The following bills received from the Senate were read first time, and referred to appropriate committees, viz.:

- Senate bill No. 212, to the Committee on Internal Improvements.
- Senate bill No. 148, to the Committee on Claims and Accounts.
- Senate bill No. 160, to the Committee on State Affairs.
- Senate bill No. 178, to the Committee on Public Lands and Land Office.
- Senate bill No. 192, to the Committee on State Asylums.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 15, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Judiciary Committee No. 2, to whom was referred House bill No. 740, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Sections 2 and 5, of an act passed by the Twenty-sixth Legislature, restoring the civil and criminal jurisdiction to the County Court of Bexar county."

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

PITTS, Acting Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 14, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Committee on Education, to whom was referred House Concurrent Resolution No. 26, favoring the establishment of a university for the colored race,

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

COLE, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 16, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: Your Committee on County Government and County Finances, to whom was referred House bill No. 630, A bill to be entitled "An Act relating to county, city and town bonds; to provide for refunding, paying and exchanging the same; to issue new bonds for such purposes, and to regulate the sale or exchange thereof."

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, for the reason that this committee now has under consideration a Senate bill upon the same subject.

ROBERTSON of Bell. Chairman.

SPECIAL ORDER FIXED.

Senate bill No. 130, for next Wednesday, March 22, 3 o'clock p. m., on motion of Mr. Collins.

At 12:15 p. m., on motion of Mr. Henderson of Lamar, the House adjourned until 9:30 o'clock a. m. tomorrow.

FIFTY-EIGHTH DAY.

Hall of the House of Representatives,
Austin, Texas,
Friday, March 17, 1899.

The House met at 9:30 o'clock a. m., pursuant to adjournment.

Speaker Sherrill in the chair.

Roll called, and the following members present:

Present—112.

Adams. Diez.
Allen of Colorado. Dorroh.
Allen of Hopkins. Eckols.
Ayers. Ellis.
Bailey. Evans of Fannin.
Barbee. Frost.
Barrett. Garrett.
Bean. Gill.
Beaty. Goodlett.
Blount. Goodman.
Boln. Graham.
Bridgers. Greenwood.
Caldwell. Grogan.
Calvin. Grubbs.
Chambers. Henderson, Brazos.
Childers. Henderson, Lamar.
Childs. Howard.
Clement of Bell. Jones.
Cocke. Kennedy.
Cole. Kittrell.
Collins. Lake.
Conoly. Lane.
Crawford. Lillard.
Cross. Little.
Culp. Livsey.
Dean. Looney.
Decker. Loyd.
Derden. Marsh.
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A quorum was announced present.

Prayer by Rev. W. J. Gatlin, Chaplain.

Pending reading of the Journal of yesterday,

Mr. Savage moved that further reading be dispensed with, and the motion was lost.

The Clerk then proceeded to read the Journal, pending the reading of which Mr. Decker moved to reconsider the vote by which the motion of Mr. Savage was lost.

The motion to reconsider prevailed.

Question then being on the motion of Mr. Savage to dispense with further reading of the Journal, it prevailed.

**GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE.**

On account of important business:

Mr. Maxwell for yesterday, on motion of Mr. Phillips of Lampasas.

Mr. Phillips of Camp until Wednesday, on motion of Mr. Poole.

Mr. Graham until Wednesday, on motion of Mr. Poole.

Mr. Garner for today, on motion of Mr. Bolin.

Mr. Scurry until Monday, on motion of Mr. Bolin.

Mr. Wootten for today, on motion of Mr. McKamy.

Mr. Shropshire moved to excuse Mr. Barbee for tomorrow on account of important business.

Mr. Dies objected to excusing a member in advance.

Mr. Shropshire insisted that the motion be put to the House, and the Speaker put the motion.

The Clerk announced 76 yeas and no nays on a rising vote, and the Speaker announced the motion lost, there being not a quorum voting.

On account of sickness in his family:

Mr. Browne indefinitely, on motion of Mr. Henderson of Lamar.

**PENDING BUSINESS.**

When the House adjourned last Tuesday it had under consideration, on engrossment,

House bill No. 238, the uniform textbook bill, with amendment by Mr. Cross and amendment by Mr. Thomas of Wise to the amendment, both pending.

The same was laid before the House.

Mr. Little moved to suspend pending business to take up and place on its second reading.

