

Montgomery, Sept. 15, 1932.

Dear Memory:

The finance and taxation committee is in session this afternoon considering Fletcher's budget bill. They are meeting with the governor in his office. I am in hopes he'll not lose his temper and endanger the bill by hot language. You know he's given to that. Shelby naturally is greatly interested in the measure as it was given to him to pilot through the committee, but the University crowd, backed by the insane hospital people, is fighting it. They are for a budget bill, but want to write it themselves. Borden Burr volunteered his services at the committee meeting yesterday. He's rather presumptuous, I think.

Guess you saw they ran over me yesterday on my court of appeals bill. Last year the vote in the committee was 11 to 0 against me. Yesterday it was 7 to 5 against me with one of my votes absent--Lapsley--who was sick. I am going to give notice tomorrow that I will move to take it off the adverse calendar Tuesday. If they don't do that I am going to introduce a bill Tuesday which will make the supreme court clerk act as clerk of the appellate court also, thus cutting out two of the Brickens family as clerks and save the state some \$4,800 per annum. Judge Bricken told a friend of mine that "that ~~xxxxxxx~~ all of the committee was against the bill, but that d--d Harry Walker got five votes on account of his own personality."

The governor signed my three tax bills today, which means a saving of 7 per cent. to unfortunate property-owners ~~xxxxxx~~ have their property sold for non-payment of taxes. He hesitated about it because he was afraid it might hurt the prompt collection of taxes, but I ~~xxxxxxx~~ countered with the argument that if it was a bad bill the next legislature two years hence could repeal it.

Suppose the morning papers tomorrow will have an account of Gov. W. C. Davis' illness. He ~~xxxxxxx~~ suffered a stroke of paralysis yesterday afternoon about three o'clock at his room in the Exchange and has been unconscious all day. His left side was paralyzed. His wife and two children arrived this afternoon; don't know why they were so late. The doctors say he may be able to be removed in a few days in an ambulance to his home in Jasper. I suppose Hugh Merrill can now figure on how close he has come to being governor ~~xxxxxx~~ in the event of Davis' death.

We are hoping the committee will report the budget bill favorably tomorrow morning. That would put it on the calendar Tuesday. Everybody here is rather pessimistic as to the results accomplished or to be accomplished by the present session.

Hope you are getting along all right. I suppose we will leave here about two or three o'clock tomorrow afternoon for home. Hope you are getting along all right. I saw Lee Glenn here yesterday and told him William was living at M. S. Said he wanted to meet him; that he had some data he could give him. Love to Bob Henry and much for yourself.

Devotedly,

