by which House bill No. 476 was passed, and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

The Speaker laid before the House, on its second reading,

House bill No. 446, a bill to be entitled "An act to provide for redistricting Menard county into public school districts, and declaring an emergency and imperative public necessity."

On motion of Mr. Beaird, House Rule No. 31, requiring that all bills reported favorably be printed and laid on the desk of each member before
The bill was read second time, and Mr. Savage offered the following amendment:

Amend by striking out the words "Menard county" in caption and bill, and insert in lieu thereof the words "Menard and Montague counties," and amend section 1 by adding "Montague" after the word "Menard."

Adopted.

The bill was ordered engrossed.

Mr. Beaird moved to suspend the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house, and that House bill No. 446 be put upon its third reading and final passage.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Yeas—93. 

Alexander. 

Bailey. 

Barrett. 

Beaird. 

Bertram. 

Bird. 

Beaver. 

Brewster. 

Browne. 

Bumpass. 

Burney. 

Burns. 

Callan. 

Carpenter. 

Childs. 

Conoly. 

Crawford. 

Crowley. 

Cureton. 

Curry. 

Dennis. 

Dickison. 

Doyle. 

Drew. 

Ewing. 

Field. 

Fields. 

Flint. 

Freeman. 

Garrison. 

Gibbough. 

Good. 

Graham. 

Green. 

Harris. 

Henderson. 

Hensley. 

Hill of Travis. 

Holland of Burnet Turner. 

Humphrey. 

Jones. 

Lillard. 

Logan. 

Wilcox. 

Wolters. 

Wood. 

Nays—none. 

Absent.

Ayers. 

Bell. 

Brigance. 

Evans of Hunt. 

Evans of Grayson. 

Fisher. 

McKamy. 

Vaughan, Gaulupe

Excused.

Barbee. 

Bean. 

Blackburn. 

Bounds. 

Boyd. 

Carwell. 

Coller. 

Dean. 

Dies. 

Dorroh. 

Edwards. 

Hunt of Gonzales. 

Holland of Harris. 

Kimbell. 

Kirk. 

Morris. 

Mundine. 

Patterson. 

Pfeuffer. 

Rogers. 

Wallace. 

Williams.

House bill No. 446 was read third time, and passed.

Mr. Beaird moved to reconsider the vote by which House bill No. 446 was passed, and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

The Speaker laid before the House, on its second reading.

House bill No. 556, a bill to be entitled "An act authorizing certified copies of instruments conveying lands in Archer county, recorded in Jack county, from the 10th day of August, 1866, to the 10th day of August, 1870, to be admitted in evidence in all suits where secondary evidence is admissible."

The bill was read second time, and was ordered engrossed.

Mr. Maxwell moved to suspend the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house, and that House bill No. 556 be put upon its third reading and final passage.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Yeas—96. 

Alexander. 

Bumpass. 

Ayers. 

Burney. 

Bailey. 

Burns. 

Barrett. 

Callan. 

Beaird. 

Carpenter. 

Bell. 

Childs. 

Benson. 

Crawford. 

Bertram. 

Crowley. 

Bird. 

Crowley. 

Blair. 

Cureton. 

Brewster. 

Curry. 

Browne. 

Dennis.
Mr. Peery moved to reconsider the vote by which House bill No. 556 was passed, and to table the motion to reconsider.
The motion to table prevailed.
Mr. Tracy, by unanimous consent, offered the following resolution:
Resolved, that the Speaker of the House is hereby authorized to appoint one of the clerks to accompany the visiting committee to the penitentiaries and convict farms.

Read second time and tabled, on motion of Mr. Conoly.
The Speaker laid before the House, on its second reading, House bill No. 563, a bill to be entitled "An act to amend section 6, of chapter 132, of the Acts of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Texas, passed at the regular session thereof, and entitled an act to create a more efficient road system for Dallas, Lamar and Medina counties, Texas, and making county commissioners of said counties ex-officio road commissioners and prescribing their duties as such and providing for their compensation as road commissioners, and defining the duties and powers of such county commissioners," etc.

