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CAPITOL WILL NOT BE ENLARGED

SENATE SO DECIDES — EXPRESSED REASON, LACK OF FUNDS FOR PROPOSED ENLARGEMENT—BILL PROVIDING FOR ANNEX IS ALSO KILLED, AND OFFICIALS MUST DO WITH PRESENT QUARTERS.

Nothing for Capitol improvement. No enlargement of the Capitol building. No Supreme Court annex. "No" has been said by the Senate to each bill. The principal reason advanced against such improvement was lack of funds—the State must live within its income. "In the words of my friend, the Senator from the Sixth, this is the most extravagant Legislature since the days of reconstruction." Dramatically, Senator Harris shouted this declaration at those favoring enlargement of the Capitol or the erection of an annex. Asserting that the appropriations on account of legislation already passed or pending would be far in excess of the revenue receipts, in which he was supported by several other Senators, he claimed the State could wait for Capitol improvement. Nineteen others agreed with him, and the bill failed to pass. The vote was 20 nays and 8 yeas. The other bill, providing for erection of a Capitol annex, was indefinitely postponed. The career of Senate Bill No. 151, providing for the erection of the annex, was short. Senator Buckman offered an amendment, reducing the amount to be used, \$100,000, to \$80,000, which was adopted. It was then sent to the Committee on Engrossed Bills, recalled and killed by postponement. Senate Bill No. 252 had a longer lease of life, but indications of its early death were apparent from the first moments of consideration. Senator Cone thought \$40,000 was sufficient to begin the work of enlargement, instead of \$100,000, as named in the bill, and offered an amendment to that effect. "Not enough," cried Senator Hudson. "The best policy is to provide sufficient funds. The amendment would kill the bill." "I agree with my friend from the Thirteenth," chirped Senator Harris. "Why, \$40,000 would not pay for the columns around one side of the Capitol." "We don't want columns, we want a wing," said Senator Cone, correctly. Senator Harris tapped a vein of ridicule that he applied in criticism of the Governor's mansion, and then said: "I am opposed to wings. One here and one there, and some day the Capitol will fly away from Tallahassee." "The amendment would kill the bill," declared Senator Henderson, "and should not be adopted." "I want to explain about these bills," he continued. "They are not from a local source, but emanate from the necessities of the State government. There is a demand for additional room, voiced by members of the Cabinet, and by Senators on this floor who are aware of this need." The amendment was lost, and Senator Harris moved that Bill No. 252 be indefinitely postponed. This motion was lost by a vote of 22 nays to 6 yeas. Senator Willis moved to reduce the appropriation to \$80,000 and Senator Beard dissented. "Why, \$100,000 is little enough," he said. "Any less would produce shoddy work." Senator Humphries said: "As a member of the Committee on Appropriations, I must say that I do not know where the State would get this sum of money if called on. The appropriations in prospective already exceed the State's revenues. "We ought to have a little more time for the consideration of this matter of Capitol improvement," he added. "We will have to cut off here and there to make the appropriations fit the income of the State, and somebody will get less than has been asked, and to find out where we can best cut down is the reason for asking more time on this bill." Senator Hudson thought sufficient time had already been given the bill and if it was to be passed to do so and get it into the House of Representatives without delay. Senator Cone moved that the bill be made a special order for Friday, but the Senate declined. Then it was that Senator Harris launched his charge of extravagance. "I am in favor of advancement," said he, "and in favor of spending money for improvements when we have the money to spend, but this is a time when we will not have it. "I predict," he declared, "that if the Legislature does not cut down appropriations that there will be 'a weepin' and a wailin' in the lan', as the old darkey preacher said, when the news of increased taxes goes abroad. "Some Senators who may have intentions of becoming candidates for State or United States offices would be somewhat embarrassed, if while on the stump they would be called to account for voting to spend the people's money without regard to conditions. "I want to protect the poor people by trying to keep down the tax rate. We can let this Capitol improvement wait for two years longer. Admitting that we need more room, still we can wait that long, and then the State may be better able to afford it." Senator Crill spoke of the appropriations made and those demanded, and said that the total approached such a figure that it was time for the Senate to stop and consider the matter. He declared his opposition to the bill for two reasons, the first and main one that the State did not have the

THREATENED WITH DEFICIT.

