"We vote 'no' on final passage of House bill No. 293, because it is an extravagant expenditure of public funds, and an injustice to the tax-burdened masses of our State. We believe we have an efficient Attorney-General, who has three assistants, which ought to be sufficient to take care of the State's interests, and we think could be saved for the admitted incompetency of the Railroad Commissioners. We are opposed to voting so many large fees to retiring and ex-State officials for information obtained while in public service, and while drawing official salaries.

"BENNETT, "
"HURLEY, "
"PHILLIPS of Camp."

"I vote 'no' because I am opposed on principle to the policy of employing special counsel in the affairs of the State, and am further opposed incidentally to this policy as being the fruitful and ever recurring source of protracted and acrimonious debate in this House. If an increasing volume of business taxes too severely the resources of the law office of the State, the proper remedy is to increase the force in this office, this I doubt not the Legislature would, upon proper showing, do. Every appropriation carried by this bill, other than that for special counsel fees, meets my hearty approval.

"GARRETT."

Mr. Smith of Grayson moved to reconsider the vote by which House bill No. 293 was passed and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

SENATE BILLS ON FIRST READING.

The following bills received from the Senate today were read first time, and referred as follows:

Substitute Senate bill No. 45, to Judiciary Committee No. 1.
Substitute Senate bill No. 41, and Senate bill No. 97, to the Committee on Finance.
Senate Joint Resolution No. 2, to the Committee on Public Lands and Land Office.

SPECIAL ORDER FIXED.

Mr. Decker moved that House bill No. 123, relating to the purchase of the Panhandle Railway by the Southern Kansas Railway Company of Texas, be made a special order for next Monday, February 6, at 11 o'clock a. m.

The motion prevailed.

Mr. Tarver moved to adjourn until 9 o'clock a. m. tomorrow, Mr. Tarkington

The motion prevailed.

Mr. Tarver moved to adjourn until 9 o'clock a. m. tomorrow, and Mr. Dies until 2 p. m. today.

Question being on the longest time first, the motion prevailed, and the House, at 12:35 p. m., adjourned until 10 a. m. tomorrow.

TWENTY-THIRD DAY.

Hall of the House of Representatives.
Austin, Texas,
Saturday, Feb. 4, 1899.

The House met at 10 o'clock a. m. pursuant to adjournment.

Speaker Sherrill in the chair.

Roll called and the following members present:

Adams. Loyd.
Allen of Hopkins. Masterson.
Ayers. Maxwell.
Bailey. McAnally.
Barrett. McCollum.
Bean. McFarland.
Beaty. McKamy.
Bennett. McKellar.
Blount. Metzen.
Bolin. Mercer.
Bridgers. Monroe.
Browne. Morris.
Caldwell. Morrow.
Calvin. Murphy.
Chambers. Neff.
Childers. Palmer.
Childs. Parish.
Clements. Peery.
Cocke. Phillips of Camp.
Cole. Pitts.
Collins. Poole.
Conoly. Ratcliff.
Cross. Robertson, Harrison.
Dean. Robertson of Bell.
Decker. Rochelle.
Derden. Rogers.
Dies. Russell.
Dorvooh. Sansom.
Eckols. Savage.
Ellis. Schlute.
Evans of Fannin. Seurry.
Garner. Shannon.
Garrett. Shropshire.
Goodlett. Smith of Grayson.
Goodman. Smith of Collin.
Grogan. Staples.
Grubbs. Stewart.
Henderson, Lamar. Stripling.
Howard. Sutherland.
Hurley. Tarkington.
Jones. Tarver.
Kittrell. Teagle.
Lane. Terrell.
Lillard. Thomas of Wise.
Lively. Thomas of Fannin.
Looney. Tucker.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS.

By Mr. WHEELER:
Petition of 235 citizens of Galveston county, asking for the passage of a law creating a new judicial district court in Galveston county.

Read, and referred to Committee on Judicial Districts.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS.

By Mr. SCHLUTER:
House bill No. 430, A bill to be entitled "An Act to adjust the indebtedness of the State of Texas to ex-Sheriff J. M. DeWare for fees in certain habeas corpus cases, and to make an appropriation therefor."

(Provides for the appropriation of the sum of $207.20 for the purpose stated.)

Read first time, and referred to Committee on Claims and Accounts.

By Mr. STRIPLEY:
House bill No. 431, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Chapter 13, Articles 3974 and 3974a, relating to the examination of teachers for certificates."

