

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

(First Special Session)

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1976

KENNEBEC JOURNAL
AUGUSTA, MAINE

SENATE

Thursday, April 29, 1976

Senate called to order by the President.

Prayer by the Honorable Richard N. Berry of Cape Elizabeth:

As we, the members and staff of the Senate of the 107th Legislature, hopefully enter the last few hours of this closing day, let us pause for a moment, take pride in our sincere efforts to do our best for the State of Maine, and go forth tomorrow back to our homes proud in our accomplishments and happy in our associations. Amen.

Reading of the Journal of yesterday.

Papers from the House

Out of order and under suspension of the rules, the Senate voted to take up the following:

Enactors

The Committee on Engrossed Bills report as truly and strictly engrossed the following:

An Act to Assure Resources for the Resolution of Disputes. (S. P. 666) (L. D. 2296)

Which was Passed to be Enacted and, having been signed by the President, was by the Secretary presented to the Governor for his approval.

An Act Relating to a Cost-of-Living Adjustment for State Retirees. (S. P. 618) (L. D. 1950)

On motion by Mr. Speers of Kennebec, tabled pending Enactment.

Emergency

Resolve, to Require the Department of Human Services to Reopen the Itinerant Office in Belfast. (H. P. 2269) (L. D. 2336)

This being an emergency measure and having received the affirmative vote of 25 members of the Senate was Passed to be Enacted and, having been signed by the President, was by the Secretary presented to the Governor for his approval.

Joint Order

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that there is created a special Joint Select Committee of the 107th Legislature to consist of 3 Senators, to be appointed by the President of the Senate, and 5 Representatives, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to study the implementation of the Hay Associates' report on classification and compensation. The study shall include the monitoring of all progress during the process of implementation and the periodic reporting of its findings and recommendations to the Legislative Council; and be it further

ORDERED, that the special Joint Select Committee shall be authorized to recommend to the Legislative Council the calling of an emergency special legislative session for the purpose of dealing with the special committee's findings and recommendations; and be it further

ORDERED, that the Joint Select Committee shall have the authority to employ professional and clerical assistance within the limits of the funds provided; and be it further

ORDERED, that there is allocated from the Legislative Account to the Joint Select Committee the sum of \$2,000 to carry out the purposes of this Order. (H. P. 2384)

Comes from the House Read and Passed.

Which was Read and Passed in concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Speers of Kennebec, Recessed until the sound of the bell.

After Recess

Called to order by the President.

Papers from the House

Out of order and under suspension of the rules, the Senate voted to take up the following:

Non-concurrent Matter

Joint Order (S. P. 781) relative to Committee on State Government reporting out a bill that after April 2, 1976 no further per diem allowance shall be allowed.

In the Senate March 31, 1976, Read and Passed.

Comes from the House, Indefinitely Postponed, in non-concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Speers of Kennebec, the Senate voted to Recede and Concur.

On motion by Mr. Huber of Cumberland, the Senate voted to take from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act Appropriating Funds to the Schoodic Community School District. (H. P. 2351) (L. D. 2354)

The same Senator then moved that the Bill be Indefinitely Postponed.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Hancock, Senator McNally.

Mr. McNALLY: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: I don't want to be remiss without getting in at least three cents worth of something about L. D. 2354, which has to do with the Schoodic Community School District. This is a case where a new building is being built, and in order for them to get along with what money they can raise with their two percent leeway, they will have to do away with home economics and with the industrial arts. Those rooms will not be able to have teachers because they won't have the money that they can sap out of the people down in that community with taxes.

I am proud to say that I have representation of a community which still believes that it is wrong to think that you shouldn't work for a living and that you should go on relief. These people work very hard. They do all kinds of things. They have nobody that they can work for that is in manufacturing. They used to have a Tannery, but Environmental Protection closed down the Tannery and that took out the only manufacturing place there was in this community. They are going to take on an extra town to serve the lunches to in this new school. They are going to take the lunches out of school that was told about being so bad that the sewage dropped down into the biscuit dough when they were mixing it, and they used to cook the biscuits and so forth, which was not true; not even the pipes were so that it could have dropped down in such a place.

This is a worthy proposition. When they had figured up what the insurance, the garbage disposal, the heat and so forth costs, they do not have money enough by \$25,000. It is the smallest amount of the three bills in here.

