

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD
OF THE
Sixty-Eighth Legislature
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE.

1897.

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feits \$1 for each bale so offered, to be recovered by complaint." No farmer objects to that law. It is put in there to provide that farmers shall not put rocks in their hay and sell it, or anything of that kind. It is class legislation, but it is class legislation that is all right. What we do object to is a certain thing that operates under it, which this amendment is intended to obviate.

The amendment reads as follows: "No person who has received hay not marked as provided in this section shall defend any action for the price thereof upon that ground unless he shall prove that before the delivery of said hay to him, he requested the person from whom he bought the same, to comply with the provisions of this section." The law and the penalty remain the same. It simply provides that if a man buys hay, knowing that it is not tagged, of some farmer who happens to be ignorant of the provision of the law, he simply shall not be scamp enough to plead that fact in a court of law as the reason for not paying for it, unless he calls the attention of the person selling it to that fact, and requests it to be tagged. This amendment passed through here without opposition. No person has offered an objection to it before a member of this committee, and here it comes back to us indefinitely postponed with nobody having said a word against it. It is unusual treatment and I do not like it. Now one thing further, we are all of us proud of these bright smart young men that are round here, representing the press. We have received many courtesies from them and we appreciate their work and what the press is doing. But immediately after this bill was indefinitely postponed I saw in one of our dailies to this effect: "Another of the bills of Director Woods of the experiment station has come to grief—his bill for pressed hay," when as a matter of fact Director Woods did not know that this bill was in here, and the only bill that Director Woods has drafted has passed both branches and has the Governor's signature.

The question being upon the motion of Mr. Merrill, the Senate determined to non-concur with the House in the indefinite postponement of the bill.

On motion by Mr. Reynolds of Cumberland, the vote was reconsidered whereby the Senate accepted in concurrence House report of the committee on legal affairs, reporting ought not to pass on bill an act to amend section 8, of chapter 319, of the Private and Special Laws of 1895, entitled "an act to incorporate the Somerset Traction Company. The report was laid on the table pending acceptance and concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Hurd of York, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

Friday, March 12, 1897.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Chase of Hallowell. Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

An act to incorporate the Eastport Street Railway Company.

This bill came from the Senate amended by Senate amendment "A" and passed to be engrossed. The House reconsidered the vote whereby this bill was passed to be engrossed, Senate amendment "A" was adopted and the bill was passed to be engrossed as amended.

An act relating to the taking of all-wives in Bagaduce river and Walker's pond.

In Senate this bill was passed to be engrossed as amended by Senate amendment "A." The House reconsidered the vote whereby it passed this bill to be engrossed, Senate amendment "A" was adopted and the bill was passed to be engrossed as amended.

An act to amend chapter 193 of the Private and Special Laws of 1887 entitled an act to incorporate the Fryeburg Horse Railroad Company.

In Senate this bill was passed to be engrossed, as amended by Senate amendment "A." The House reconsidered the vote whereby it passed this bill to be engrossed, Senate amendment "A" was adopted and the bill was then passed to be engrossed as amended.

An act to amend the charter of the city of Bangor.

In Senate this bill was passed to be engrossed as amended by Senate amendments "A" and "B."

On motion of Mr. Pearl of Bangor, the bill was laid on the table pending the adoption of Senate amendments "A" and "B."

The following Senate bills were read and assigned:

An act to provide for the retirement of members of the fire department of the city of Portland upon half pay.

An act to amend chapter 70, of the Public Laws of 1895, relating to the sale of land for the non-payment of taxes.

An act to incorporate the town of Swan's Island.

Resolve in favor of the town of Peru. Petitions, bills and resolves presented and referred:

LEGAL AFFAIRS.

By Mr. Murray of Pembroke—Bill an act to incorporate the Lubeck Water Company. (Received under suspension of the rules.)

By Mr. Blanchard of Wilton—Resolve in favor of Perkins plantation.

RAILROADS, TELEGRAPHS AND EXPRESSES.