Bill read second time, and ordered engrossed.
Mr. Moore of Lamar moved to suspend the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house, and that House bill No. 563 be put on its third reading and final passage.
The motion prevailed by the following vote:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yeas</th>
<th>Nays</th>
</tr>
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<td>95</td>
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</table>

Alexander.  
Ayers.  
Bailey.  
Barrett.  
Bedard.  
Bell.  
Benson.  
Bertram.  
Bird.  
Blair.  
Brewster.  
Browne.  
Bumpass.  
Burney.  
Burns.  
Callan.  
Carpenter.  
Conoly.  
Crawford.  
Crowley.  
Cureton.  
Curry.  
Dennis.  
Dickinson.  
Doyle.  
Drew.  
Evans of Grayson.  
Ewing.  
Mercer.  
Moore, Fort Bend.  
Moore of Lamar.  
Morton.  
Neighbors.  
O'Connor.  
Oliver.  
Peery.  
Porter.  
Randolph.  
Reiger.  
Reubell.  
Rhea.  
Robbins.  
Rogan.  
Savage.  
Seabury.  
Shelburne.  
Shropshire.  
Skillern.  
Sluder.  
Smyle.  
Stamper.  
Staples.  
Stokes.  
Street.  
Thaxton.  
Thomas.  
Thompson.  
Tracy.  
Tucker.  
Turner.  
Vaughan, Guadalupe.  
Vaughan of Collin.  
Wall.  
Ward.  
Welch.  
Wilcox.  
Wood.  

Absent.
Brigance.  
Childs.  
Evans of Hunt.  
Fisher.  
McKamy.  
Barbee.  
Bean.  
Blackburn.  
Bounds.  
Boyd.  
Carswell.  
Collier.  
Dean.  
Dies.  
Dorrah.  
Edwards.  
Holland of Harris.  
Kimbell.  
Kirk.  
Morris.  
Mundine.  
Patterson.  
Pfeuffer.  
Rogers.  
Schlick.  
Wallace.  
Williams.  

Excused.

Bill was passed.  
Mr. Moore of Lamar moved to reconsider the vote by which House bill No. 563 was passed, and to table the motion to reconsider.  
The motion to table prevailed.  
The Speaker laid before the House, on its second reading, House bill No. 575, a bill to be entitled "An act to establish a more efficient road system for Marion county, and to provide for the appointment of county superintendent of public roads."  
On motion of Mr. Flint, House Rule No. 31, requiring that all bills reported favorably be printed and laid on the desk of each member before acted on by the House, was suspended.
The bill was read second time and ordered engrossed.

The Speaker laid before the House, on its second reading, House bill No. 577, a bill to be entitled "An act to create a more efficient road system for Montague county, in the State of Texas, and making county commissioners of said county ex officio road commissioners, and prescribing their duties as such, and providing for their compensation as road commissioners, and defining the powers and duties of the commissioners' court of said county, and to provide for the manner of training the hedges along the public roads, and fixing a penalty for the violation of this act, and to repeal all laws in conflict with this act."

On motion of Mr. Savage, House rule No. 31, requiring that all bills reported favorably be printed and laid on the desk of each member before being acted on by the House, was suspended.

The bill was read second time, and Mr. Henderson offered the following amendment:

Amend by striking out the words "Montague county" wherever they occur in the caption and body of the bill, and insert instead the words "Montague and Red River counties."

Adopted.

Mr. Robbins offered the following amendment:

Amend the bill by adding "and Wichita counties" where the word "Montague" occurs in the bill.

Adopted.

Mr. Savage offered the following amendments:

Amend by striking out section 9.

Adopted.

Strike out in the caption the following: "and to provide for the manner of training hedges along any public road."

Adopted.

The bill was ordered engrossed.

Mr. Savage moved to suspend the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house, and that House bill No. 577 be put on its third reading and final passage.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Yeas—92.

passed, and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

The Speaker laid before the House, on its third reading and final passage, House bill No. 404, a bill to be entitled "An act to transfer Grimes county from a community school system to a district school system."

The bill was read third time and passed.

Mr. Carpenter moved to reconsider the vote by which House bill No. 404 was passed, and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

The Speaker laid before the House, on its third reading and final passage, House bill No. 426, a bill to be entitled "An act to restore to and confer upon the court of Franklin county the criminal jurisdiction herebefore belonging to it under the Constitution and General Statutes of the State, and to conform the jurisdiction of the district court of said county to such change."

The bill was read third time, and passed.

Mr. Mercer moved to reconsider the vote by which House bill No. 426 was passed, and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

The Speaker laid before the House, on its second reading, Senate bill No. 152, a bill to be entitled "An act to amend the Collin, Grayson, Williamson, Lamar and Bell county road law, said law passed by the Twenty-third Legislature, by amending section 10, in regard to the payment of commissioners when acting as road commissioners."