I talked with the Commissioner of Education this morning, and he allowed that they were all equally caused from being new buildings and that there wasn't money to be had to go along with the maintenance of the buildings. The main thing that causes their delinquency of \$25,000 is the fact that the community school district gets \$588.37 allowed for the pupils, and the state average down in that area is \$754. The Commissioner of Education said that that was generally the case in all cases, and I said, "Well, you have one coming up with fire" and he said, "It don't make any difference what has happened to make things bad. They all have troubles because there has been nothing allowed in their contracts in the raising the money to pay for some of the new maintenance that occurs." I ask for a division on this particular bill. L. D. 2354.

The PRESIDENT: The Senator from Hancock, Senator McNally, has requested a division on the motion of the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Huber, that the Senate indefinitely postpone L. D. 2354. Will all those Senators in favor of indefinite postponement please rise in

their places until counted. Those opposed will please rise in their places until counted.

A division was had. 10 having voted in the affirmative, and 17 having voted in the negative, the motion did not prevail.

Thereupon, the Bill was Passed to be Enacted and, having been signed by the President, was by the Secretary presented to the Governor for his approval.

On motion by Mr. Huber of Cumberland, the Senate voted to take from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act Appropriating Funds to the Southern Aroostook Community School District. (H. P. 2374) (L. D. 2358)

On further motion by the same Senator, the Bill was Indefinitely Postponed in non-concurrence.

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Huber of Cumberland, the Senate voted to take from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act Appropriating Funds to the Litchfield, Sabattus and Wales Community School District. (H. P. 2346) (L. D. 2352)

The same Senator then moved the pending question.

Thereupon, the Bill was Passed to be Enacted and, having been signed by the President, was by the Secretary presented to the Governor for his approval.

On motion by Mr. Huber of Cumberland, the Senate voted to take from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act Relating to Definition of Retail Sale under Sales and Use Tax Laws. (S. P. 669) (L. D. 2128)

The same Senator then moved the pending question.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Reeves.

Mr. REEVES: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: L. D. 2128 brings to mind something that happened just almost a year ago, when we passed over the Governor's veto a bill to give a tax break to the Sobin Chemical Company. Now just a year later we have a bill that is more appropriately referred to as the son of the Sobin Chemical Bill. This bill exempts certain fuel oil from the sales tax, but there is nowhere mentioned in the bill what is covered, how much it is going to cost us, where this money is coming from, and who is going to replace it. I think there are many other more worthwhile projects and other items to exempt from the sales tax rather than this. And I know that jobs are often mentioned as the code word in passing this type of special interest legislation, but I think we should turn this down now. I don't think we can afford it. I don't think we will ever live down our vote on Sobin Chemical, so let's not make the same mistake again. I ask for a roll call on this.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Knox, Senator Collins.

Mr. COLLINS: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: I am sure that it is no secret that the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Thomas, and I have sponsored this bill and that we do have a concern for jobs. The expected loss of tax revenue in this definitional problem is about \$200,000 per year, but I say to the Senate that this affects not only a particular group of jobs and an industry which is Maine's only cement industry, New England's only cement plant, but that it enters into the cost of construction for people all over the State of Maine, because if we lose this industry, if we do not meet the Canadian competition subsidized by the Canadian Government, then we will surely see an increase in the cost of construction all over the state of bridges, roads, homes, stores, factories, schools, electric power installations

making the rates for the ratepayers higher, and I ask you to vote in favor of the pending question and enact this bill.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Somerset, Senator Cianchette.

Mr. CIANCHETTE: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: I had occasion last weekend to spend some time in Indiana, and I happened on Sunday to pick up a newspaper, the Chicago Tribune, the Sunday edition. In that edition is a business section, and there was about a quarter page ad in that paper that listed tourist information sources. Under that ad every state in the union was listed, and every state except Maine had an address and people to write to or call regarding tourist information for that state. Maine was unique because it listed the State of Maine, and it said no source available.

Mr. President, I relate that incident to bring your attention to what I think is a growing problem in the State of Maine, the fact that I feel a tremendous lack of encouragement for industry to grow in this state, and a tremendous lack of effort from state government to see that that is done.

A bill such as we are going to be voting on soon here is an indicator that at least the Maine Legislature is willing to go on the line and to support an industry in trouble in this state, and I think that is advertising at its best. We need to let industry know that the legislature is willing to meet them at least half way. This is one way to do it. Because of the extreme lack of any other effort being made in the State of Maine, it makes it all the more incumbent upon us to pass a bill like this for the record.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Thomas.