House bill No. 483, relating to changing boundary lines of school districts.

The motion to suspend was lost.

Mr. Adams moved to suspend pending business to take up and place on its second reading.

House bill No. 573, relating to the Board of Pardon Advisers.

The motion to suspend was lost.

On motion of Mr. Looney, pending business was suspended to take up and place on its second reading.

House bill No. 124, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Chapter 6, Title XIII of the Revised Civil Statutes of Texas of 1895, by adding thereto Article 500 lb, and 500 lb providing for elections in a county or subdivision of a county, to determine whether hogs, sheep or goats shall be permitted to run at large in county or subdivision."

The bill was laid before the House and was read second time, with favorable committee report with amendment.

The committee report was adopted.

Mr. Allen of Hopkins offered the following amendments:

"On page 1, in line 20, after the word 'by,' strike out the words 'a majority' and insert in lieu thereof the words 'one-third.'"

"Also on page 1, line 20, after the
word ‘by,’ strike out the words ‘a majority’ and insert in lieu thereof the words ‘one-third.’”

Lost.

Mr. Morrow offered the following amendment:

“Amend by adding to Article 500la the following, ‘Provided, that where the whole county has adopted the provisions of this law or where it has been adopted over the whole county by subdivisions, then no subdivision of said county shall be permitted to vote off said law that contains less than fifty square miles of territory.’”

Tabled on motion of Mr. Chambers.

Mr. Conoly moved the previous question, and the main question was ordered. The bill was ordered engrossed.

Mr. Looney moved to suspend the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house, and that House bill No. 124 be put on its third reading and final passage. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Yeas-95.


Nays-4.


Absent.


Absent—Excused.


House bill No. 124 laid before the House on its third reading and final passage.

Read third time, and passed by the following vote:

Yeas-95.


Nays-4.

pal elections, to decide by a majority of the votes cast by the said qualified electors of such city or town at such election whether such city or town shall adopt the uniform system of text-books, and if the majority of said qualified voters of such city or town shall vote for the adoption of the universal text-book system then this act shall not apply to such city or town, but if a majority of the said qualified voters at such election shall declare adversely to the adoption of the text-book system, then the provisions of this act shall not apply to such city or town.

"Provided, that if an election shall be held and shall result adversely to the adoption of the universal text-book system, then another election under the provisions of this act shall not be held at an earlier date than twelve months succeeding such election."

[Signed: SAVAGE, BRIDGERS, CROSS.]

(Pending consideration of the substitute, Mr. McKamy occupied the chair.)

After consideration by the House, Mr. Powell moved the previous question on the substitute and pending amendments, and the main question was ordered.

The substitute was adopted, and the amendment as substituted was adopted.

Mr. Wheless offered the following amendment:

"Amend the substitute wherein it provides for an election upon petition of 100 qualified voters and patrons not less than twelve months after any previous election, to read not less than two years; provided, that should such election result in an adoption of the uniform system, then no other election shall be held until the time now fixed by law."

Tabled on motion of Mr. Cross.

Mr. Bridgers offered the following amendment:

"Amend by adding to the substitute the following: 'Provided, that nothing in this act shall prevent the city board of trustees of any such city from adopting the provisions of this law, by a majority vote of said trustees.'"

Adopted.

Mr. Adams offered the following amendment:

"Amend by adding the following:

'Section 4. After September 1, 1899, or as soon thereafter as the board may deem practicable, the books adopted by the board as a uniform system of text-books for this State shall be introduced and used as text-books to the exclusion of all others, in the public free schools; provided, that nothing herein shall be con-
strued to prevent the use of supplementary books, but such supplementary books shall not be used to the exclusion of the books to be prescribed under the provisions of this act."

Tabled on motion of Mr. Shannon.

Mr. Dies offered the following amendments:

1) "Amend the substitute by striking out the word 'universal' wherever it appears, and insert in lieu thereof 'uniform.'"

Adopted.

2) "Amend the substitute by striking out the words 'who are patrons of said school.'"

Mr. Shelburne moved the previous question on the amendment and the bill, and the main question was ordered.

Question first recurring on amendment (2) by Mr. Dies, and it was 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. 238 be put on its third reading and final passage.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

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House bill No. 238 laid before the House, on third reading and final passage.

Read third time, and Mr. Bridgers offered the following amendment: "Amend by striking out the emergency clause."

Mr. Tarver moved the previous question, and the main question was ordered.

Question first recurring on the amendment by Mr. Bridgers, on motion of Mr. Conoly it was tabled.

The bill was passed by the following vote:

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Mr. Savage moved to reconsider the vote by which House bill No. 238 was passed, and to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to table prevailed.

Mr. Henderson of Lamar moved to suspend the regular order of business to take up and place on its second reading, Substitute House bill Nos. 160, 501 and 574, relating to pensions of ex-Confederate soldiers.

Mr. Decker moved, as a substitute for above motion, to take up, and place on its second reading, House bill No. 495, relating to validating certain land titles.

The substitute was lost.

The motion of Mr. Henderson of Lamar prevailed, and the Speaker laid the bill before the House, on its second reading.

Whereupon, Mr. Decker moved to take a recess until 3 o'clock p.m. today, and Mr. Ayers moved to adjourn until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.

(The accompanying message was received this forenoon.)

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

MR. SPEAKER: I am directed by the Senate to inform the House that the Senate has passed the following bills, to wit:

House bill No. 441, A bill to be entitled "An Act to transfer Rains and Grimes counties from the community school system to the district system, and to authorize and empower the said counties to organize and conduct all of their free schools under the district system as provided by the laws now in force."

Senate bill No. 181, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Article 695, Title VIII, Chapter 4, of the Code of Criminal Procedure of the State of Texas."

Senate bill No. 228, A bill to be entitled "An Act ratifying and confirming an ordinance passed by the city council of the city of Galveston on the fourth day of February, 1899, entitled 'An Ordinance abandoning, discontinuing and closing certain streets, avenues and alleys of the city of Galveston, and authorizing and empowering Collis P. Huntington, his heirs or assigns, perpetually to construct and maintain piers on the shore of Galveston bay, within the corporate limits of the city of Galveston, upon certain specified conditions,' and conditionally relinquishing any claim the State of Texas may have to part of the property therein described."

Senate bill No. 245, A bill to be entitled "An Act to repeal 'An Act to incorporate the town of Jacksonville, in Cherokee county, Texas,' passed at the session of the Thirteenth Legislature."

Senate bill No. 202, A bill to be entitled "An Act to amend Article 5364, Title CXI, of the Revised Civil Statutes of 1895, relating to wool growing interest, so as to strike out of the exempt list the counties of Calhoun and Aransas."

Senate bill No. 213, A bill to be entitled "An Act to appropriate the sum of two thousand dollars, or so much thereof as
may be necessary, for the payment of the bonds, certificates and other evidences of indebtedness against the Republic of Texas that were valid claims, or might have been, upon proper presentation and proof, valid claims against the United States government under the Act of Congress, approved February 28, 1855, and an Act of the Legislature of the State of Texas, approved February 1, 1856, and to provide for the proof and verification of the same.”

J. P. Pool,
Secretary of the Senate.

BILLS SIGNED BY THE SPEAKER.

The Speaker signed, in the presence of the House this forenoon session, after giving due notice thereof, and their captions had been read several times, the following bills:

Senate bill No. 206, “An Act to authorize corporations now or hereafter incorporated under the laws of this State, for the purpose of acquiring, owning and operating union passenger depots to condemn land for the purpose of their incorporation.”

Senate bill No. 122, “An Act to provide for the redemption of land sold for taxes due an incorporated city or town, and providing that redemption of the land so sold may be had within two years from date of such sale, and providing the terms, conditions and penalties incident thereto.”

Senate bill No. 153, “An Act to amend Section 22, of ‘An Act to fix certain civil fees to be charged by certain county and precinct officers, and to fix and limit the fees and compensation of clerks of the district courts, district attorneys, county attorneys, sheriffs and constables in felony cases, to be paid by the State, and to fix the compensation of assessors and collectors of taxes, and to limit and regulate the compensation of sheriffs, clerks of the county court, county judge, district and county attorney, clerk of the district court, assessor and collector of taxes, justices of the peace and constables, and to prescribe penalties for the violation of this act, and to repeal all laws in conflict herewith,’ approved June 16, 1897, so as to fix and limit the compensation of clerks of the district courts for certain services.”

SENATE BILLS ON FIRST READING.

By unanimous consent, the following Senate bill were read first time, and referred to appropriate committees, viz.:

Senate bill No. 245, to the Committee on Towns and City Corporations.

