

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

San Juan, Porto Rico.

August 27th. 1900.

Pursuant to a call of the President, the Executive Mansion at 10 o'clock a.m., August 27th, 1900, present the following members:

Jacob Hollander, Treasurer of Porto Rico.
William H. Elliott, Commissioner of Interior.
John A. Russell, Attorney General.
John R. Garrison, Auditor.
Martin G. Brumbaugh, Commissioner of Education.
José C. Barbosa:
Manuel Camuñas:
Rosendo Matienzo Cintron:
José de Diego:
Andrés Crosas:
William H. Hunt, Secretary and President.

Thereupon the Committee on Rules made its report, recommending the adoption of Rules submitted therewith.

Whereupon the Council proceeded to the consideration of said report, considering each rule by itself.

Mr. Camuñas moved that Rule No. 6, as submitted by the Committee, be amended so as to give to the Council the right of appointing all committees, instead of giving this right to the Chair.

Motion lost: all members voting "No", except Mr. Camuñas and Mr. de Diego.

Thereupon said rule was adopted as reported.

Mr. de Diego moved to amend rule No. 28, by adding the words "Unless he excuse himself from voting, which excuse he shall give to the Council."

Motion lost: all members voting "No," except Mr. Camuñas and Mr. de Diego.

There upon said rule was adopted as reported.

Mr. Camuñas moved amendment of Rule No. 44, so as to read:

"When the reading of any document is called for the same shall be read."

Motion lost: all members voting "No", except Mr. Camuñas and Mr. De Diego.

Thereupon said rule was adopted as reported.

Mr. Camuñas moved the rejection of such portions of rules Nos. 50 and 51, as deprive any member of the Council of the right to absent himself therefrom at the will of said member and also such portions thereof as give to the Council the right to compel the attendance of any member.

Motion lost: all members voting "No", except Mr. de Diego and Mr. Camuñas.

Thereupon said rule was adopted as reported.

Thereupon Mr. Elliott moved the adoption as a whole of the Rules as reported by the Committee, and that said Committee be continued at the pleasure of the Council.

Carried.

The following are the rules as adopted:

THE PRESIDENT.

1. He shall take the chair every day precisely at the hour to which the Council shall have previously adjourned, and shall immediately call the members to order. There being a quorum present he shall cause the Journal of the last day's sitting to be read. The sessions of the Council each day shall commence at 10 o'clock a.m. unless otherwise ordered by the Council.

2. He shall preserve order and decorum; speak to points of order in preference to other members, rising from his seat for that purpose, and shall decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Council by any two members, on which appeal no member shall speak more than once, unless by leave of the Council.

3. He may state a question sitting, but he shall rise when stating the question for a vote.

4. Questions shall be distinctly put in this form: "As many as are in favor (as the question may be) say Aye". If he shall have any doubt, or a division shall be called for, the Council shall divide, those in the affirmative of the question shall rise from their seats, and afterwards those in the negative. If the President still doubts, or a count of the votes be required, the President shall order the Chief clerk to count the votes, and when the same is ascertained he shall rise and state the decision of the Council.

5. The Chair shall have a general direction of the Council; he shall have the right to name any member to perform the duties of the Chair, but such substitution shall not extend beyond an adjournment, and in his absence, for any cause whatever, the Council shall proceed to elect a President pro tempore to act during his absence.

6. All Committees shall be appointed by the Chair unless otherwise directed by the Council, in which case they shall be appointed by ballot, on which ballot a plurality of votes shall prevail. In case a greater number than that required to compose or complete a committee shall have an equal number of votes, the Council shall proceed to further ballot or ballots.

7. In all other cases of ballot than for committees a majority of the votes given shall be necessary to an election; and when there shall not be such a majority on the first ballot the ballot shall be repeated until a majority be obtained. In all cases the President shall have a vote, and if the Council be equally divided on any vote the question voted on shall be lost.

8. All acts, addresses and joint resolutions shall be signed by the President; and all writs, warrants and subpoenas issued by order of the Council shall be under his hand and attested by the Clerk.

9. In case of any disturbance or disorderly conduct in the galleries or lobby, the President shall have power to order the same to be cleared, or the arrest of such disorderly person.