Mr. THOMAS: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: The good Senator from Kennebec, Senator Reeves, has referred to this as the Son of Sobin Chemical, and as the good Senator from Knox and myself are co-sponsors of this bill, it has been known in our party as the Tom Collins Bill. We have had some very strange things going on in this legislature in the last week, and as I stand here today I am absolutely amazed that the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Reeves, is willing to take the chance of losing jobs not only in the industry that the good Senator from Knox, Senator Collins, is talking about but in other industries in this state.

I had this bill in the regular session, and because of the tax loss at that time I was asked for leave to withdraw, which I did. It came back again this session in a different version because of the Martin Marietta situation. But here we are talking about jobs, we are talking about industry, and we have an economic picture which is substantially improving. And the figure that Senator Collins gave you will be vastly reduced, because by the time this bill goes into effect more than half of the year will have taken place. Thank you.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Reeves.

Mr. REEVES: Mr. President, now that we know that this is going to cost \$200,000 a year, I would like to pose a question through the Chair of where the \$200,000 is going to come from, who is going to make that up. I would also like to point out that I would like to help industry in this state, but I just wonder if tax breaks is the only way to help industry.

I am also reminded by the remarks of the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Thomas, of promises of jobs and new plants that were made by the Sobin Chemical Company a year ago, that it was just a matter of days until they were going to make this decision and build these new plants with these new jobs, and we have never heard from them again. So I wonder about these kind of promises, and I wonder if we are just be-

ing bluffed again. But I would like an answer if possible. Mr. President, to my question of where this \$200,000 is going to come from.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Graham.

Mr. GRAHAM: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: In the past session we had this same problem of tax breaks. It seems to me that once again we are opening another loophole in the tax law. Is that our only business up here, to make exemptions for different powerful groups? It seems to me that if we can stay here and be blackmailed for tax exemptions, and a huge tax exemption like this one of \$200,000, we shouldn't be here. Words really fail me on this, that this exemption is going through, after we have talked about how instead of increasing exemptions we should be eliminating exemptions. Somebody is going to have to make up for this tax exemption, and the public is going to have to do it.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Merrill.

Mr. MERRILL: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: I would just like to speak briefly as a member of the Taxation Committee. This is a creation of an exception to the sales tax law of the State of Maine. It is similar to the exemption that was granted in the Sobin Bill, similar but not exactly the same. I think from the strict logical view it may be slightly harder to justify, but I don't have as much trouble with this tax break, if we want to call it that, as my respected colleague, the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Graham, has. Already, to cite some analogies, we granted a tax exemption for all fuel that is used by people for heating of their own homes. I certainly don't argue with that, and I certainly don't argue that this is as important an exemption, but I think that there is some similarity. And we grant that materials that are used to produce an end product are exempt from the sales tax, and I think there is certainly a very good similarity here.

I have some problems with using this method as a method to try to keep this industry alive because I don't think it is the best way to do it, and I have to admit that when I listen to the argument that I am almost persuaded. The problem I have is that I think that the problem described by the Senator from Knox, Senator Collins, is a very real one, and I am afraid that we have fairly limited tools available to us at this time. With some reservations, I am going to vote in favor of granting this relief to Martin Marietta, with the full knowledge in my own mind that as we review, or as whoever reviews the tax laws of the whole State of Maine to come in with legislation for the next session, that this is something that can be reviewed.

I would just like to add one final observation, if I may. Sobin Chemical and the bill that was passed in regards to that problem last session has been raised as a sort of negative that should hang over our heads. I have to admit that I look back on the passage of that bill with fond memories, fond memories of a day that when we could put party aside and stand together as Republicans and Democrats to do what we thought was best, in spite of the fact that the Governor differed with us. Recognizing full well that the Governor had his intentions to bring industry into Maine and that he didn't agree with us on this, we said as a legislature at that time that we have a will of our own and on important matters like this we will use it. So far from raising some ugly apparition, the Senator from Kennebec has raised to me a fond memory.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Speers.

