

ciary. To decide whether or not the notice has been given, is a legislative function, not only in its nature, but as a result of the provision that 'evidence that such notice has been published shall be established in the Legislature before such bill shall be passed,' which provision, as excluding any interference in the matter by the judiciary, supplements the inhibition pronounced by the Second Article of the Constitution that no person properly belonging to one of the departments of the government shall exercise any power appertaining to either of the others, except in cases expressly provided for by that instrument."

Inasmuch as the determination of whether or not the required notice has been given is purely a legislative function, it would hardly, in my opinion, be held to be the duty of the Governor of the State to make inquiry in reference to the matter, since the Legislature is an independent, co-ordinate branch of the State government, and the Governor of the State has no power to control its action or to require that it pursue any particular course in regard to this or any other matter which is presented for its consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

T. F. WEST,

Attorney General.

TITLE TO LANDS BORDERING ON LAKE OKEECHOBEE FROM WHICH WATER HAS RECEDED.

Tallahassee, Fla., April 17, 1917.

*Honorable Sidney J. Catts, Governor,
Tallahassee, Florida.*

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 16 instant has been received and noted.

I note also the letter attached thereto from Charles A.

Bright of Fort Green, Florida, inquiring about the rights of settlers on lands bordering upon Lake Okeehcabee which were overflowed with water before the drainage operations now in progress there were begun.

This land, I think, belongs to the State. No policy has been adopted relative to its disposition, but I am confident that there will be no desire to sell it in large quantities rather than in small tracts, if it can be sold the latter way to best advantage. This, however, is not a legal question about which the Attorney General is authorized to officially advise, but is a practical matter which should first have legislative consideration and then will no doubt be handlel by such board as the Legislature sees fit to vest with that authority.

It should be understood by settlers on this land that it is the property of the State and that no rights are acquired by locating upon and improving it.

Very respectfully,

T. F. WEST,

Attorney General.

RELIGIOUS DOCTRINES—PROPAGATION OF IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Tallahassee, Fla., April 17, 1917.

*Honorable Sidney J. Catts, Governor,
Tallahassee, Florida.*

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 11 instant has been received.

I note the inquiry of the County Superintendent of Public Instruction and the copy of the resolution passed by the Board of Public Instruction of Pasco County, which reads as follows: