Good Work of Auditor

(Continued from Page Three.)

tor, fixing his compensation at $2,000 per annum and actual traveling expenses. The Act further provided for a clerk to be employed by the State Auditor at a salary not to exceed $1,000 per annum, and repealed the Act of 1901. When the Act went into effect Mr. Ellis was changed from State Agent to State Auditor and held the office until he resigned in February, 1904, to accept the position of Attorney General, made vacant by the elevation of Attorney General Whitfield to the Supreme Bench.

In February, 1904, Mr. Ernest Amos of Santa Rosa County was appointed State Auditor. He employed his father as clerk.

It is the work of Mr. Amos, the second to hold the office of State Auditor, that formed the basis of the figures given at the beginning of this article and which demonstrated the great necessity of this office and the good work accomplished by it. Under the showing made of a $14,000 saving to the public treasury, at an annual expense of $3,750. The work of the State Auditor having increased to an extent which made it impossible for one man to do it, the Legislature of 1905 passed an Act creating the office of Assistant State Auditor and empowered him, under the direction of the State Auditor, to perform all the duties of State Auditor. His compensation was fixed at $2,000 per annum and actual traveling expenses. Mr. W. B. Sadler received the appointment of Assistant State Auditor and still holds that position. The personnel of the State Auditor's office now includes Mr. Ernest Amos, State Auditor, at a salary of $2,000 per annum and actual traveling expenses, Mr. W. B Sadler, Assistant State Auditor, at a salary of $2,000 and actual traveling expenses, and Mr. E. A. Amos, clerk, at a salary of $1,000 per nuum.

The Auditor and Assistant Auditor are constantly in the field examining the accounts of various county officers. The work that they find to do consists largely of correcting errors made by the county officers, arising from a lack of knowledge of their official duties. Tax Collectors, Treasurers and County Commissioners of the various counties, who by law handle the public money, are not often chosen for their technical knowledge as accountants but, under the operation of the primary law, on account of their personal popularity. Actuated as they are by honest motives and the desire to patriotically perform their public duties, they nevertheless are, in a large number of cases, ignorant of the law governing their offices and, with the best intentions in the world, make mistakes in handling public funds. These mistakes the Auditor and Assistant Auditor, who are selected on account of their qualifications as accountants, correct as they find them. So that the State Auditing Department is one office that more than pays for itself every year, on account of the saving of public funds through the detection of these errors.

The cartoon in this issue, from THE SUN of Tallahassee, Fla., ably represents the situation in some sections of the State, where the illicit manufacture and sale of "moonshine booze" has not been suppressed. The negro, like the Indian, cannot be controlled when he is given whiskey or "pine top" rum.—Washington Verdict.

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NOTICE OF ELECTION.

WHEREAS, The Legislature of 1905, under the Constitution of 1885, of the State of Florida, did pass five Joint Resolutions proposing Amendments to the Constitution of the State of Florida, and the same were agreed to by a vote of three-fifths of all the members elected to each House; that the vote of said Joint Resolutions were entered upon their respective Journals, with yeas and nays thereon, and they did determine and direct that the said Joint Resolutions be submitted to the electors of the State at the General Election in November, 1906.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, H. CLAY CRAWFORD, Secretary of State of the State of Florida, do hereby give notice that a

GENERAL ELECTION

Will be held in each County in Florida on Tuesday next succeeding the first Monday in November, A. D., 1906, the said Tuesday being the

SIXTH DAY OF NOVEMBER,

For the ratification or rejection of the said Joint Resolutions proposing Amendments to the Constitution of the State of Florida, viz:

ARTICLE XXVIII.

That the following amendment to Article XVI of the Constitution of the State of Florida be and it is hereby agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of the State at the general election, to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November A. D. 1906, for ratification or rejection.

Section 32. The Governor, the Comptroller, the State Treasurer, the Attorney General and the Commissioner of Agriculture of the State of Florida, and their successors in office, are hereby constituted and designated as a board of drainage commissioners, and are hereby authorized and empowered to establish a system of canals, drains, levees, dikes and reservoirs of such dimension and depths, as in the judgment of said board of drainage commissioners is deemed advisable, to drain and reclaim the swamp and overflowed lands within the State of Florida, or such parts or portions thereof as is deemed best by said board of drainage commissioners from time to time, and to provide for the irrigation of the lands reclaimed, and to maintain such canals, drains, levees, dikes, and reservoirs in such manner as will be most advantageous to the territory so drained, the State of Florida, its inhabitants and the commerce thereof.

