

1 PERSONAL RIGHTS AND LEGISLATIVE LIMITATIONS.

2 SEC. 3. That no law granting a title of nobility shall be
3 enacted; and that no person holding any office of profit or
4 trust in Puerto Rico and no inhabitant thereof shall, without
5 the consent of the Congress of the United States, accept of
6 any present, emolument, office, or title of any kind whatever
7 from any king, queen, prince, or foreign state.

8 SEC. 4. That no law shall be enacted respecting the
9 establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise
10 thereof.

11 SEC. 5. That no ex post facto law or bill of attainder
12 shall be enacted.

13 SEC. 6. That every person may freely speak, write, and
14 publish his sentiments on any subject, being responsible for
15 the abuse of that right; and that no laws shall be enacted to
16 restrain or abridge the liberty of speech or of the press. That
17 in all criminal prosecutions or indictments for libel the truth
18 may be given in evidence, and if it shall appear that the mat-
19 ter charged as libel be true, and was published with good
20 motives and for justifiable ends, the party shall be acquitted.

21 SEC. 7. That no law shall be enacted to abridge the
22 right of the people peaceably to assemble to consult for the
23 common good, and to petition the Government, or any de-
24 partment thereof.

25 SEC. 8. That in all criminal prosecutions the accused

1 shall enjoy the right to be heard by himself and counsel, to
2 demand the nature and cause of the accusation against him,
3 to have a speedy and public trial, to meet the witnesses face
4 to face, and to have compulsory process to compel the attend-
5 ance of witnesses in his behalf.

6 SEC. 9. That no person shall be held to answer for a
7 criminal offense without due process of law; and no person
8 for the same offense shall be twice put in jeopardy of punish-
9 ment, nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a
10 witness against himself. That all persons shall, before con-
11 viction, be bailable by sufficient sureties, except for capital
12 offenses when the proof is evident or the presumption great;
13 and that the privilege of the right of habeas corpus shall not
14 be suspended unless, when in cases of rebellion or invasion,
15 the public safety may require it.

16 SEC. 10. That no money shall be paid out of the treas-
17 ury of Puerto Rico except in pursuance of an appropriation
18 by law. That no appropriation shall be made for the pay-
19 ment of any claim against Puerto Rico, except claims of the
20 United States and judgments, unless filed within six years
21 after the claim accrued.

22 SEC. 11. That no special or private laws shall be enacted
23 by the legislature of Puerto Rico in the following cases: First.
24 For assessment or collection of taxes, or for extending the
25 time for the collection thereof. Second. For granting fran-

1 chises, corporate powers, or privileges, except as in this Act
2 provided. Third. For changing the name of persons, or con-
3 stituting one person the heir at law of another. Fourth. For
4 authorizing the sale or mortgage of the real or personal prop-
5 erty of minors, or of insane persons, or of others under dis-
6 ability.

7 SEC. 12. That the legislature of Puerto Rico shall pro-
8 vide general laws for the transaction of any business that may
9 be prohibited by the preceding section eleven of this Act, and
10 all such laws shall be uniform in their operation throughout
11 Puerto Rico: *Provided, however,* That such general laws
12 shall not conflict with any statute or statutes of the United
13 States locally applicable.

14 SEC. 13. That no city, district, school district, or other
15 municipal corporation in Puerto Rico shall be allowed to be-
16 come indebted in any manner, or for any purpose, to any
17 amount, including existing indebtedness, in the aggregate ex-
18 ceeding five per centum of the value of the taxable property
19 therein, to be ascertained by the last assessment of taxes pre-
20 vious to the incurring of such indebtedness.

21 SEC. 14. That any city, district, school district, or other
22 municipal corporation in Puerto Rico incurring any indebted-
23 ness as aforesaid shall before, or at the time of doing so, pro-
24 vide for the collection of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay
25 the interest on such debt as it falls due, and also to pay

1 and discharge the principal thereof within twenty years from
2 the time of contracting the same.

3 SEC. 15. That no law shall be enacted which shall
4 deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due
5 process of law, or deny to any person therein the equal pro-
6 tection of the laws.