(Amends by adding to the course of study in the third grade, school management, methods of teaching and mental science; in the second grade plane geometry and the Constitution of the United States and of Texas, and to the first grade advanced algebra, elements of moral science, and history of education.)

Read first time, and referred to Committee on Education.

By Mr. BLount:
House bill No. 432, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Section 6, of the general laws of Texas, relating to the open season for taking game."

(Provides that it shall be unlawful to kill, ensnare or entrap or in any way destroy any wild deer between the 20th day of January and the 1st of August in each year, or any wild turkeys between the 15th day of April and the 1st of September in each year, or any prairie chicken or pinnated grouse between the 1st of February and the 1st of August in each year, or any quail or partridge between the 15th of March and the 15th of September of each year, and prohibits the hunting of deer with the hunting lamp or lantern, etc.)

Read first time, and referred to Judiciary Committee No. 2.

By Mr. BLount:
House bill No. 433, A bill to be entitled "An Act requiring county commissioners to enter into written contract for amounts of $25.00 or over, and to keep an itemized account of all material used.

Given further leave to Mr. STAFF to present a bill relative to the establishment of a railroad company in Harris County.
in building or repairing all public roads or buildings.

Read first time, and referred to Committee on Roads, Bridges and Ferries.

By Mr. Masterson:

House bill No. 434, A bill to be entitled

"An Act to require all persons, firms and corporations in this State who are claiming title to lands under the Statutes of Limitation to file in the office of the clerk of the county court of the county in which the land is situated a declaration in writing declaring such intention."

Read first time, and referred to Judiciary Committee No. 1.

By Mr. Allen of Hopkins:

House bill No. 435, A bill to be entitled

"An Act to amend Article 1211, Title XXX, Chapter 5, of the Revised Civil Statutes of Texas, relating to the appointment of a guardian ad litem, so as to require, in certain cases the guardian ad litem to give bond."

Read first time, and referred to Judiciary Committee No. 1.

By Mr. Maxwell, Mr. McKamy, Mr. Kittrell and Mr. Bailey:

House bill No. 436, A bill to be entitled

"An Act to improve and beautify the capitol grounds of the State of Texas; to create a board for the purpose of adopting plans, and making the necessary contract or contracts for the purpose of carrying out the objects of this act, and to make an appropriation for the improvement and beautifying said grounds, and to pay an architect for drawing up necessary plans and specifications for the purpose aforesaid."

(Provides that the Governor, Attorney General, Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds, Treasurer and Comptroller constitute a board to be known as the Board for the Improvement of the Capitol Grounds.)

Read first time, and referred to Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds.

By Mr. Calvin:

House bill No. 437, A bill to be entitled

"An Act to amend Article 334, Title IX, Chapter 3, of the Penal Code of Texas, relating to punishment for loud and vociferous, or obscene, vulgar or indecent language, swearing, cursing, yelling, shrieking, exposing of person, displaying of pistol or other deadly weapon, in a manner calculated to disturb the inhabitants of such public place or private house, and fixing minimum penalty therefor."

(Fines the minimum penalty at $5.)

Read first time, and referred to Judiciary Committee No. 2.

By Mr. Allen of Colorado:

House bill No. 438, A bill to be entitled

16-House

"An Act to require the payment of all poll taxes legally assessed against any qualified voter in this State as a prerequisite to the exercise of the right of franchise at any election to be hereafter held therein."

Read first time, and referred to Judiciary Committee No. 1.

By Mr. Ratcliff:

House bill No. 439, A bill to be entitled

"An Act to amend Section 6, of Chapter 149, of the General Laws passed by the Twenty-fifth Legislature, approved May 27, 1897, relating to the game law, and to repeal all laws and parts of laws in conflict herewith."

(Makes it unlawful, among other things, to destroy, between the 1st day of February and the 1st day of August in each year any Mongolian or English Pheasant.)

Read and referred to the Committee on Stock and Stock-raising.

By Mr. Walton:

House bill No. 440, A bill to be entitled

"An Act to repeal Article 3212 of the Revised Civil Statutes of Texas, relating to peremptory challenges in civil suits in the district court."

Read first time, and referred to Judiciary Committee No. 1.

By Mr. Sutherland:

House bill No. 441, A bill to be entitled

"An Act to transfer Rains county from the community school system to the district school system, and to authorize and empower the said county to apportion and conduct all of its public free schools under the district system as provided by the laws now in force."

Read first time, and referred to Committee on Education.

By Mr. Cross:

House bill No. 442, A bill to be entitled

"An Act to appropriate the sum of one thousand dollars to pay the law firm of Hogg & Robertson for services rendered by them in assisting and collecting certain monies due the State of Texas by the government of the United States."

