

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

*One Hundred and Seventh
Legislature*

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1975

KENNEBEC JOURNAL
AUGUSTA, MAINE

HOUSE

Thursday, March 27, 1975

The House met according to adjournment and was called to order by the Speaker.

Prayer by the Rev. Eric W. Kelley of Northeast Harbor.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Papers from the Senate

Bills from the Senate requiring reference were disposed of in concurrence.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act Relating to Interest on Awards in Workmen's Compensation Cases" (H. P. 487) (L. D. 606) which was passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-64) in the House on March 13.

Came from the Senate passed to be engrossed as amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-38) in non-concurrence.

In the House: On motion of Mr. Tierney of Durham, the House voted to recede and concur.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act Concerning the Purchase of Tax Delinquent Land by Municipal Officials" (H. P. 941) (L. D. 1180) which was referred to the Committee on Local and County Government in the House on March 20.

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs in non-concurrence.

In the House: The House voted to recede and concur.

Petitions, Bills and Resolves

Requiring Reference

The following Bills were received and, upon recommendation of the Committee on Reference of Bills, were referred to the following Committees:

Tabled and Assigned

Bill "An Act Appropriating Funds to the Department of Mental Health and Corrections for the Establishment of a Short Term Adolescent Inpatient Care Program" (H. P. 1231) (Presented by Mr. Tierney of Durham)

Committee on Reference of Bills suggested the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs.

(On motion of Mr. Tierney of Durham, tabled pending reference and specially assigned for Tuesday, April 1)

Labor

Bill "An Act to Provide Supplemental Unemployment Benefits to Persons with Dependents" (H. P. 1230) (Presented by Mr. Tierney of Durham)

Bill "An Act to Extend the Statute of Limitations on Claims under the Workmen's Compensation Statutes where Payments are Made on Account of Injury" (H. P. 1236) (Presented by Mr. Tierney of Durham)

(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Legal Affairs

Bill "An Act to Allow and Encourage All Maine Citizens to Attend Public Meetings" (H. P. 1234) (Presented by Mr. Jensen of Portland)

(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Liquor Control

Bill "An Act to Allow On-premise Consumption of Wine in Restaurants on

Sundays" (H. P. 1229) (Presented by Mr. Tierney of Durham)
(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Natural Resources

Bill "An Act to Establish the Citizen Woodcutting Act" (Emergency) (H. P. 1228) (Presented by Mr. Peterson of Windham)
(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Public Utilities

Bill "An Act to Amend the Charter of the Searsport Water District" (H. P. 1235) (Presented by Mr. Shute of Stockton Springs)
(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

State Government

Bill "An Act Establishing the Office of Resource Conservation and Development" (H. P. 1233) (Presented by Mr. Smith of Dover-Foxcroft)
(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Taxation

Bill "An Act to Exempt Nonprofit Nursery Schools from the Sales Tax" (H. P. 1232) (Presented by Mr. Tierney of Durham)
(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Orders

Mr. Rolde of York presented the following Joint Order and moved its passage: (H. P. 1226)

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that Joint Rule 7C is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: **Orders, resolutions and memorials may be cosponsored in the same manner as bills and resolves.**

The Order was read.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from York, Mr. Rolde.

Mr. ROLDE: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: All this order does is allow us to cosponsor resolutions and memorials just as we can cosponsor bills and resolves.

Thereupon, the Joint Order received passage and was sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Peterson of Caribou presented the following Joint Order and moved its passage: (H. P. 1225)

WHEREAS, The Legislature has learned of the Outstanding Achievement and Exceptional Accomplishment of Caribou Cougars Catholic Youth Organization State Basketball Champions for 1975

We the Members of the House of Representatives and Senate do hereby Order that our congratulations and acknowledgement be extended; and further

Order and direct, while duly assembled in session at the Capitol in Augusta, under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Maine, that this official expression of pride be sent forthwith on behalf of the Legislature and the people of the State of Maine.

The Order was read and passed and sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Torrey of Poland presented the following Joint Resolution and moved its adoption: (H. P. 1237)

IN MEMORIAM
Having Learned Of The Death Of
DONALD CLYDE PRINCE

OF
TURNER

The Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Maine do hereby extend their sincere heartfelt condolences and sympathy to the bereaved family and friends of the deceased; and further

While duly assembled in session at the State Capitol in Augusta under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Maine, do herein direct that this official expression of sorrow be forthwith sent to the family of the deceased on behalf of the Legislature and the people of the State of Maine.