ELECTIONS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

12. There shall be elected as officers of the Executive Council:

A Chief Clerk, whose compensation shall be \$1,800.00 per annum;

An Interpreter, who shall also act as translator, whose compensation shall be \$1,400.00 per annum;

A Sergeant-at-Arms, whose compensation shall be \$600.00 per annum;

A Janitor, whose compensation shall be \$300.00 per annum;

Each of said employees shall hold his office at the pleasure of the Council, and each, except the Chief Clerk, shall speak and write English and Spanish.

The duties of the said several officers shall be such as are usually performed by like officials in Legislative bodies and as may be prescribed by order of the Executive Council.

In addition to the officers herein provided for, the Council may employ such other assistance as from time to time its needs may require.

13. In all cases where any person, other than as a member of the Council, may be eligible to an office by the election of the Council, there shall be a previous nomination.

14. All questions of order shall be noted by the Clerk, with the decisions, and placed together at the end of the Journal of each session.

15. Each member shall be furnished with a copy of the daily calendar prepared by the Chief Clerk, which shall include the bills on the third reading, and the general order.

16. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall attend the Council during its sittings and execute the orders thereof, and also those of the President, when not in conflict with the orders of the Council, and all process issued by proper authority and properly directed to him.

17. The fees of the Sergeant-at-Arms shall be: For every arrest the sum of two dollars; for each day's custody, two dollars; for traveling, for himself or special messenger, going or returning, twelve and one half cent per mile.

COMMITTEES.

20. The following standing committees, each of which to consist of three members, shall be appointed by the President as soon as practicable: Provided, that the standing committee on Franchises, Privileges and Concessions shall consist of five members, instead of three as prescribed for the other committees. But the Council may appoint other committees when the business before it requires it.

- On Finance and Appropriations.
- On the Judiciary.
- On Agriculture and Manufacturers.
- On Franchises, Privileges and Concessions.
- On Municipal and Private Corporations.
- On Roads and Internal Improvements.
- On Educations.
- On printing.
- On Public Institutions and Property
- On harbors, Public Lands and Mining.
- On the Library.
- On Counties and County Lines.
- On Enrolled and Engrossed bills.

REPORTS

23. Motions and Reports may be referred to a committee at the pleasure of the Council.

24. It shall be in order for the committee on Enrolled Bills to report at any time.

25. After a committee to which a bill has been referred shall have reported the same back to the Council, or at any time before its approval, it may be recommitted to a committee.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

28. It shall be a standing order of the day throughout the session for the Council to resolve itself into a committee of the whole Council.

29. In forming a committee of the whole, the President or presiding officer shall preside in the committee.

30. The rules of proceeding in the Council shall be observed in a committee of the whole so far as they may be applicable.

31. Upon bills committed to a committee of the whole the bill shall first be read throughout by the Clerk, and then again read and debated by clauses or parts, leaving the preamble to be last considered; the bill shall not be defaced or interlined, but all amendments, noting the page and line, shall be duly entered by the Clerk on a separate paper, as the same shall be agreed to by the committee, and so reported back to the Council; After report the bill shall again be subject to be debated and amended by clauses before a question to engross it be taken.

B I L L S

34. Every bill shall be introduced on leave given by the Chair or by consent of the Council.

35. Every bill shall receive three several readings previous to its passage, and all bills shall be dispatched in the order in which they may be introduced, or reported, unless the Council shall direct otherwise. Each bill when introduced shall be sent to the Chief Clerk, who shall read it by its title; this the President shall announce as the first reading of the bill. The bill shall then be read a second time by its title, and ordered to be translated and printed in English and Spanish, and copies supplied to each member. At the time of its second or at any time thereafter, each bill shall be referred by the President to the appropriate committee, unless the Council shall otherwise direct or determine. No bill shall be read twice on the same day unless the rules be suspended: Provided, That any member may call for the reading of any bill, petition or other document by sections, and its adoption by sections.

36. When a bill shall have passed it shall be so certified by the Clerk, noting the day of its passage at the foot thereof.

37. No bill or joint resolution shall be introduced at any time within one day of the final adjournment of the Legislative Assembly, or expiration of its term.