By Mr. Daggett of Smyrna—Bill an act to permit the Patten and Sherman Railroad Company to sell or lease its road.

By Mr. Briggs of Auburn—Resolution passed by the Auburn Grange, No. 4,

Patrons of Husbandry, in favor of the Westbrook, Windham and Harrison Railroad.

AGRICULTURE.

By Mr. Holbrook of Brunswick—Petition of P. O. Springer of Brunswick, and others, asking for a law to regulate the sale and analysis of concentrated commercial feed stuff.

ORDERS.

On motion of Mr. Murray of Pembroke, Ordered, That when the House adjourn today, it be, the Senate concurring, to meet on Monday next at 4.30 o'clock.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Conant, for the committee on agriculture, reported in a new draft and ought to pass bill an act to regulate the sale and analysis of concentrated commercial feeding stuff. Printed under rule.

Mr. Goodwin, for the committee on towns, on petition praying that the parish of Saint Agatha, Aroostook county, be incorporated into a town, reported that the same be referred to the next Legislature for want of legal notice.

Mr. Saunders, for the committee on railroads, telegraphs and expresses, reported ought to pass on bill an act to amend section 8, chapter 296, of the Private and Special Laws of 1895, relating to the charter of the Deer Isle Telephone Co. Printed under rule.

Mr. Walton, for the committee on legal affairs, on petition reported bill an act, relating to the salaries of the judges and registers of the courts of insolvency. Printed under rule.

Mr. Floyd, for the committee on State library, reported ought to pass on resolve providing money to carry into effect an act establishing travelling libraries. Printed under rule.

Mr. Durgin, for the committee on inland fisheries and game, on petition praying that a law be formulated granting a bounty on wild cats killed, reported that the petition be filed, a law to that effect having been enacted.

Mr. Durgin, for the committee on inland fisheries and game, on petition praying that a law be passed granting all persons the privilege of dipping alewives, shad and salmon under the lower falls of the Saco river, reported that the petition be referred to the committee on shore fisheries.

Mr. Durgin, for the same committee, reported ought not to pass on bill an act to encourage the cultivation and propagation of fish in private and inland waters.

Mr. Durgin, for the same committee, on petition reported bill an act to repeal chapter, 197, of the Private Laws of 1895, relating to taking fish in Marble brook and pond. Printed under rule.

Mr. Patten, for the same committee, on bill an act for the protection of deer on the Isle Haut, Hancock county, reported that the same be referred to the commissioners of inland fisheries and game, as

the subject matter of the act properly comes under their jurisdiction by general law.

Mr. Durgin, for the same committee, reported in a new draft and ought to pass resolve in favor of the purchase and distribution of photographic views. Printed under rule.

Mr. Talbot, for the committee on taxation, reported ought not to pass on bill an act to provide for the taxation of the estates of deceased persons.

Mr. Smith, for the committee on inland fisheries and game, reported ought not to pass on bill an act to limit the amount of white perch to be taken in Meddybemps lake, county of Washington.

Mr. Pope, for the committee on taxation, on petition praying that soldiers who have lost a leg or arm be exempted from paying a poll tax, reported that the petitioners have leave to withdraw.

Mr. Floyd, for the committee on legal affairs, reported ought not to pass on bill an act additional to chapter 146, of the Public Laws of 1893, relating to taxation of collateral inheritances.

Mr. Hill, for the same committee, reported ought to pass on bill an act to amend chapter 353, of the Private and Special Laws of 1889, relating to the Bluehill Water Co. Printed under rule.

Mr. Boynton, for the same committee, reported in a new draft and ought to pass bill an act to increase the efficiency of the local board of health in the town of Eden. Printed under rule.

Mr. Floyd, for the same committee, on petition reported bill an act to repeal chapter 246, of the Private and Special Laws of 1895, entitled an act to permit the use of narrow rimmed wheels on the Greenfield road in the town of Greenbush. Printed under rule.