The Resolution was read and adopted and sent up for concurrence.

House Reports of Committees

Ought Not to Pass

Mr. Bagley from the Committee on Education on Bill "An Act to Provide for a Line Budget Procedure for All School Systems" (H. P. 841) (L. D. 1014) reporting "Ought Not to Pass"

Mr. Theriault from the Committee on Veterans and Retirement on Bill "An Act Relating to Administration of State Retirement System" (H. P. 364) (L. D. 458) reporting same.

Mr. Leonard from the Committee on Veterans and Retirement on Bill "An Act to Permit Certain Persons to be Exempt from the Participation of a Local District in the State Retirement System" (H. P. 686) (L. D. 870) reporting same.

Were placed in the Legislative Files without further action pursuant to Joint Rule 17-A.

Ought to Pass

Printed Bill

Mr. Fenlason from the Committee on Education on Bill "An Act to Increase the Fee for Registration of Teachers" (H. P. 781) (L. D. 952) reporting "Ought to Pass"

Report was read and accepted, the Bill read once and assigned for second reading the next legislative day.

Divided Report

Tabled and Assigned

Majority Report of the Committee on Natural Resources reporting "Ought Not to Pass" on Bill "An Act to Reclassify Prestile Stream" (H. P. 530) (L. D. 648)

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. WYMAN of Washington
TROTZKY of Penobscot
O'LEARY of Oxford
of the Senate.

Messrs. CURRAN of Bangor
McBREAIRTY of Perham
BLODGETT of Waldoboro
DOAK of Rangeley
CHURCHILL of Orland
HALL of Sangerville
PETERSON of Windham
WILFONG of Stow
Mrs. HUTCHINGS of Lincolnville
of the House.

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting "Ought to Pass" on same Bill.

Report was signed by the following member:

Mr. AULT of Wayne
of the House.

Reports were read.
The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Windham, Mr. Peterson.

Mr. PETERSON: Mr. Speaker, I would move the Majority "Ought not to pass" Report.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Windham, Mr. Peterson, moves that the House accept the Majority "Ought not to pass" Report.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wayne, Mr. Ault.

Mr. AULT: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: A quick glance at this report might give you the impression that An Act to Reclassify Prestile Stream is intended to reclassify it downward, whereas actually the intent of the legislation is to reclassify it upward.

There are some facts about this innocuous little waterway that I believe might be of interest to the members of this House, especially the newcomers, and I will have these facts for you next week, so I would hope someone might table this for one legislative day.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from York, Mr. Rolde.

Mr. ROLDE: Mr. Speaker, I move this item lie on the table for two legislative days.

Thereupon, Mr. Mahany of Easton requested a vote on the tabling motion.

The SPEAKER: The pending question is on the motion of the gentleman from York, Mr. Rolde, that this matter be tabled ending the motion of Mr. Peterson of Windham to accept the Majority "Ought not to pass" Report and specially assigned for Wednesday, April 2. If you are in favor of tabling for two legislative days, you will vote yes; if you are opposed, you will vote no.

A vote of the House was taken.

104 having voted in the affirmative and 14 having voted in the negative, the motion did prevail.

Consent Calendar

First Day

In accordance with House Rule 49-A, the following items appear on the Consent Calendar for the First Day:

Bill "An Act to Increase the Maximum Permitted Compensation of Directors of School Administrative Districts" — Committee on Education reporting "Ought to Pass" (H. P. 570) (L. D. 706)

Bill "An Act to Create a Non-geographic School Administrative Unit for the Bureau of Corrections" — Committee on Education reporting "Ought to Pass" (H. P. 645) (L. D. 797)

Bill "An Act Providing Funds for Payment to Residential Schools as an Alternative to Incarceration of Juvenile Offenders" — Committee on Education reporting "Ought to Pass" (H. P. 655) (L. D. 809)

Bill "An Act Relating to the Borrowing Capacity of School Administrative District No. 43" — Committee on Education reporting "Ought to Pass" (H. P. 755) (L. D. 925)

Bill "An Act to Repeal the Requirements that Assessors Conduct Annual Inventories of Births, Beekeepers and Dogs" — Committee on Taxation reporting "Ought to Pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-37) (S. P. 87) (L. D. 258)

No objections being noted, the above items were ordered to appear on the Consent Calendar of April 1, under listing of the Second Day.