38. House amendments to Council bills and resolutions shall be in order at any time, when no questionsis pending.

41. Petitions, memorials and other papers addressed to the Council shall be presented by the Chair, or by a member in his place; a brief statement of the contetns thereof shall be made verbally by the introducer, and they shall be debated on the day of their presentation, unless when the Council shall direct otherwise, but shall lie on the table, to be taken up in the order in which they were presented.

42. It shall ne in order at any stage of a bill, memorial, resolution or document, prior to its third reading, to require the same to be translated, or printed in English or Spanish, or both.

RECALL OF BILLS

45. Any bill, petition, memorial or resolution referred to a standing or special committee, may at any time, by a majority vote, be recalled for re-commitment ot passage, or nay other action of the Council.

MOTIONS, THEIR PRECEDENCE, etc.,

48. When a motion is made and seconded, it shall be stated by the President, or, being in writing, it shall ne handed to the Chair and be read aloud before debated.

49. Every motion made to the Council and entertained by the President, shall be reduced to writing on demand of any member, and shall, be entered on the Journal with the name of the member making it, unless it is withdrawn the same day.

50. When a motion has been made and seconded, the President shall state it, or, if it be in writing, cause it to be read aloud by the Clerk before bwing debated, and it shall then be in possession of the Council, but may ne withdrawn, by consent of a majority of the members present, at any time before a decision or amendment.

51. When a question is under debate no motion shall be received but to adjourn, to take a recess, to lay on the table, for the previous question, to postpone to a certain day or indefinitely- which motions shall be decided without debate, to amend or refer; which several motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are here arranged; and no motion to lay on the table, to postpone to a certain day or indefinitely, or to refer to the same committee, being decided, shall be again allowed on the same day at the same stage of the bill or proposition.

A motion to strike out the enacting words of a bill shall have precedence of a motion to amend, and if carried shall be

considered equivalent to its rejection.

52. Any member may call for the division of any question and the question shall be divided if it comprehend propositions in substance so distinct that if one be taken away a complete substantive proposition shall remain; A motion to strike out being lost shall preclude neither amendment, nor a motion to strike out and insert.

53. When any resolution shall be introduced, or a motion made to refer any matter, and different committees may be proposed, the question shall be put in the following order: "The committee of the whole on Porto Rican affairs," "a standing or special committee."

54. A motion to adjourn and to take a recess shall always be in order; but a motion to adjourn or to take a recess shall not be in order after after debate upon the pending motion or proposition to be voted upon, until the same is voted upon and the result declared by the Chair. After a motion to adjourn has been made and declared lost, any other business, propositions or motion shall have preference before a second motion to adjourn can be sustained by the Chair.

55. When a question is postponed indefinitely, or laid on the table indefinitely, action thereon can not be taken for sixty days thereafter without the consent of a majority of all members of the Council.

PREVIOUS QUESTION

58. The previous question shall be in this form, "Shall the main question be now put?" It shall only be admitted when demanded by a majority of the members present, and until it is decided shall preclude all amendment and further debate on the main question.

59. On a previous question there shall be no debate.

RECONSIDERATION

62. When a motion has once been made and carried in the negative or affirmative, it shall be in order for any member of the majority to move for the reconsideration thereof on the same or next day, and such motion shall take precedence of all other questions except a motion to adjourn or take a recess, except in case of a bill recalled from the Governor or House for amendment, as to which a motion to reconsider the vote by which it was passed may be made when it is received on such recall.

AMENDMENT

65. No motion or proposition, or any subject different from that under consideration, shall be admitted under the pretext of amendment.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

68. As soon as the Journal is read the President shall declare petitions in order, and after petitions shall have been presented and disposed of, reports of standing committees; and afterwards, reports of special committees; then bills and joint resolutions shall be in order, and those being disposed of, bills and joint resolutions on their third reading shall be taken up. The business on President's table, and bills, messages, application for privileges, concessions, franchises and matters pertaining thereto, and communications on table, shall then be disposed of. The Chair shall then proceed to call the orders of the day, in case there are any, and these being disposed of, the President will announce unfinished business in order.

69. All resolutions introduced which, by the rules, are required to lie upon the table for one day, shall be placed among the orders of the day for the day following their introduction and shall be taken up and disposed of in the order in which they were introduced.

