MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

One Hundred and Tenth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

Volume I

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

December 3, 1980 to May 1, 1981

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STATE OF MAINE One Hundred and Tenth Legislature First Regular Session JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

March 23, 1981 Senate called to order by the President.

Prayer by the Reverend Paul Cote of Newman Center at Colby College and Thomas

REVEREND COTE: Let us pray. O'God, source of all wisdom, Whose statutes are good and gracious, and Whose law is truth, guide and direct our Senators, that by just and prudent laws, they may promote the well-being of all our people. Amen.

Reading of the Journal of vesterday.

Papers from the House Joint Orders

Expressions of Legislative Sentiment recog-

Craig Sjoberg, valedictorian of Caribou High School, Class of 1981. (H. P. 1206)

Shawn Ouillette, salutatorian of Caribou High School, Class of 1981. (H. P. 1207)

Come from the House, Read and Passed Which were Read and Passed, in concur-

House Reports

Bill, "An Act to Amend the Benefit Option Provided upon Death of a Former Member who was Receiving a Disability Retirement Allowance." (H. P. 1114) (L. D. 1331)

Comes from the House, referred to the Committee on Aging, Retirement and Veterans and Ordered Printed.

Which was referred to the Committee on Aging, Retirement and Veterans and Ordered Printed, in concurrence.

Bill, "An Act Relating to Boarding Home Reimbursement." (H. P. 1116) (L. D. 1333)

Comes from the House, referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and Ordered Printed

Which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and Ordered Printed, in concurrence.

Bill, "An Act Concerning Drug Abuse by Registered Pharmacists." (H. P. 1117) (L. D. 1334)

Comes from the House, referred to the Committee on Business Legislation and Ordered Printed.

Which was referred to the Committee on Business Legislation and Ordered Printed, in concurrence

Bill, "An Act to Amend the Incorporation of the Town of Poland School District." (Emergency) (H. P. 1118) (L. D. 1335)

Comes from the House, referred to the Committee on Education and Ordered Printed.

Which was referred to the Committee on Education and Ordered Printed, in concurrence.

Bill, "An Act Covering Degrees Programs for Real Estate Agents." (H. P. 1119) (L. D. 1336)

Reference to the Committee on Education suggested.

Comes from the House, referred to the Committee on Business Legislation and Ordered Printed.

Which was referred to the Committee on Business Legislation, and Ordered Printed, in concurrence.

Bill, "An Act to Require Periodic Reapportioning of Districts for Election of Representatives to Congress." (H. P. 1120) (L. D. 1337)

Reference to the Committee on Election Laws suggested

Comes from the House, referred to the Com-

mittee on State Government and Ordered Printed.

Which was referred to the Committee on State Government, and Ordered Printed, in concurrence.

Bill, "An Act to Create the Nuclear Activity Consent Law." (H. P. 1121) (L. D. 1338)

Comes from the House, referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and Ordered Printed

Which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and Ordered Printed, in concurrence.

Bill, "An Act Concerning Qualification of Law Enforcement Officials." (H. P. 1125) (L.

Bill, "An Act Concerning Performance Standards for Renewing a Liquor License." (H. P. 1126) (L. D. 1343)

RESOLVE, Authorizing Nancy Huber to Bring Suit Against the State of Maine. (H. P 1127) (L. D. 1344)

Come from the House, referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Ordered Printed.

Which were referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Ordered Printed, in concur-

Bill, "An Act Concerning Certain Estates under the Control of Public Administrators. (H. P. 1122) (L. D. 1339)

Bill, "An Act Concerning Plea Bargaining for Cases Involving Operating under the Influ ence of Intoxicating Liquor or Drugs." (H. P.

1123) (L. D. 1340)
Bill, "An Act Forbidding Questions which Invade Privacy During Public Benefit Program Screening." (H. P. 1124) (L. D. 1341) Come from the House, referred to the Com-

mittee on Judiciary and Ordered Printed. Which were referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Ordered Printed, in concurrence.