Mr. Floyd, for the committee on legal affairs, reported in a new draft and ought to pass bill an act to give to the Oxford Light Co. certain powers not granted by general law. Printed under rule.

Mr. Hamilton, for the committee on judiciary, reported ought not to pass on bill an act in relation to limitations of real actions and rights of entry.

Mr. Hamilton for the same committee, reported ought not to pass on bill an act to regulate interest on money.

Mr. Hamilton, for the same committee, reported ought to pass on bill an act to amend the city charter of the city of Biddeford. Printed under rule.

Mr. Hamilton moved that the rules be suspended and that the bill take its three readings at the present time, a viva voce vote being taken, Mr. O'Neil of Biddeford, doubted the vote on the suspension of the rules.

Another vote being taken the motion to suspend the rules prevailed, the bill was read three times and was passed to be engrossed under suspension of the rules.

Mr. Pearl, for the committee on taxation, reported ought to pass on bill an act to amend section 33, of chapter 6, of the

Revised Statutes, relating to taxation on stock of banks or other corporations. Printed under rule.

Mr. Knowlton, for the committee on judiciary, on bill an act amendatory of and additional to chapter 102, of the Public Laws of 1891, entitled an act to provide for printing and distributing ballots at the public expense and to regulate voting at State and city elections, reported that the same be referred to the committee on legal affairs.

Mr. Smith, for the committee on inland fisheries and game, reported ought not to pass on bill an act to amend chapter 40, of the Revised Statutes, relating to the number of pounds of white perch and pickerel to be taken.

Mr. Cushman, for the same committee, reported ought not to pass on bill an act to provide additional close time for fishing.

Mr. Cushman, for the same committee, on petition of J. A. Fletcher and more than 1000 others praying that a law be passed to prevent the trapping of foxes, reported that the petitioners have leave to withdraw.

Mr. Whiting, for the committee on ways and bridges, reported in a new draft and ought to pass resolve in favor of a breakwater at Mattawamkeag bridge. Printed under rule.

Mr. Hill, for the committee on legal affairs, reported ought to pass on bill an act to authorize the county commissioners of Cumberland county, to negotiate a loan for the payment of land damages incurred by the widening of the highway known as Forest avenue in the city of Deering in said county.

On motion of Mr. Merrill of Portland, the rules were suspended and the bill was read twice and assigned.

Mr. Hill, for the committee on legal affairs, reported ought to pass on bill an act to amend section 67, of chapter 81, of the Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter 107, of the Public Laws of 1895, relating to attachments. Printed under rule.

Mr. Weeks, for the committee on judiciary, reported ought not to pass on bill an act to amend section 12, of chapter 100, of the Public Laws of 1891, relating to the protection of forests.

Mr. Philbrook, for the committee on judiciary, reported ought to pass on bill an act to authorize the St. John Bridge Co. to erect and maintain four toll and railway bridges across the St. John river. Printed under rule.

Mr. Smith, for the committee on judiciary, reported ought to pass on bill an act to incorporate the Old Town Gas Light and Power Co. Printed under rule.

Mr. Guernsey, for the committee on legal affairs, reported ought to pass on bill an act to authorize the correction of errors in proceedings for the collection of taxes. Printed under rule.

Mr. Whelden, for the committee on taxation, reported ought not to pass on bill an act relating to the taxation of real estate mortgages.

Mr. Longley, for the committee on interior waters, reported in a new draft and ought to pass bill an act to amend chapter 214, of the Private and Special Laws of 1883. Printed under rule.

Mr. Boynton, for the committee on taxation, on petition reported bill an act to abate county taxes assessed on Lang plantation since its organization and now remaining unpaid. Printed under rule.

Messrs. Murray, Fernald and Austin, for the committee on towns, on petition of George F. Stowe and others of the town of Berwick, praying that they may be set off from the town of Berwick and incorporated in the town of South Berwick, presented report "A," bill an act to set off a part of the town of Berwick and annex the same to the town of South Berwick, and that the same ought to pass.

Messrs. Chamberlain, Poor and Hathaway for the same committee, presented report "B," that the petitioners have leave to withdraw.

On motion of Mr. Goodwin of South Berwick, both reports were laid on the table to be printed, pending the acceptance of either, and Tuesday of next week was assigned for their consideration.

PAPERS FROM THE SENATE.

An act to amend an act authorizing the city of Lewiston to refund a part of its debt, approved, Feb. 18, 1897.

In Senate this bill was read twice under suspension of rules and was passed to be enacted.

On motion of Mr. Weeks of Fairfield, the rules were suspended, the bill received its three several readings and was passed to be engrossed.

READ AND ASSIGNED.

An act authorizing the town of Wayne to raise money to be expended in celebrating the 100th anniversary of its incorporation.

An act to amend section 112, of chapter 11, of the Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter 37, of the Public Laws of 1891, and by chapter 121, of the Public Laws of 1895, relating to Normal schools and the Madawaska Training school.

Resolve in favor of the Portland School for the Deaf.

An act to incorporate the Lamoine Beach Water Co.

An act to prevent incompetent persons from conducting the business of apothecary.

An act to authorize the insurance commissioner to revoke the license of an insurance agent or broker.

On motion of Mr. Merrill of Portland, this bill was laid on the table pending its third reading.

An act additional to chapter 101, of the Public Laws of 1895, relating to the inspection of buildings.

An act to regulate the sale of agricultural seeds.

On motion of Mr. Briggs of Auburn, this bill was read twice and laid on the table.

An act to authorize the Maine Pulp and Paper Co. to generate, sell, supply, distribute and transmit electricity for power and heating.

Resolve in favor of the State Reform school.

On motion of Mr. Weeks of Fairfield, this resolve was laid on the table pending its first reading.

An act to authorize the Georges River Mills to develop, sell and use electric power and to transmit by electricity for lease or sale, heat, light and power.

On motion of Mr. Macomber of Augusta, this bill was laid on the table pending its second reading.

An act relating to the catching of smelts in Damariscotta river.

On motion of Mr. Ayer of Vassalboro, this bill was laid on the table pending its second reading.

An act to establish the Maine Polyclinic.

Resolve in favor of the town of York. Mr. Blanchard of Wilton, offered amendment "A," to strike out in line 5, the figures "1897," and insert in place thereof the figures "1896."

The amendment was adopted and the resolve as amended assigned for Wednesday of next week for further consideration.

An act relating to fraternal beneficiary organizations.

On motion of Mr. Hamilton of Biddeford, this bill was laid on the table pending its third reading.

Resolve in favor of the Eastern Maine Insane hospital.

On motion of Mr. Palmer of Bangor, this resolve was laid on the table, and Wednesday of next week assigned for its consideration.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED.

An act to amend sections 6 and 9, of chapter 18, of the Revised Statutes, relating to ways.

An act for the better preservation of highways and commoding public travel.

On motion of Mr. Merrill of Portland, this bill was laid on the table pending its third reading.

An act in relation to the care of convicts who are sick at the expiration of sentence.

PASSED TO BE ENACTED.

An act to authorize the town of Kittery to raise money for the observance of its 250th anniversary.

An act additional to chapter 105, of the Revised Statutes, relating to limitation of real actions and rights of entry.

An act to amend section 6, of chapter 78, of the Revised Statutes, relating to the terms of the county commissioners' court for the county of Lincoln.

An act to authorize and confirm the issue of preferred stock by the Poland Paper Co.

An act to authorize the county of Aroostook to make temporary loans.

An act establishing the Maine School for the Deaf.

An act to amend section 13, of chapter 485, of the Private and Special Laws of

1893, as amended by chapter 52, of the Private and Special Laws of 1895, relating to the charter of the Pemaquid, Damariscotta & Newcastle Railroad Co.

An act additional relating to Hubbard Free Library of Hallowell.

An act to incorporate the Mercantile Trust Co.