70. A proposition requesting information from the Governor of Porto Rico shall lie on the table one day for consideration, unless otherwise determined by a majority of the Council, and such proposition shall be taken up for consideration in the order they were presented immediately after the reports are called from special committees, and when adopted the Clerk shall cause the same to be forwarded to the Governor.

SPECIAL ORDERS

73. Any matter may be made the special order for any particular time or day by the consent of a majority of the members voting.

DECORUM AND DEBATE

76. No member shall be held responsible elsewhere for words spoken in debate, or for his vote.

77. The business as stated in the foregoing rules shall not be taken up in any other part of the day, except on a suspension of the rules.

78. When any member is about to speak in debate, present a bill or submit any subject for consideration he shall rise from his seat and respectfully address himself to "Mr. President," and shall confine himself to the question under debate and avoid personality.

79. If any other member, in speaking or otherwise, transgresses the rules of the Council, the President shall, or any member may, call him to order; in which case the member so called to order shall immediately sit down, unless permitted to explain, and the council shall, if appealed to, decide upon the case without debate. If there be no appeal the decision of the Chair shall be final. If the decision be in favor of the member called to order he shall be at liberty to proceed without further action; but if the case require it he shall be liable to the censure of the Council.

80. When two or more members happens to rise at once, the Chair shall name the member who is to speak first.

81. No member shall speak more than once to the same question without leave, nor more than once until every member choosing to speak shall have spoken; save that in all cases the mover, proposer or introducer of the matter pending, shall be allowed the closing speech.

82. If a question be pending at adjournment and be considered on the succeeding day, no member who shall have spoken twice thereon on the preceding day shall be permitted to speak thereon without the consent of the members present.

83. While the President is putting any question or addressing the Council, none shall walk out of or across the Council chamber; nor in such case, nor when a member is speaking, or any document is being read, shall be engaged in private conversation, nor whilst a member is speaking shall pass between him and the Chair.

84. No member shall vote on any question in the event of which he is immediately and particularly interested; or in any case where he was not within the bar of the chamber when the question was put, without leave of the Council. Provided, That in case of an appeal from any decision of the President he shall be allowed to vote.

85. Upon any division and count of the Council on any question no member without shall be counted.

86. Every member within the bar of the chamber when a question is put shall give his vote, unless he shall be excused by the Council for special reasons.

87. No member shall absent himself from the Council when in session unless he shall have leave or be sick and unable to attend.

CALL OF THE COUNCIL

90. Any member may move a call of the Council and the absentees sent for, provided the motion seconded. There shall be no call of the Council pending a vote; and the names of the absentees being ordered to be called and noted, the doors shall be shut and no member shall be permitted to go out until the return of officer be received or the call be suspended.

91. Any five members shall be authorized to compel the attendance of absent members.

92. Upon calls of the Council, or on taking the yeas and nays on any question, the names of the members shall be called alphabetically, except that of the President, which shall be called last.

93. Upon call of the Council the names of the members shall be called by the Clerk and the absentees noted, after which the names of the absentees shall again be called over; the doors shall then be shut, and those ofr which no excuse or insufficient excuses, are made, may, by order of those present, if five in number, be taken in custody wherever to be found by the Sergeant-at-Arms, or by special messengers to be appointed for that purpose.

94. When a member shall be discharged from custody and admitted to his seat, the Council shall determine whether such discharge shall be with or without paying fees; and in like manner a delinquent member shall or shall not be liable to defray the expenses of such special messenger.

YEAS AND NAYS

97. Any member may call for the yeas and nays on any question pending before the Council before the final decision of the Chair.

CHANGE OR SUSPENSION OF RULES

100. No standing rule or order of the Council shall be rescinded or changed one day's notice being given of the motion therefor. Nor shall any rule be suspended except by a vote of at least two-thirds of the mebers voting, a quorum being present; nor shall the order of business, as established by the rule of the Council be postponed or changed except by a vote of at least two-thirds of the members voting there being a quorum present.

103. When the reading og any document is called for, and the same is objected to by any member, it shall be determined by a vote of the Council.

REPORTERS.