Read first time and referred to Committee on Claims and Accounts.

By Mr. Smith of Grayson:

House bill No. 443, A bill to be entitled

"An Act to provide for the payment of the bonds of the State of Texas that mature April 21, 1899, and to appropriate $2630 for that purpose, and to provide a sinking fund for the payment of the bonds of the State of Texas, held by private individuals that mature March 4, 1904, and April 21, 1909, and provide for the appropriation of $50,000 August 31, 1899, and $50,000 August 31, 1909, and provide for the investment of
a sinking fund, and constitute a board for that purpose."
Read first time, and referred to Committee on Finance.

By Mr. Teagle:
House bill No. 444, A bill to be entitled "An Act to authorize and create a more efficient system of public roads and bridges for Liberty county, for the issuance of bonds for said county for the purpose of constructing permanent public roads, to authorize the investment of the permanent school fund of the State and of said county in such bonds, to provide for and limit the expenditure of monies arising from the sale of such bonds, to prescribe and define the powers and duties of the commissioners court in reference thereto, and to validate public roads heretofore laid out and established in said county."
Read and referred to Committee on Roads, Bridges and Ferries.

By Mr. Kittrell:
House bill No. 445, A bill to be entitled "An Act to regulate and prescribe the methods of procedure in actions of trespass to try title, under deed or deeds, when the defendant depends solely on statute of limitation as a defense, and to repeal all laws and parts of laws in conflict therewith."
Read first time, and referred to Judiciary Committee No. 1.

By Mr. Pitts:
House bill No. 446, A bill to be entitled "An Act to regulate life and accident insurance companies in the State of Texas, and to prevent the forfeiture of indemnity on account of the suicide of the insured person, except in instances wherein the policy was procured with the intention to commit suicide by the party insured."
Read first time, and referred to Committee on Insurance, Statistics and History.

By Mr. Peery:
House bill No. 447, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend an act of the Twenty-fifth Legislature, approved March 20, 1897, entitled 'An Act to amend Article 807, Chapter 1, Title XXV, of the Revised Civil Statutes, relating to county finances, and providing that in counties without banking facilities a certificate of the cashier of any reputable bank of this State may be considered as actual cash.'"
This bill adds to the said act of the Twenty-fifth Legislature the following proviso: "Provided, that in counties without banking facilities, a certificate of the cashier of any reputable bank of this State, that the county treasurer as such has on deposit moneys may be considered by said commissioners court as actual cash."
Read first time, and referred to Committee on County Government and County Finances.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

SIR: Your Judiciary Committee No. 1, to whom was referred House bill No. 205, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Article 4310, of the Revised Civil Statutes, prescribing the duties of public weighers."

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report it back to the House with the recommendation that it be returned to the calendar and re-referred to the Committee on Agricultural Affairs.

WOOTEN, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

SIR: Your Judiciary Committee No. 1, to whom was referred House bill No. 66, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Title LIV, Article 3101, 3102, 3103, 3104, 3105, 3106, of the Revised Statutes of the State of Texas, relating to the conventional rate of interest, and defining usury, and to prevent the same and to repeal any and all laws in conflict with this provision."

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report it back to the House with the recommendation that it be returned to the calendar and re-referred to Committee on State Affairs.

WOOTEN, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 2, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

SIR: Your Judiciary Committee No. 1, to whom was referred House bill No. 389, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Chapter 153, of laws passed by the Twenty-fifth Legislature, the same being an act entitled 'An Act to prohibit the taking of fish from the fresh waters and lakes and streams of this State otherwise than by means of the ordinary hook and line and trot line, and to prohibit the sale or shipping of game-fish in this State and to provide penalties for the violation thereof,' ex-
A bill to be entitled "An Act to prohibit railroad companies, their officers, agents and employes, from making excessive charges for carrying and transporting freight, goods and merchandise and to require said companies, their officers, agents and employees, to deliver freight, goods and merchandise on payment of the freight charges due, as shown by the bill of lading, and to provide penalties for the violation of this act."

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

WOOTEN, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 2, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Judiciary Committee No. 1, to whom was referred House bill No. 295, A bill to be entitled "An Act to fix and define the liability of railroad companies for injuries to their servants and employes."

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

WOOTEN, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 2, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Judiciary Committee No. 1, to whom was referred House bill No. 233, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Article 1380, of the Revised Civil Statutes of Texas and to reduce the expenses of the State Government,' relating to the disqualification of district judges, to repeal all laws and parts of laws in conflict herewith, and declaring an emergency clause."