Consent Calendar

Second Day

In accordance with House Rule 49-A, the following items appear on the Consent Calendar for the Second Day:

Bill "An Act to Provide Criminal Penalty for Tampering with Passenger Tramways" (H. P. 632) (L. D. 783)

Bill "An Act Relating to Public Safety on Passenger Tramways at Ski Areas" (H. P. 633) (L. D. 784)

Bill "An Act Clarifying Sprinkler System Requirements in Boarding Homes and Existing Places of Assembly" (C. "A" H-105)

No objections having been noted at the end of the Second Legislative Day, the House Papers were passed to be engrossed and sent up for concurrence.

Second Reader

Tabled and Assigned

Bill "An Act to Protect the Rights of Persons Seeking Benefits Under Maine's Workmen's Compensation Law" (H. P. 1222) (L. D. 1210)

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Second Reading and read the second time.

(On motion of Mr. Carey of Waterville, tabled pending passage to be engrossed and specially assigned for Wednesday, April 2.)

Passed to Be Enacted

An Act to Permit Insurers to Limit Liability on Accident Policies in Certain Situations (H. P. 24) (L. D. 32)

An Act to Correct Errors and Inconsistencies in the Property Tax Laws (H. P. 110) (L. D. 156)

An Act to Eliminate the 10-day Advance Notice Requirement on License Applications to Sell Liquor at Certain Gatherings (S. P. 102) (L. D. 357)

An Act Relating to Payments to the County Law Libraries in the Several Counties of the State (H. P. 1003) (L. D. 1066)

Were reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed, passed to be enacted, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Orders of the Day

The Chair laid before the House the first tabled and today assigned matter:

Joint Order, Relative to Review of the Employment Security Laws. (H. P. 1004)

Tabled — March 25, by Mr. Rolde of York.

Pending — Passage.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from York, Mr. Rolde.

Mr. ROLDE: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: This was an order that I introduced a few days ago and had tabled because of another order that was in to create a commission to study the whole question of the employment security laws that we passed yesterday. Therefore, this order really is no longer necessary, and I would withdraw the order.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from York, Mr. Rolde; withdraws his order.

The Chair laid before the House the second tabled and today assigned matter:

Bill "An Act Relating to the Liability of Physicians and Surgeons Rendering Emergency Care" (H. P. 336) (L. D. 419) which was recommitted to the Committee on Judiciary in the House on March 18. Comes from the Senate with the Majority "Ought Not to Pass" report accepted in non-concurrence.

Tabled — March 26, by Mr. Rolde of York.

Pending — Further Consideration.

On motion of Mr. Rolde of York, retabled pending further consideration and specially assigned for Wednesday, April 2.

The Chair laid before the House the third tabled and today assigned matter:

Bill "An Act Relating to Dealers in Used Personal Property" (H. P. 502) (L. D. 618)

Tabled — March 26, by Mr. Hobbins of Saco.

Pending — Motion of Mr. Stubbs of Hallowell to adopt House Amendment "A" (H-97) as amended by House Amendment "A" (H-101).

Thereupon, House Amendment "A" as amended by House Amendment "A" was adopted.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Hallowell, Mr. Stubbs.

Mr. STUBBS: Mr. Speaker, I move for indefinite postponement of this bill and all its accompanying papers, both new and used.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Hallowell, Mr. Stubbs, moves that this bill and all its accompanying papers be indefinitely postponed.

The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. STUBBS: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: As this bill is written, I consider it a direct threat to the returnable bottle bill. As written, it would require anybody who dealt in any kind of used merchandise to take the name, the address, and the registration number of any vehicles. Also, I would estimate that it would affect 90 percent of all dealers in used merchandise and they would be hurt very seriously by this, because 90 percent of all merchandise is a very, very low amount moneywise that is sold. It would affect anybody dealing in recycled paper. In fact, it would affect anybody dealing with anything that has been recycled.

In my city of Hallowell, we have 20 antique dealers, and this would just proliferate the amount of paper work that they already have to do to keep for the State of Maine. In the summertime, their very survival depends upon making many sales quickly. It is slow the other time of year, but in the summertime, they will have at times as many as 10, 15, 20 people in the shop, kids buying play marbles for 10 or 15 cents. They would have to take down their name, their address, bicycle registration number or whatever.

Anybody dealing in purchasing anything who happened to be a dealer himself would have to take the name of the storeowner and his registration. Certainly the storeowner isn't going to have his registration around if his wife is out driving his car.

