

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

Beginning the thirty-fifth Biennial Session of the Legislature of the State of Florida, under the Constitution of the State, A. D. 1885, begun and held at the Capitol, in the City of Tallahassee, Florida, on Tuesday, the fifth day of April, A. D., 1955, at 12:00 o'clock, Noon, being the day fixed by the Constitution of the State of Florida for the convening of the Legislature.

Tuesday, April 5, 1955

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The Senate convened at 12:00 o'clock, Noon, and was called to order by Senator Charley E. Johns, President of the Senate.

By direction of the President, the Secretary of the Senate called the roll of the holdover members of the Senate in numerical order of Senatorial Districts and the following answered to their names:

Senator Woodrow M. Melvin—1st District.
Senator H. B. Douglas—3rd District.
Senator C. H. Bourke Floyd—5th District.
Senator Harry E. King—7th District.
Senator James E. Connor—9th District.
Senator J. Frank Houghton—11th District.
Senator R. B. "Bunn" Gautier—13th District.
Senator Charley E. Johns—15th District.
Senator J. Graham Black—17th District.
Senator J. B. Rodgers, Jr.—19th District.
Senator W. Randolph Hodges—21st District.
Senator J. Ed. Baker—23rd District.
Senator George G. Tapper—25th District.
Senator Doyle E. Carlton, Jr.—27th District.
Senator Edwin G. Fraser—29th District.
Senator Verle A. Pope—31st District.
Senator Irlo Bronson—33rd District.
Senator Russell O. Morrow—35th District.

The Secretary of the Senate announced that the Honorable R. A. Gray, Secretary of State, had certified to the election of certain Senators at the General Election on the 2nd day of November, A. D., 1954, and that the certificate of the Secretary of State had been received.

By direction of the President, the Secretary of the Senate called the roll of the newly elected Senators in numerical order of Senatorial Districts as certified to the Senate by the Secretary of State and the following answered to their names:

Senator Philip D. Beall—2nd District.
Senator John Rawls—4th District.
Senator Dewey M. Johnson—6th District.
Senator Wilson Carraway—8th District.
Senator W. T. Davis—10th District.
Senator Merrill P. Barber—12th District.
Senator J. O. (Jack) Phillips—14th District.
Senator Harry O. Stratton—16th District.
Senator Fletcher Morgan—18th District.
Senator L. K. Edwards, Jr.—20th District.
Senator S. D. Clarke—22nd District.
Senator William R. Neblett—24th District.
Senator B. C. Pearce—26th District.
Senator E. William Gautier—28th District.
Senator Ted Cabot—30th District.
Senator W. A. Shands—32nd District.
Senator Paul Kickliter—34th District.
Senator Joe Bill Rood—36th District.
Senator J. C. Getzen, Jr.—38th District.
Senator Douglas Stenstrom—37th District.

The oath of office was then administered to the newly elected Senators by the Honorable John E. Mathews, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Florida.

The roll of the Senate, as constituted, was then called by the Secretary and the following members of the Senate answered to their names:

Senators Baker, Barber, Beall, Black, Bronson, Cabot, Carlton, Carraway, Clarke, Connor, Davis, Douglas, Edwards, Floyd, Fraser, Gautier (28th), Gautier (13th), Getzen, Hodges, Houghton, Johns, Johnson, Kickliter, King, Melvin, Morgan, Morrow, Neblett, Pearce, Phillips, Pope, Rawls, Rodgers, Rood, Shands, Stenstrom, Stratton, Tapper—38.

A quorum of the Senate was announced.

Prayer was offered by the Senate Chaplain, Reverend E. E. Snow, Minister of the First Methodist Church, Madison, Florida.

The Senate then proceeded to the organization of the Body for the 1955 Regular Session of the Legislature.

Senator Clarke presented the name of Senator W. T. Davis of the 10th Senatorial District to be President of the Senate for the ensuing two years.

Senator Fraser seconded the nomination of Senator Davis to be President of the Senate.

Senator Pearce moved that the nominations be closed

Which was agreed to and it was so ordered.

The question was put and upon call of the roll on the election of Senator Davis the vote was:

Yeas—37.

