

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

1897.

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HOUSE.

Friday, March 19, 1897.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Coons of Hallo-well.

Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

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

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

On motion of Mr. Blanchard of Wilton, the bill was laid on the table pending its passage to be engrossed.

The following Senate bills were read and assigned:

An act to incorporate the York Sewer Co.

An act to authorize the Bangor & Aroostook Railroad Co. to lease a connecting railroad, which may be built from Limestone.

An act relating to the crossings of the new highway in Ashland and Sheridan plantation by the branch track and log spur of the Bangor & Aroostook Railroad.

An act to amend chapter 102, of the Public Laws of 1891, as amended by chapter 267, of the Public Laws of 1893, entitled "An act to provide for the printing and distributing ballots at the public expense and to regulate voting for State and city elections."

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

Petitions, bills and resolves presented and referred:

RAILROADS, TELEGRAPHS AND EXPRESSES.

By Mr. Pierce of Frankfort—Petition of Charles Tinnot, master of Sunrise Grange, and 15 others, in favor of granting charter to Westbrook, Windham & Harrison Railroad.

INTERIOR WATERS.

By Mr. Jones of Lincoln—Bill an act to incorporate the Long Pond Dam Co. (Received under suspension of the rules.)

SALARIES.

By Mr. Whelden of Portland—Bill an act relating to the compensation of the State superintendent of common schools and his clerk.

Mr. Macomber of Augusta, presented an act to establish wards and ward lines in the city of Augusta.

On motion of Mr. Macomber, pending reference of this bill to a committee, it was laid on the table to be printed.

Mr. Dickey of Fort Kent, offered the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the members of this House extend their sincere sympathy to Representative Isaac D. Britton of Bucksport, in the recent death of his beloved son."

The resolution received a unanimous passage.

ORDERS.

On motion of Mr. Fogler of Rockland, Ordered, That leave of absence for the remainder of the session be granted to Steven B. Thurlow, representative from Deer Isle, on account of sickness, and that the clerk be directed to make up his pay roll for the session.

On motion of Mr. Merrill of Portland, Ordered, That when the House adjourns at its afternoon session, today, it adjourn until tomorrow morning, March 20, at 8.30 o'clock.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Hutchinson for the committee on mercantile affairs and insurance, reported in a new draft and ought to pass, bill an act additional to the act incorporating the Mutual Fire Insurance Co. Printed under rule.

Mr. Philbrook for the committee on judiciary, reported in a new draft and ought to pass, bill an act to incorporate the Union Gas and Electric Co. Printed under rule.

Mr. Jones for the committee on interior waters, reported ought not to pass bill an act to incorporate the Lake Onawa Dam Co.

Mr. Hill for the committee on legal affairs, on petition, reported bill an act to incorporate the Harpswell Village Corporation. Printed under rule.

Mr. Hill for the committee on legal affairs, reported ought not to pass on bill an act to abolish the imprisonment for debt.

Mr. Floyd for the committee on legal affairs, reported ought to pass, bill an act relating to the jurisdiction of the municipal courts of the cities of Biddeford and Saco. Printed under rule.

Mr. Smich for the committee on inland fisheries and game, reported in a new draft and ought to pass, bill an act to repeal certain old and obsolete Private and Special Laws relating to close time for fishing in the public waters of the State. Printed under rule.

Mr. Talbot for the committee on State college, reported ought to pass on bill an act to determine the privileges of graduates of the State college. Printed under rule.

Mr. Philbrook for the committee on judiciary, reported ought not to pass on bill an act to regulate the employment of Legislative counsel and agents, and to provide for returns of Legislative expenses.

Mr. Fogler for the committee on judiciary, reported ought to pass on bill an act relating to the manufacture, sale and shipment of lime. Printed under rule.

Mr. Fogg for the committee on military affairs, on report of the Military and Naval Orphan Asylum, reported that the report be accepted.

Mr. Staples for the committee on inland fisheries and game, on petition praying that the throwing of mill refuse into Wilson river be prohibited, reported

that the petitioners have leave to withdraw.

Mr. Durgin for the same committee, reported in a new draft and ought to pass, bill an act to amend chapter 30 and chapter 40, of the Revised Statutes, relating to inland fish and game. Printed under rule.

Mr. Austin for the committee on taxation, reported ought not to pass on bill an act to amend chapter 65, of the Public Laws of 1885, entitled an act in relation to State taxes on organized plantations, taxed by the State as wild lands. Printed under rule.

Mr. Austin for the same committee, reported ought not to pass on bill an act to amend chapter 65, of the Public Laws of 1895, entitled an act in relation to State taxes on organized plantations, taxed by the State as wild lands.

Mr. Austin for the committee on towns, on petition praying that a part of the town of Whiting be set off and annexed to the town of East Machias, reported that the petitioners have leave to withdraw.