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

WOOTEN, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Judiciary Committee No. 1, to whom was referred House bill No. 273, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Article 1380, of Chapter 12, page 39, of the General Laws passed at the Special Session of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of Texas, entitled 'An Act to amend Section 1069 and 1070, of the Revised Civil Statutes of Texas and to reduce the expenses of the State Government, relating to the disqualification of district judges, to repeal all laws and parts of laws in conflict herewith, and declaring an emergency clause."

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

WOOTEN, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Judiciary Committee No. 1, to whom was referred House bill No. 573, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Article 1380, of Chapter 12, page 39, of the General Laws passed at the Special Session of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of Texas, entitled 'An Act to amend Section 1069 and 1070, of the Revised Civil Statutes of Texas and to reduce the expenses of the State Government, relating to the disqualification of district judges, to repeal all laws and parts of laws in conflict herewith, and declaring an emergency clause."

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

WOOTEN, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Judiciary Committee No. 1, to whom was referred House bill No. 257, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Article 1380, of Chapter 12, page 39, of the General Laws passed at the Special Session of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of Texas, entitled 'An Act to amend Section 1069 and 1070, of the Revised Civil Statutes of Texas and to reduce the expenses of the State Government, relating to the disqualification of district judges, to repeal all laws and parts of laws in conflict herewith, and declaring an emergency clause."

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

WOOTEN, Chairman.
Committee Room, Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Judiciary Committee No. 1, to whom was referred
House bill No. 264, A bill to be entitled
"An Act to amend Article 11, Title III, of the Revised Statutes of the State of Texas, so as to allow aliens to acquire title to sufficient real estate in the State of Texas for the establishment of farms or factories."

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

WOOTEN, Chairman.

Committee Room, Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Judiciary Committee No. 1, to whom was referred
House bill No. 259, A bill to be entitled
"An Act to exempt to every farmer, with family one half of cotton from mortgage, lien, attachment or other species of forced sale."

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

WOOTEN, Chairman.

Committee Room, Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Judiciary Committee No. 1, to whom was referred
House bill No. 168. A bill to be entitled
"An Act to create an additional Court of Civil Appeals, and to locate the same in the city of Houston, Harris county, Texas, and to provide the counties from whence the appeals shall be returnable to said court, and to regulate the creation and holding of said court."

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

WOOTEN, Chairman.

Committee Room, Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Judiciary Committee No. 1, to whom was referred
House bill No. 220, A bill to be entitled
"An Act to provide that in all civil cases in the district courts nine jurors shall be returnable to said court, and to regulate the creation and holding of said court."

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

WOOTEN, Chairman.

Committee Room, Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Judiciary Committee No. 1, to whom was referred
House bill No. 244, A bill to be entitled
"An Act to require persons suing to
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recovery on promissory notes, bonds or other like evidences of indebtedness, to allege and prove that the same have been duly rendered for taxation, and to forbid such recovery unless such allegation and proof is made,"

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

WOOTEN, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.

Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Judiciary Committee No. 1, to whom was referred

House bill No. 222, A bill to be entitled "An Act to prevent the recovery upon any promissory note till the same has been rendered for taxes or till the taxes have been paid for the preceding year."

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

WOOTEN, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.

Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Judiciary Committee No. 1, to whom was referred

House bill No. 154, A bill to be entitled "An Act to authorize the proof of deeds more than forty years old by proving the signature of one or more of the subscribing witnesses."

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

WOOTEN, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.

Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Judiciary Committee No. 1, to whom was referred

House bill No. 226, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Article 2397 of the Revised Statutes of the State of Texas, relating to exemptions of single persons, and exempting all necessary household and kitchen furniture, all wearing apparel, any lot or lots in a cemetery held for the purpose of sepulture, all implements of husbandry, all tools, apparatus and books belonging to any trade or profession, one horse, saddle and bridle, and one bicycle, all current wages for personal."

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report to the House the accompanying committee substitute, with the recommendation that the substitute do pass in lieu of the original bill.

WOOTEN, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.

Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Judiciary Committee No. 1, to whom was referred

House bill No. 250, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Title LIX, of the Revised Civil Statutes of 1895, by adding thereto Article 3107a, prohibiting contracts for the payment of more than five per cent. attorney's fees in all written contracts, notes and obligations and other instruments providing for the payment of money, and declaring contracts for the payment of a greater sum than five per cent. attorneys' fees shall be deemed usurious."

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

WOOTEN, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.

Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Judiciary Committee No. 2, to whom was referred

House bill No. 191, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Article 850 of the Revised Penal Statutes, prescribing penalties for fraudulent removal and disposition of personal and movable property covered by mortgage, deed of trust or other lien."

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

BAILEY, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.

Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Judiciary Committee No. 2, to whom was referred

House bill No. 202, A bill to be entitled "An Act to regulate the buying of cotton in the seed and seed cotton, and to provide a penalty for the violation of this act."

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

BAILEY, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.

Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Judiciary Committee No. 2, to whom was referred
House bill No. 237, A bill to be entitled
"An Act to provide for the inspection of county convicts, providing for reports of inspector and persons in charge of county convicts and hirers thereof, and providing penalties."

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

BAILEY, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.

Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Judiciary Committee No. 2, to whom was referred
Senate bill No. 44, A bill to be entitled
"An Act to amend Section 4, of Chapter 5, of the Acts of the Special Session of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Texas, approved June 16, 1897, relating to the fees of sheriffs and constables, providing the amount of such fees, and for payment of sheriffs' and constables' costs."

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

BAILEY, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.

Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Committee on Finance, to whom was referred
Senate bill No. 33, A bill to be entitled
"An Act requiring the county commissioners court of any county, or the city council of any incorporated town or city in the State to submit propositions for the issuance of bonds to the vote of the qualified tax-payers of such county or incorporated city or town, and to repeal the provisions of all city charters in conflict herewith;"

Also Senate bill No. 97, A bill to be entitled
"An Act to amend Section 24, Chapter 5, of the Acts of the Special Session of the Twenty-fifth Legislature, approved June 18, 1897, relating to sheriff's fees."

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report them back to the House with the recommendation that they be returned to the calendar and referred to Committee on State Affairs.

HENDERSON of Lamar, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 2, 1899.

Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Committee on Education, to whom was referred
House bill No. 196, A bill to be entitled
"An Act to amend Article 3953, Chapter 11, Title LXXXVI, of the Revised Civil Statutes of Texas, changing the time of the election of school trustees from the first Saturday in June to the first Saturday in April, and to repeal all laws in conflict therewith."

Have had the same under consideration, and have prepared the accompanying substitute, and I am instructed to report it to the House with the recommendation that the substitute do pass in lieu of the original bill.

COLE, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.

Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Committee on Revenue and Taxation, to whom was referred
House bills Nos. 136, 234, 245 and 267, all relating to general occupation taxes.

Have had the same under consideration, and have prepared the accompanying substitute, and I am instructed to report them back to the House with the
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recommendation that the substitute do pass in lieu thereof.

SCHLUTER, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.

Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Committee on Revenue and Taxation, to whom was referred House bill No. 181, a bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Article 5049, of Chapter I, Title CIV, of the Revised Civil Statutes of 1895, relating to occupation taxes, as amended by the Twenty-fifth Legislature by adding subdivision 63."

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

SCHLUTER, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.

Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Committee on Revenue and Taxation, to whom was referred Senate bill No. 19, a bill to be entitled "An Act to repeal subdivision 14 of Article 5049, Chapter 18, Title CIV, of the Acts of the First Called Session of the Twenty-fifth Legislature, relating to occupation taxes on physicians and surgeons."

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

SCHLUTER, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.

Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Committee on Public Land Office, to whom was referred Senate Joint Resolution No. 2, a joint resolution empowering the Governor of the State of Texas, together with the Commissioner of the General Land Office of said State, to employ four additional clerks, or so many thereof as may be necessary, to tabulate the accounts in the General Land Office between the State of Texas and the permanent school fund, and providing for the ascertaining of the amount of public domain of the State of Texas at the time of the adoption of the Constitution of 1876, and what has been done with same; and showing the present condition of the account between the State of Texas and the permanent school fund growing out of their joint landed interests, and making an appropriation therefor.

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report it back to the House with the recommendation that it do pass, for the reason that House bill No. 364, containing the same subject matter, has already been reported favorably.

WRIGHT, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 4, 1899.

Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred House bill No. 288, a bill to be entitled "An Act relating to the surveying of lands in the State of Texas, and to regulate the fees thereof, and to provide proper penalties for its violation."

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report it back to the House with the recommendation that it be returned to the calendar and referred to Judiciary Committee No. 2.

BARRET, Chairman.

MAJORITY REPORT.

Committee Room.
Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.

Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Committee on Contingent Expenses, to whom was referred certain resolutions relating to the salaries of committee clerks, stenographers, Assistant Postmaster and Reading Clerk;

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report them back to the House with the recommendation that the following substitute be adopted in lieu thereof:

Resolved, That the salaries of the following elective and appointive officers of the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature be increased to the following amounts from date of employment:

Per Day.
Postmistress ...................... 85 00
Assistant Postmaster .............. 4 00
Door-Keeper ...................... 5 00
Reading Clerk ................... 5 00
Committee clerks .................. 4 00
Clerk to Sergeant-at-Arms .......... 4 00
Calendar Clerk ................... 5 00
Engrossing Clerk .................. 5 00
Enrolling Clerk ................... 5 00
Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms ......... 5 00
Assistant Journal Clerk ............ 5 00

SAVAGE, Chairman.
MINORITY REPORT.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Feb. 3, 1899.

Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: We, a minority of your Committee on Contingent Expenses, to whom
was referred
Resolutions to raise salaries of officers and committee clerks,
Beg leave to say that we do not concur with the majority, and recommend that
the substitute for the above resolutions be not allowed.

LIVSEY,
CALVIN,
MEITZEN.

BILLS WITHDRAWN.

House bills Nos. 155 and 367 (for correction), on request of Mr. Walton.

FURTHER TIME GRANTED FOR CONSIDERATION OF BILLS.

House bills Nos. 280 and 285, on request of Mr. Lillard, Chairman of the
Committee on Public Printing.

House bills Nos. 262, 18, 95, 98, 128, 45, 3, 282, 311, 292, 296, 297 and
241, on request of Mr. Ayers, Acting Chairman of Judiciary Committee No. 1.

House bills Nos. 38, 137, 161, 162, 212, 246, 248, 252, 261, 272, 279, 290, 291,
301, 305, 310, 314, 324, 302, 329, 332, 335, 339, 345, 361 and 363;
Also Senate bills Nos. 4, 5 and 14, on request of Mr. Bailey, Chairman of
Judiciary Committee No. 2.

House bills Nos. 224, 143 and 32, on request of Mr. Looney, Acting Chairman
of the Committee on Public Health and Vital Statistics.

SPEAKER'S TABLE.

The Speaker laid before the House on its second reading,
House bill No. 49, relating to the jurisdiction of the county court of Bexar
County.

The bill was read second time and ordered engrossed.

Mr. Murphy moved to suspend the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read
on three several days in each house, and that House bill No. 49 be put on its
third reading and final passage.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Yeas—95.

Adams.
Bailey.
Allen of Colorado.
Barrett.
Allen of Hopkins.
Bean.
Ayers.
Bry.

Bennett.
Blount.
Bolin.
Bridgers.
Browne.
Caldwell.
Chambers.
Childers.
Childs.
Clements.
Coke.
Cole.
Collins.
Cross.
Culp.
Dean.
Decker.
Deren.
Dries.
Dorrob.
Eckols.
Evans of Fannin.
Garner.
Garrett.
Goodlett.
Goodman.
Grogan.
Grubbs.
Howard.
Hurley.
Jones.
Kittrell.
Lake.
Lane.
Lillard.
Livsey.
Looney.
Loyd.
Masterson.
Maxwell.
McAnally.
McClellan.
McCamy.

McKelvey.
Meitzen.
Monroe.
Morris.
Morrow.
Murphy.
Neff.
Palmer.
Parish.
Peery.
Phillips of Camp.
Poole.
Ratcliff.
Robertson, Harrison.
Robertson of Bell.
Rochelle.
Rogers.
Russell.
Samsom.
Savage.
Schulter.
Scury.
Shannon.
Shropshire.
Smith of Grayson.
Staples.
Stewart.
Striping.
Sutherland.
Tarkington.
Tarver.
Teagle.
Terrell.
Thomas of Fannin.
Tucker.
Vaughan.
Walton.
Wells.
Wheless.
Willacy.
Willrodt.
Wright.

Absent.
Calvin.
Conoly.
Ellis.
Henderson, Lamar.
Marsh.

McFarland.
Mercer.
Nolan.
Pitts.
Smith of Collin.

Absent—Excused.
Barbee.
Crawford.
Evans of Grayson.
Evans.
Gill.
Gordon.
Graham.
Greenwood.
Henderson, Brazos.
Hoynedy.
Kennedy.
Little.
Hamilton.

McDowell.
Murray.
Oliver.
Pfeiffer.
Phillips, Lampass.
Powell.
Prince.
Shelburne.
Tate.
Tomkins.
Wooten.