Is Stated Unless Care is Exercised in Appropriating Money—Already in Excess of Income \$577,700.

The Senate adopted a resolution offered by Mr. Adams last Thursday requesting the Comptroller to furnish the Senate a statement showing the amount of money now on hand in the General Revenue Fund, the probable amount for the two years next ensuing, and his estimate of probable necessary expenditures for the same period.

Senator Adams, in an interview with a representative of THE SUN, said that he had received the report of the Comptroller, and had made some calculation relative to the amount of the appropriations demanded during this session of the Legislature.

"There is only one way to look at this matter," said Mr. Adams, "and that is from a business and not a political standpoint.

"Before we can provide for appropriations we should know our exact financial condition and apply the rules of business life to the best and most equitable manner of making these appropriations.

"With the bills already passed and pending we are far in excess of the income of the State. The Constitution prohibits the issuing of bonds or the borrowing of money by the State; therefore, the only thing that can be done, if the Legislature passes all the pending appropriation bills, will be to put the State on a scrip basis and assess higher taxes in order to meet the deficit."

From the report made by the Comptroller and the figures of Mr. Adams the following statement is made:

Money in the General Revenue Fund, and to be received from all sources.....\$1,678,434.63
Fixed expenses that the State is obliged to meet 1,248,698.63

Only available fund.....\$ 429,698.63

Appropriations that have been passed or are pending and asked for by bills.....\$1,106,700.00

This means that \$677,700 is asked for in excess of what the State has or can get.

Included in that sum is the \$100,000 provided for the improvement of the Capitol in a bill pending in the House. As this legislation has been defeated in the Senate, this sum may be subtracted from the above mentioned amount, leaving \$577,700 more than the income of the State for the next two years.

"It is this condition of things that stares us in the face now," said Senator Adams, "and it is our duty to carefully consider all measures, that the threatened deficit be avoided."

"CONSERVATIVES" WERE AT THE BAT.

Franchise Tax Again Punished by Knock-Out in the "House of Lords."

Franchise taxation was put down and out for this session, as far as the Senate is concerned, yesterday.

Senator Trammell's bill, providing for a two per cent. tax on the gross receipts of public service utilities, was reached on second reading and he moved the adoption of a substitute.

The substitute was read, and proved to be a revised copy of Senate Bill No. 8, which had figured in the withdrawal in the first fight for a franchise tax.

Senator Harris raised a point or order that it was a verbatim copy of the same bill.

The acting president, Mr. Adams, called his attention to the expunging of Section 9 of Bill No. 8.

Mr. Harris still claimed that it was Bill No. 8, of which disposition had been made, but the chair declined to take the responsibility of deciding, saying that was the privilege of the Senate.

Mr. Harris then withdrew his point of order, and Mr. Trammell stated that when the franchise tax bill had been discussed before several Senators had stated a desire to vote for Bill No. 8; therefore, he had introduced a bill of that character.

He said: "I have no desire to worry the Senate, but I think the State should have a franchise tax law."

Senator Harris moved the indefinite postponement of the bill, which was agreed to, and the vote was 15 yeas to 8 nays.

And the franchise tax was again knocked out.

HOUSE WILL HOLD NIGHT SESSIONS.

Beginning to-night at 8 o'clock the House will hold night sessions.

A resolution was offered by Mr. Wilson of Hernando yesterday morning that night sessions should begin to-night, lasting from 8 until 10 o'clock, for the consideration of bills on second reading.

Mr. MacWilliams opposed the resolution on the ground that if night sessions were held the committees would have no time to work.

funds. The other was that enlargement of the Capitol would destroy the beauty of the old historical grounds.

"I dislike very much to oppose this measure," remarked Senator Buckman, "but where are we going to get the money?"

"The money needed to provide for the appropriations thus far demanded will amount to more than two million dollars—where is it coming from?"

"Some of these appropriations will have to go by the board, and what shall they be?"

"The rate of taxation can not be raised, because the people will complain, and justly so."

The majority accepted this view of the situation, and the fight for increased room was over for this session.