Mr. SPEERS: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: We have heard a good deal during this legislative session and a year ago about the

need to create jobs in the State of Maine and about the need to maintain the jobs that we do have in the State of Maine. Unfortunately, most of the opportunities that we have had have been very theoretical and the discussions have been very theoretical discussions. The opportunity has been rare, but it is before us at the present time, of a very real opportunity to insure that specific jobs continue to be in existence here in the State of Maine. This is not a theoretical bill that we have before us, it is a very practical bill, and I am sure that the individuals whose jobs are in question at this moment will be looking upon this vote in a very practical manner, because it is a very practical problem for them to put food on the tables of their families. So I am very sorry to note that the Chairman of the Committee on Jobs of this legislature sees fit to ignore the practicalities and to object to the passage of this measure.

The PRESIDENT: A roll call has been requested. In order for the Chair to order a roll call, it must be the expressed desire of at least one-fifth of those Senators present and voting. Will all those Senators in favor of a roll call please rise in their places until counted.

Obviously more than one-fifth having arisen, a roll call is ordered. The pending question before the Senate is the enactment of L. D. 2128. A "Yes" vote will be in favor of enactment; a "No" vote will be opposed.

The Secretary will call the roll.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: Senators Berry, E.; Berry, R.; Carboneau, Cianchette, Clifford, Collins, Conley, Corson, Cummings, Curtis, Gahagan, Graffam, Greeley, Hichens, Huber, Jackson, Johnston, McNally, Merrill, O'Leary, Pray, Roberts, Speers, Thomas, Trotzky, Wyman.

NAYS: Senators Graham, Katz, Reeves.

ABSENT: Senators Cyr, Danton, Marcotte.

A roll call was had. 26 Senators having voted in the affirmative, and three Senators having voted in the negative, with three Senators being absent, the Bill was Passed to be Enacted and, having been signed by the President, was by the Secretary presented to the Governor for his approval.

Communications

April 29, 1976

Honorable Harry N. Starbranch
Secretary of the Senate
107th Legislature
Augusta, Maine

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The House again today failed to Enact Bill, An Act to Revise and Reallocate Appropriations from the General Fund for the Expenditures of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1976 and June 30, 1977 and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government (S. P. 813) (L. D. 2355).

Respectfully,

Signed:

EDWIN H. PERT
Clerk of the House

Which was Read and Ordered Placed on File.

On motion by Mr. Speers of Kennebec, the Senate voted to take from the Unassigned Table the following:

Joint Order — Relative to Committee on Performance Audit studying Snowmobile and Watercraft Registration Programs. (H. P. 2245)

Tabled — March 25, 1976 by Senator Speers of Kennebec.

Pending — Passage.

On further motion by the same Senator, the Joint Order was Passed in concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Speers of Kennebec, the

Senate voted to take from the Unassigned Table the following:

Bill, An Act Relating to a Cost-of-Living Adjustment for State Retirees. (S. P. 618) (L. D. 1950)

Tabled — April 29, 1976 by Senator Speers of Kennebec.

Pending — Enactment.

(In the House — Passed to be Enacted)

The same Senator then moved the pending question.

Thereupon, the Bill was Passed to be Enacted and, having been signed by the President, was by the Secretary presented to the Governor for his approval.

(Off Record Remarks)

On motion by Mr. Speers of Kennebec,
Recessed until the sound of the bell.

After Recess

Called to order by the President.

On motion by Mr. Speers of Kennebec, the Senate voted to take from the Unassigned Table the following:

Bill, "An Act to Promote Efficiency in Maine State Government". (S. P. 699) (L. D. 2223)

Tabled — April 28, 1976 by Senator Speers of Kennebec.

Pending — Passage to be Engrossed.

(In the House — Passed to be Engrossed as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-450), as Amended by House Amendment "A" (H-1099) Thereto)

(In the Senate — Committee Amendment "A" Adopted, as Amended by House Amendment "A"; Senate Amendments "E" (S-596), "G" (S-603), "H" (S-604) and "I" (S-605) Thereto, and by Senate Amendments "A" (S-589) and "B" (S-606)

On further motion by the same Senator, the Senate voted to reconsider its action whereby Committee Amendment "A" was Adopted.

On further motion by the same Senator, the Senate voted to reconsider its action whereby Senate Amendment "H" to Committee Amendment "A" was Adopted and, on subsequent motion by the same Senator, Senate Amendment "H" to Committee Amendment "A" was Indefinitely Postponed.

On further motion by the same Senator, Committee Amendment "A" as Amended, was Adopted.