Mr. President	Connor	Johnson	Pope
Baker	Douglas	Kickliter	Rodgers
Barber	Edwards	King	Rood
Beall	Floyd	Melvin	Shands
Black	Fraser	Morgan	Stenstrom
Bronson	Gautier (28th)	Morrow	Stratton
Cabot	Gautier (13th)	Neblett	Tapper
Carlton	Getzen	Rawls	
Carraway	Hodges	Pearce	
Clarke	Houghton	Phillips	

Nays—None.

Senator Davis not voting.

And Senator Davis was elected President of the Senate for the ensuing two years.

Senator Johnson moved that a committee of three be appointed to escort the newly elected President to the rostrum of the Senate.

Which was agreed to.

Senator Johns, the retiring President, appointed Senators Johnson, Connor and Hodges as the committee.

The newly elected President was escorted by the committee to the rostrum where he was received with due courtesy by the retiring President.

Senator Shands moved that a committee of three be appointed to escort Mrs. W. T. Davis, wife of the newly elected President of the Senate, to a seat on the rostrum.

Which was agreed to.

The retiring President appointed Senators Shands, Douglas and Melvin as the committee.

The committee escorted Mrs. Davis to the rostrum where she was received courteously by the retiring President and seated beside the newly elected President.

Senator Clarke moved that a committee be appointed to escort the Honorable Chas. E. Davis of Madison, Florida, former President of the Senate and father of the newly elected President, and Mrs. J. Robert McClure of Tallahassee, Florida, sister of the newly elected President, to seats on the rostrum.

Which was agreed to.

The retiring President appointed Senators Clarke, Black and Baker as the committee which escorted Mr. Davis and Mrs. McClure to the rostrum where they were welcomed by the retiring President and seated.

Mr. Chief Justice Mathews thereupon administered the oath of office to Senator Davis as President of the Senate.

Senator Johns, the retiring President, then presented the newly elected and sworn President of the Senate to the Body, surrendered to him the Senate Gavel, and resumed his seat as the Senator of the 15th Senatorial District.

President W. T. Davis addressed the Senate.

Following the President's address, Senator Baker placed in nomination the name of Senator George G. Tapper of the 25th Senatorial District to be President Pro Tempore of the Senate for the ensuing two years.

The question was put and Senator Tapper was unanimously elected President Pro Tempore of the Senate by a rising vote of the members.

Senator Gautier (13th) moved that a committee of three be appointed to escort the newly elected President Pro Tempore to a seat on the rostrum.

Which was agreed to.

The President appointed Senators Gautier (13th), Fraser and Bronson as the committee.

And Senator Tapper, the President Pro Tempore, was escorted to the rostrum.

Senator Floyd moved that a committee be appointed to escort Mr. and Mrs. Robert Tapper of Port St. Joe, Florida, parents of the newly elected President Pro Tempore, to seats on the rostrum.

Which was agreed to.

The President appointed Senators Floyd, Morrow and Carlton as the committee which escorted Mr. and Mrs. Tapper to the rostrum where they were received courteously by the President and seated.

Senator King placed in nomination the name of Robt. W. Davis to be Secretary of the Senate for the ensuing two years.

The question was put and upon call of the roll on the election of Robt. W. Davis the vote was:

Yeas—38

Mr. President	Connor	Johns	Pope
Baker	Douglas	Johnson	Rawls
Barber	Edwards	Kicklitter	Rodgers
Beall	Floyd	King	Rood
Black	Fraser	Melvin	Shands
Bronson	Gautier (28th)	Morgan	Stenstrom
Cabot	Gautier (13th)	Morrow	Stratton
Carlton	Getzen	Neblett	Tapper
Carraway	Hodges	Pearce	
Clarke	Houghton	Phillips	

Nays—None.

So Robert W. Davis was elected Secretary of the Senate for the ensuing two years.

Mr. Chief Justice Mathews thereupon administered the oath of office to Robt. W. Davis as Secretary of the Senate.

Senator Rodgers placed in nomination the name of LeRoy Adkison to be Sergeant-At-Arms of the Senate for the ensuing two years.

The question was put and upon call of the roll on the election of LeRoy Adkison the vote was:

Yeas—38

Mr. President	Connor	Johns	Pope
Baker	Douglas	Johnson	Rawls
Barber	Edwards	Kicklitter	Rodgers
Beall	Floyd	King	Rood
Black	Fraser	Melvin	Shands
Bronson	Gautier (28th)	Morgan	Stenstrom
Cabot	Gautier (13th)	Morrow	Stratton
Carlton	Getzen	Neblett	Tapper
Carraway	Hodges	Pearce	
Clarke	Houghton	Phillips	

Nays—None

So LeRoy Adkison was elected Sergeant-At-Arms of the Senate for the ensuing two years.