7 SEC. 16. That the rule of taxation in Puerto Rico shall
8 be uniform, and taxes shall be levied upon such property as
9 the legislature of Puerto Rico shall prescribe.

10 SEC. 17. That the legislature of Puerto Rico shall pro-
11 vide by law for the speedy publication of all statute laws, and
12 of such judicial decisions made in Puerto Rico as may be
13 deemed expedient; and that no general law shall be in force
14 until published.

15 SEC. 18. That no law impairing the obligation of con-
16 tracts in Puerto Rico shall be enacted by the legislature
17 thereof.

18 SEC. 19. That no tax or duty shall be laid by the legis-
19 lature of Puerto Rico on articles imported into Puerto Rico or
20 exported therefrom.

21 SEC. 20. That no private or local bill which may be
22 passed by the legislature of Puerto Rico shall embrace more
23 than one subject, and that subject shall be expressed in the
24 title of the bill.

25 SEC. 21. That on the passage in either house of the

1 legislature of any law which imposes, continues, or renews a
2 tax, or creates a debt or charge, or makes, continues, or re-
3 news an appropriation of public or trust money, or releases,
4 discharges, or commutes a claim or demand of the govern-
5 ment of Puerto Rico, the question shall be taken by yeas and
6 nays, which shall be duly entered on the journal; three-fifths
7 of all the members elected to such house shall, in all such
8 cases, be required to constitute a quorum therein.

9 SEC. 22. That no person shall be imprisoned for debt
10 arising out of or founded on a contract, express or implied.

11 SEC. 23. That the property of no person shall be taken
12 for public use without just compensation therefor.

13 SEC. 24. That no warrant shall issue but upon probable
14 cause supported by oath or affirmation and particularly de-
15 scribing the place to be searched and the persons or things to
16 be seized.

17 SEC. 25. That all money collected on any tax levied or
18 assessed for a special purpose shall be treated as a special
19 fund in the Treasury and paid out for such purpose only.

20 THE GOVERNOR.

21 SEC. 26. That the official title of the chief executive
22 officer shall be "The Governor of Puerto Rico." He shall
23 be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and
24 consent of the Senate; he shall hold his office for a term of
25 four years, and until his successor is chosen and qualified,

1 unless sooner removed by the President; he shall reside in
2 Puerto Rico during his official incumbency, and shall maintain
3 his office at the seat of government; he may grant
4 pardons and reprieves, and remit fines and forfeitures
5 for offenses against the laws of Puerto Rico, and respites
6 for offenses against the laws of the United States, until the
7 decision of the President can be ascertained; he shall com-
8 mission all officers that he may be authorized to appoint,
9 and shall participate in and may veto any legisla-
10 tion enacted, as hereinafter provided; he shall be the com-
11 mander in chief of the militia, and shall at all times faithfully
12 execute the laws, and he shall in that behalf have all the
13 powers of governors of the Territories of the United States
14 that are locally applicable; and he shall annually, and at such
15 other times as he may be required, make official report of the
16 transactions of the Government in Puerto Rico, through the
17 Secretary of State, to the President of the United States:
18 *Provided*, That the President may, in his discretion, delegate
19 and assign to him such executive duties and functions as may
20 in pursuance with law be so delegated and assigned.

21 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.

22 SEC. 27. That there shall be appointed by the President,
23 by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a secretary
24 of administration, an attorney-general, an auditor, a commis-
25 sioner of the interior, and a commissioner of education for

1 Puerto Rico, each of whom shall hold his office for a term of
2 four years and until his successor be appointed, unless sooner
3 removed by the President, and each of whom shall reside in
4 Puerto Rico during his term of office and have the powers
5 and duties hereinafter provided, and who shall have power to
6 employ the necessary deputies and assistants for the proper
7 discharge of his official duties.

8 SEC. 28. That the secretary of administration shall record
9 and preserve minutes of the proceedings of the council, and
10 all the laws enacted by the legislature, and of all official acts
11 and proceedings of the governor; and shall promulgate all
12 proclamations and orders of the governor and all laws enacted
13 by the legislature. He shall, within sixty days after the end
14 of each session of the legislature, transmit to the President of
15 the United States, the President of the Senate, the Speaker
16 of the House of Representatives, and the Secretary of State
17 of the United States one copy each of the laws and journals
18 of such session.

