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The question being "shall the main question be now put?"

The main question was ordered.

The question recurring upon the adoption of the resolution, it was read a second time and ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. McCormick moved a further suspension of rules to put the resolution upon its third reading.

Rules suspended.

Resolution read third time and passed.

Mr. Pedigo moved that the Convention resolve itself into Committee of the whole upon the report of the Committee on Federal Relations.

Carried.

Mr. Armstrong of Lamar, in the chair.

The committee rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

Leave granted.

On motion, the Convention adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

CAPITOL, AUSTIN, TEXAS,
JUNE 26, 1868.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Roll called. Quorum present. Prayer by the Chaplain. Journal of yesterday read and adopted.

Mr. Armstrong, of Lamar, presented the following petition :

We, the undersigned citizens, permit and agree that our names may be used in a Convention of the State of Texas, convened at Austin, on the — day of —, A. D. 1868.

Praying said Convention to grant us a new county out of the territory between the Sulphurs. Beginning on South Sulphur, at the Steward crossing, then north *via* Charles Hensley's to North Sulphur; then down North Sulphur to the east boundary line of Lamar county; then south to South Sulphur; then up said Sulphur to the beginning; and said new county to be called "Bourbon," and the county site to be situated as near the center of said new county as practicable. Left to a majority of the voters, and said county site to be called —.

Signed by E. R. Hooten and eighty-six others.

On motion the petition was referred to the Committee on General Provisions.

Mr. Thomas presented the following petition :

*To the Honorable President and
Members of the Texas Convention :*

We, the undersigned citizens, living within the limits of the proposed new county, owing to the great inconvenience in attending to legal business at the county sites of Denton, Cook, Grayson, and Collin, caused by distance and high waters, respectfully ask your honorable body to establish a new county, to be called "White," having Pilot Point as county site, the boundary line being as nearly as may be, as follows :

Beginning on the east bank of Elm fork of Trinity river, on the south boundary line of a survey made for J. W. Visor, about ten miles north, 45° east from the town of Denton ; thence southeast, to the southwest corner of a survey made for T. Button, on Doe Branch ; thence east to the east boundary line of Denton county, and passing said line, corner in Collin county. Thence north parallel with the west boundary line of Collin county to the north boundary of Collin, and passing said line six miles corner in Grayson county ; thence west and parallel with the north boundary line of Denton, to Elm fork of Trinity ; thence with the meanderings of the stream to the place of beginning.

Signed by A. C. Warren and seven hundred others.

On motion the petition was referred to the Committee on Counties and County Boundaries.

Mr. Evans, of McLennan, from the Committee on Federal Relations, made the following report upon the resolution of Mr. Mills, respecting the county of El Paso :

COMMITTEE ROOM,
Austin, Texas, June 25, 1868.

Hon. E. J. DAVIS,

President Reconstruction Convention :

SIR : Your committee to which was referred the resolution of Mr. Mills, relinquishing the political jurisdiction and right of public domain over El Paso county to the United States, have had the same under consideration and beg leave to report that in the opinion of a majority of the committee a separate government is necessary for the welfare of the people of that distant county ; and believing that the State will sacrifice no material interest in granting what is requested, we recommend that the resolution do pass.

A. J. EVANS,

Chairman of the Committee on Federal Relations.

Mr. McCormick offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That all resolutions and declarations originating in, or reported upon favorably by any of the committees of the Convention, shall be printed and laid upon the desks of each of the members.

On motion, the rules were suspended and resolution passed.

Mr. Lindsay introduced the following declaration :

Resolved, by the People of Texas in Convention assembled,
That a provision, to the following effect, be inserted in the constitution about to be framed by this Convention :

SEC. — The Legislature shall provide by law for a geological survey of the State, and to this end a geological bureau shall be established by law, composed of a State geologist and such assistants as may be deemed necessary, who shall receive such compensation for their services as may be prescribed by law. The State Geologist shall make a report, through the Governor, to each regular session of the Legislature.

On motion, the declaration was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Lindsay introduced the following resolution :

Resolved by the People of Texas in Convention assembled,
That the following provision shall be inserted in the Constitution of the State of Texas :

SEC. — Whenever it becomes necessary, under the laws, that the State should be a party, plaintiff or defendant in any suit or judicial proceeding, no bond shall ever be required by the State.

On motion the resolution was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Leib introduced the following declaration :

Be it declared by this Convention, That the following be a section of the Constitution of the State of Texas :

That burying grounds, public schoolhouses, houses used exclusively for public worship, institutions of purely public charity, public property used exclusively for any public purpose, shall never be taxed.

On motion the declaration was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. Burnett introduced the following declaration :

Resolved, That the following be an article of the Constitution of Texas.

ART. — The social *status* of the citizen shall never be a subject of legislation in this State.

On motion the declaration was referred to the Committee on General Provisions.

Mr. Armstrong, of Lamar, offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Committees on General Provisions, the Public Lands, and the Public Debt, be authorized to employ one clerk, whose duty it shall be to act as clerk to said committees.

Mr. Hamilton, of Bastrop, moved that the rules be suspended to take up resolution.

Carried.

The question recurring upon the adoption of the resolution, it was adopted.

Mr. Thomas moved to take up the business on the President's table.

Carried.

The President announced the first business in order was the report of the Committee on Commerce and Manufactures, with accompanying resolution respecting taxation upon machinery.

Mr. Burnett moved the resolution be postponed until next Thursday, July 2, 1868, at 10 o'clock.

Carried.

Mr. Hamilton of Bastrop, moved that the Convention go into Committee of the Whole upon the report of the Committee on Federal Relations.

Carried.

Mr. Armstrong, of Lamar, in the Chair.

Committee rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit on Monday, at ten o'clock A. M.

Leave granted.

On motion, the Convention adjourned until to-morrow, at nine o'clock.

CAPITOL, AUSTIN, TEXAS,
JUNE 27, 1868.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Roll called. Quorum present. Prayer by the Chaplain. Journal of yesterday read and adopted.

Mr. Lindsay introduced the following declaration :

Be it declared, by the People of Texas in Convention assembled, That it is the true and the wisest policy of the State of Texas, to grant settlement rights upon the public lands, within its territorial jurisdiction, to every person who will settle, occupy, cultivate and improve the land, in quantities not more than one hundred and sixty acres to the head of a family, and not more than eighty acres to a single person. And that every head of a family, and every single person who will locate and improve any portion of the public land, now vacant within the limits of the State, by actual settlement and improvement, may have the same surveyed by any authorized surveyor, which surveyor shall deliver his plot and certificate of survey