Mr. Chief Justice Mathews thereupon administered the oath of office to LeRoy Adkison as Sergeant-At-Arms of the Senate.

Senator Douglas moved that Miss Kate Inman be named Reading Secretary of the Senate.

Which was agreed to and Miss Kate Inman was named Reading Secretary of the Senate.

Senator Beall placed in nomination the names of George Inman and Mrs. T. C. Coody to be Assistant Reading Secretary and Chief Clerk of the Journal Mailing Room, respectively, of the Senate.

Which was agreed to and George Inman and Mrs. T. C. Coody were elected Assistant Reading Secretary and Chief Clerk of the Journal Mailing Room, respectively.

Senator Pope moved that a committee be appointed to wait upon the Governor and inform His Excellency that the Senate was organized and ready to proceed to the business of the Session, awaiting any message he may wish to convey to the Body.

Which was agreed to.

The President appointed Senators Pope, Carlton and Morrow as the committee.

The committee withdrew.

Senator Stratton moved that a committee be appointed to notify the House of Representatives that the Senate was organized and ready to proceed with the business of the Session.

Which was agreed to.

The President appointed Senators Stratton, Morgan and Rood as the committee.

The committee withdrew.

Senator Melvin moved that the Rules of the 1953 Regular Session be adopted to govern the Senate until such time as the Committee on Rules and Calendar may report Rules for the 1955 Session and the same may be adopted by the Senate.

Which was agreed to and it was so ordered.

Senator Melvin, Chairman of the Committee on Rules and Calendar, moved that the rules be waived and when the Senate adjourns today it adjourn to reconvene at 10:00 o'clock A. M. Wednesday, April 6, 1955.

Which was agreed to by a two-thirds vote and is was so ordered.

Senator Floyd moved that the flowers and floral arrangements which had been so thoughtfully and generously contributed to the members of the Senate for the beautification

of the Chamber on the opening day be given to the patients of Tallahassee Memorial Hospital and W. T. Edwards Hospital, Tallahassee, with the permission of the respective Senators

Which was agreed to and it was so ordered.

A committee from the House of Representatives composed of Messrs. Mahon of Duval, Johnson of Hillsborough, and Pruitt of Jefferson, appeared at the Bar of the Senate and notified the Body that the House of Representatives was duly organized and ready to proceed with the business of the session.

The committee withdrew.

The committee appointed to wait upon the Governor appeared at the Bar of the Senate and reported to the President that its duty had been performed and the Governor had requested the committee to inform the Senate that he would like to deliver his biennial message to the Senate and the House of Representatives in joint session at 3:00 o'clock P. M., this day.

Whereupon the committee was discharged.

The committee appointed to notify the House of Representatives of the organization of the Senate appeared at the Bar of the Senate and reported that its duty had been performed.

Whereupon the committee was discharged.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The following message from the House of Representatives was read:

Tallahassee, Florida,
April 5, 1955.

The Honorable W. T. Davis,
President of the Senate.

Sir:

I am directed by the House of Representatives to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives has adopted—

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3:

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROVIDING THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE CONVENE IN JOINT SESSION IN THE CHAMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AT 3:00 P.M., APRIL 5, 1955.

WHEREAS, His Excellency LeRoy Collins, Governor of Florida, has expressed a desire to address the Legislature of Florida in Joint Session on this day, Tuesday, April 5, 1955, at 3:00 P.M.;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE SENATE CONCURRING:

That the House of Representatives and Senate convene in Joint Session in the Chamber of the House of Representatives at 3:00 P.M. this day, Tuesday, April 5, 1955, for the purpose of receiving His Excellency's message.

—and respectfully requests the concurrence of the Senate therein.

Respectfully,

LAMAR BLEDSOE,
Chief Clerk, House of Representatives.

And House Concurrent Resolution No. 3, contained in the above message, was read the first time in full.

Senator Clarke moved that the rules be waived and House Concurrent Resolution No. 3 be read the second time in full and put upon its adoption.

Which was agreed to by a two-thirds vote.