19 SEC. 29. That in case of the death, removal, resignation,
20 or disability of the governor, or his temporary absence from
21 Puerto Rico, the secretary shall exercise all the powers and
22 perform all the duties of the governor during such vacancy,
23 disability, or absence.

24 SEC. 30. That the attorney-general shall have all the
25 powers and discharge all the duties provided by law for an

1 attorney-general of a Territory of the United States in so far
2 as the same are locally applicable, and he shall perform such
3 other duties as may be prescribed by law and shall make such
4 reports, through the governor, to the Attorney-General of the
5 United States as he may require.

6 SEC. 31. That the treasurer shall give bond, approved
7 as to form by the attorney-general of Puerto Rico, in such
8 sum as the governor and council may require, not less, how-
9 ever, than the sum of dollars, with surety approved
10 by the governor, and he shall collect and be the custodian of
11 the public funds, and shall disburse the same as required by
12 law, on warrants signed by the auditor and countersigned by
13 the governor, and shall perform such other duties as may be
14 prescribed by law, and make, through the governor, such
15 reports to the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States
16 as he may require.

17 SEC. 32. That the auditor shall keep full and accurate
18 accounts, showing all receipts and disbursements, and perform
19 such other duties as may be prescribed by law, and make,
20 through the governor, such reports to the Secretary of the
21 Treasury of the United States as he may require.

22 SEC. 33. That the commissioner of the interior shall su-
23 perintend all works of a public nature, and shall have charge
24 of all public buildings, grounds, and lands, except those be-

1 longing to the United States, and shall execute such require-
2 ments as may be imposed by law with respect thereto, and
3 shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law,
4 and make such reports, through the governor, to the Secretary
5 of the Interior of the United States as he may require.

6 SEC. 34. That the commissioner of education shall super-
7 intend public instruction throughout Puerto Rico, and all dis-
8 bursements on account thereof must be approved by him, and
9 he shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law
10 and make such reports, through the governor, as may be re-
11 quired by the Commissioner of Education of the United
12 States.

13 QUALIFICATIONS OF VOTERS.

14 SEC. 35. That at the elections in this Act mentioned all
15 citizens of Puerto Rico shall be allowed to vote who possess
16 the qualifications of voters under the laws and military orders
17 in force on the first day of February, nineteen hundred, sub-
18 ject to such additional regulations and restrictions as to regis-
19 tration as may be prescribed by the governor.

20 THE LEGISLATURE.

21 SEC. 36. That all local legislative powers hereby granted
22 shall be vested in a "Legislature of Puerto Rico," which shall
23 consist of two houses, styled, respectively, the council and
24 house of delegates.

25 SEC. 37. That no member of the legislature of Puerto

1 seven districts of Puerto Rico. That for the purposes of such
2 election Puerto Rico shall be divided by the governor into
3 seven districts of contiguous territory, and as nearly equal as
4 may be in population; and each district shall be entitled to
5 elect one member of the council.

6 SEC. 42. That the members of the council shall hold
7 office for a term of four years. When the council is first
8 organized it shall be divided into two classes by lot, the first
9 class to consist of four elected and three appointed members,
10 to hold office for a first term of two years, and the remainder,
11 or second class, to hold office for a term of four years, so that
12 one-half of said members shall be appointed or elected every
13 two years.

14 SEC. 43. That in case of a vacancy of an elected member,
15 such vacancy shall be filled by an appointment by the Presi-
16 dent until the same can be filled by general or special election.

17 HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

18 SEC. 44. That the house of delegates shall consist of
19 thirty-five members, elected biennially by the qualified voters,
20 as herein provided.

21 SEC. 45. That each of the election districts into which
22 the governor shall divide Puerto Rico, as herein provided,
23 shall be entitled to five members of the house of delegates

24 SEC. 46. That the first election for members of the
25 council and house of delegates shall be held on such date and

1 under such regulations as to ballots, registry, and voting as
2 the governor may prescribe; and at such elections the voters
3 of each legislative district shall choose five delegates to repre-
4 sent them in the house of delegates from the date of their
5 election and qualification until two years from and after the
6 first day of January next ensuing, and a member of the
7 council for four years, as herein provided.