WILLIS OF LEVY PLAYS JOHNNY LO-LO

HORSE-PLAY IN THE HOUSE BROUGHT ON BILLS FOR RELIEF—PLENTY OF FUN, BUT GOOD HUMOR DIDN'T RETARD BUSINESS MUCH.

The lecturer from Levy led the exegesis in the House yesterday afternoon, being assisted by Class Leader Walker in a solemn thesis.

The subject was offered in the reading of the House bill for the relief of various parties who had served the State in the disbarment proceedings against B. S. Liddon, J. M. Calhoun and Robert N. Boone, in Jackson County.

A relief bill was offered in each case enumerating the witnesses, clerks and stenographers who had done service and whose compensation was taxed against the State by the presiding Judge.

Mr. Willis of Levy, true to his instincts of a conscientious duty to the State, moved the postponement of the first bill and the second bill and the third bill, and after the motion to postpone was successively made and lost then the tagging on of amendments began, and the House became a circus, with the Levy County member in the role of Johnny Lo-Lo.

By the time the third bill was reached the risibles of the House had been so titilated that they could no longer withhold the grand guffaw which had been approaching. This broke its moorings when Colonel Nat Walker read among those enumerated the name of "Annanias Long" as "Annanias WRONG."

Presumptuously punctilious in the performance of his duties, Colonel Nat immediately turned a painfully serious face to the Speaker with the remark: "That's w'at 'tis, Mr. Speaker, I am not responsible for the names in this bill, sir."

"An amendment, Mr. Speaker," interjected the gentleman from Levy.

"An amendment by Mr. Willis of Levy," drawled Colonel Nat, "reads as follows: After the words 'Annanias' insert the word 'Sappho.'"

"Sapphira!" corrected Mr. Willis from his seat, somewhat perturbed as he saw his jokelet going astray.

The Speaker hammered with his make-believe mallet, and ruled the amendment out of order.

"But, Mr. Speaker," persisted Mr. Willis of Levy, "I think this amendment is perfectly in order, as every one acquainted with biblical history knows Sapphira was the wife of Annanias, and where one is there should the other be also."

But in the confusion that followed, the bill went through to the Committee on Engrossed Bills.

The first of the fun began when Mr. Calkins of Nassau moved the passage on second reading of the bill for the relief of Dr. J. Louis Horsey.

"May I inquire," timidly interrogated the gentleman from Levy, "if this gentleman is a veterinary?"

With this lead to go upon the member from Levy left no chance unimproved; and he had three in a row when the relief bills for the disbarment proceedings came up in succession.

Mr. Willis was earnestly opposed to the passage of the bills. He said he did not think the State should be called upon to pay for a row between the two or three lawyers in Jackson County. "I think it an outrage, Mr. Speaker," he said. "All criminal cases should be paid for by the county, and these were quasi-criminal cases."

It mattered not to the gentleman from Levy that the gentleman from St. Johns (MacWilliams) and the gentleman from Escambia (Reese) quoted the law and the order of the court to show that it was plainly a burden that the State should bear, and during this debate, the gentleman from Levy was handed a slice of sarcasm from each of the others, being referred to as the "learned counsel of Stetson," and the "eminent attorney from Levy."

Mr. Kirkland also had an amendment.

After all the names of persons who prayed for relief Mr. Kirkland thought it would save the time of the Legislature and would be only just and proper to insert the words, "and all other persons in the counties of Jackson and Escambia not otherwise enumerated."

Mr. Kirkland explained that he knew the cause of these people to be perfectly just; that he purposed putting all relief bills into one and passing on them at the same time and give relief to everybody in these counties, for they all seemed to be in need of relief.

Mr. Reese knew that the gentleman's intentions were charitable and philanthropic in the extreme, but he hardly thought it necessary, as claims would be presented only when the need arose and the cause was just.

All the bills passed to be engrossed. During the horse-play several motions to adjourn were made, but failed. The House was in good humor, and in spite of the fun got rid of the bills in good time.

BOARD OF HEALTH AGAIN.

Mr. Smith of Lake offered a bill yesterday giving certain powers to the State Board of Health. The Board of Health bill is said to contain none of the objectionable features which the other bill offered by Mr. Smith had, which was defeated in the House last week.



Mr. Willis of Levy Equipped to Carve a Relief Bill.