JOURNAL
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE
FOURTH CALLED SESSION
OF THE
THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE OF TEXAS

CONVENCED IN OBEDIENCE TO THE PROCLAMATION OF THE
GOVERNOR AUGUST 18, 1910, AND ADJOURNED
WITHOUT DAY SEPTEMBER 10, 1910.
Prayer by Rev. H. M. Sears, Chaplain of the Senate.

GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION.

The Speaker then handed to the Clerk the proclamation of the Governor, which was read to the House, as follows:

Executive Office,
State of Texas.

I, T. M. Campbell, Governor of the State of Texas, by virtue of authority vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby call a Special Session of the Thirty-first Legislature to convene in the city of Austin, Texas, beginning at 8:30 o'clock a.m. Thursday, August 18, A. D. 1910, for the following purposes and for legislation on the following subjects, to wit:

1. Legislation amending Articles 4549 and 4550, of Chapter 11, Title 94, of the Revised Statutes of the State of Texas, and to prescribe the conditions upon which the purchaser, or purchasers, and associates, if any, of the property and franchises of a railroad company may become owners of its charter or may organize a new corporation, and governing, regulating and limiting the stocks and bonds of such new corporation and of the old corporation after the sale of its property and franchises, and providing for the protection of holders of claims against the old corporation, including claims for death and for personal injuries sustained in the operation of the railroad by the company or by any receiver thereof, and for loss of and damages to property sustained in the operation of the railroad by such company and by any receiver thereof, and for the current expenses of such operation, including labor, supplies and repairs, and such other legislation in respect to the subject here mentioned as may be appropriate and necessary in the premises.

2. Legislation providing for a Board of Prison Commissioners, Superintendent of Prisons and other officers and employees, and for the care, management, discipline and method of employment of convicts confined in the State penitentiary; providing for the working of convicts on State account, and the passage of such further laws relating to the State's penitentiary system as the Legislature, in its wisdom, may enact.

3. The enactment of adequate laws defining "bills of lading" and defining the word "carriers." Providing that it shall be the duty of common carriers, and their officers and agents, to issue negotiable bills of lading and straight or non-negotiable bills of lading at the request of the shipper, between certain places to be prescribed in the law, and defining negotiable or order bills of lading and non-negotiable or straight bills of lading and prescribing the necessary requirements for all bills of lading; to make all negotiable bills of lading negotiable by indorsement and delivery in the same manner as bills of exchange and promissory notes and prohibiting the placing upon negotiable bills of lading any terms which would in any manner limit their negotiability; and providing for the division of bills of lading into such different series as may be appropriate and defining each series, prescribing how bills of lading shall be issued and prohibiting the issuing of negotiable bills of lading in part or parts, except as prescribed by law; prescribing the duties of general freight agents or persons authorized to act for them and the duties of local station agents of common carriers, and for such additional legislation on this subject as business conditions and the general welfare may demand.

4. Legislation requiring persons, firms, corporations and associations of persons engaged in compressing cotton in this State to so bind and tie all bales of cotton so that no bale of cotton by them compressed, recompressed, baled or rebaled, shall be delivered to any railroad company or other common carrier unless the same is free from "spiders," exposed ends of bands or any exposed or any obtruding part of the ties, bands, buckles or splices used in tying or baling such bale of cotton, and to provide penalties and methods of enforcement of the laws enacted on this subject.

5. Legislation requiring the erection and maintenance of buildings for the protection from rain, wind and inclement weather of employees engaged in repairing railroad cars and other railroad equipment, and providing penalties for violations, and regulating suits for such penalties, and such further legislation upon this subject as may be appropriate and is necessary to provide proper protection to employees engaged in such work.

6. To enact a law repealing the law enacted by the Thirty-first Legislature at its First Called Session, known as Chapter 18, and entitled "An Act providing conditions upon which fire insurance companies shall transact business
in this State, and providing for the regulation and control of rates of premiums on fire insurance, and to prevent discrimination therein and to create a Fire Insurance Rating Board, and to provide penalties for violations of this act, and declaring an emergency," and to enact adequate laws regulating and fixing rates and preventing unjust discriminations by fire insurance companies and to prevent combinations between such companies to destroy competition in fire insurance rates in Texas, and to provide penalties therefor and to provide all necessary means for the enforcement of such laws.

7. To consider and act upon such other matters as may hereafter be presented by me, pursuant to Section 10, Article 3, of the Constitution of the State of Texas. In testimony wherefore, I have set my hand and caused the seal of the State of Texas to be affixed at Austin, Texas, this 17th day of August, A.D. 1910.

(Seal.)

T. M. CAMPBELL,
Governor of Texas.

By the Governor:
W. B. TOWNSEND,
Secretary of State.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED.

On account of important business:
Mr. Steptoe for balance of week, on motion of Mr. Maddox.
Mr. Elliott for balance of week, on motion of Mr. Aston.
Mr. Hamilton of Childress indefinitely, on motion of Mr. German.
Mr. Crisp indefinitely, on motion of Mr. Harmon.
Mr. Crockett of Washington indefinitely, on motion of Mr. Cox.
Mr. Stamps for balance of week, on motion of Mr. Munson.
Mr. Flournoy for balance of week, on motion of Mr. Roberson of Erath.
Mr. John R. Rosenberg indefinitely, on motion of Mr. Robb.
Mr. Graham for balance of week, on motion of Mr. Anderson.
Mr. Lewis and Mr. Terrell of Cherokee for balance of week on motion of Mr. Baker of Panola.
Mr. Terrell of Beaufort for balance of week, on motion of Mr. Roberson of Erath.
Mr. Vaughan for balance of week, on motion of Mr. Looney.
Mr. Turner indefinitely, on motion of Mr. Turner.
Mr. Porter for balance of week, on motion of Mr. Fuller.

Later Stanberry, Engrossing Clerk, for balance of week, on motion of Mr. Werner.

On account of sickness:
Mr. Hill indefinitely, on motion of Mr. Ray.
Mr. Dalby indefinitely, on motion of Mr. Fann.
Mr. Yantis indefinitely, on motion of Mr. Cox.

HOUSE BILLS ON FIRST READING.

The following House bills were introduced, read first time and referred to appropriate committees as follows:

By Mr. Ray and Mr. Davis:
House bill No. 1. A bill to be entitled "An Act to define, prohibit and declare illegal trusts, monopolies and combinations in restraint of trade in the business of insurance, and to provide for the suppression of same, and to promote free competition in the State of Texas in such business, and declaring an emergency."

Referred to Committee on Insurance.

By Mr. Ray:

Referred to Committee on Insurance.

By Mr. Stephens, Mr. Reddy, Mr. Adams, Mr. Harmon, Mr. Byrne, Mr. Ross, Mr. Fuller, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Looney and Mr. Strickland:
House bill No. 3. A bill to be entitled "An Act to require persons and corporations, or receivers, engaged in constructing or repairing railroad cars, tracks or other railroad equipment, not including locomotives, to erect and maintain buildings for the protection from rain, wind or other inclement weather, employees engaged in constructing or repairing railroad cars, tracks and other railroad equipment and providing penalties for the violation of this act, and regulating penalties and repealing Chapter 33, Acts of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Texas, entitled 'An Act to require all railroad companies doing business in this State to provide suitable premises and shelter for the protection from the weather of their employees while engaged in labor in the service of said railroad companies, and declaring an emergency.'"