8 SEC. 47. That fifty days' notice of the date of such first
9 elections of members of the council and house of delegates
10 and of said regulations as to ballots, registry, and voting shall
11 be given by publications in the "Official Gazette" and by
12 printed notices distributed and posted throughout each election
13 district, as the governor by written order may prescribe.

14 SESSIONS OF THE LEGISLATURE.

15 SEC. 48. That the first session of the legislature shall
16 be subject to the call of the governor, as herein provided.

17 SEC. 49. That the legislature shall have annual sessions
18 for the years nineteen hundred and nineteen hundred and
19 one, and that it shall have biennial sessions thereafter; but
20 the governor may call special sessions of the legislature when
21 in his opinion the public necessities may so require.

22 SEC. 50. That the first and second sessions of the legis-
23 lature may each be continued for sixty days, but that any
24 succeeding regular or special session shall not continue for
25 more than thirty days.

1 in each house shall require the vote of a majority of all the
2 members to which each house is entitled.

3 SEC. 56. That a smaller number than a quorum may ad-
4 journ from day to day and compel the attendance of absent
5 members in such manner and under such penalties as each
6 house may provide.

7 SEC. 57. That for the purpose of ascertaining whether
8 there is a quorum present the chairman shall count the num-
9 ber of members present.

10 PUNISHMENT OF PERSONS NOT MEMBERS.

11 SEC. 58. That each house may punish by fine or by
12 imprisonment not exceeding thirty days any person not a
13 member of either house who shall be guilty of disrespect of
14 such house by any disorderly or contemptuous behavior in its
15 presence or that of any committee thereof.

16 ORGANIZATION OF LEGISLATURE.

17 SEC. 59. That the council so chosen and appointed shall
18 convene at the capital at such time as may be designated by
19 the governor, as herein provided, and organize by the election
20 of a clerk, a sergent-at-arms, and such other officers and
21 assistants as it may require. The secretary of administra-
22 tion shall act as president of the council.

23 SEC. 60. That the house of delegates shall at the same
24 time and the same place convene and organize by electing a

1 speaker, a clerk, a sergeant-at-arms, and such other officers
2 and assistants as it may require.

3 SEC. 61. That all future elections of members of the
4 legislature shall be governed by the provisions hereof so far as
5 they are applicable and until the legislature shall otherwise
6 provide.

7 SEC. 62. That no person shall be entitled to member-
8 ship in the legislature of Puerto Rico who is not twenty-five
9 years of age and able to read and write either the Spanish
10 or English language, or who is not possessed in his own right
11 of taxable property, real or personal, situated in Puerto Rico,
12 and who has not resided in Puerto Rico for one year next
13 prior to such election.

14 LEGISLATION.

15 SEC. 63. That any bill may originate in either house,
16 but no bill shall become a law unless it be passed in each
17 house by a majority vote of all the members belonging to
18 each house and be approved by the governor within ten days
19 thereafter.

20 ENACTING CLAUSE.

21 SEC. 64. That the enacting clause of the laws shall be:
22 "Be it enacted by the legislature of Puerto Rico."

23 OATH OF OFFICE.

24 SEC. 65. That all officials authorized by this Act shall,
25 before entering upon the duties of their respective offices, take

1 an oath to obey the laws of Puerto Rico and faithfully to
2 perform the duties of their respective offices.

3 VETO OF GOVERNOR.

4 SEC. 66. That every bill that shall have passed the legisla-
5 ture shall be certified by the presiding officers and clerks of
6 both houses, and shall thereupon be presented to the governor.
7 If he approves it he shall sign it, and it shall become a law.
8 If the governor does not approve such bill, he shall return it
9 with his objections, within ten days thereafter, to the house in
10 which it originated. He may veto any specific item or items
11 in any bill which appropriates money for specific purposes;
12 but shall veto other bills, if at all, only as a whole.

13 PROCEDURE UPON RECEIPT OF VETO.

14 SEC. 67. That upon the receipt of a veto message from
15 the governor by either house of the legislature, it shall enter the
16 same at large upon its journal and proceed to reconsider such
17 bill or part of a bill, and again vote upon it by ayes and
18 noes, which shall be entered upon its journal.

