NEW DIVORCE BILL

Kansas City Members of House Framing Measure to Cur- rently Evils.

WILL CREATE A NEW COURT

Domestic Relations to be Combined with Juvenile Department of the Circuit Court.

A bill calling for the creation of a court of domestic relations with power to hear and try suits of a domestic nature and to render a decree in the same is to be presented in the Missouri Legislature when it meets in January.

John H. Taylor, a member of the legislative from Kansas City, is sponsor the bill. He says the courts at the present time do not have jurisdiction in the matter of divorce. The bill, he says, would create a new court especially for the purpose of hearing and trying this class of cases.

The law would affect only Jackson County. St. Louis, an aggregate divorce court in the state, does not hear the matter.

All divorce cases should be tried in such a court, he says, as is necessary to enforce as much the law as at present.

Divorce cases in the present court system are not handled in such a manner as to be effective, he contends. The domestic relations and juvenile court should be made separate, and the existing court of general jurisdiction in the county should be abolished.

The bill provides that the court should be known as the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. It would be a county court and have power to sit at any time it may see fit.

The court would consist of a judge and three justices of the peace, who would be elected by the voters of the county for terms of three years, or until their successors are elected.

Each justice of the peace would be entitled to sit in the court at the time of its convening, if not unwilling to do so.

The court would have power to hear and try all cases of divorce, dissolution of marriage, and similar cases, at the request of either party.

The bill also provides for the appointment of a juvenile officer, who would have power to make the necessary rules and regulations for the proper administration of the court.

The juvenile officer would have power to appoint and remove all officers of the court, and to fix the salaries of the same.

The bill further provides that the court shall be known as the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, and that it shall have power to hear and try all cases of divorce, dissolution of marriage, and similar cases, at the request of either party.