Resolve in favor of Bluehill Academy.

Resolve in favor of the State pension agent expending money for an examination of claims under direction of Governor and Council.

Resolve in favor of Parsonsfield Seminary of Parsonsfield, Me.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

Special assignments.

Bill relating to free high schools.

Mr. Searls of Chelsea, moved that the bill be put upon its passage.

Mr. Boynton of Sullivan, offered an amendment to strike out of lines 6, 7, 8 and 9, and out of lines 17, 18, 19 and 20, the following words: "but no such aid shall be extended directly or indirectly to any school which receives from the State any special appropriation."

The amendment was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Pattangall of Machias, the bill and amendment was laid on the table pending the third reading of the bill as amended.

An act to establish bank holidays and to abolish days of grace on commercial paper.

On motion of Mr. Macomber of Augusta, the bill was read once and assigned for Monday.

An act to regulate the packing of sardines.

The pending question was the adoption of House amendment "F," to strike out in the seventh line of section 1, as amended, the word "first" and insert instead thereof the word "fifteenth"; also to strike out in the eighth line the word "tenth" and insert the word "fifteenth"; also to strike out the word "May" in the eighth line and insert the word "April."

Mr. Whelden of Portland, moved the consideration of the matter at the present time.

Mr. Rodick of Eden, said that the amendments presented by Mr. Murray of Pembroke, were agreed upon by the committee and by the dealers and packers, but the amendment presented by the gentleman from Eastport (Mr. Newcomb) was objected to. All the packers as far as I know object to this amendment. There were seven bills before the committee. The packers could not seem to agree upon any bill and the committee advised them to get together and draw up a bill and submit it to the committee, a bill which they could all agree upon, and this is the bill now before the House. This bill was submitted to the gentleman from Eastport (Mr. Newcomb) for his approval, and the chairman of the committee told me that the gentleman from Eastport approved the bill. I do not know whether that is so but the chairman told me so. The dealers say it is necessary to lengthen the close season in

order to protect their business. They claim that the poor fish taken in December and in the early spring are an injury to their business. All the dealers and all the packers are very much interested so far as I know that this law should pass. I will read an article from the Journal of Commerce of March 8, 1897.

"There are rumors current that the American sardine business has been greatly depressed of late as a consequence of the prospect that attempted legislation in the Maine Legislature will not go through. At the present time prices have a downward tendency, it is reported. Advices from Eastport are to the effect that it is highly improbable that any bill will pass the Legislature owing to the strong opposition of certain packers to anything looking to compulsory improvement of the pack."

So far as I have been able to learn, this bill is a protective measure and it is unanimously reported by the committee. I hope this amendment will not be adopted.

Mr. Newcomb of Eastport: I wish to say in regard to this matter that from beginning to end I have protested against any change whatever in the close time. If my amendment is defeated it simply means this— It debars the small packers who have not a large plant, and the working men, from working if they so choose. It does not interfere in any way with any packer. The reason for the overstocking of the market is because the whole desire of the larger factories has been quantity and not quality, and the bill which I introduced earlier in the session, called the Newcomb bill, was to compel them to put up a good quality of goods. It was not supposed that any change whatever would be made in the close time. This bill now before the House I approved with the exception of the change in regard to the close time. I have presented the protests of hundreds of business men and laboring people who are affected by this measure. My amendment means that the law shall remain, as to close time, as it is today, and it means the privilege of packing somewhere in the neighborhood of 60,000 cases which means \$42,000 paid out for labor. This bill was the result of a trade made by three or four packers. One of the packers from my vicinity did not want the law changed, but he gave way to the pressure that was brought to bear upon him. When the vote is taken I desire that it may be the yeas and nays.

The call for the yeas and nays not being seconded, Mr. Newcomb called for a division.

A division being had, the amendment was lost by a vote of 27 for to 50 against. The bill was then read once and assigned for Monday.

An act relating to the catching of smelts in Damariscotta river.

