

Reports the same back with the recommendation that it do pass.

Adopted.

Mr. Collier, from the Committee on Judiciary, to whom was referred

H. F. No. 154, A bill for an act to legalize conveyances of real property made by husband direct to wife, and the record of such conveyances,

Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill do pass.

Adopted.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

The following communication was received from His Excellency the Governor:

STATE OF MINNESOTA,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.
ST. PAUL, March 27, 1905. }

Hon. Ray W. Jones, President of the Senate,

SIR:—During our entire period of statehood the Governor as the Chief Executive of the State, has by law been the custodian of the State Capitol, and he is responsible for the general order and well being of the same.

The new capitol is sufficiently completed to be occupied by the legislative, judicial and executive arms of the government, and the different departments are domiciled here by right of law and not as tenants of the State Board of Capitol Commissioners created to construct the building.

Senate File No. 4, "A bill for an act to provide for the care and maintenance of the new capitol and to appropriate money therefor," would take from the Governor the power properly vested in him as custodian of the new State Capitol and vest this power in the Board of Capitol Commissioners, a board created not for the administration of State affairs, but created solely for the purpose of erecting and constructing the new capitol building. It is essential for the due and orderly administration of law that the Governor be placed in charge of the new capitol building, and public policy demands that the Capitol Commission be required to complete the

work of construction at the earliest possible moment, and be made to render an account of their stewardship to the proper authorities without delay.

Senate File No. 4, should it become a law, directly invites the State Capitol Commission to delay the work of completion for at least two years, when, as a matter of fact, there is no reason why this completion should not be effected within a few months. It has been the policy of the State to lessen the number of separate and distinct boards, and to concentrate the management of the several departments into a more central power, and in my judgment, there is no reason at this time for departing from that policy to widen the scope of influence and authority of the Capitol Commission by enlarging its field of operation and continuing it in a line of work not originally designed to be a duty or function of said board.

For these reasons and for the further reason that I cannot acquiesce in the implication that the Governor of the State, chosen by a majority of the people of the State, is incompetent to discharge the duties of his office as applied to this particular instance, I am constrained to herewith return Senate File No. 4, "A bill for an act to provide for the care and maintenance of the new State Capitol and to appropriate money therefor," without my approval. I would recommend that the Legislature provide a sufficient appropriation to cover the cost and maintenance of the Capitol; to provide for the appointment by the Governor of a superintendent of capitol buildings and grounds, and authorize the Governor to provide for such other employes as may be necessary. I would especially urge in this connection that for all employes where technical knowledge and ability is required, that a civil service rule be provided in order that this class of help might not be changed with varying administrations for political purposes.

I beg to remind you again that provision must be made for the care and maintenance of the old capitol building, as well as the new, and that there should be no divided authority as to the custody of the State Capitol property.

Yours respectfully,

JOHN A. JOHNSON,

Governor.

Mr. Horton moved that S. F. No. 4, and the message of the Governor, accompanying it, be laid upon the table.

Which motion prevailed.