This bill as written, I think that is pretty fuzzy and poor. I just can't see it; I think it is asking the dealers to keep too many records and it would just foul the whole works up, anybody dealing in used merchandise of any kind whatsoever, whether it be returnable bottles, antiques, used furniture, recycled anything or whatever. So I hope that you will all vote for indefinite postponement of this bill.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ellsworth, Mr. DeVane.

Mr. DeVANE: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I arise to oppose the motion of the gentleman for indefinite postponement. If the ladies and gentlemen of the House would look at L. D. 618, they might conclude that it has been made fuzzier by the amendments. I think the gentleman put his finger right on it. Some of the sales by used dealers are much too quick and very hard to know anything about.

The Business Legislation Committee heard this bill. The State Police support it; the most reputable of used goods dealers support it. It would do nothing but afford an opportunity to trace where used merchandise came from. I don't think it is necessary to say anything further on the subject.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Orland, Mr. Churchill.

Mr. CHURCHILL: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I just took a quick glance at this bill, and I have had letters on this bill and it looks to me like this would saddle down any auctioneer that is going to run an auction for a charitable organization. The only way this bill would be palatable to anyone would be if you had a limitation of \$100 or \$50, possibly, but \$100 would be much better. Otherwise, you are going to put them all out of business because it would cost too much to administer and keep records of all the items that are donated to these auctions.

There have been two amendments, but at a quick glance I didn't see where this was helped in any way. I certainly agree with the man and this should be indefinitely postponed unless it can be amended.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Saco, Mr. Hobbins.

Mr. HOBBS: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I oppose the pending motion made by the gentleman from Hallowell, Mr. Stubbs, to indefinitely postpone L. D. 618.

I sponsored this bill at the request of the Maine State Police. It was their feeling that there should be a requirement to keep records of any transaction involving used personal property to help curtail the selling of property that is stolen from hard working, Maine rural people.

The Business Legislation Committee responsibly recognized that this bill was a step in the right direction to help alleviate rural crime in Maine. They reported this bill out unanimously "ought to pass."

As many of you know, the 106th Maine Legislature authorized the Legal Affairs Committee to do a comprehensive study of rural crime in Maine. One of the specific provisions of this report recommended strong record-keeping systems to be enacted in Maine and to be kept by antique dealers and used furniture dealers.

Two legislators have presented amendments to this bill which does not change the intent of the bill but which does water down the original bill. I do concur with these two amendments.

Let me explain House Amendment "A" to you. House Amendment "A" states that no dealer of used personal property shall buy from or trade with any person any used personal property without first recording in a book kept for the purpose of description of said personal property with the name and address of the conveyor or receiving as a signed receipt with the name and address of the conveyor as well as the description of the personal property involved in the transaction.

House Amendment "A" to House Amendment "A" of this bill changed the burden of proof in regard to the registrations for the retail buyer and requires the person transporting in a motor vehicle used personal property to present the registration of that vehicle to the dealer.

Now, as I said before, this bill is a watered down version of the original bill, L. D. 618, but a bill, I feel, is very important that we pass to help alleviate the crime in Maine in the rural areas and the selling of stolen property of people in Maine who work very hard to accumulate this property.

When the vote is taken, Mr. Speaker, I request the yeas and the nays.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Hope, Mr. Sprowl.

Mr. SPROWL: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I would be remiss today if I didn't stand in support of the motion to indefinitely postpone this bill with all accompanying papers.

I represent two seacoast towns, Camden

and Rockport. In those towns there are many antique dealers. The antique dealers have an association; the vice president of that association is from Camden. And in any of the 1200-odd bills that have come before us to date, I have had the most flak from this particular bill. The antiques dealers are very much opposed to it and I think for good reason. I think it is discriminatory.

I know that the bill was designed to help the law enforcement agencies. I have been involved in law enforcement, graduated from a police academy, and I really don't think that this bill will do that.

I think there are lawn sales that are carried out on a weekly basis; these people don't pay sales tax on the lawn sales — that is getting away from this bill — but I just feel that the "hot" merchandise will be moved; it won't be moved through these reputable antique dealers and the bill isn't going to do what the law enforcement officials think it will do. I hope that you will vote yes.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Waterville, Mr. Carey.