On motion of Mr. Ayer of Vassalboro, the bill was laid on the table and Tuesday of next week assigned for its consideration.

On motion of Mr. O'Neil of Biddeford, bill in regard to fortnightly payment of wages was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gentleman, it was passed to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr. Merrill of Portland, bill in regard to instruction in the use of tools and cooking in public schools was taken from the table.

Mr. Merrill offered an amendment to strike out section 3.

The amendment was adopted, and on motion of Mr. Merrill the bill was read a third time.

On motion of Mr. Hutchins of Penobscot, the bill was laid on the table pending its passage to be engrossed, and Wednesday of next week was assigned for its consideration.

On motion of Mr. Blanchard of Wilton, bill relating to examination of teachers in public schools was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gentleman it was read twice and assigned for Wednesday of next week.

On motion of Mr. Murray of Pembroke, bill an act to amend section 31, of chapter 40, of the Revised Statutes, was taken from the table.

Mr. Boynton of Sullivan, offered an amendment to add to the title the words "relating to migratory fish and fish ways."

The amendment was adopted, and on motion by Mr. Boynton the bill was read a third time and was passed to be engrossed as amended.

On motion of Mr. O'Neil of Biddeford, resolve in favor of a road in Jerusalem plantation was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gentleman the resolve was read a second time and was passed to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr. Williams of Augusta, resolve in favor of the Maine Insane Hospital was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gentleman the resolve was read a second time and was passed to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr. Boynton of Sullivan, resolve relating to the Wiscasset bridge was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gentleman the resolve was read a second time and was passed to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr. Searls of Chelsea, bill relating to the compensation of school committees was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gentleman the bill was read a second time and was assigned for Monday.

On motion of Mr. Moore of Deering, the report of the committee on towns relating to the annexation of Deering to Portland was taken from the table.

On motion of Mr. Moore the report of the committee was accepted and the bill was laid on the table to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Durgin of Orono, bill relating to returns of town superintendents was taken from the table.

Mr. Durgin offered an amendment to insert in line four of section 1, after the word, "information" the words "relating

to the public schools"; insert in line 15 after the word "information," the words "relating to the public schools."

The amendment was adopted, the bill was read a third time and was passed to be engrossed as amended.

On motion of Mr. King of Caribou, resolve in favor of the town of Caribou was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gentleman it was referred to the Governor and Council.

On motion of Mr. Pattangall of Machias, bill an act amending section 28, of chapter 11, of the Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter 216, of the Public Laws of 1893, etc., relating to free high schools, was taken from the table.

Mr. Pattangall of Machias, moved a reconsideration of the vote whereby the amendment of the gentleman from Sullivan (Mr. Boynton) was adopted. The bill amends the old law by inserting this clause, "provided that such a course of study is followed in said schools as is approved by the State superintendent of schools." The amendment offered by the gentleman from Sullivan, does not affect that portion of the bill. The next sentence is this "But no such aid shall be extended, directly or indirectly, to any school which receives from the State any special appropriation."

This last sentence which I have just read is stricken out by the amendment of the gentleman from Sullivan. The bill was offered for this purpose; under the present high school law no high school, no matter how efficient its work may be, can receive from the State more than \$250 a year. In 1891 the State commenced the practice of appropriating to academies special sums of money ranging from \$200 to \$800 and in some cases \$1000 a year. Later the practice grew up sanctioned by law of adding to the academy appropriation the high school appropriation, so that today a town in which an academy is located receives from the State an appropriation of \$500, if they ask for it, and in addition to that, if they tax themselves \$250 only, they can receive from the State \$250 more, making \$750 in all that a town maintaining an academy can receive from the State; whereas a town maintaining a high school, or calling a school a high school—for in many cases the difference is only in name—under any circumstances can receive but \$250. This seemed so inequitable that this bill was offered to correct it. There are now 38 academies receiving aid from the State. These 38 academies receive on an average \$650 a year. There are 264 high schools receiving aid from the State. Those high schools receive \$190 apiece on an average. So that we are discriminating against the public schools so to speak and in favor of the private schools in the proportion of \$190 against \$650.