On further motion by the same Senator, the Senate voted to reconsider its action whereby Senate Amendment "B" was Adopted and, on subsequent motion by the same Senator, Senate Amendment "B" was Indefinitely Postponed.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Katz.

Mr. KATZ: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: You have heard it said before, but here goes the last chance. It has been more rhetoric than fact up to now. This bill which started on its way as a bill to improve the efficiency in Maine State Government, and almost became the Kennebec Greenbelt bill, and might have become the vehicle for the state employees bill, is going on its way without any of those amendments. Perhaps this might be a good time, because this is the last vehicle, to express my personal disappointment that our timing on our last chance to come to a legislative agreement on the third floor of this legislature for the benefit of state employees is disappearing before our eyes. The climate down at the other end of the corridor almost guarantees that any action by this body to arrive at an additional solution would not be successful, almost guarantees that if we attempted it we would create further disharmony between the two bodies, between the two parties, and between the proponents and opponents of all the bills that have floated before us.

Mr. President, not present in this bill is the

entire funding for the operation of schools in the State of Maine. That is in the bill that we killed. Not present in this bill are the words of solace to recipients of AFDC. Not present in this bill are the funds for additional student assistance to the University of Maine and additional funds to help the employees of the University of Maine attain the pay increase that I feel is one of my top priority items. As a matter of fact, none of these are present in this bill, which means that when we come back, and we must come back, that the challenge will be even keener before us to atone for what I consider to be a legislative failure of the first magnitude. I move the pending question.

The PRESIDENT: The pending question before the Senate is passage to be engrossed of L. D. 2223. Is it the pleasure of the Senate that this bill, as amended, be passed to be engrossed?

It is a vote.

Thereupon, under suspension of the rules, sent down forthwith for concurrence.

Mr. Merrill of Cumberland was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate:

Mr. MERRILL: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: I may be a bit premature in what I am about to say, but being in a minority of six in this legislature, you know, you are never quite sure when the trap is going to be pulled, and I wanted to make sure I expressed the thoughts on my mind before we go home, for whatever period of time we are going home.

Maybe it is because I suffered that awful blow of turning the age of 30 this year, the age at which I was supposed to become suspect, or maybe it is just the experience that I have had, but I would like to say — and I mean nothing by omission, but I would like to say a couple of things about a couple of the Senators that I have served with these two years that are a bit older than myself.

I have come greatly to admire the Senator from Waldo, Senator Greeley, and I just want to say so on the record. I think he is a person who is in many ways younger than those of us who are 30. He is a spunky gentleman that it has been my privilege to know, and memories of my friendship with him will be important to me for the rest of my life.

I would also like to say that it has been a rare privilege to serve with the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Graham. I have been an admirer of David Graham long before I served here, and I shall admire the example that he set for people in my generation on matters that we consider to be moral matters several years ago for as long as I live. His friendship I value, and the example he set in terms of honesty and dedication to his own beliefs is one that should be valued by a democracy that ultimately is no stronger than the integrity and the force of ideas of the people that serve it. I don't know whether Dave is just taking another two-year sabbatical, but his service to the state here and outside this body is an example to me, and it has been a rare privilege to serve with him.

Reconsidered Matter

On motion by Mr. Speers of Kennebec, the Senate voted to Reconsider its prior action whereby Joint Order, H. P. 2384; received Passage.

Thereupon, on further motion by the same Senator, the Joint Order was Indefinitely Postponed in non-concurrence.

Under suspension of the rules, sent down forthwith for concurrence.

Mr. Speers of Kennebec was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate:

Mr. SPEERS: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: We will very shortly be considering orders of adjournment which will be passed back

and forth between the two branches of the legislature, and I think that I would like to take this opportunity to express some of the thoughts that I have at this moment with regard to the service that all of us have enjoyed in the company of each other. I will not be very long because we are going to be back here shortly, but I do wish to make clear my feeling that it has been and it is a very rare honor and a very rare privilege that each and every one of us who serve in this body enjoy to be elected to this body and to have the opportunity to serve in the fellowship of others who have won the confidence of their constituents as well.

In any deliberative body there are, of course, differences of opinion, and I suppose that if one really understands the multiplicity of our society that the differences of opinion that appear in this chamber from time to time are a very great testimonial to the democracy in which we live. I just want to express my feeling and my appreciation of having had the opportunity to serve here. I don't want this to sound too much like a swan song because I hope that I will have the opportunity again, but it certainly has been a privilege and an honor to have served with each of the members of this body, and I wish to express that on the record.