Mr. CAREY: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: As a member of the Legal Affairs Committee that studied rural crime all of last summer, this is one of the big items that kept popping up; throughout our entire study. A couple members of the Legal Affairs Committee presented two bills on this very subject and they were withdrawn in favor of this particular bill. The motion to indefinitely postpone certainly should be opposed.

I notice that the gentleman from Hope, Mr. Sprowl, who spoke, has got an amendment pending on this thing, and I am wondering actually if what he is trying to do is amend the bill to death. It is a start in the right direction. He mentioned that the reputable dealers are going to be affected by this and they are not the ones that the merchandise travels through. I have yet to sit in this House and pass any bill that affects the reputable people. It is because of the people who are not reputable that we sit here for six months and pass laws.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Portland, Mrs. Boudreau.

Mrs. BOUDREAU: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I also oppose the motion to indefinitely postpone this bill. This is not new legislation. This is only changing a few words in present legislation. The big change in here is changing the word seller to conveyor.

What has been happening when investigating cases of stolen merchandise, the people now have the authority to look at the records of used dealers in used merchandise of any purchases that they make. The police will go in and they will say, I didn't purchase this, it was given to me or I traded for it so I didn't keep a record. This is why we are changing the word conveyor, so they will have to keep the records.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ellsworth, Mr. DeVane.

Mr. DeVANE: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: In addition to asking you to defeat the motion for indefinite postponement, I would make one other request. Would you do something for your local fence — put them out of business?

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Owl's Head, Mrs. Post.

Mrs. POST: Mr. Speaker, may I pose a question through the Chair? Could I ask if this bill would pertain to non-profit

organizations and such which in fact might be holding auctions and receive as gifts used personal property?

The SPEAKER: The gentlewoman from Owl's Head, Mrs. Post, poses a question through the Chair to any member who may care to answer.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Saco, Mr. Hobbins.

Mr. HOBBS: Mr. Speaker, the bill does not exempt these types of organizations from the keeping of records but, as I said before, the intent of this legislation is not to hit areas such as the gentlewoman from Owl's Head mentioned. The intent of this legislation is to keep records of those people selling property that sometimes is stolen from the rural areas of the State of Maine and from Maine taxpayers.

I said before, this legislation was given to me by the State Police. It is the recommendation of the Rural Study Crime Commission and I think it merits your support.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Hallowell, Mr. Stubbs.

Mr. STUBBS: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: In reading and re-reading this bill, I can't help but see that it might be the vehicle that would wreck the returnable bottle bill. I just can't see that this bill has any exemption whatsoever for people dealing in bottles, returnable bottles, which are used, and it deals in so many, many things that it is going to create a tremendous proliferation of paper work for the small businesses of the State of Maine.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Livermore Falls, Mr. Lynch.

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: Is there any objection to amending the bill to allow non-profitable organizations, or civic groups, or service groups to hold auctions without getting involved in a great deal of paper work?

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Livermore Falls, Mr. Lynch has posed a question through the Chair to anyone who may care to answer.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Freeport, Mrs. Clark.

Mrs. CLARK: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I am standing and speaking in opposition to the pending motion on the floor of indefinite postponement and would remind you that the time of the hearing there were no opponents to this bill. I do not believe that the Committee on Business Legislation or other members of this body would be adverse to an amendment such as has been proposed by the gentleman from Livermore Falls, Mr. Lynch. And in that vein, I would request that this be tabled for one legislative day.

Thereupon, on the motion of Mr. Hobbins of Saco tabled pending the motion of Mr. Stubbs of Hallowell that the bill and all accompanying papers be indefinitely postponed and specially assigned for Tuesday, April 1.

The Chair laid before the House the fourth tabled and today assigned matter:

Bill "An Act Placing Nonprofit Hospital or Medical Service Organizations under the Maine Insurance Code" (H. P. 902) (L. D. 1159) which was referred to the Committee on Business Legislation in the House on March 18. Comes from the Senate referred to the Committee on Taxation in non-concurrence.

Tabled — March 26, by Mr. DeVane of Ellsworth.

Pending — Motion of Mr. Peterson of Caribou to Insist.

Thereupon, on the motion of Mr. Peterson of Caribou the House voted to recede and concur.

The Chair laid before the House the fifth tabled and today assigned matter:

An Act Relating to Education and Training under the Laws of Barbering. (H. P. 437) (L. D. 545)

Tabled — March 26, by Mr. Carey of Waterville.