The amendment is as inequitable toward academies as toward High schools. Some of the best academies in the State are so located that they cannot take advantage of the High school act. The result is that like academies are receiving,

one \$750 from the State, the other \$500 from the State. Under this system an abuse has grown up which is going to be a bad thing. The High schools have caught on to this thing, and every year some High school that is controlled by the town, that is, under the public school law, as every school ought to be, gets a special charter, turns itself into an academy, receives its old stipend as a High school and gets a special appropriation of \$500 besides. If it is the sentiment of this Legislature that one High school should draw three times what another draws, then the law should be abolished, and the amendment offered by the gentleman from Sullivan should not be presented, for that amendment takes from the bill all that there is to the bill. I ask you to give this matter fair consideration.

Mr. Boynton of Sullivan: A good physician, if anything ails his patient, does not kill him in order to cure him. If there are abuses existing relative to appropriations for academies, let us get at them in a proper way and not do it by withdrawing from them the High school fund. I submit that the efficiency of many small academies is greatly increased by having the High school fund to depend upon. I submit that these appropriations which are derived from the State for the academies and the amount which they receive from the High school fund brings about a wider distribution of educational advantages than any other system which we can propose. It should be kept within proper bounds, but the principle of the thing is all right. We have now an excellent common school system. We should have a good system of High schools and academies as the next step. This House has appropriated \$25,000 a year for the State college. There should be fitting schools which shall make an appropriate foundation for the proposed University of Maine. I submit that everything should not go to the State college. I am a friend of the State college, but let us look out for some of the other institutions of learning. Let us furnish institutions where pupils can go to school who never can hope to reach the college. Let us benefit our common people by looking out for the academies. Do not, in the name of Heaven, strike this blow at our academies.

Mr. Gowell of Berwick: I should consider myself recreant to the trust imposed on me by my constituents if I did not say a word in behalf of the country academy. In my opinion there is no money which the Legislature appropriates for educational purposes that is appreciated so much by the masses of the hard-working people and the tax-payers as these small sums of money that are appropriated for our schools and academies. I think this bill which was presented by my friend from Machias (Mr. Pattangall) would be a detriment to these schools, and for that reason I hope the amendment offered by the gentleman from Sullivan (Mr. Boynton) will prevail. There is one equitable principle in the present system which the gentleman from Machias did not mention. He said that academies which receive a special

appropriation and also High school aid have an advantage. In one sense that advantage is a saving to the State, because in many instances a country academy draws students from the surrounding towns, and in that way the surrounding towns do not support a High school, and so in each instance save the State \$250. I hope that the amendment will prevail.

Mr. Burns of Westbrook: I believe there is a good deal of merit in the bill presented by the gentleman from Machias, and I think if the people of Maine are shrewd, as we think they are, that we will change all our High schools into academies, so that we can not only get the \$250 we now draw from the State, but we can get the special appropriation of \$500 or \$800 or \$1000 or whatever it may be; and I hope this amendment will not prevail.

Mr. Hamilton of Biddeford: I am in favor of that part of the bill which reads, "Provided that such a course of study is prescribed and followed in said school as is approved by the State superintendent of schools," because I think that the superintending school committee in every town is capable of taking care of that matter. But I am not in favor of the amendment that has been offered. The only feature of the bill that is worthy of consideration is that part which prevents the money that is voted for a High school to go into the academy. It is unfair to ask that an appropriation which is made for High schools should be appropriated for academies. The State appropriated money for academies, and that special town where the academy was situated, that immediate vicinity, got the entire benefit of the appropriation, and the people living in the surrounding districts had to help pay for that academy; and so somebody was wise enough to see that it was unfair, and they gave us the High school. And I think the tendency of this State is to establish these High schools. This amendment makes class legislation, and I do not believe any good patriotic citizen should vote for that; but whatever comes up that is for the interest of the whole State, then it is right that we should vote for it. When we give to an academy we do not give to the State only as it interests that individual place, but when we give to the High school, then we are taking the true position. I hope the amendment will not prevail.