Mr. Conley of Cumberland was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate:

Mr. CONLEY: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: I would echo some of the remarks made by the good majority floor leader in expressing his thoughts on serving in this body. I would like to say though, in a sort of humorous way, that for a moment I thought we were going to delay your trip to Finland or of boarding the plane tomorrow a few moments ago. I would like you to know also that I was planning on canceling a flight to Georgia to help the peanut cracker out tomorrow, but I guess I will be on that plane. Charlie Pray is missing a spaghetti supper tonight up in Millinocket, and if anybody wants to contribute \$2.50 he still has some tickets available. It will be a great feed, he tells me.

Most of all, Mr. President, I think as a presiding officer you have been extremely fair to all of us in this body, and I believe that the majority floor leader, who certainly is in a position to wield extreme power if he so wishes, has also been considerate. A couple of times I recall a possibility where we might have got destroyed and he was kind enough to change that action.

I just personally would say it has been a pleasure for me to have served as the minority leader in this branch, and I know we are coming back, but I hope when we do come back that we all come back as individuals with open minds, that we don't hesitate or fear to negotiate as common men, and when we see obstacles that are contrary to our belief that we just sit down and try to iron out those differences. I know it has been said that we will more than likely be back here in a couple of weeks to try to pass through a state employees pay raise. I would hope, as expressed by the good Senator from Kennebec, Senator Katz, that it can be ultimately a decision, if it has to be that way, a decision made on the third floor and that the area of compromise will be left open, that it won't be just a one-way street. And if there are those strong areas of disagreement, I hope that we would have open minds to consider them. In the meantime, I wish you all a brief two weeks vacation.

On motion by Mr. Speers of Kennebec,
Recessed until the sound of the bell.

After Recess

Called to order by the President.

Papers from the House

Out of order and under suspension of the rules, the Senate voted to take up the following:
Enactors

The Committee on Engrossed Bills report as truly and strictly engrossed the following:
Emergency

AN ACT to Promote Efficiency in Maine State Government. (S.P. 699) (L.D. 2223)

This being an emergency measure and having received the affirmative vote of 27 members of the Senate was Passed to be Enacted and, having been signed by the President, was by the Secretary presented to the Governor for his approval.

Order

on motion by Mr. Speers of Kennebec.
ORDERED, that a message be sent to the House of Representatives informing that Body that the Senate has transacted all the business which has come before it and is ready to Adjourn Without Day.

Which was Read and Passed.

The President appointed the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Carbonneau, to deliver the message.

Subsequently, the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Carbonneau, returned and reported that he had delivered the message with which he was charged.

A message was received from the House of Representatives through Mrs. Najarian, Assistant Majority Floor Leader in the House, that the House had transacted all business before it and was ready to adjourn without day.

Joint Order

Out of order and under suspension of the rules, Mr. Greeley of Waldo presented the following Order and moved its Passage:

ORDERED, the House concurring, that a Committee of three on the part of the Senate, with such as the House may join, be appointed to wait upon the Governor and Executive Council and inform them that both branches of the Legislature have acted on all matters before them and are now ready to receive any communication that he may be pleased to make.

Which was Read and Passed.

The President appointed as Senate member of such committee Senator Berry of Cumberland, Senator Roberts of York, and Senator Graham of Cumberland.

Under suspension of the rules, sent down forthwith for concurrence.

Subsequently, the Order was returned from the House, Read and Passed, in concurrence.

Subsequently, the committee returned and reported that the committee had attended to the duties assigned to it and that the Governor would directly attend the session.

At this time His Excellency, Governor James B. Longley, entered the Senate Chambers and addressed the Senate as follows:

GOVERNOR JAMES B. LONGLEY: Members of the Senate and, if I may take a personal privilege to you, Mr. President, and through you to the members of this Senate, as an independent Governor without a party, I have to feel a particular feeling of debt and appreciation for the deliberations of this body in both the regular session and this special session. Recognizing that there are partisan questions that arise, I feel very strongly, almost without exception, that this independent Governor and his program was given every possible fair consideration, despite the fact that I did not have party representation in this body. To you, President Sewall, I just want to say that it has been a rich and rewarding experience to have had the benefit of your counsel and, yes, your constructive criticism, and you haven't

hesitated to be constructively critical, and for that I am also very grateful.