19 If after such reconsideration such bill or part of a bill
20 shall be approved by a two-thirds vote of all the members to
21 which such house is entitled, it shall be sent, together with the
22 objections, to the other house, by which it shall likewise be
23 reconsidered, and if approved by two-thirds of the members
24 to which such house is entitled it shall become a law.

1 for the support or benefit of any sectarian, denomi-
2 national, or private school, or any school not under the
3 exclusive control of the government; nor shall the govern-
4 ment of Puerto Rico, or any political or municipal corporation
5 or subdivision thereof, make any subscription to the capital
6 stock of any incorporated company, or in any manner lend
7 its credit for the use thereof; nor shall any debt be authorized
8 to be contracted by or on behalf of Puerto Rico, or any po-
9 litical or municipal corporation or subdivision thereof, except
10 to pay the interest upon the existing indebtedness, to suppress
11 insurrection, or to provide for the common defense, except
12 that in addition to any indebtedness created for such purposes
13 the legislature may authorize loans by Puerto Rico, or
14 any such subdivision thereof, for the erection of
15 penal, charitable, and educational institutions, and for
16 public buildings, wharves, roads, and harbor and other public
17 improvements; but the total of such indebtedness incurred in
18 any one year by Puerto Rico, or any subdivision, shall not
19 exceed one per centum upon the assessed value of taxable
20 property of Puerto Rico, or subdivision thereof, as the case
21 may be, as shown by the last general assessment for taxation,
22 as hereinbefore provided; and the total indebtedness of Puerto
23 Rico shall not at any time be extended beyond seven per
24 centum of such assessed value, and the total indebtedness of
25 any subdivision shall not at any time be extended beyond

1 five per centum of such assessed value, but nothing in this
2 provision shall prevent the refunding of any existing indebted-
3 ness at any time; nor shall any such loan be made upon the
4 credit of the public domain or any part thereof, nor shall any
5 bond or other instrument of any such indebtedness be issued
6 unless made redeemable in not more than five years and
7 payable in not more than twenty years from the date of the
8 issue thereof.

9 The legislative power shall extend to and include the
10 power to borrow money and issue bonds and other obligations
11 authorized by law to protect the public credit and to reimburse
12 the United States for any moneys which have been expended
13 out of the emergency fund of the War Department of the
14 United States for the relief of the industrial conditions of
15 Puerto Rico caused by the hurricane of August eighth, eight-
16 een hundred and ninety-nine. The legislative power shall
17 include the power to create, consolidate, and reorganize the
18 municipalities of Puerto Rico so far as may be necessary, and
19 also the power to alter, amend, modify, and repeal any and
20 all laws and ordinances now in force throughout Puerto Rico,
21 or in any municipality or district thereof, but not in a manner
22 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act: *Provided, how-*
23 *ever,* That all grants of franchises, rights, and privileges, or
24 concessions of a public or quasi-public nature shall be made

1 subject to the approval of the President of the United States,
2 who shall report the same to Congress.

3 THE JUDICIARY.

4 SEC. 73. That the judicial power shall be vested in the
5 courts and tribunals of Puerto Rico as already established and
6 now in operation, including municipal courts, under and by
7 virtue of General Orders, numbered one hundred and eighteen,
8 as promulgated by Brigadier-General Davis, United States
9 Volunteers, August sixteenth, eighteen hundred and
10 ninety-nine, and including also the police courts estab-
11 lished by General Orders, numbered one hundred and
12 ninety-five, promulgated November twenty-ninth, eighteen
13 hundred and ninety-nine, by Brigadier-General Davis, United
14 States Volunteers, and the laws and ordinances of Puerto
15 Rico and the municipalities thereof in force, so far as the same
16 are not in conflict herewith, all which courts and tribunals
17 are hereby continued. The jurisdiction of said courts, and
18 the form of procedure in them, and the various officials and
19 attachés thereof, respectively, shall be the same as defined
20 and prescribed in and by said laws and ordinances, and
21 said General Orders, numbered one hundred and eighteen
22 and one hundred and ninety-five, until otherwise provided
23 by law: *Provided, however,* That the chief justice and
24 associate justices of the supreme court, and the marshal
25 thereof, shall be appointed by the President, by and with