On motion of Mr. Reubell, House Rule No. 31, requiring that all bills reported favorably be printed and laid on the desk of each member before acted on by the House, was suspended.

Bill read second time, and passed to third reading.

Mr. Reubell moved to suspend the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each House, and that the bill be put on its third reading and final passage.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

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<tr>
<th>Yeas</th>
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Senate bill No. 152 read third time and passed.

Nays—none.

Absent.

Bell.
Brewster.
Brigance.
Burney.
Evans of Hunt.
Evans of Grayson.
Fisher.
Lillard.

Excused.

Barbee.
Bean.
Blackburn.
Bounds.
Boyd.
Carswell.
Collier.
Dean.
Dies.
Dorrough.
Edwards.
Hill of Gonzales.

Holland of Harris.
Kimbell.
Kirk.
Morris.
Mundine.
Patterson.
Pfeiffer.
Rogers.
Schlick.
Wallace.
Williams.
Mr. Reubell moved to reconsider the vote by which Senate bill No. 152 was passed, and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

Mr. Sluder moved to suspend the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house, and that House bill No. 457 be put on its third reading and final passage.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Yeas—91.

Noes—none.

Mr. Sluder moved to reconsider the vote by which House bill No. 457 was passed, and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

The Speaker laid before the House, on its second reading, House bill No. 557, a bill to be entitled “An act to amend article 22, title 4, of the Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas, so as to extend the terms of the district court in Waller and Fort Bend counties.”

The bill was ordered engrossed.

Mr. Bertram moved to postpone further consideration until next Saturday.

The bill was read second time, and passed.

Mr. Sluder moved to reconsider the vote by which House bill No. 457 was passed, and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

The Speaker laid before the House, on its second reading, House bill No. 567, a bill to be entitled “An act to amend subdivision 32, of article 22, title 4, of the Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas, fixing the time for holding the district court in the Thirty-second Judicial District.”

The bill was read second time, and ordered engrossed.

Mr. Sluder moved to reconsider the vote by which Senate bill No. 152 was passed, and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

The Speaker laid before the House, on its second reading, House bill No. 389, a bill to be entitled “An act to amend subdivision 32, of article 22, title 4, of the Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas, fixing the time for holding the district court in the Thirty-second Judicial District.”

The bill was read second time, and ordered engrossed.

Mr. Sluder moved to reconsider the vote by which House bill No. 457 was passed, and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

The Speaker laid before the House, on its second reading, House bill No. 457, a bill to be entitled “An act to amend section 21 of an act entitled an act to incorporate the city of Waco, and to define its boundaries and powers, being chapter 17 of acts of the Legislature of 1889, by defining the powers of the city council in the registration and control of the opening of business houses and other places on Sunday.”

The bill was read second time, and ordered engrossed.

Mr. Sluder moved to suspend the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house, and that House bill No. 457 be put on its third reading and final passage.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Yeas—91.

Noes—none.

Mr. Sluder moved to reconsider the vote by which House bill No. 457 was passed, and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

The Speaker laid before the House, on its second reading, House bill No. 557, a bill to be entitled “An act to amend article 22, title 4, of the Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas, so as to extend the terms of the district court in Waller and Fort Bend counties.”

The bill was read second time, and passed.

Mr. Sluder moved to reconsider the vote by which House bill No. 457 was passed, and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

The Speaker laid before the House, on its second reading, House bill No. 567, a bill to be enti-
titled "An act to amend sections 9, 11, 18, 19, 21, 32, and 44, of an act to incorporate the City of Denison, and to fix the boundaries thereof, etc., passed March, 1891, to provide for the election of aldermen and other officers of said city, by the people, and for fixing their compensation; providing for the filling of vacancies in said offices; prescribing the duties of the city secretary, and for fixing his compensation; to vest in the city council, only, the power to contract debts for the city, and to appropriate money to pay the same, and to repeal all laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act."

On motion of Mr. Feild, postponed subject to call.

The Speaker laid before the House, on its second reading, with amendment by the committee, House bill No. 401, a bill entitled "An act to grant a pension to Martha Merchant, surviving wife of Berry Merchant, deceased."

The bill was read second time, and the committee report was adopted.

(Mr. Carpenter in the chair.)

On motion of Mr. Wolters, Mr. Garrison was excused indefinitely, on account of sickness in his family.

After consideration, Mr. Wolters moved the previous question, and the main question was ordered.