Pending — Motion of Mr. Farnham of Hampden to Indefinitely Postpone Bill and Accompanying Papers.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Van Buren, Mr. LeBlanc.

Mr. LeBLANC: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I am having an amendment to this bill drawn up, and I would request that somebody table it for two legislative days.

Thereupon, on the motion of Mr. Finemore of Bridgewater, retabled pending the motion of Mr. Farnham of Hampden to indefinitely postpone the bill and all its accompanying papers and specially assigned for Wednesday, April 2.

The Chair laid before the House the sixth tabled and today assigned matter:

An Act Relating to Limit of Insurance Risk Exposure under the Maine Insurance Code. (H. P. 292) (L. D. 344)

Tabled — March 26, by Mr. Hewes of Cape Elizabeth.

Pending — Passage to be Enacted.

On the motion of Mr. Hewes of Cape Elizabeth retabled pending passage to be enacted and specially assigned for Wednesday, April 2.

(Off Record Remarks)

The SPEAKER: At this time, the Chair would recognize in the rear of the House, Mr. Burdine of Decatur, Georgia. Essley B. Burdine was just elected National Commander of the Amvets of the 13th Annual Convention held in Florida. He served in the Army during World War II and he received his JD Degree from Mercer University of Law in Georgia. He is a member of the Georgia Bar Association, the State of Georgia Bar, the Blue Ridge and the Stone Mountain Bar Association. He is a former Deputy Director of the State Board of Workmen's Compensation and Director of the Metropolitan Psychiatric Center of Atlanta, Park Enterprises and the Foundation Guidance Center. He is a member of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce and a Trustee of the Amvets National Service Foundation. He has just been recently elected "Boss of the Year" by the American Association of Business Women.

The Chair would ask the Sergeant-At-Arms to escort Mr. Burdine to the rostrum to deliver whatever message he would care to deliver.

Thereupon, Mr. Burdine was escorted to the rostrum by the Sergeant-At-Arms, amid the applause of the House.

Mr. BURDINE: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of your House of Representatives: It is a distinct and genuine pleasure that you would take the opportunity and time to allow a veterans' leader to come before you and speak for just a few minutes.

I was interested just a few minutes ago in discussing with some of your makeup here and the people that compose your legislature and I find that there is quite a

few like me that practice law. Of course, I practice law in the country and this year, of course, I have had to take a sabbatical from my law practice and it gets a little trying sometimes to try to run a law office by telephone. I went into the airport not long ago, my wife picked me up and on the way home she said that Miss Sadie Jenkins had called and wanted to speak to me on something, so I went by Miss Sadie's home to see what she wanted and she wanted to discuss a will. Of course, that is rather a simple thing and I said, that's fine, there shouldn't be any complications. What is it about the will you wish to discuss? She said, well, I am a librarian and I have spent all of my time in the research end of the library and so I never had an opportunity to meet any people or make any friends. I don't have any relatives, no one knows really that I am here and said, I have accumulated \$10,000. She said, I would like to provide that I have an \$8,000 funeral. I said, why in the world would you want an \$8,000 funeral. She said, if I go out with an \$8,000 funeral, I would really go out in style and everybody will remember me and say, Miss Sadie Jenkins — what a great person she was. I said, well, we can really accomplish that. I said, what do you want to do with the other \$2,000? She said, well, I am almost 65, I am an old maid, never had a boyfriend, I've never been kissed or anything and so I just want to provide that the first man that kisses me gets that \$2,000. I went on and drove home and my wife and I were having dinner that night and she was asking what Miss Sadie wanted and I was telling her that she wanted a will and an \$8,000 funeral and \$2,000 to the man who first kissed her. I said, honey, I haven't been practicing law now for about six months and I said, we are needing a little money down here, my son's tuition is due and I said how about me going over and see if I can take advantage of that. Well, my wife is pretty understanding, she finally agreed because I think she was needing a new set of dishes or something, so I said, I tell you what, you drive me over, you drop me off, and you go on shopping for exactly an hour and then you come back and pick me up. So she did and in exactly an hour later she came in front of the house and tooted the horn and I didn't respond and she tooted again and I didn't respond and finally she sat down on the horn. I went to the window and said, honey, can you come back in about three days, she is going to let the county bury her.

I think I would be remiss if I had an opportunity here for just one moment if you could allow me to be serious, because this year I am going throughout the United States and really all over the world and wherever I am going and wherever I find a group of people assembled that are Americans, I try to speak to them this year on my theme which is, of course, returning to God, country and the flag, because I think in these trying times that we have at the present time that we have strayed far away.