Section 33. That the board of drainage commissioners are hereby authorized and empowered to establish drainage districts and fix the boundaries thereof in the State of Florida. That the board of drainage commissioners be and it is authorized and empowered to prepare a list or lists of all the alluvial or swamp and overflowed taxable lands within such drainage district or districts, and levy thereon an acreage tax not exceeding ten cents per acre per annum to be fixed annually by said board of drainage commissiners, and the various tax assessors of the various counties embraced in part or in whole within such drainage district or districts shall receive such list or lists and enter the same upon the tax rolls of the county or counties in which such lands may lie and the amount so levied by the beard of drainage commissioners in such manner and form as may be prescribed by the board of drainage commissioners from time to time, which amounts shall be collected by the various tax collectors of the counties wherein such levies have been made as other taxes are collected in accordance with law, and pay over said amounts collected to the board of drainage commissioners, said commissioners shall have a lien superior to all other liens upon the taxable lands in any such drainage districts to be enforced by tax levy, for the cost of any work done under the provisions hereof, or done, prior to the adoption of this amendment, under the provisions of an act of the Legislature passed in 1905.

Section 34. That the board of drainage commissioners be and it is authorized to exercise the right of eminent demain in the condemnation of land for the location of its canals, drains, levees, dikes and reservoirs for the purposes aforesaid and may enter upon, take and use such land as it may, pending condemnation proceedings, deem necessary for such purposes, and in ascertaining the compensation to be paid for such land or right of way, benefits to be derived from such drainage shall be considered by the jury.

Section 35. The Legislature may provide for the assessment of benefits derived by lands by reason of such drainage, and the collection thereof; the proceeds therefrom shall be paid to the board of drainage commissioners to be used by them for such drainage purposes.

Approved May 27, 1905.

ARTICLE XXIX.

That Section nine (9) of Article five (5) of the Constitution of the State of Florida be and the same is hereby amended so as to read as follows, viz:

"Section 9. The salary of each Justice of the Supreme Court shall be four thousand ($4,000.00) dollars a year. The salary of each Circuit Judge shall be three thousand five hundred ($3,500.00) dollars a year."

That the foregoing amendment to Section 9 of Article V of the Constitution is hereby agreed to and the same shall be submitted to the electors of the State for approval or rejection at the next general election of representatives as required by Section 1, Article XVII of the Constitution.

Approved May 31st, 1905.

ARTICLE XXX

That the following amendment to Article V of the Constitution of the State of Florida, relative to the Judiciary Department, to be numbered Section 39 of said Article V, be and the same is hereby agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of the State at the general election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, A. D. 1906, for ratification or rejection, to-wit:

Section 39. The annual salary of the Judges of each of the Criminal Courts of Record now, or hereafter to be, established shall be paid quarterly by the county where such court is established, and shall be as follows: In counties of less than fifteen thousand population, one thousand dollars; in counties of from fifteen thousand population, one thousand dollars; in counties of from fifteen thousand to twenty-five thousand population, fifteen hundred dollars; in counties of from twenty-five thousand to thirty-five thousand population, two thousand dollars; and in counties of more than thirty-five thousand population, twenty-five hundred dollars, hereby repealing any and all part and parts of the said Constitution in conflict herewith.

Approved June 6, 1905.

ARTICLE XXXI.

That the following amendments to Article V of the Constitution of the State of Florida, relative to the Judiciary Department, to be numbered Sections 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46 and 47, of said Article V, be and the same are hereby agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of the State at the general election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, A. D. 1906, for ratification or rejection, to-wit:

Section 40. There shall be established in the county of Escambia, whenever the voters of said county shall so determine by a majority of the votes cast, on the question at any general election, a court of record and there shall be a judge of said court who shall be appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate who shall hold his office for six years and whose salary shall be two thousand, five hundred dollars a year, payable quarterly by the county of Escambia. The criminal court of record now established in Escambia county shall, upon the adoption of these amendments, become and be the court of record as herein provided and all officers of such criminal court of record shall be officers of such court of record and discharge the duties and receive the emoluments of such until the expiration of their present term of office.