Senate bill No. 213, to the Committee on Claims and Accounts.

Senate bill No. 228, to the Committee on Commerce and Manufactures.

Senate bill No. 202, to the Committee on Stock and Stock-raising.

Senate bill No. 181, to Judiciary Committee No. 2.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS.

(By unanimous consent.)

By Mr. McKellar:

Petition of eighty-two citizens of Polk county, asking to be exempted from the act passed by the Twenty-fifth Legislature, for the protection of wild game. Read, and referred to Judiciary Committee No. 1.

By Mr. Kittrell:

Petition of the Robert E. Lee Chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy at Houston, asking for the appropriation of such sum of money as may be necessary to erect a suitable monument in the State cemetery at Austin, over the grave of General Albert Sydney Johnston. Read, and referred to Committee on Finance.

BILL INTRODUCED.

(By unanimous consent.)

By Mr. Henderson of Lamar and Mr. Calvin:

House bill No. 746, A bill to be entitled "An Act to provide a more efficient system for working the public roads of Lamar county, regulating the fees of officers where convicts serve their time by labor on such public roads, and to repeal all laws in conflict herewith, and declaring an emergency." Read first time, and referred to Committee on County Government and County Finances.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

(By unanimous consent.)

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 17, 1899.

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

Sir: Your Judiciary Committee No. 1, to whom was referred House bill No. 743, A bill to be entitled "An Act to name the several counties composing the Fifty-first and Thirty-third Judicial Districts, and to fix the time for holding the district courts therein, and to attach the unorganized county of Schleicher to the county of Menard until its organization, and to repeal all laws in conflict herewith,"

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

AYERS, Acting Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 17, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

SIR: Your Judiciary Committee No. 1, to whom was referred
House bill No. 742, A bill to be entitled "An Act to diminish the civil and criminal jurisdiction of the County Court of Coke county, and to conform the jurisdiction of the district court of said county to such change."

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

AYERS, Acting Chairman.

MAJORITY REPORT.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 16, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

SIR: Your Committee on Constitutional Amendments, to whom was referred
House Joint Resolution No. 22, for Texas Relief Railroad.

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.

POWELL, Chairman.

MINORITY REPORT.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 16, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

SIR: We, a minority of your Committee on Constitutional Amendments, to whom was referred
House Joint Resolution No. 22, relating to the construction of a relief railroad from the Gulf coast to the State boundary on the north on Red River,

Beg leave to differ from a majority of your committee which has reported unfavorably on the resolution. This resolution proposes to submit to a vote of the people the question as to whether or not the State shall build a relief railroad. We do not at this time favor the building of a railroad upon the State account, but it has long been a practice of the Democratic party to submit questions of this importance to the people for final arbitrament. A large number of patriotic citizens and tax payers demand that this question be submitted to the people, and, reserving the right to perfect the resolution, we recommend that the resolution do pass.

KENNEDY, SMITH of Collin.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 16, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

SIR: Your Committee on Constitutional Amendments, to whom was referred
Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4, to call a convention to amend the Constitution of the United States of America.

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

POWELL, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 17, 1899.
Hon. J. S. Sherrill, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

SIR: Your Committee on Internal Improvements, to whom was referred
Senate bill No. 212, A bill to be entitled "An Act to authorize the Houston East & West Texas Railroad Company to lease and operate under lease the Houston & Shreveport Railroad, extending from the State boundary line at Logansport, Louisiana, thence through the parishes of De Soto and Caddo into the city of Shreveport, in said State."

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

SMITH of Grayson, Chairman.

Committee Room,

Austin, Texas, March 17, 1899.

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

Sir: Your Committee on Finance, to whom was referred

House bill No. 716, A bill to be entitled

"An Act to provide for the payment of fees of district clerks in tax suits under the Colquitt tax act where the suits were dismissed by the State, and make appropriation therefor, and to declare an emergency."

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

HENDERSON of Lamar, Chairman.

Committee Room,

Austin, Texas, March 17, 1899.

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

Sir: Your Committee on Finance, to whom was referred

House bill No. 735, A bill to be entitled

"An Act to amend Chapter 14, Title XXVII, of the Revised Civil Statutes of 1879, relating to the clerks of the Courts of Civil Appeals, by adding thereto Articles 1012, 1013, fixing the maximum amount of fees to be retained by said clerks."