So, Mr. President and Members of the Senate of this 107th Maine Legislature, in reflecting on this special session and what we have tried to accomplish and what we have been able to do, I am reminded of the words of Mark Twain, who said, and I quote, "Always do right. This will gratify some people and astonish the rest." I don't believe we as individuals have yet had the time or the opportunity to fully assess individual or collective accomplishments, and only history can record accurately whether what we accomplished collectively was in the best interests of the people we were sent here to serve. However, I believe as individuals in the days and weeks ahead we will be able to determine in our own minds, in our own consciences, in our own soul searching, that we at all times put the best interests of the state first and ourselves or partisan interests second to the best interests of the state, and that we at all times did that what we felt was right.

To those of you who have made the choice not to return to the legislature, and to those who will have that choice made for them by the voters, I would like to say thank you on behalf of the people of Maine for your willingness to step forward and serve. And to those who will return, I look forward to working with you in the 108th Legislature, and would ask you to share a commitment with me to make the next regular session of the legislature the most productive and responsible in the history of this state.

Yes, I think we mutually might well feel that the members of the 107th Legislature have served during a very difficult time. I am advised we inherited the largest deficits and the most serious underfunding of previously mandated legislation of any legislature or governor in the history of this state. You also served during a period of great economic uncertainty and during a time when it became obvious to Maine and all other states that government spending and growth had to be curtailed if we were to avoid further serious deficits and even potential bankruptcies similar to New York and other governmental units in this country.

While there have been disagreements, failures and disappointments in this legislature, just as there have been in past ones, I believe there are many accomplishments in which the members of the 107th can take pride, such things as the criminal and banking codes and long overdue personnel revisions, and I had hoped to be able to say a fair pay and classification system for state employees. Frankly, as your Governor, I feel this a sad day for state employees and good government, as labor leaders won, as state employees and the people of Maine lost. Labor leaders said they would rather have nothing, and that is exactly what state employees got.

Parenthetically, I am grateful to former Governor Curtis for much that was done before me and for paving the way, and many suggestions which we were able to carry forward, thanks to his leadership and directions and suggestions as related to unfinished business of the state.

Beyond that, I hope this legislature will be remembered as the body which helped start this state on the road to a fiscally sound and responsible government.

If I may share with you, as an individual of Irish heritage proud of that background and my family, an Irish prayer:

May the road rise up to meet you, may the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, and the rain fall softly on your fields, and until we meet again, may the Lord hold you in the hollow of his hand. Good luck and Godspeed.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Waldo, Senator Greeley.

Mr. GREELEY: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: It appears about now that we are going to break up housekeeping. If I remember right, it was just thirty years ago about now that I started campaigning for a seat in this Senate, and as it happened I got elected. So I have had a chance to serve in this body in the forties, part of the fifties, part of the sixties, and what we have had of the seventies, and I think I can tell you truthfully that this was the toughest session that I was ever in. We have had some pretty tough problems to solve or try to solve.

I remember once the German General, Irwin Rommel, once said that he wouldn't give a damn for a man that hadn't been bled at least once, so it seems as though we must have a few members of the legislature around here that could qualify for his army.

I imagine every one of you people considered it a real honor to be elected to this body, but I think you will all agree with me that the best part of the whole deal is the people you have a chance to meet and mingle with after you get here. Personally, I have certainly appreciated the people backing me up and electing me to this body nine different times.

I never have been in a session yet where all the members of the two parties have had the good feeling and the good relationship that we have had this time, and I am going to give the leadership a good part of that credit, and Mr. President, I am going to give you a lot of that credit for keeping peace in the family.

As you all know, in the fall of the year after the football season the Associated Press picks out what they consider the best team in the country, so I would like to say a few words about our team. So to all of you people that are employed by this Senate, either directly or indirectly, and to all the other employees of this State House, I, with all the other members of this Senate, would like to nominate you as all-American. In my opinion, there is no better. You deserve a lot of credit for the job you do, and especially for your willingness to do it. (Applause)

I want to thank the members of the Senate for that.

Now, I want to wish you all the best of luck and the best of health. Mr. President, I move this Senate adjourn sine die.

Therefore, at 8:21 P.M. on Thursday, April 29, 1976 the Honorable Joseph Sewall, President of the Senate, declared the Senate of the 107th Legislature adjourned without day.