

1889

July 5: City Board of Health created by ordinance of City Council; approved July 13th. Dr. C. J. Burroughs was the first city health officer.

November 28: Pavilion and two hotels at Burnside Beach destroyed by fire. The Palmetto was a new four-story hotel; the Burnside House was an old building built before the War Between the States.

House Bill No. 4

There were two main features of the legislation passed in May, 1889, known as House Bill No. 4: One providing for the appointment of officers to constitute the city government of Jacksonville (see page 300); and the other authorizing the city to issue bonds to the extent of \$750,000.

The purpose of the bond issue was for municipal improvements and the redemption of \$210,000 outstanding bonds (Sanitary Improvement Bonds of 1878). At the election held December 10, 1889, for the purpose of taking the sense of the voters upon the bond issue, the result was: For Bonds, 653; Against Bonds, 1091. The defeat of the bond issue was attributed to the newly acquired suburbs, where property owners claimed there would be an increase in taxes without any benefit from the issue; and also to the vote of the non-property owning class. It was pointed out that practically all of the large property owners were in favor of bonds.

1890

The Sub-Tropical Exposition opened January 9, 1890, with a two-day celebration and carnival. The first day was given over largely to parades, in which floats of local business concerns appeared as a marked feature. On the 10th there was an elaborate display of fireworks at night, followed by a grand masked ball. The exposition was on the order of previous displays though not so elaborate; but it continued to attract the attention of tourists. It closed April 12 after a week of military festivity and another interstate competitive drill that became famous in local military history.