Bill, "An Act Relating to Aquaculture." (H. P. 1128) (L. D. 1345)

Comes from the House, referred to the Committee on Marine Resources and Ordered Printed

Which were referred to the Committee on Marine Resources and Ordered Printed, in concurrence.

Bill, "An Act to Establish and Implement an Electrical Energy Budget for the State." (H.

P. 1129) (L. D. 1346)
Bill, "An Act to Establish a State Emergency Electric Energy Conservation Plan." (H. P.

130) (L. D. 1347)

Bill, "An Act to Assist Homeowners in Peak
Power Conservation." (H. P. 1131) (L. D. 1348)
Come from the House, referred to the Committee on Public Utilities and Ordered Printed.

Which were referred to the Committee on Public Utilities and Ordered Printed, in concurrence.

Bill, "An Act Concerning Search and Rescue Operations." (H. P. 1133) (L. D. 1350)

Bill, "An Act to Abolish the Office of Energy Resources." (H. P. 1134) (L. D. 1332)

Come from the House, referred to the Committee on State Government and Ordered Printed.

Which were referred to the Committee on State Government and Ordered Printed, in concurrence.

Bill, "An Act Providing for Certain Public Utility Bond Financing by the Maine Municipal Bond Bank." (H. P. 1132) (L. D. 1349)
Reference to the Committee on State Gov-

ernment suggested.

Comes from the House, referred to the Committee on Public Utilities and Ordered Printed. Which were referred to the Committee on Public Utilities and Ordered Printed, in concurrence.

Bill, "An Act to Create the Casco Bay Island Transit District." (Emergency) (H. P. 1198) (L. D. 1351)

Comes from the House, referred to the Committee on Transportation and Ordered Printed. Which was referred to the Committee on

Transportation and Ordered Printed, in concurrence.

Senate Papers

Senator O'LEARY of Oxford presented, Bill, "An Act Relating to the Time of Evaluation of Special Education Students under the Education Laws." (S. P. 512)

Which was referred to the Committee on Education and Ordered Printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator WOOD of York presented, Bill, "An Act to Amend the Maine Generic Drug Statute." (S. P. 516)

Which was referred to the Committee on Health and Institutional Services and Ordered Printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator MINKOWSKY of Androscoggin (Cosponsor: Representative LIVESAY of Brunswick) presented, Bill, "An Act Concerning the Consent Requirements and Termination of Parental Rights for Adoption Proceedings. P. 514)

Senator WOOD of York (Cosponsor: Representative MURPHY of Kennebunk) presented, Bill, "An Act to Curtail the Practice of Plea Bargaining." (S. P. 515)

Which was referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Ordered Printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator O'LEARY of Oxford presented, Bill, "An Act to Require Employers with Employee Pension Plans to Provide Status Information on Group Pension Plans upon Request. (S. P. 513)

Reference to the Committee on Labor suggested.

On motion by Senator Collins of Knox, Tabled for 1 Legislative Day, pending Reference.

Joint Resolution

Senator COLLINS of Knox (Cosponsors: Senator SEWALL of Penobscot, Senator CONLEY of Cumberland and Representative HIGGINS of Scarborough) presented the following Joint

Resolution and moved it's adoption.

JOINT RESOLUTION IN HONOR

OF NIGERIAN LEGISLATIVE LEADERS WHO ARE OBSERVING THE MAINE LEGISLATURE

WHEREAS, the Federal Republic of Nigeria, one of Africa's most influential nations, gained its independence from great Britain in 1960: and

WHEREAS, following an unsettled period of change, a constitution was adopted on October 1, 1979, providing a federal system of government resembling that of the United States; and

WHEREAS, under this democratic form of government, a national assembly and nineteen unicameral state assemblies and staff services were established; and

WHEREAS, through a cooperative program of the Legislative Leaders' Exchange, Nigerian legislative leaders hope to gain a greater understanding of the American federal system and the role of state legislatures within that system; and