And House Concurrent Resolution No. 3 was read the second time in full.

The question was put on the adoption of the Concurrent Resolution.

Which was agreed to and House Concurrent Resolution No. 3 was adopted and the action of the Senate was ordered certified to the House of Representatives immediately, by waiver of the rule.

The President announced the appointment of the following Committees for the 1955 Session:

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND CALENDAR

Senator Melvin, Chairman; Senator Johnson, Vice-Chairman; Senators Floyd, King, Connor, Johns, Stratton, Edwards, Hodges, Clarke, Pearce, Fraser and Morrow.

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT

Senator Carraway, Chairman; Senator Morgan, Vice-Chairman; Senators Connor, Tapper, Carlton, Pope and Shands.

Senator Clarke moved that the Senate recess until 2:45 o'clock P. M., this day.

Which was agreed to.

And the Senate recessed at 2:00 o'clock P. M., until 2:45 o'clock P. M., this day.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The Senate reconvened at 2:45 o'clock P. M., pursuant to recess order.

The President in the Chair.

The roll was called and the following Senators answered to their names:

Mr. President	Connor	Johns	Pope
Baker	Douglas	Johnson	Rawls
Barber	Edwards	Kickliter	Rodgers
Beall	Floyd	King	Rood
Black	Fraser	Melvin	Shands
Bronson	Gautier (28th)	Morgan	Stenstrom
Cabot	Gautier (13th)	Morrow	Stratton
Carlton	Getzen	Neplet	Tapper
Carraway	Hodges	Pearce	
Clarke	Houghton	Phillips	

—38.

A quorum present.

Pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution No. 3 the Senate formed in processional order and marched in a body to the hall of the House of Representatives in the order of length of service as Senators, with the President and President Pro Tempore of the Senate leading, who were preceded by the Secretary of the Senate, the way being opened to the hall of the House of Representatives by the Sergeant-At-Arms of the Senate.

The House of Representatives received the Senate in due form.

Honorable Ted David, Speaker of the House of Representatives, received the President and President Pro Tempore of the Senate on the rostrum and requested the President of the Senate to preside over the Joint Assembly.

The President in the Chair.

By direction of the President, the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives called the roll of the House of Representatives and the following members answered to their names:

Mr. Speaker	Carmine	Griffin	Knight
Alexander	Chaires	Grimes	Lancaster
Allen	Chappell	Hathaway	Land
Andrews	Cleveland	Herrell	Livingston
Arrington	Cobb	Hopkins	Mahon
Ballinger	Coleman	Horne	Maness
Bartholomew	Conner	Inman	Marshburn
Beasley	Cook	Jernigan	McAlpin
Beck	Costin	Johnson	Merritt
Belser	Crewe	C. R., Jr.	Moody
Bishop	Cross	Johnson, Tom	Musselman
Bodiford	Dickinson	Jones,	Okell
Boyd	Dukes	D. C., Jr.	Orr
Brewer	Duncan	Jones, E. B.	Page
Bryant	Gibbons	Jones, O. W.	Papy
Burton	Gleaton	King	Patton

Peebles	Rowell	Stewart, E.L.	Westberry
Petersen	Saunders	Surles	Williams,
Pittman	Shaffier	Sweeny	G. W.
Pratt	Sheppard	Tillett	Williams,
Pruitt	Shipp	Turlington	J. R. A.
Putnal	Smith, S. C.	Usina	Williams,
Revelle	Smith,	Varn	V. A., Jr.
Roberts, E. S.	S. N., Jr.	Webb	Youngberg
Roberts, H. W.	Stewart, C. D.	Weinstein	Zelmenovitz

—94.

A quorum of the House of Representatives was declared present.

By direction of the President, the Secretary of the Senate called the roll of the Senate and the following members answered to their names:

Mr. President	Connor	Johns	Pope
Baker	Douglas	Johnson	Rawls
Barber	Edwards	Kicklitter	Rodgers
Beall	Floyd	King	Rood
Black	Fraser	Melvin	Shands
Bronson	Gautier (28th)	Morgan	Stenstrom
Cabot	Gautier (13th)	Morrow	Stratton
Carlton	Getzen	Neblett	Tapper
Carraway	Hodges	Pearce	
Clarke	Houghton	Phillips	

—38.

A quorum of the Senate was declared present.