I would remind each of you that there is no government in the history of the world, no nation, that has existed under a single form of government for more than 200 years. Of course, we are in our 199th year, which all began right in this area down in the Boston area and through there.

Recently, I was doing a psychological study of the returning P.O.W.'s from the Korean Conflict. This study was done by a Major Maher at a Tokyo Hospital, some 3,000 prisoners passed through there. He did this psychological study to see what happened to them in the prison and the reactions to the imprisonment. He found,

actually, that they got out and followed them into civilian life, that their accident rate was some 50 percent more than the average. The suicide rate was about 50 percent more and the divorce rate was up about 70 percent of the average.

He found that while they were in prison that for the first time an American prisoner did not share the comradeship or the buddyship with one another prisoners that they had in World War II and World War I. He tried to ascertain why, and it was known, evolving from all of the studies, as to why suddenly one of the buddies would tell on another in order to get a couple of extra cigarettes or an extra bowl of rice. In doing this study, and I was doing some sideline studying in trying to find out what had caused this sudden breakdown in the lack of patriotism and buddyism. I was discussing it with my court reporter.

I have a court reporter that was probably the best single court reporter that I have ever known in my life but at the same time, he was emotionally ill and was tragically emotionally ill but it didn't interfere with his court reporting. I have discussed with Elmer on many occasions this psychological study that I was doing and he and I had discussed it back and forth on the way to various courts. One morning I stopped and picked him up and when he got in the automobile, he said, "Good morning, Judge and I said, good morning. He says we no longer have front porches on the house. I thought this was the day Elmer had really flipped his lid. I couldn't understand it, but driving on, I had driven for 15 or 20 minutes when suddenly it dawned upon me and the connotations that Elmer met of why we no longer had front porches on the house.

If you recall that prior to World War II, of course your homes did have porches on them, and then suddenly World War II came along and the porches disappeared for the lack of materials and supplies to build them. After World War II, they continued to be removed from the homes and television came along and people moved indoors. Now a front porch connotes that you sit late in the afternoon as we did in the late 30's and the early 40's, you knew your neighbors as they passed by in the afternoon and you spoke to each of them late in the evening as they walked. You knew all the children in the neighborhood and you even knew the names of their pets as they came through your yard. You knew the neighbor a block away and around the block. You knew if one of his children had a juvenile offense or was involved, you knew if there was a death in the family or a tragedy or a sickness, and those were the days also that the funerals were not computerized. You went and offered your sympathies and love to anyone who had lost a loved one but suddenly we moved inside the house, we no longer knew our neighbors or had our friends around the corner. The Supreme Court ruled that no longer could we pray in school and no longer could we say the Pledge of Allegiance.

The churches at one time had their patriotic days on the 4th of July and Labor Day, but suddenly they too withdrew, and it left only the families to teach the patriotism. Suddenly, we had a way of recreation; we were all busy fishing or hunting, our children didn't seem to matter to teach them the love and respect of our flag. With that, of course, there went patriotism.

Patriotism is a simple word, but is a most complicated word, also, because it is complicated by reason of the fact that none of us want to discuss it, or at least we don't want to be proud of it. But we fail to teach

our children the love of our family and the love of our God and the love of our flag and the love of our country, and in failing to do so, of course, we have had Watergate on the national scene, we have had more of an economic crisis, we have had drug scenes, we have had crime in the streets. All of this I attribute to the failure of the schools, the church and the home in teaching the love of our country and the respect of fellow man.

Of course, patriotism is also the respect of the other man's property. It doesn't mean you go up and knock his windows out — you respect his rights. We live, of course, in the greatest nation in the history of the world, one where we are granted freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of religion, freedom of home and freedom of fear.

This year I am troubled. We have 57 members of Congress that are not interested particularly in the ways of defense. They are all against defense of the nation. They want to take everything from the defense budget and place it into the welfare budget. We just had a 20th Century Task Force study which, after two years, all of the veterans' rights were to be taken away, veterans' hospitals to be turned over to HEW, the pensions and compensation was to be paid through social security, all of the veterans were to be placed similarly right in with the other welfare and indigent people.