On engrossment of House bill No. 401, yeas and nays were demanded by Mr. Shropshire, Mr. Dennis and Mr. Evans of Hunt.

Ordered engrossed by the following vote:

Yeas—69.


Nays—24.


Absents.


Excused.


Mr. Turner moved to reconsider the vote by which House bill No. 401 was ordered engrossed, and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

Mr. Bailey, by unanimous consent, offered the following resolution:

Whereas, the ladies of Austin have petitioned the members of this body for the use of this hall next Tuesday night, March 16, 1897, for the purpose of holding a meeting in the interest of "Humane Education," and for the purpose of organizing a "Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals," as is shown by the accompanying petition; therefore be it

Resolved, that said petition be granted.

(The resolution was accompanied by a petition bearing the names of forty-two ladies of Austin.)
Read second time, and on motion of Mr. Maxwell, adopted by a rising vote.
Mr. Meade moved to adjourn until 10 o'clock a.m. next Monday, and Mr. Humphrey until 3 o'clock p.m. today. The motion of Mr. Meade prevailed, and the House at 12:15 o'clock p.m. adjourned accordingly.

FORTY-FIFTH DAY.

Hall House of Representatives, Austin, Texas, Monday, March 15, 1897.

The House met at 10 a.m., pursuant to adjournment.
Speaker Dashiell in the chair.

Call roll, and the following members present:

Alexander. Jones.
Ayers. Lillard.
Bailey. Logan.
Barbee. Love.
Beard. Mancon.
Benson. Martin.
Bertram. Maxwell.
Blair. McGaughey.
Browne. McKeller.
Bumpass. Meade.
Burney. Mercer.
Burns. Moore, Fort Bend.
Carpenter. Morton.
Carswell. Mundine.
Childs. Neighbors.
Collier. O'Connor.
Conoly. Patterson.
Crawford. Peery.
Crowley. Porter.
Cureton. Reiger.
Curry. Reubell.
Dennis. Robbins.
Dickinson. Rogen.
Dorroh. Rudd.
Doyle. Savage.
Drew. Seabury.
Edwards. Shropshire.
Evans of Hunt. Skilern.
Evans of Grayson. Sluder.
Ewing. Smyth.
Feld. Stamper.
Fields. Staples.
Fisher. Stok's.
Freeman. Strother.
Gilbough. Thaxton.
Good. Thomas.
Graham. Thompson.
Greene. Tracy.
Harris. Tucker.
Henderson. Turner.
Hensley. Vaughan, Guadalupe.
Holland of Burnet. Vaughan of Collin.
Humphrey. Wall.

Ward. Wolters.
Welch. Wood.
Wilcox.

Absent.
Bell. Pitts.
Brigance. Rhea.
Callan. Rogers.
Dean. Shelburne.
Flint. Smith.
Hill of Gonzales. Wallace.
McKamy. Williams.

Excused.
Barrett. Kimbell.
Bean. Kirck.
Blackburn. Lotto.
Bounds. Melton.
Boyd. Moore of Lamar.
Brewster. Morris.
Dias. Oliver.
Garrison. Pfeuffer.
Hill of Travis. Randolph.
Holland of Harris. Schlick.

A quorum was announced present.

Prayer by Dr. J. A. Jackson, Chaplain.

Pending the reading of the Journal Saturday,
On motion of Mr. Doyle, further reading was dispensed with.

GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

On account of important business:
Mr. Morris indefinitely, on motion of Mr. Logan.
Mr. Williams for to-day, on motion Mr. McGaughey.
Mr. Kimbell for to-day, on motion of Mr. Wood.
Mr. Moore of Lamar until Wednesday, on motion of Mr. Love.
Mr. Hill of Travis for to-day, on motion of Mr. Thomas.
Mr. Rhea for to-day, on motion of Mr. Burns.
Mr. Hill of Gonzales for to-day, on motion of Mr. Rogen.
Mr. Callan indefinitely, and Mr. McKamy for to-day, on motion of Mr. Crowley.

On account of important committee work:
Mr. Oliver, Mr. Randolph, Mr. Melton, Mr. Boyd and Mr. Schlick until next Monday, on motion of Mr. Beard.

On account of sickness:
Mr. Garrison for to-day, on motion of Mr. Doyle.
Mr. Flint and Mr. Shelburne for to-day, on motion of Mr. Curry.
Mr. Skillern for to-day, on motion of Mr. Evans of Hunt.