Section 41. The said court and judge shall have exclusive original jurisdiction of all criminal cases, not capital, which shall arise in Escambia county, and shall have in Escambia county, concurrent with the Circuit Court and Circuit Judge of said county, the same original jurisdiction of all other cases and matters as the Circuit Court and Circuit Judge of said county, and the same power to issue writs of mandamus, injunction, quo warranto, certiorari, prohibition, habeas corpus and all writs, proper and necessary to the complete exercise of their jurisdiction as the Circuit Court and Circuit Judge of said county, except the power and authority to summon and empanel a grand jury.

Section 42. There shall be six terms of said court in each year.

Section 43. There shall be for said court a prosecuting attorney who shall be appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate and who shall hold his office for four years. His compensation shall be fixed by law.

Section 44. All offenses triable in said court shall be prosecuted upon information under oath to be filed by the prosecuting attorney, but the grand jury of the Circuit Court for said county may indict for any offense triable in the court of record. Upon the finding of such indictment the Circuit Judge shall commit or bail the accused for trial in the court of record, which trial shall be upon information.

Section 45. The clerk of said court shall be elected by the electors of Escambia county and shall hold office for four years, and his compensation shall be fixed by law. The sheriff of Escambia county shall be the executive officer of said court, and his duties and fees shall be fixed by law.

Section 46. The same rules of procedure and practice which obtain in the circuit court of the county shall obtain in the court of record, and all laws relative to criminal courts of record, except as otherwise provided herein, shall apply to and control the court of record. Change of venue may be had from the court of record to the circuit court of another county for the same causes, and under the laws providing for changing the venue from the circuit court of one county to the circuit court of another county. The Governor, may in his discretion, order the circuit judge of Escambia county or of any other county to hold one or more terms or parts of terms of the court of record. Any civil cause in the court of record may be tried before a referee, or in case of the disqualification of the judge of the court of record, may be tried by a judge ad litem, or may be transferred to the circuit court of Escambia county or of any other county, in the same way and according to the same provisions as govern such proceedings in the circuit court of Escambia county.

Section 47. The Supreme Court of the State shall have appellate jurisdiction in all cases at law and in equity originating in the court of record, and in cases of conviction of felony in the court of record. The circuit court of Escambia county shall have final appellate jurisdiction of all misdemeanors tried in the court of record. All appeals or writs of error prosecuted from the court of record, whether to the Supreme Court or Circuit Court, shall be prosecuted in the same way and according to the same rules as govern such proceedings from the Circuit Court to the Supreme Court.

Approved June 6, 1905.

ARTICLE XXXII.

That the following amendment to Article XVII of the Constitution of the State of Florida be, and the same is hereby agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of the State at the general election in 1906 for ratification or rejection:

Section 1. Either branch of the Legislature, at a regular session thereof, may propose amendments to this Constitution; and if the same be agreed to by three-fifths of all the members elected to each house, such proposed amendments shall be entered upon their respective Journals with the yeas and nays and shall be published in one newspaper in each county where a newspaper is published, for one month immediately preceding the next general election of Representatives, at which election the same shall be submitted to the electors of the State, for approval or rejection. If a majority of the electors voting upon the amendments at such election shall adopt the amendments the same shall become a part of the Constitution. The proposed amendments shall be so submitted as to enable the electors to vote on each amendment separately. All amendments adopted at the election at which this is submitted or heretofore adopted by the electors are hereby declared a part of the Constitution from the date of the adoption of the same.

Approved June 6, 1905.

The votes cast in compliance with said proposed amendments, and the canvass, declarations and returns thereof, shall be subjected to the same regulations and restrictions as are provided by law for General Elections in the State of Florida.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this first day of August, A. D. 1906.

(L. S.)

H. CLAY CRAWFORD,
Secretary of State.

To Charles Hopkins, Sheriff Leon County.

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Geneva Gin	3 75	5 00	9 50
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