Of course, I just finished my address to the Congress and Senate just last week, and it was my theme in my address that the veterans did not particularly want any additional legislation. We were more interested in keeping that which we have. I am the first one to admit that veterans in the United States are the most fortunate individuals in the history of the world. We have been given more by this nation than any other nation. I, for one, was not owed a single thing by my nation; I owed everything to my nation.

I went and volunteered to go in World War II, and here in Maine you had 70,000 that went into the Army, you had 21,000 that went into the Navy, and you had 1,250 ladies that went into the service. That is out of about a million people. Those people didn't go in asking what the State of Maine was going to do for them. They went in because they loved their flag and their country. And I would be remiss today if I didn't ask each of you, as you leave today and go back to your journeys on this the Easter weekend, that you join with me in the pledge of a rededication that you do love your family, you do love your God, you do love your country and you do love your flag, and then Winston Churchill's statement: "Democracy is the single worst form of government in the history of all the world, with the exception of all others."

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the privilege of being here. I appreciate it on behalf of all the veterans. I am not speaking today merely as an Amvet, but I am speaking in behalf of all the veterans throughout the nation. We appreciate this opportunity to be able to come before you and to just speak these few kind words.

It is a pleasure to be here with you. I am not enjoying your weather too much. When I called up here to make arrangements, they said it was 55 degrees. I packed summer suits. I have got a light topcoat, and as I was landing in Boston last night, the pilot said it was 20 degrees in Boston. When he said 20, I really thought me said 40. I couldn't believe my ears until I got out and we came into Portland, and there it was about 18 degrees. I woke up this morning and it was 14 degrees. You know, this is

Spring. You are not supposed to have that. The flowers are supposed to be budding, my tulip trees down home are blooming. The azaleas are beautiful, the dogwood, and I come up here and I see snow on the way up. That reminds me, nobody retires North, they all retire South.

But I noticed also, you have got a lottery, you are trying to get a pull-tab lottery, and it says for tourists. When I was a boy, I picked cotton. When I got a little older, I picked tourists, and it is a lot easier to pick tourists than it is cotton. (Applause)

Thereupon, Commander Burdine was escorted from the Hall by the Sergeant-at-Arms amid the applause of the House, the members rising.

The following paper from the Senate was taken up out of order by unanimous consent:

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the House and Senate adjourn, they adjourn to Tuesday, April 1 at ten o'clock in the morning. (S. P. 415)

Came from the Senate read and passed.

In the House, the Order was read and passed in concurrence.

House at Ease

Called to order by the Speaker.

The following paper from the Senate was taken up out of order by unanimous consent: (S. P. 413)

WHEREAS, The Legislature has learned of the Outstanding Achievement and Exceptional Accomplishment of Mrs. Grace Dunton Town Clerk of New Sharon upon Retirement, Following 44 Years of Dedicated Public Service

We the Members of the Senate and House of Representatives do hereby Order that our congratulations and acknowledgement be extended; and further

Order and direct, while duly assembled in session at the Capitol in Augusta, under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Maine, that this official expression of pride be sent forthwith on behalf of the Legislature and the people of the State of Maine.

Came from the Senate read and passed.

In the House, the Order was read.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Morton.

Mr. MORTON: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: It is very fitting this morning that we have the opportunity to honor such a record of service, and I think it is particularly fine, although it was not arranged, that 30 young people from the Town of New Sharon are getting an opportunity to witness such an example.

Mrs. Grace Dunton has a record of service par excellence, faithful care of the records of New Sharon, 16 years as assistant town clerk and 28 years as town clerk, 44 years devoted to the people of her community, stretching back to 1931. I am sure this is a record of which we are all very proud.

Thereupon, the Joint Order received passage and was sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Jalbert of Lewiston was granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. JALBERT: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I enjoyed very much the remarks, particularly the original story, as told to us by the National Commander of the Amvets this morning. However, when he got talking about the cold weather and talking about beautiful weather elsewhere, I just could not resist from going back and relating to you a fact that I learned, to my chagrin. I am known to

make a little investment once in a while, and about 20 years ago this wager was made with me. I lost, and I have won with it ever since.

I would like to inform you of one thing, regardless of what you hear. This beautiful State of Maine of ours, for the last 20-years-plus, has enjoyed more sunshine hours than any other state in the union over the course of a year. If anybody doesn't believe me, the book is here, and if you want to make some money, anybody who argues with you, you can give them odds and you will win.

(Off Record Remarks)

On motion of Mr. Rolde of York, Adjourned until Tuesday, April 1, at ten o'clock in the morning.