WHEREAS, as a part of this program, a delegation of legislative leaders from the National Assembly and state legislatures of Nigeria is presently observing the Maine legislature;

now, therefore, be it RESOLVED: That the Senate and House of Representatives of the 110th Legislature, now assembled in first regular session, hereby officially recognize and welcome to the Maine Legislature, state and national legislative leaders from the Federal Republic of Nigeria, other participants in the Legislative Leaders Exchange and representatives of the State Legislative Leaders Foundation; and be it further

RESOLVED: That our honored guests be congratulated for their inspiring efforts to strengthen, perfect and preserve a democracy for the people of the West African Nation of Ni-geria through firsthand knowledge and experience from this and other states of our great Nation; and be it further

RESOLVED: That copies of this Joint Resolution be transmitted forthwith by the Secretary of State to members of the National Assembly of Nigeria, the Legislative Leaders Exchange, the State Legislative Leaders Foundation and the 24 participating American state legislatures in honor of the occasion. (S.

Which was Read and Adopted. Sent down for concurrence.

Committee Reports House Leave to Withdraw

The Committee on Business Legislation on, Bill, "An Act to Require Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance." (H. P. 342) (L. D. 390)

Reported that the same be granted Leave to Withdraw.

Comes from the House, the Report Read and Accepted.

The Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife on, Bill, "An Act to Provide for Reduced Hunting and Fishing License Fees for Nonresidents owning Taxable Property in the State for at least 5 years. (H. P. 721) (L. D. 853)

Reported that the same be granted Leave to Withdraw.

Comes from the House, the Report Read and Accepted.

The Committee on Judiciary on, Bill, "An Act to Amend the Law Concerning Child Support Orders." (H. P. 174) (L. D. 195)

Reported that the same be granted Leave to Withdraw.

Comes from the House, the Report Read and Accepted.

The Committee on Judiciary on, Bill, "An Act to Amend the Maine Tort Claims Act to Remove Restrictions on Governmental Liability for Negligent Acts which Result in the Discharge of Certain Toxic Substances. (H. P. 427)

Reported that the same be granted Leave to

Comes from the House, the Report Read and Accepted.

The Committee on Judiciary on, Bill, "An Act to Provide Method of Reimbursement to the District Attorney for Collection of Payments Due to the Department of Human Services." (H. P. 522) (L. D. 588)

Reported that the same be granted Leave to Withdraw.

Comes from the House, the Report Read and Accepted.

On motion by Senator Collins of Knox, the Reports were Read and Accepted, in concurrence.

Ought to Pass - As Amended

The Committee on Agriculture on, Bill, "An Act Relating to the Licensing of Dealers in Certain Agricultural Commodities." (H. P. 50) (L.

Reported that the same Ought to Pass as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-

Comes from the House, the Bill Passed to be Engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A"

The Committee on Business Legislation on. Bill, "An Act to Regulate Variable Rate Consumer Credit Transactions under the Consumer Credit Code." (H. P. 34) (L. D. 39)

Reported that the same Ought to Pass as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-

Comes from the House, the Bill Passed to be Engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A'

Which Reports were Read and Accepted, in concurrence, and the Bills Read Once. Committee Amendments "A" were Read and Adopted, in concurrence, and the Bills, as amended, Tomorrow Assigned for Second Reading.

Senate

The following Ought Not to Pass report shall be placed in the legislative files without further action pursuant to Rule 22 of the Joint Rules:

Bill, "An Act to Require Certain Unsuccessful Claimants in Civil Actions to Pay the Other Party's Attorney's Fee." (S. P. 179) (L. D. 457)

Ought to Pass
Senator DEVOE for the Committee on Judiciary on, Bill, "An Act to Repeal the Law Providing Remibursement for Travel Involved in

Criminal Cases." (S. P. 240) (L. D. 695) Reported that the same Ought to Pass

Senator CHARETTE for the Committee on Legal Affairs on, RESOLVE, Authorizing Jeanette Hodgdon, Administratrix of the Estate of Kenneth R. Hodgdon, to Maintain a Civil Action Against the State of Maine. (S. P. 227)

Reported that the same Ought to Pass.