106. Reporters shall be assigned seats under the direction of the Chief Clerk.

108. The rules for paying witnesses that may be summoned to appear before the Council or a committee shall be as follows:

For each day a witness shall attend, the sum of two dollars; for each mile he shall travel in coming to or going from the place of examination, twelve and one half cents; but nothing shall be paid for travelling home when the witness has been summoned at the place of hearing.

MESSAGES.

111. Whenever a message shall be announced from the Governor or the other Ouse, whatever the business pending, it shall be suspended until the message be received and placed upon the President's table, unless by a majority vote the same shall be otherwise dispose of.

112. Whenever a message from the Governor or House arrives it shall be the duty of the doorkeeper to communicate that fact to the Sergeant-at-Arms, who shall at once receive such message and announce its presence to the President.

115. SECRET SESSIONS.

115. Whenever confidential communications are received from the Governor, or whenever the President or any member shall inform the Council that he has communications which he believes ought to be kept secret for the present, the Council shall be cleared of all persons except the members and officers thereof, and so continue during the reading of such communications, the debates and proceedings thereon, unless otherwise ordered by the Council.

AMENDMENT OF RULES

118. These rules may be altered or amended within ten days of their adoption by a majority of the Council, and after ten days from their adoption by a vote of at least two-thirds of the members of the Council.

APPEAL FROM DECISION OF CHAIR .

121. An appeal from the decision of the Chair shall be sustained by a vote of at least two thirds of the members present.

ADJOURNMENT AND RECESS.

124. Whenever the Council may adjourn or take recess to a certain time, it may be called together by the President at any hour prior to the time so designated after giving notice to each member of the hour it will be called together. Such notice may be served by the President, Sergeant-at-Arms, any member of the Council, or any other officer or employee of the Council; or the

the Council may meet at any time if all the members be present. The person who shall serve this notice shall certify the same under his hand to the Council, and the same shall be inserted in the Journal of that day; and such services may be made by leaving a copy of the notice at the residence or room of the member to be served, or posting it on his door if not personally found.

Thereupon Mr. Brumbaugh moved: That the English copy of the foregoing rules, as read and adopted, be known as "The Rules of the Executive Council" and that the Spanish copy by known as the "Translation" thereof; and in case any doubt shall arise in the interpretation of said rules, that the same shall be decided by reference to the rules in English.

Carried.

Mr. de Diego thereupon moved that the translation referred to in the foregoing motion, should be known as the "Official Translation".

Whereupon, by consent, consideration of said motion was postponed until a perfect translation thereof shall be made.

Thereupon the Journal of the last session of the Executive Council was read in English.

There upon Mr. Elliott moved that the Council adjourn.

Carried.

Whereupon, at one o'clock p.m., the Council adjourned to meet tomorrow morning, August 28th., at 10 o'clock.

Wm. H. Hunt.

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Held on August 28th, 1900.

The Council was called to order at 10 o'clock a.m. the following members being present:

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| José C. Barbosa; | Andres Crosas; |
| Martin G. Brumbaugh; | José de Diego |
| Manuel Camuñas; | Wm. H. Elliott; |
| Rosendo Matienzo Cintrón | John R. Garrison |
| Jacob H. Hollander | John A. Russell; |

Wm. H. Hunt, President.

The Journal of the Meeting of the Executive Council held on June 28th, 1900, was read in Spanish and approved.

The Journal of the last meeting was read in English and Spanish and approved.

On motion of Mr. Brumbaugh the Council proceeded to the election of a Chief Clerk as provided for by the rules.

At request of the President, Mr. Elliott, took the chair. Mr. Hunt nominated Mr. Chas. H. Magee to be Chief Clerk. No other nominations being made, upon motion of Mr. Brumbaugh nominations for Chief Clerk were closed.

On motion of Mr. Brumbaugh the Chair was instructed to cast the vote of the Council for Mr. Magee as Chief Clerk.

Thereupon the Chair cast the eleven votes of the Council for Mr. Magee, and declared him unanimously elected; Mr. Hunt thereupon resumed the Chair.

On motion of Mr. Barbosa the election of an official Interpreter was postponed until the next meeting; and Mr. Robert H. Todd, heretofore acting as temporary interpreter, consented to act until said election.