Mr. Knowlton for the committee on judiciary, reported in a new draft and ought to pass, bill an act relating to the Maine Eye and Ear Infirmary. Printed under rule.

Mr. Fogler for the same committee, reported ought not to pass, bill an act to amend chapter 255, of the Public Laws of 1885.

Mr. Austin for the committee on towns, on petition, reported bill an act to set off a part of Rome and annex the same to Belgrade.

Mr. Austin for the same committee, on petition, reported bill an act to incorporate the town of Perham. Printed under rule.

Mr. Hamilton for the committee on judiciary, reported ought to pass, bill an act to authorize the town of Lebanon to contract with the city of Rochester, N. H., to supply the village of Lebanon with water for fire and domestic use. Printed under rule.

Messrs. Martin, Reed, Parsons, Billings, Houghton, Salley, Talbot and Searls, for the committee on State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, presented majority report, ought to pass, bill an act to amend an act entitled an act to establish the State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts.

Messrs. Hutchins and Day for the same committee, presented minority report, ought not to pass, on the same bill.

The majority report was accepted and bill laid on the table for printing.

Mr. Fuller for the committee on federal relations, reported ought not to pass on resolve for a dry dock at Portland.

Mr. Spear for the committee on taxation, reported ought not to pass on bill an act in relation to abatement of poll taxes to certain owners of the late war.

Mr. Saunders for the committee on railroads, telegraphs and expresses, reported in a new draft and ought to pass, bill an act to incorporate the Westbrook, Windham & Harrison Railway Co., and to authorize municipalities in

Cumberland county to aid in the construction of its railway. Printed under rule.

Mr. Walton for the committee on legal affairs, on petition praying that in cases of voluntary insolvency, no discharge shall be granted except in cases where a dividend of 50 per cent. is paid, reported that the petitioners have leave to withdraw.

Mr. Boynton for the same committee, reported ought not to pass on bill an act regulating the use of bicycles for municipal officers of towns.

Mr. Walton for the same committee, on order of the Legislature relating to the expediency of amending the insolvent law so that no discharge shall be granted except in cases where a dividend is paid, reported legislation thereon inexpedient.

Mr. Walton for the same committee, on petition of Moses Harkins and others praying that an act be passed giving them the power to supply the town of Sullivan with pure water reported that the same be referred to the next Legislature.

READ AND ASSIGNED.

An act to amend chapter 70, of the Revised Statutes, relating to insolvency proceedings.

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

An act amendatory of and additional to chapter 263, of the Public Laws of 1893, entitled an act to regulate the organization and control of street railroads.

On motion of Mr. Saunders of Ellsworth, the rules were suspended, the bill was read a third time and was passed to be engrossed under suspension of the rules.

An act to establish the Sanford municipal court.

Resolve relating to the Maine Gettysburg commission.

Under suspension of the rules this resolve was assigned for further consideration tomorrow morning.

An act to extend the charter of the Portland and Yarmouth Electric Railway Company and to enable it to cross navigable tide waters.

Resolve providing for the preservation or regimental rolls in the adjutant general's office.

Under suspension of the rules this resolve was assigned for tomorrow morning for further consideration.

Resolve in favor of Pernel Institute.

Under suspension of the rules tomorrow morning was assigned for further consideration of this resolve.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED.

An act to amend section 3, chapter 11, of the Revised Statutes of 1883, as now amended, relating to discontinuing schools and conveying school children.

An act to regulate the salary of the county attorney of Hancock county.

An act to establish the salary of the judges of probate for the county of Piscataquis.

An act to increase the salary of the county attorney of the county of Cumberland.

An act to amend section 12, chapter 67, of the Revised Statutes, relating to the mortgaging of ward's estate by guardians.

An act to amend sections 59, 60 and 61, of chapter 6, of the Revised Statutes, relating to the taxation of insurance companies.

An act additional to the charter of the Portsmouth, Kittery and York Street Railway.

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

An act to amend chapter 116, of the Public Laws of 1895, relating to the schooling of children in unorganized townships.

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

Resolve in favor of the Maine Gettysburg commission.

Resolve in favor of the town of Topshfield.

Resolve in favor of the breakwater at Mattawamkeag bridge.

Resolve in favor of the purchase and distribution of photographic views.

Resolve in favor of the Maine Industrial School for girls.

An act to amend section 4, of chapter 58, of the Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter 2 and chapter 18, of the Public Laws of 1891, and to amend section 5, of chapter 58, of the Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter 125, of the Public Laws of 1887, relating to the board of agriculture.

An act relating to the holding of terms of the supreme judicial court in Franklin county.

An act to provide for procuring statistics relating to the poultry industry of Maine.

PASSED TO BE ENACTED.

An act to incorporate the Machias Lake Dam and Improvement Co.

An act to extend an act entitled an act to supply the people of South Gardiner village in the city of Gardiner, with pure water.

An act to further regulate banking hours on Saturdays which are not bank holidays.

An act to amend section 31, of chapter 40, of the Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter 260, of the Public Laws of 1885, and by subsequent acts additional thereto and amendatory thereof, relating to migratory fish and fish ways.

An act to authorize the Damariscotta Mills Water Power Company to develop, sell and use electric power and to transmit by electricity, for lease or sale, heat, light and power.

An act to incorporate the Old Stream Dam and Improvement Co.

An act to amend chapter 506, of the Private and Special Laws of 1891, entitled an act to incorporate the city of Deering, as amended by chapter 439, of the Private and Special Laws of 1893, and by

chapter 633, of the Private and Special Laws of 1893, and by chapter 238, of the Private and Special Laws of 1895.

An act to incorporate the Kittery and Eliot Street Railway Co., and to authorize the construction of the same across navigable tide waters.

An act to incorporate the Lamoine Beach Water Co.

An act to establish the Maine Polyclinic.

An act to amend section 1, chapter 26, of the Private and Special Laws of 1887, relating to the taxation of plantations Letter E, 27, Franklin E, Franklin county and Lang 45, Franklin, 2, Range 3, West Lingham's Kennebec purchase.

An act to amend an act incorporating the Saco River Telegraph and Telephone Co.

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.

An act to incorporate the Lubec Electric Light and Power Co.

An act requiring all educational institutions receiving State aid to make report to the State superintendent of public schools, who shall publish the same as a part of his annual report.

Resolve in favor of the trustees of the State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts.

Resolve in favor of the executors of the will of Cyrus Cole.

Resolve in favor of the town of Peru.

Resolve in favor of the committee on State Reform School.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

Bill, Concentrated Feeding Stuff.

An act to regulate the sale and analysis of concentrated feeding stuff.

The bill was read the first time.

Mr. Pearl of Bangor: I move that this bill be indefinitely postponed. I believe that this bill is not in the interests of any of our people. It was intended, perhaps, to be in the interests of the farmers, but it seems to be rather in the interest of a few individuals. It cannot be in the interest of the farmer inasmuch as the tax that will be attached to this commercial feeding stuff must come out of the farmers and not out of the dealer. The farmer must pay this tax. I cannot see any reason whereby the farmer will gain an advantage by this tax. Besides it must be a great disadvantage to the merchants of our State. In our community they are with one accord against the bill on the ground that it would place them in a very unjust position in connection with their trade. In a letter which I received from one of the merchants of Bangor he says that one of his largest customers has informed him that if this bill is passed he shall simply purchase his feeding stuff outside of the State. So I say it cannot be in the interests of the farmers because they have got to pay a tax for what is not going to be a benefit. This same kind of material is going to flood our State from outside and the mer-

chants of other states are going to get the advantage of the trade and not the merchants of our own State. I believe that to oblige the merchants of this State to have everything of this kind inspected and taxed and tagged is a disadvantage, and an expense on the farmer that is perfectly useless. I say this conscientiously. I have no direct interest in it whatever. And I do believe that it is not in the interest of any of our fellow citizens, and I have consequently made the motion to indefinitely postpone this bill.

Mr. Fernald of Levant: I fail to see the injustice of this bill. The farmers have sent petitions here by the hundreds for the passage of this bill, and I think it was proved to the satisfaction of all in the committee room that the farmers were being swindled about \$7 a ton on cotton seed meal and commercial feeding stuff by not knowing what it contained. This bill gives them a correct idea of what they are buying, and I believe they are willing to pay the expense of ten cents a ton rather than be swindled some \$6 or \$7 a ton by dealers. It seems to me that the passage of the bill would accomplish a good purpose and I am in favor of it.

Mr. Andrews of Garland: I feel in this way: That these petitions would not be coming in here by the hundreds from farmers unless they thought it was for their advantage to have this bill become a law. If we are going to build a costly house we have that work inspected as it is going on; we have it watched over with a jealous eye. To my mind if it was twenty cents or even one dollar a ton that I had got to pay and be sure of good feed, I had rather do it than to feed out second-hand stuff that is not worth the feeding. Farmers say that they buy cotton seed meal and their cattle will not eat it. It is simply because it has been adulterated, and if there is a way in which it can be inspected and shown up in its true light, I believe that is just what we want. My constituents urge me to support this bill. I hope we shall give this due consideration. Let us act wisely, let us not put this to one side when thousands of petitioners are asking for it. In my opinion when we buy the best we generally buy the cheapest, and if there is an additional expense of ten cents let us willingly pay it, and I believe that every farmer when he knows and believes that it is for his interest and that he is feeding out a better quality of goods will cheerfully pay that additional expense.