The President announced a quorum of the Joint Assembly present.

Prayer was offered by the Reverend Robert Excel Frye, Minister of the First Presbyterian Church, Hollywood, Florida, and Chaplain of the House of Representatives.

Senator King moved that a committee be appointed to notify the Governor that the Senate and House of Representatives were assembled in Joint Session and ready to receive His Excellency's message.

Which was agreed to.

The President appointed Senator King and Senator Clarke on the part of the Senate, and Messrs. Turlington of Alachua, Sheppard of Lee and Land of Orange on the part of the House of Representatives, as the committee.

The committee withdrew.

The Speaker in the Chair.

Honorable Farris Bryant, Member of the House of Representatives from Marion County, was called to the rostrum where the Speaker presented him with a plaque awarded biennially by the St. Petersburg Times, the selection of the recipient being made by a poll of legislative correspondents and editors of Florida daily newspapers at the end of each session, on the basis of outstanding service rendered by Mr. Bryant and his personal and public integrity as a member of the House of Representatives, 1953 Session of the Legislature.

Mr Bryant responded with an expression of appreciation.

The President in the Chair.

Senator Carraway moved that a committee be appointed to escort Mrs. LeRoy Collins, Florida's First Lady, to the rostrum

Which was agreed to.

The President appointed Senator Carraway and Senator Gautier (13th) on the part of the Senate, and Messrs. Moody of Hillsborough, Smith of Indian River, and Usina of St. Johns on the part of the House of Representatives, as the committee which escorted Mrs. Collins to the rostrum where she was presented to the Joint Assembly by the President.

The committee appointed to wait upon the Governor reappeared in the hall of the House of Representatives escorting His Excellency, LeRoy Collins, Governor of Florida, accompanied by Honorable R. A. Gray, Secretary of State; Honorable Richard W. Ervin, Attorney General; Honorable Clarence M. Gay, Comptroller; Honorable J. Edwin Larson, Treasurer; Honorable Nathan Mayo, Commissioner of Agriculture, and Honorable Thomas D. Bailey, Superintendent of Public Instruction, constituting the Cabinet of the State of Florida, and Mr. Chief Justice John E. Mathews, Mr. Justice Glenn Terrell, Mr. Justice Harold L. Sebring, Mr. Justice E. Harris Drew, Judge Edwin J. Jones and Judge Robert L. Floyd, Circuit Judges sitting on the Supreme Court Bench, constituting the Supreme Court of Florida.

The Governor was received by the Joint Assembly standing, and was escorted to the rostrum.

The members of the Cabinet and the members of the Supreme Court were seated immediately in front of the rostrum, and the committee was discharged.

As a prelude to presenting His Excellency to the Joint Assembly for the purpose of delivering his biennial message to the Legislature, the President presented Governor Collins with a plaque in testimony of his having been named the recipient of the award made biennially by the St. Petersburg Times after a poll of legislative correspondents and editors of Florida daily newspapers. The award was based on Governor Collins' outstanding service to all of Florida and his personal and public integrity as a member of the Senate from the 8th Senatorial District during the 1953 Session of the Legislature.

The Governor responded with an expression of gratitude for the award and proceeded to deliver his message to the Legislature concerning the condition of the State and his recommendations as required by Article IV, Section 9, of the Constitution of the State of Florida.

Following the Governor's address, Senator Melvin of the 1st Senatorial District moved that the Senate withdraw from the Joint Assembly and resume its session in the Senate Chamber.

Which was agreed to.

The Senate returned to the Senate Chamber in processional order and resumed its session at 4:39 o'clock P. M.

The roll was called and the following Senators answered to their names:

Mr. President	Connor	Johns	Pope
Baker	Douglas	Johnson	Rawls
Barber	Edwards	Kicklitter	Rodgers
Beall	Floyd	King	Rood
Black	Fraser	Melvin	Shands
Bronson	Gautier (28th)	Morgan	Stenstrom
Cabot	Gautier (13th)	Morrow	Stratton
Carlton	Getzen	Neblett	Tapper
Carraway	Hodges	Pearce	
Clarke	Houghton	Phillips	

—38.

A quorum present.

Senator Pearce moved that the Senate adjourn.

Which was agreed to.

And the Senate stood adjourned at 4:41 o'clock P. M. until 10:00 o'clock A. M., Wednesday, April 6, 1955.