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 Committee on Claims and Accounts.

HENDERSON of Lamar, Chairman.

Committee Room,

Austin, Texas, March 17, 1899.

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

Sir: Your Committee on Finance, to whom was referred

House bill No. 735, A bill to be entitled

"An Act to amend Section 8, of an Act passed by the Twenty-fifth Legislature, entitled 'An Act to provide a charter for the city of Houston, Harris county, Texas,' so as to provide for a board of public school trustees of said city, to provide for the election of its members, to prescribe its powers and duties, to provide for the support of the public schools and the disbursement of public school funds, and repealing all laws, general and special, in conflict with 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.

GROGAN, Chairman.

Committee Room,

Austin, Texas, March 17, 1899.

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

Sir: Your Committee on State Asylums, to whom was referred

Senate bill No. 192, A bill to be entitled

"An Act to provide and equip certain eleemosynary institutions of the State with an efficient and permanent system of fire escapes, authorizing the purchase of such fire escapes by the board of managers of the institutions herein named, with the approval of the Governor of the State, 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.

GROGAN, Chairman.
Committee Room, Austin, Texas, March 16, 1899.

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

Sir: Your Committee on State Asylums, to whom was referred
A petition from citizens of Throckmorton county, praying for relief of an unfortunate girl citizen of said county who is deaf, dumb and blind.

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.

GROGAN, Chairman.

Committee Room, Austin, Texas, March 16, 1899.

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

Sir: Your Committee on State Asylums, to whom was referred House bill No. 713, A bill to be entitled “An Act to amend Article 166 and Article 170, Chapter 2, Title IX, of the Revised Statutes of the State of Texas, so as to provide for the change of the name of the Orphan Asylum to Orphan Home, and to provide for an industrial manager, and to provide for fixing the salary of the superintendent and industrial manager,”

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

GROGAN, Chairman.

Committee Room, Austin, Texas, March 16, 1899.

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

Sir: Your Committee on Federal Relations, to whom was referred Memorial of citizens of Marfa protesting against the Morrow-Bridgers resolution, in reference to the withdrawal of Otis and Dewey from the Philippines.

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report it back to the House with the recommendation that it be not read or further considered by this House.

ALLEN of Hopkins, Chairman.

Mr. Decker moved to take a recess to 3 p.m. today; Mr. Ayers to adjourn to 9:30 a.m. tomorrow, and Mr. Mercer to adjourn to 9:30 a.m. next Monday.

Question recurring on the longest time first, the motion was lost.

At 12:26 p.m., on motion of Mr. Ayers, the House adjourned to 9:30 o’clock a.m. tomorrow.

FIFTY-NINTH DAY.

Hall of the House of Representatives, Austin, Texas, Saturday, March 18, 1899.

The House met at 9:30 o’clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.

Speaker Sherrill in the chair.

Roll called, and the following members present:

Adams. McKellar.
Allen of Hopkins. Motzing.
Bailey. Mercer.
Barrett. Morris.
Bean. Morrow.
Bridgers. Murphy.
Caldwell. Palmer.
Calvin. Parish.
Chambers. Peery.
Childers. Pfeiffer.
Pitts.
Collins. Conoly.
Pitts.
Crawford. Poole.
Cross. Prince.
Culp. Ratcliff.
Decker. Robertson, Harrison.
Derden. Robertson of Bell.
Diew. Rogers.
Eckols. Russell.
Ellis. Sansom.
Evans of Fannin. Savage.
Garner. Shannon.
Garrett. Shelburne.
Gill. Shropshire.
Goodlett. Smith of Grayson.
Goodman. Smith of Collin.
Gordon. Staples.
Greenwood. Stewart.
Grubbs. Stripling.
Hamilton. Sutherland.
Henderson, Brazos. Tarkington.
Henderson, Lamar. Tarver.
Howard. Tate.
Kennedy. Terrell.
Lillard. Thomas of Wise.
Little. Thomas of Fannin.
Looney. Tucker.
Loyd. Walton.
Maxwell. Wells.
McAnally. Willacy.
McDowell. Willroth.
McFarland. Wooten.
McKamy. Wright.

Absent:

Ayers. Jones.
Beaty. Kittrell.
Bolin. Lake.
Clements. Lane.
Cole. Livsey.
Dean. McClellan.
Dorroh. Monroe.
Frost. Neff.