Which Reports were Read and Accepted and the Bill and Resolve Read Once and Tomorrow Assigned for Second Reading.

Second Readers

The Committee on Bills in the Second Reading reported the following:

House — As Amended Bill, "An Act to Establish a Kennebec River Future Commission." (H. P. 1141) (L. D. 1285)
Which was Read a Second Time.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Devoe

Senator DEVOE: Thank you very much, Mr. President. Mr. President and Members of the Senate: I'm a little concerned at this particular bill. I don't view it as a partisan measure, but I see it as a foot in the door type of Bill that if, this kind of commission is created, comes into existence for the Kennebec, pretty soon we're going to have one for the Androscoggin; we're going to have one for the Penobscot; we're going to have one for the Allagash River; the St. John River, every other major river in the State of Maine.

I would just bring to your attention before we cast the vote, some of the duties that the commission is going to have. "One, it's going to determine the existing and potential industrial, commercial, and recreational uses of the flo-wage of the Kennebec River." Two, "it's going to identify the present and potential conflicts among the various users of the river." It does not say what it's going to do once it does identify these conflicts. Then thirdly, "it's going to determine through public hearings and other mechanisms," the word other mechanisms is somewhat vague, and I just ask all of you to take a look at the language and question, if applied to a river in your own vicinity, what it might mean 10 or 20 years down the road. It says, "through other mechanisms and

public hearings, the desires of the public and private interests using the river or living within the Kennebec River corridor." Then fourthly, it is mandated to review the existing federal, state, and local laws and regulations affecting energy, environmental, industrial, and commercial, planning and development, within the Kennebec River corridor. It doesn't say, what it proposes to do, or what it proposes that this Legislature do, if it identifies a conflict between federal law and state law, or a conflict between state and law and local law.

Again, I ask you to consider whether this is a

good precedent, whether this Bill is needed at this time.

Finally, it says, "make other studies and evaluations necessary to fully assess the best uses of the Kennebec River." Now that's kind of broad.

Take a look at the membership. It's going to be composed of 32 members. If you look at the amendments whereby they've added three or four towns, I wonder if they meant to omit giving those towns some representation on the commission. Apparently when the Bill was drafted, there were three or four towns inadvertently omitted from the list that is in Section 4, the top of the second page of this Bill.

Then finally, it says, it's going to recom-mend, "the commission shall recommend to the Legislature any changes necessary to insure the highest and best use of the land and water resources, consistent with federal law, regulations, and licenses, and with flow managements and control agreements and practices as filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission."

Now, these are going to be recommendations. I just think that if we pass this Bill, that we're going to have the creation of a body in state government that could later become

very troublesome.

Then you look at the fiscal note, they're going to do all of this on \$5000. You look at Section 10, "Acceptance of Funds, the commission may accept funds from any agency in the United States, from any private foundation." When I read those words, I thought, are we talking about a foundation grant of \$50,000 or \$100,000 from the Ford Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, or some other foundation that loves to grant money for state level studies of rivers or environmental matters.

I just ask you, members of the Senate, is this Bill necessary? I don't happen to believe it is. I don't view this as a partisan matter, particularly, but I would just like to have some member of the State Government Committee explain to us why this Bill is necessary. Thank

you very much, Mr. President.
The PRESIDENT: The Senator from Penobscot, Senator Devoe, has posed a question to any member of the Senate from the Kennebec Valley who may care to answer.

The Chair recognizes the Senator from Ken-

nebec, Senator Bustin.

Senator BUSTIN: I can't answer the questions of Senator Devoe, but I would like to Table this matter until such time as I can look at it. I can say that, because the Kennebec River has been cleaned up in previous years, mostly due to some federal regulations or laws, the father of that law, I won't mention his name at this particular point, since that time, we have been able to have a very great tourist attraction here. It's called "The Great Kenne-bec River Whatever Race." I was in that race last year, and would like to be in it in the coming year. I would hope that this piece of legislation could go through, but I don't feel adequate to answering the questions and I would

appreciate a Tabling motion.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Devoe.