Mr. Blanchard of Wilton: I understand by this bill that it gives the towns a chance to raise money for free High schools, and they also receive aid for an academy, and they can make a trade with the trustees of the academy and can maintain a far better school than could be maintained if they received only the free High school money. I believe it is for the interest of the rural sections of this State that money should be given for the academies and that they should be also enabled to receive the free High school money. I hope that the amendment will prevail.

Mr. Pattangall of Machias: Gentlemen have discussed this question as though

it was proposed to take from the academies the amount of their appropriations. That bill was not intended and will not take from any academy any appropriation that has been granted. It will simply bar it from receiving an appropriation at your hands of anything over the amount it is getting under the general law, and prevents them from getting \$250 more. We simply ask them to take twice as much as our High schools get, and be satisfied and not ask for three times as much. That is all that the bill amounts to. I have not enmity toward the academies. But this State appropriates \$45,000 a year for High schools and there are 264 of them. It appropriates \$33,000 a year for 38 academies and seminaries; and all we ask of those 38 academies and seminaries, which get three-fourths as much money as the 264 High schools, is to let us have our High school money, and we will let them have their academy money, but we do not want them to take both.

Mr. Walton of Skowhegan, said that he was afraid the matter was not fully understood by the members. It seems to me that this matter should be fully understood by the academies which are affected by it. There are academies receiving an appropriation from the State and also the \$250 which they receive from the High school fund. It is proposed to take away this \$250, as I understand it, without letting them know anything about it, without their having notice, and that will cripple them. There are academies in my county that will be affected by this matter, and I rely upon the committee on education to make appropriations for these academies that will be right, in addition to the amount they receive from the State as free High schools. I hope the members will fully consider this matter before they vote to strike at these academies without their having a chance to be represented and to be heard. They rely upon receiving the same amount that they have been receiving in years past.

Mr. Smith of Hampden: We have an academy in our town and I am interested in this bill. It costs us to maintain our schools about \$1800 a year. We get an appropriation of \$500 from the State and also \$250 through the High school fund, making \$750. We then have about \$1000 to make up in order to maintain a school of the rank of that which we are carrying on there. We do not intend to charge our students any tuition; and it is a pretty serious question, with us if this \$250 is taken away from us at this time. I hope that the motion to reconsider will not prevail.

The question being on the motion of the gentleman from Machias (Mr. Pattangall) to reconsider the vote whereby the amendment offered by Mr. Boynton of Sullivan, was adopted,

Mr. Boynton called for the yeas and nays.

The call for the yeas and nays was not seconded.

A division being had the motion to reconsider was adopted by a vote of 53 for to 28 against.

The question being on the adoption of the amendment offered by the gentleman from Sullivan (Mr. Boynton).

Mr. Merrill of Portland: I voted to reconsider this vote but I do not feel prepared to vote on the main question or on the amendment. I move that the bill and pending amendment lie on the table.

Mr. Pattangall of Machias, called for a division on this motion.

A division being had the motion to lay on the table was adopted by a vote of 46 for to 35 against.

Mr. Philbrook of Waterville, asked consent to present out of order a report from the judiciary committee, reporting in a new draft bill an act to amend the charter of the Castine Water Co., and that it ought to pass.

The report was accepted and the bill tabled for printing.

The Speaker announced the following committee on county estimates: Briggs of Auburn, Pratt of Woodland, Fuller of South Portland, Luce of New Vineyard, Saunders of Ellsworth, Philbrook of Waterville, Fogler of Rockland, Ames of Jefferson, Rounds of Paris, Pearl of Bangor, Hussey of Guilford, Maxwell of Richmond, Burse of Pittsfield, Pierce of Frankfort, Stevens of Cutler and Hamilton of Biddeford.

On motion of Mr. Talbot of Lewiston,
Adjourned.