House bill No. 49 read third time and
passed by the following vote:
**February 4, 1899**

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<th>Year—95</th>
<th>PHILLIPS—Lampasas.</th>
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<td>Maxwell.</td>
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<td>McAnally.</td>
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**Absent.**

| Browne. | Ellis. | |
| Calvin. | McFarland. | |
| Cole. | Mercer. | |
| Conoly. | Nolan. | |
| Dies. | Smith of Collin. | |

**Absent—Excused.**

| Crawford. | Hamilton. | |
| Barbee. | Hamilton, Brazos. | |
| Evans of Grayson. | Kennedy. | |
| PTOOL. | Little. | |
| Gill. | McDowell. | |
| Murray. | Murray. | |
| Graham. | Oliver. | |
| Greenwood. | Pfeiffer. | |

On motion of Mr. Masterson the regular order of business was suspended to take up and place on its second reading:

*House bill No. 176, relating to the times of holding district court in the Twenty-third Judicial District.*

The bill was laid before the House and read a second time.

Mr. Masterson offered the following amendment:

- "Amend the caption, in line 8, so as to further read, 'and declaring an emergency.'"
- "And amend the bill at the conclusion of Section 2 so as to further read as follows:

  "Section 3. That the crowded condition of the docket of the Twenty-third Judicial District and the inaccessibility to the county seats of the counties in said district, whereby great delay, hardship and expense are entailed upon the litigants and tax-payers of said districts, creates an emergency and imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days be suspended, and said rule is hereby suspended, and this act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage; and it is so enacted.'"

Adopted.

The bill was ordered engrossed.

Mr. Masterson moved to suspend the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house, and that House bill No. 176 be put on its third reading and final passage.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

**Year—95.**

| Adams. | Dean. | |
| Allen of Colorado. | Deeke. | |
| Allen of Hopkins. | Dees. | |
| Ayers. | Dorroh. | |
| Bailey. | Eckols. | |
| Barrett. | Ellis. | |
| Bean. | Evans of Fannin. | |
| Blount. | Goodlett. | |
| Bolin. | Goodman. | |
| Bridges. | Grogan. | |
| Browne. | Grubbs. | |
| Caldwell. | Henderson, Lamar. | |
| Childers. | Howard. | |
| Childs. | Hurley. | |
| Collins. | Looney. | |
| Cross. | Livey. | |
| Culp. | Looney. | |
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Yea—94. 

Lane. Lane. Lane. Lane. Lane.
Murphy. Murphy. Murphy. Murphy. Murphy.
Poole. Poole. Poole. Poole. Poole.
Robertson, Harrison. Robertson, Harrison. Robertson, Harrison. Robertson, Harrison. Robertson, Harrison.
Robertson of Bell. Robertson of Bell. Robertson of Bell. Robertson of Bell. Robertson of Bell.
Woo. 11. Woo. 11. Woo. 11.
Wright. Wright. Wright. Wright. Wright.

On motion of Mr. Wright the regular order of business was suspended to take up and place on its second reading House bill No. 331, relating to the time of holding court in the Thirty-fifth Judicial District. The bill was laid before the House and was read second time.

Mr. Clements offered the following amendment:

"Amend by adding Section 4, as follows:

"Section 4. The fact that many causes docketed in the District Courts of Coleman and Runnels counties can not be
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Rushed for trial for want of sufficient time creates an imperative public necessity and emergency, justifying the suspension of the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days; and it is so suspended, and that this act shall take effect from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Adopted.

The bill was ordered engrossed.

Mr. Wright moved to suspend the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house, and that House bill No. 351, be put on its third reading and final passage.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

**Yeas—92.**

Adams. 
Allen of Colorado. 
Allen of Hopkins. 
Barrett. 
Bennett. 
Blount. 
Bolton. 
Bridgers. 
Caldwell. 
Hamners. 
Hilda. 
Ivans. 
Lee. 
McAlester. 
McClennan. 
McKamy. 
McKellar. 
Meitzen. 
Mitchell. 
Montgomery. 
Murphy. 
Neff. 
Palmer. 
Peery. 
Pitts. 
Poole. 
Rateiff. 
Robinson, Harrison. 
Robertson, Bell. 
Russell. 
Savage. 
Scurry. 
Shannon. 
Shropshire. 
Smith of Grayson. 
Smith of Collin. 
Staples. 
Stewart. 
Stripling. 
Sutherland. 
Tarkington. 
Tawater. 
Terrell. 
Thomas of Wise. 
Thomas of Fannin. 
Teague. 
Vaughan. 
Walton. 
Wells. 
Wheelock. 
Whitney. 
Will. 
Wright.