1 the advice and consent of the Senate, and the judges
2 of the district courts shall be appointed by the governor, by
3 and with the advice and consent of the executive council, and
4 all other officials and attachés of all the other courts shall be
5 chosen as may be directed by the legislative assembly, which
6 shall have authority to legislate from time to time, as it may
7 see fit, with respect to said courts and any others they may
8 deem it advisable to establish, their organization, the number
9 of judges and officials and attachés for, each their jurisdic-
10 tion, their procedure, and all other matters affecting them.

11

JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

12 SEC. 74. That Puerto Rico shall constitute a judicial
13 district, to be called "The District of Puerto Rico," which
14 shall be attached to the second judicial circuit of the United
15 States. The President, by and with the advice and consent
16 of the Senate, shall appoint a district judge, a district attorney,
17 and a marshal for said district, each for a term of four years,
18 unless sooner removed by the President. The district court
19 for said district shall have power to appoint all necessary offi-
20 cials and assistants, including a clerk, an interpreter, and
21 such commissioners as may be necessary, who shall have
22 like power and duties as are exercised and performed by com-
23 missioners of the circuit courts of the United States, and
24 shall have, in addition to the ordinary jurisdiction of district
25 courts of the United States, jurisdiction of all cases cognizant

1 in the circuit courts of the United States, and shall proceed
2 therein in the same manner as a circuit court. The laws of the
3 United States relating to appeals, writs of error, and certiorari,
4 removal of causes, and other matters and proceedings as between
5 the courts of the United States and the courts of the several
6 States shall govern in such matters and proceedings as be-
7 tween the courts of the United States and the courts of Puerto
8 Rico. Regular terms of said court shall be held at San Juan,
9 commencing on the second Monday in April and October of
10 each year, and also at Ponce on the second Monday in Janu-
11 ary of each year, and special terms may be held at such other
12 times and places in the district as said judge may deem expe-
13 dient. All pleadings and proceedings in said court shall be
14 conducted in the English language.

15 The United States district court hereby established shall
16 be the successor to the United States provisional court estab-
17 lished by General Orders, numbered eighty-eight, promul-
18 gated by Brigadier-General Davis, United States Volunteers,
19 and shall take possession of all records of that court, and take
20 jurisdiction of all cases and proceedings pending therein, and
21 said United States provisional court is hereby discontinued.

22 SEC. 75. That writs of error and appeals from the final
23 decisions of the supreme court of Puerto Rico shall be allowed
24 and may be taken to the Supreme Court of the United States
25 in the same manner and under the same regulations and in

1 the same cases as from the supreme courts of the Territories
2 of the United States, and such writs of error and appeal shall
3 be allowed in all cases where a treaty of the United States or
4 an Act of Congress is brought in question and the right claimed
5 thereunder is denied; and the supreme and district courts of
6 Puerto Rico, and the respective judges thereof, may grant
7 writs of habeas corpus in all cases in which the same are
8 grantable by the judges of the United States in the District
9 of Columbia. All such proceedings in the Supreme Court of
10 the United States shall be conducted in the English language.

11 SEC. 76. That all judicial process shall run in the name
12 of the "President of the United States," and all criminal or
13 penal prosecutions in the local courts shall be conducted in
14 the name and by the authority of "The People of Puerto Rico."

15 COMPENSATION OF OFFICIALS.

16 SEC. 77. That the salaries of all officials of Puerto Rico
17 not appointed by the President, including deputies, assistants,
18 and other help, shall be such, and be so paid out of the reve-
19 nues of Puerto Rico, as the executive council shall from time
20 to time determine: *Provided, however,* That the salary of no
21 officer shall be either increased or diminished during his term
22 of office. The salaries of all officers and all expenses of the
23 offices of the various officials of Puerto Rico, appointed as
24 herein provided by the President, including deputies, assist-

1 ants, and other help, shall also be paid out of the revenues of
2 Puerto Rico on the warrant of the auditor, countersigned by
3 the governor.