Senator DEVOE: Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. President and Members of the Senate: I would just point out to the very good Senator from Kennebec, that I would expect that having been able to be in a race of some kind on the Kennebec River, without this legislation, that very likely her ability to participate in future races, would be just as viable and just as possible without this legislation. Thank you very much

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

Senator BUSTIN: Mr. President and Members of the Senate, that all may be well and good, what Senator Devoe says, but "The Great Kennebec River Whatever Race" is just the beginning of what this great river can produce for us. I think that that's what this future commission is all about. They want to study it, they want to advance the river much further than ? than "The Great Kennebec River Whatever Race." I would appreciate a chance to defend that.

On motion by Senator Pierce of Kennebec, Tabled for 1 Legislative Day, pending Passage to be Engrossed.

Enactors

The Committee on Engrossed Bills reported as truly and strictly engrossed the following: AN ACT to Increase the Compensation for Substitute Teachers." (H. P. 655) (L. D. 758)

On motion by Senator Huber of Cumberland, placed on the Special Appropriations Table, pending Enactment.

AN ACT to Provide for Direct Payment to Municipalities of Fines Collected under Certain Laws Relating to Animals. (H. P. 356) (L. D.

Which was Passed to be Enacted and having been signed by the President was by the Secretary presented to the Governor for his approv-

AN ACT Relating to Pesticide Registration. (H. P. 4) (L. D. 4)

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the

Senator from Knox, Senator Collins.
Senator COLLINS: I request a Division.
The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the

Senator from Cumberland, Senator Conley.
Senator CONLEY: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: I'd pose a question to the Chair, if I may. Is the Joint Standing Committee on Education still meeting?

The PRESIDENT: The Chair would have to ask someone about that. Would the Senator like to wait for a moment while the Chair ascertains?

Senator CONLEY: No, Sir. I believe they are. It just seems strange to me that both of these Senators, both, one member of your party and a member of mine, support this legislation. It just seems strange to me that this is

an awkward time to ask for a Division.
The PRESIDENT: The Chair commends the Senator for his sharp eyes.

On motion by Senator Collins of Knox, tabled until later in today's session, pending Enact-

The PRESIDENT: Is it the pleasure of the Senate to Suspend its Rules?

Is it the pleasure of the Senate that Under Suspension of the Rules, that the Joint Standing Committee on Education be allowed to continue its hearing while the Senate is in Session?

The Chair will order a Division. The Chair recognizes the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Conley.

Senator CONLEY: A Point of Order.
The PRESIDENT: The Senator may state the Point of Order

Senator CONLEY: You said that you did Suspend the Rules'

The PRESIDENT: The Rules were Suspended.

Then the Chair inquired into the pleasure of the Senate under Suspension of the Rules to allow the committee to continue its hearing.

Senator CONLEY: Under Suspension of the Rules?

The PRESIDENT: That is right. Exactly! Which the Chair would advise would require a majority vote to allow the committee to continue its hearing, if one there be.

Will all those Senators in favor of allowing the Education Committee to continue its hear-

will all those Senators opposed, please rise in their places to be counted

13 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 17 Senators in the negative, it is the vote of the Senate that the Committee be summoned to the Chamber.

Senate At Ease

The Senate called to order by the President.

Orders of the Day

The President laid before the Senate:

Bill, "An Act Relating to Pesticide Registra-on." (H. P. 4) (L. D. 4) tabled earlier in today's session, by the Senator from Knox, Senator Collins, pending Enactment.
The PRESIDENT: A Division has been re-

quested.

The Chair recognizes the Senator from York, Senator Hichens

Senator HICHENS: I request a Roll Call. The PRESIDENT: A Roll Call has been re-

quested. Under the Constitution in order for the Chair to order a Roll Call it requires the affirmative vote of at least one-fifth of those Senators present and voting.

Will all those Senators in favor of ordering a Roll Call, please rise and remain standing until counted.

Obviously more than one-fifth having arisen a Roll Call is ordered.