On motion of Mr. Barbosa the election of a Sergeant-at-Arms and Janitor was postponed to the next meeting.

Application heretofore filed for positions were read by the Clerk.

On motion of Mr. Brumbaugh the President was authorized to appoint persons to fill the foregoing offices temporarily, if required.

Mr. Brumbaugh presented a petition from the offices of the Municipality of Fajardo, asking additional appropriation for Normal School to be established at that place.
Ordered filed.

On motion of Mr. Elliott, ordered that all petitions remain

with the Clerk until the appointment of ~~Standing~~ Committees and proper reference thereto.

Mr. Garrison moved that a Committee of Five Members be appointed to consider and report upon the question of the redistricting of the Island as directed by the Foraker Bill.

Mr. Crosas moved to substitute the following: That the Council proceed to consider the matter of re-districting without first sending same to a Committee.

Lost.

Thereupon vote was taken on the original motion.

Carried.

The Chair appointed on said special Committee:

Messrs. Crosas, Barbosa, Camuñas, Cintron, de Diego.

On motion of Mr. Brumbaugh, the Council adjourned to meet Monday, September 3rd. 1900, at 10 o'clock a. m. unless sooner called by the President to receive the report of the last named Committee.

Wm. H. Hunt.

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

September 3rd., 1900.

The meeting was called to order at 10 o'clock a.m., by the President, the following members being present:

Messrs. Barbosa, Brumbaugh, Camuñas, Cintrón, Crosas, de Diego Elliott, Garrison, Hollander, Russell and Hunt.....ll

Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Matienzo Cintrón presented the petition of F. Antonetti asking for payment of rent in arrears on building occupied by the "Audiencia de lo Criminal de Ponce", and also application of H. Gimenez for position of Janitor.

Ordered filed.

The committee heretofore appointed for the consideration of the question of redistricting the Island, by its Chairman Mr. Crosas, presents the majority report of said committee as follows:

San Juan, P. R. August 31st. 1900.

To the President of the
Executive Council:

Sir:-

At a meeting of the Special Committee named for the ~~purpose~~ purpose of districting the Island of Porto Rico, agreeable to the Foraker Law passed at the last session of Congress, and in accordance with section 28 of said law, the undersigned members composing the majority, submit the enclosed report, consisting of a map and specifications of the districts.

Very respectfully,

(signed) Andrés Crosas, Chairman.
José C. Barbosa.
Rosendo Matienzo Cintron.

JOURNAL
of the Executive
Council of Porto Rico.

Executive and Legislative Sessions

June 28, 1900 to January 31, 1901.

Meeting of the Executive Council
held on June 28th. 1900.

At the hour of ten o'clock in the Executive Mansion at San Juan, Porto Rico, William H. Hunt, as Secretary of Porto Rico, called the members of the Executive Council to order and stated that the records of the office disclosed the names of the following named persons as entitled to seats as members of the said Executive Council, to-wit:

William H. Hunt, Secretary of Porto Rico.
John A. Russell, Attorney General.
Jacob H. Hollander, Treasurer.
John R. Garrison, Auditor
William H. Elliott, Commissioner of Interior.
Martin G. Brumbaugh, Commissioner of Education.
José C. Barbosa.
Manuel Camuñas.
Rosendo Matienzo Cintrón.
José de Diego.
Andrés Crosas

Upon calling the names of the foregoing persons each answered to his name except John A. Russell, Attorney General, and Martin G. Brumbaugh, Commissioner of Education, who were both absent from the Island of Porto Rico.

Thereupon the Secretary stated that the oath of office should be taken by all members who had not already taken it: Whereupon the oath of office was duly administered by the Honorable Carlos Franco, a magistrate, to the following named persons: José C. Barbosa, Manuel Camuñas, Rosendo Matienzo Cintrón, Andrés Crosas and Jose de Diego.

Thereupon Robert H. Todd was designated to act as interpreter until organization might be had, Mr. Todd having acted at the request of the Secretary throughout the proceedings.

Thereupon, a quorum being present, the Council proceeded to a temporary organization.