4 The annual salaries of the officials appointed by the Presi-
5 dent, and so to be paid, shall be as follows:

6 The governor, eight thousand dollars; in addition thereto
7 he shall be entitled to the occupancy of the building hereto-
8 fore used by the chief executive of Puerto Rico, with the
9 furniture and effects therein free of rental.

10 The secretary of administration, four thousand dollars.

11 The attorney-general, four thousand dollars.

12 The treasurer, five thousand dollars.

13 The auditor, four thousand dollars.

14 The commissioner of the interior, four thousand dollars.

15 The commissioner of education, four thousand dollars.

16 The chief justice of the supreme court, five thousand
17 dollars.

18 The associate justices of the supreme court (each), four
19 thousand five hundred dollars.

20 The marshal of the supreme court, three thousand
21 dollars.

22 The United States district judge, five thousand dollars.

23 The United States district attorney, four thousand dollars.

24 The United States district marshal, three thousand five
25 hundred dollars.

1 SEC. 78. That the provisions of the foregoing section
2 shall not apply to the municipal officials. Their salaries and
3 the compensation of their deputies, assistants, and other help,
4 as well as all other expenses incurred by the municipalities,
5 shall be paid out of the municipal revenues in such manner
6 as the legislature shall provide.

7 SEC. 79. That taxes and assessments on property, and
8 license fees for franchises, privileges, and concessions, may be
9 imposed for the purposes of the insular and municipal gov-
10 ernments, respectively, as may be provided and defined by
11 act of the legislature; and where necessary to anticipate taxes
12 and revenues bonds and other obligations may be issued by
13 Puerto Rico, or any municipal government therein as may be
14 provided by law, to provide for expenditures authorized by
15 law and to protect the public credit: *Provided, however,* That
16 no public indebtedness of Puerto Rico or of any municipality
17 thereof shall be authorized or allowed in excess of ten per
18 centum of the aggregate tax valuation of its property as
19 hereinbefore provided.

20 SEC. 80. That the qualified voters of Puerto Rico shall,
21 on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November,
22 anno Domini nineteen hundred, and every two years there-
23 after, choose one Delegate to the House of Representatives
24 of the United States, who shall be entitled to a seat, but not
25 to a vote, in that body on the certificate of election of the

1 governor of Puerto Rico, who shall have the same rights
2 provided by law for a Territorial Delegate, and the same com-
3 pensation, payable as now provided by law for a Territorial
4 Delegate: *Provided*, That no person shall be eligible to such
5 election who is not a bona fide inhabitant of Puerto Rico,
6 and who is not thirty years of age, and who does not read
7 and write the English language, and who is not possessed of
8 taxable property in his own right situated in Puerto Rico.

9 CITIZENSHIP.

10 SEC. 81. That all inhabitants continuing to reside in
11 Puerto Rico who were Spanish subjects on the eleventh day
12 of April, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, and then resided
13 therein, and their children born subsequent thereto, shall be
14 deemed and held to be citizens of Puerto Rico, except such
15 as shall have elected to preserve their allegiance to the Crown
16 of Spain on or before the eleventh day of April, nineteen
17 hundred, in accordance with the provisions of the treaty of
18 peace between the United States and Spain, entered into on
19 the eleventh day of April, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine;
20 and they, together with citizens of the United States who
21 reside in Puerto Rico, shall constitute a body politic under the
22 name of "The People of Puerto Rico," with governmental
23 powers, as hereinafter conferred, and with power to sue and
24 be sued in the courts of the United States in all cases in which

1 such courts have jurisdiction where one of the parties is a
2 State or Territory of the United States.

3 FORMER LAWS IN FORCE.

4 SEC. 82. That the laws and ordinances now in force in
5 Puerto Rico shall continue in full force and effect, except as
6 altered, amended, or modified hereinafter, or as altered or
7 modified by military orders and decrees enforced when this
8 Act shall take effect, and so far as the same are not incon-
9 sistent or in conflict with the laws of the United States locally
10 applicable, or the provisions hereof, until altered, amended, or
11 repealed by the legislative authority hereinafter provided for
12 Puerto Rico or by Act of Congress of the United States.