The pending question before the Senate is Enactment of L. D. 4.

A Yes vote will be in favor of Enactment.

A No vote will be opposed.
The Doorkeepers will secure the Chamber.

The Secretary will call the Roll. ROLL CALL

YEA — Brown, Bustin, Carpenter, Charette, Clark, Conley, Dutremble, Huber, Kerry, Minkowsky, Najarian, Pray, Trafton, Trotzky,

Usher, Violette, Wood.

NAY — Ault, Collins, Devoe, Emerson, Gill, Hichens, McBreairty, O'Leary, Perkins, Pierce, Redmond, Sewall, C.; Shute, Sutton, Teague.
ABSENT — None.

A Roll Call was had.

17 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 15 Senators in the negative, with No Senators being absent, L. D. 4 was Passed to be Enacted

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Pray.

Senator PRAY: Mr. President, having voted on the prevailing side, I now move Reconsideration and I would urge you to vote against my motion.

The PRESIDENT: The pending question before the Senate is the motion by the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Pray, that the Senate Reconsider its action whereby L. D. 4 was Passed to be Enacted.

Will all those Senators in favor of Reconsideration, please say "Yes."

Will all those Senators opposed, please say "No.

A Viva Voce Vote being had, the motion to Reconsider does not prevail.

The Bill, having been signed by the President, was by the Secretary presented to the Governor for his approval.

The President laid before the Senate the first tabled and specially assigned matter:

JOINT ORDER — Relative to Amending

Joint Rule 38.

Tabled - March 20, 1981 by Senator COL-LINS of Knox.

Pending - Passage

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the

Senator from Knox, Senator Collins. Senator COLLINS: Mr. President, this item is not of great consequence. I've looked, however, at the statute relating to confirmations, and I can not see any real reason for adding this to our Rules, because under our statute, the other Body has no functions that would follow from the notification that is suggested here

Furthermore, I'm going to move Indefinite Postponement of this item for another reason.

The last Joint Order concerning a Change in the Joint Rules that we Passed in this Body and sent to the other Body, was about six weeks ago. The other Body has not yet been able to act upon it. They have followed a most unusual procedure of putting it in a committee, which is indigenous to that body, not a Joint Committee. Since they are bogged down with that and very much over-burdened with the number of items that they have on their Table, I am sure the Senate would not wish to over-burden the other Body in this respect.

So I move the Indefinite Postponement. The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Conley

Senator CONLEY: Mr. President and Members of the Senate: sometimes I become, what I might consider, a little disturbed with the actions in the other Body. It's my understanding that the Rules of that body do allow whatever substance the good Senator from Knox was referring to, it does make it possible for them to refer that to a committee, to review the subject matter.

On motion by Senator Collins of Knox, the Joint Order was Indefinitely Postponed.

The President laid before the Senate the second Tabled and specially assigned matter:

Bill, "An Act Concerning the Interest Charge on Outstanding County Taxes." (H. P. 471) (L. D. 524)

Tabled - March 20, 1981 by Senator COL-LINS of Knox.

Pending — Motion of Senator VIOLETTE of Aroostook to Reconsider Adoption of Committee Amendment "A" (H-102)
On motion by Senator Collins of Knox, Re-

tabled for 1 Legislative Day.

Out of Order and Under Suspension of the Rules, the Senate voted to consider the following:

Committee Report House

Ought to Pass - As Amended

The Committee on Taxation on Bill, "An Act Converting Great Pond Plantation into the Town of Great Pond and Removing Great Pond from the Maine Forestry District." (Emergency) (H. P. 287) (L. D. 369)

Reports that the same Ought to Pass as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-

Comes from the House, the Bill Passed to be Engrossed as amended by Committee Amend-

Which Report was Read and Accepted, in concurrence. The Bill Read Once. Committee Amendment "A" was Read and Adopted, in concurrence. Under further Suspension of the Rules, the Bill given its Second Reading, by Title Only, and Passed to be Engrossed, as amended, in concurrence.

On motion by Senator Pierce of Kennebec, adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.