On motion of Mr. Elliott, Mr. Garrison was unanimously elected temporary chairman, and took the chair:

On motion of Mr. Elliott, Mr. R. H. Todd was duly elected temporary interpreter of the Council:

On motion of Mr. Hollander, a committee of three members was selected by the chair to report upon permanent organization. The Chair named as such Committee Mr. Hollander, Mr. Crosas, Mr. Elliott.

Pending the report of said Committee, the Council took a recess of twenty minutes.

The Council resumed after recess, whereupon the Committee made the following report:

San Juan, Porto Rico, June 28th, 1900.

The Committee on permanent Organization recommend that Mr. W. H. Hunt be made President of the Executive Council, and that Mr. R. H. Todd be retained as temporary interpreter, until the Council makes other provision.

Members of Committee:

J. H. Hollander,
Andrés Crosas,
W. H. Elliott.

On motion of Mr. Hollander, the report of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

Thereupon Mr. Hunt took the chair and Mr. Todd continued to act as interpreter for the Council.

On motion of Mr. Barbosa, a committee of three was appointed to inform the Governor that the Council permanently organized and was ready to receive any communication he might desire to make to it.

The Chair appointed on such committee, Messrs. Barbosa, Garrison and de Diego.

The Committee thereafter reported that a communication would be sent to the Council by the Governor: Whereupon the following message from the Governor was received and read by the Council:

Executive Mansion,
Porto Rico,
San Juan, Porto Rico, 1900)

To the Executive Council:

I congratulate the Council upon its organization, and

upon the historical importance attaching to it, as the first legally established body under the organic act instituting a civil government in the Island of Porto Rico. The great honor attaching to membership in this important body at this time bears great responsibilities and imposes arduous duties. The problems presented will be many, novel and perplexing, but if met in a spirit of patriotism, patience and sound sense, which I am sure will characterize your proceedings, will be speedily and safely solved. It is not my purpose to delay your proceedings with a formal message: such a paper will necessarily follow the organization of the Legislative Assembly; but I desire at this meeting, to call your special attention to one matter of considerable importance. The fiscal year of 1899-1900 closes June 30th--but a few days hence. At the close of that day the budget allowance, under which government is now being conducted, and its expenses met, will necessarily cease with respect to the particular amounts involved. In anticipation of the fact that there would of necessity be too short a time intervening between the inauguration of the civil government on May first, the appointment by the President and confirmation by the Senate of the United States of the officers composing the Executive Council, the election of the House of Delegates provided by law and the close of the fiscal years (June 30th,) the budget of the present year was so modified by military order under the military government, that it could be amended to meet the probable demands of the government, until such time as the regular legislative authority, properly and legally organized, should otherwise order.

Inasmuch as there has already been appointed, and by your action, a regularly constituted and legally authorized Executive Council, organized and now in session on the Island, and as this important branch of the Government is available for advice and consultation, I have thought it best to supplement the authority given in the military order of April 30th with respect to amendment of the present budget, by laying before you the proposed budget for 1900-1901 as prepared, and to ask your acquiescence in its adoption.

(signed) Chas. H. Allen
Governor.

Thereupon on the motion of Mr. Hollander, the Council unanimously acquiesced in the budget for the fiscal year 1900-1901 as presented to the Council for its consideration by the Governor.

On motion of Mr. Elliott, ordered, That the rules of procedure in legislative bodies as laid down in Cushing's manual be adopted by the Council until permanent rules be adopted.

On motion of Mr. Elliott, a committee of three, of which the President of the Council shall be one, was appointed to report to the Council rules for the conduct of its business.

The President appointed Mr. Matienzo and Mr. Elliott to act with the President on such committee.

On motion of Mr. Garrison it was ordered: that the Council ratify and confirm the action taken on May 2nd, 1900, by the Executive Council whereby the amount of the bond of the Treasurer of Porto Rico was fixed in the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, and further ratify and confirm the action taken at that time whereby the Acting Attorney General, at the request of the members of the Council then acting did approve the form of the binding receipt then issued to said Treasurer.

On motion of Mr. Elliott, it was ordered: that upon adjournment of this session of the Council it shall be had subject to call by the President.

On motion of Mr. Garrison, the Council adjourned subject to the call of the President.

Wm. H. Hunt.