13 NAVIGATION LAWS.

14 SEC. 83. That the laws of the United States relating to
15 commerce, navigation, and merchant seamen are hereby
16 extended to and over Puerto Rico, and the Commissioner of
17 Navigation may make such regulations as he may deem
18 expedient for the nationalization of all vessels owned by the
19 inhabitants of Puerto Rico on the eleventh day of April,
20 eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, and which continued to be
21 so owned up to the date of such nationalization, and the coast-
22 ing trade between the island and any portion of the United
23 States shall be regulated in accordance with the provisions
24 of law applicable to such trade between any two great coast-
25 ing districts of the United States.

QUARANTINE.

1

2 SEC. 84. That quarantine stations shall be established
3 at such places in Puerto Rico as the Supervising Surgeon-
4 General of the Marine-Hospital Service of the United States
5 shall direct, and the quarantine regulations relating to the
6 importation of diseases from other countries shall be under
7 the control of the Government of the United States.

8

RECOINAGE.

9 SEC. 85. That for the purpose of retiring the Puerto
10 Rican coins now in circulation in Puerto Rico and substi-
11 tuting therefor the coins of the United States, the
12 Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to re-
13 deem, on presentation in Puerto Rico, all the silver coins
14 of Puerto Rico known as the peso and all other silver
15 and copper Puerto Rican coins now in circulation in
16 Puerto Rico, not including any such coins that may be im-
17 ported into Puerto Rico after the first day of March, nine-
18 teen hundred, at the present established rate of sixty cents
19 in the coins of the United States for one peso of Puerto Rican
20 coin, and for all minor or subsidiary coins the same rate of
21 exchange shall be applied. The Puerto Rican coins so pur-
22 chased or redeemed shall be re coined at the expense of the
23 United States, under the direction of the Secretary of the
24 Treasury, into such coins of the United States now
25 authorized by law as he may direct, and from and

1 after three months after the date when this Act
2 shall take effect no coins shall be a legal
3 tender in payment of debts thereafter contracted for any
4 amount in Puerto Rico except those of the United States;
5 and whatever sum may be required to carry out the pro-
6 visions hereof and to pay all expenses that may be incurred
7 in connection therewith is hereby appropriated, and the Sec-
8 retary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to establish such
9 regulations and to employ such agencies as may be necessary
10 to accomplish the purposes hereof: *Provided, however,* That
11 all debts owing on the date when this Act shall take effect
12 shall be payable in the coins of Puerto Rico now in circula-
13 tion, or in the coins of the United States at the rate of ex-
14 change above named.

15 SEC. 86. That all expenses that may be incurred on
16 account of the government of Puerto Rico for the salaries of
17 officials and the conduct of their offices and departments, and
18 all expenses and obligations contracted for the internal im-
19 provement of the island, not, however, including defenses,
20 barracks, harbors, light-houses, buoys, and other works under-
21 taken by the United States, shall be paid by the treasurer of
22 Puerto Rico out of the moneys in his custody.

23 SEC. 87. That the statutory laws of the United States
24 locally applicable, except as hereinbefore or hereinafter other-

1 wise provided, shall have the same force and effect in Puerto
2 Rico as in the United States.

3 SEC. 88. That the legislative authority hereinafter pro-
4 vided shall have power, by due enactment, to amend, alter,
5 modify, or repeal any law or ordinance, civil or criminal, con-
6 tinued in force by this Act, as it may from time to time see
7 fit.

8 SEC. 89. That all vested property rights, and all obliga-
9 tions, contracts, actions, rights of action, suits at law or in
10 equity, prosecutions for crimes and misdemeanors, and all
11 sentences and civil judgments and decrees now existing shall
12 remain unaffected by this Act and continue enforceable.

13 SEC. 90. That this Act shall take effect twenty days from
14 and after the date of the approval thereof.

56TH CONGRESS, }
1ST SESSION. } **H. R. 8878.**

A BILL

To provide a government for Puerto Rico, and
for other purposes.

By Mr. COOPER, of Wisconsin.

FEBRUARY 24, 1900.—Referred to the Committee on Insu-
lar Affairs and ordered to be printed.