**Absent.**

Bailey. 
Browne. 
Calvin. 
Conoly. 
Dies. 

**Absent—Excused.**

Barbee. 
Crawford. 
Evans of Grayson. 
Frost. 
Garrett. 
Gill. 
Gordon. 
Graham. 
Greenwood. 
Hamilton. 
Henderson, Brazos. 
Kennedy. 
Lake. 
Woolley. 

House bill No. 351, was laid before House, read third time and passed by the following vote:

**Yeas—95.**

Adams. 
Allen of Colorado. 
Allen of Hopkins. 
Ayers. 
Bailey. 
Barrett. 
Bean. 
Beaty. 
Bennett. 
Blount. 
Bolton. 
Bridgers. 
Caldwell. 
Chambers. 
Childs. 
Clements. 
Coke. 
Cole. 
Collins. 
Cross. 
Culp. 
Dean. 
Derdien. 
Dorrol. 
Ekols. 
Ellis. 
Evans of Fannin. 
Garner. 
Goodlett. 
Goodman. 
Grogan. 
Henderson, Lamar. 
Howard. 
Hurley. 
Jones. 
Kittrell. 
Lane. 
Lillian. 

**Absent.**

Grubbs. 
McFarland. 
Nolan. 
Schor. 

**Absent—Excused.**

Little. 
McDowell. 
Murray. 
Oliver. 
Pfeiffer. 
Phillips, Lampasas. 
Powell. 
Prince. 
Rogers. 
Shelburne. 
Tate. 

**Absents—Excused.**

Barbee. 
Crawford. 
Evans of Grayson. 
Frost. 
Garrett. 
Gill. 
Gordon. 
Graham. 
Greenwood. 
Hamilton. 
Henderson, Brazos. 
Kennedy. 
Lake. 
Woolley. 

Barbee. 
Crawford. 
Evans of Grayson. 
Frost. 
Garrett. 
Gill. 
Gordon. 
Graham. 
Greenwood. 
Hamilton. 
Henderson, Brazos. 
Kennedy. 
Lake. 
Woolley.
Mr. Tarver moved to reconsider the vote by which House bill No. 351 was passed and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

Mr. Maxwell moved to suspend the regular order of business to take up and place on its second reading, House bill No. 223, the Austin City Charter bill, and the motion was lost.

Mr. Murphy moved to reconsider the vote by which House bill No. 415 was passed and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

Mr. Masterson moved to reconsider the vote by which House bill No. 176 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. 146, relating to time of holding court in the Forty-sixth Judicial District.

The bill was read second time and was ordered engrossed.

The Speaker laid before the House on its second reading, House bill No. 149, relating to times of holding terms of district court in the Thirty-seventh and Forty-fifth Judicial Districts.

The bill was read second time and was ordered engrossed.

The Speaker laid before the House on its second reading, House bill No. 283, relating to placing Mason county in the Third Supreme Judicial District and Comal county in the Fourth Supreme Judicial District.

The bill was read second time and was ordered engrossed.

Mr. Tarver moved to suspend the regular order of business to take up and place on its second reading, House bill No. 355, relating to removing the remains of "Big Foot" Wallace from Frio county to the State cemetery at Austin.

Pending consideration of which, on motion of Mr. Savage the House, at 12 m., adjourned until 10 o'clock a.m. next Monday.

TWENTY-FOURTH DAY.

Hall of the House of Representatives, Austin, Texas, Monday, Feb. 6, 1899.

The House met at 10 o'clock a.m. pursuant to adjournment.

Speaker Sherrill in the chair.

Roll called and the following members present:

Adams. Hurley.
Allen of Hopkins. Kennedy.
Bailey. Kittrell.
Barbee. Lake.
Barrett. Lane.
Bean. Lillard.
Beaty. Little.
Blount. Livesey.
Bridgers. Masterson.
Calvin. Maxwell.
Chambers. McNally.
Childs. McClellan.
Childs. McFarland.
Clements. McKamy.
Coke. Mercer.
Collins. Monroe.
Cross. Morris.
Culp. Morrow.
Dean. Murphy.
Decker. Neff.
Derden. Nolan.
Dier. Oliver.
Eckols. Palmer.
Ellis. Parish.
Evans of Fannin. Peery.
Frost. Pitts.
Gill. Powell.
Goodlett. Ratcliff.
Gordon. Robertson, Harrison.
Greenwood. Rochelle.
Grogan. Russell.
Grubbs. Savage.
Henderson, Lamar. Seury.
Howard. Shannon.