Mr. Maxwell of Richmond: I believe in this bill. The gentleman from Bangor (Mr. Pearl) says that he does not believe that it is in the interests of the farmers. He cites as an example that a large farmer in the vicinity of Bangor tells one of the traders that he does not think it is for his interest, and the trader writes to the gentleman from Bangor to pass this bill. All through my section the farmers have been writing to me direct in favor of this bill. I understand that quite a number of the traders and dealers

oppose it but I believe the farmers throughout the State are in sympathy with it. I do not believe that our farmers are going to Massachusetts to buy a poor quality of feeding stuff if they can, by paying a little more, buy something that is all right in this State. I buy a good many hundreds of dollars' worth of seed to use on my farm every year, and if I can buy something that I know is all right I am willing to pay more for it. It is this poor seed which is ruining the farmers throughout the State. I hope the bill will pass.

Mr. Cox of Randolph: I have no experience in farming but I represent four towns, three of which are farming towns, and from every town they have asked me to do all that I could in favor of this bill. They say that they have had foul seed and they cannot tell when they sow their seed what is coming, and they asked me to urge the passage of this measure. I am not personally interested in this bill further than this, that my constituents, the farmers in my class, have sent a petition here which I presented, and it came from the Grange. They are very desirous that this bill should be passed. Whether the farmers are qualified to judge as to what they want is for you to decide, but a majority of the farmers asked for this bill.

Mr. Ayer of Vassalboro: I think the farmers know what they want, and it seems to me that they have said very plainly what they want by the petitions which have been sent in here. I learned from the secretary of agriculture that the value of some of these feeding stuffs will vary in price from \$16 to \$22 per ton, according to the amount of adulteration. If there is such a difference between the grades of these feeding stuffs as that, it seems to me that the 10 cents per ton sinks into insignificance in comparison. I have no doubt that it will inconvenience the traders to some extent, and I have no doubt that there will be a slight increase in the expense of these goods over and above the 10 cents per ton in the handling of them; but it seems to me that a good article is better worth a slight advance than a poor article is worth the low figure. I hope you will bear in mind that the farming population comprises quite a portion of the population of the State, and that their wants should be considered to some slight extent. I hope that the motion to indefinitely postpone will not prevail.

Mr. Smith of Hampden: I presented a petition in favor of this bill, but I am opposed to it. I believe that the matter has not been carefully considered. I believe that this House has no evidence that there is adulteration to any great extent of the feeding stuffs which this bill covers. The cotton-seed meal is brought into this State by a comparatively few men. It is largely brought in here by the wealthy dealers in Portland, such men as the Packards, the Nickersons and Chapmans, as honorable and as high-toned business men are there are in the State of Maine. There is no class of citizens in the State that are more

surprised that these feeds are adulterated, especially cotton-seed meal, than these very men, and I do not believe that they would impose upon the dealers or farmers these grains if they knew that they were adulterated. And I do not believe that they are adulterated to any great extent. I believe if the matter goes over to two years, now that this thing has been called to the attention of the dealers and farmers, it can be acted on with greater intelligence, and if at that time it is found that there is an actual abuse of this kind it can then be taken care of.

Mr. Holmes of Addison: I presented quite a large petition and have received many letters from the farmers in my district in favor of this bill, and I have a resolve which I wish to read.

Resolutions passed by Union Grange, No. 326, of Columbia Falls, at its regular meeting, held March 13, 1897:

"Whereas, we believe it to be of great interest and benefit to the farmers of Maine, to have the bills now before the Legislature, in relation to grass seeds and concentrated feeding stuff adopted, be it therefore

"Resolved, that we ask our member of the Legislature and our senator to support these bills by all just and reasonable means.

"Voted, that our overseer, W. E. Ingersoll, be instructed to forward said resolves without delay."

Mr. Furbush of Lewiston: The people in my city are opposed to the bill. I have a desk full of letters from the dealers and merchants of Lewiston and Auburn, asking me to oppose it, and I hope that the motion to indefinitely postpone will prevail.

Mr. Moore of Moscow: The chief objection of the dealers who appeared before the committee in regard to this bill was because it was going to cost the farmers so much, the sum of 10 cents a ton. I heard one man say that he had found cotton-seed meal adulterated to the extent of 50 per cent. He said he was willing to pay even \$5 a ton to be sure of getting pure feed. There are quite a number of farmers in this House and each one can speak for himself. I am certainly in favor of this bill.

Mr. Burse of Pittsfield: I am not a farmer, but I find on talking with the farmers in my vicinity that they are very much interested in this matter, and I find that they seem to think that there is a great deal of adulteration in these feeding stuffs. From the letters which I have received from farmers and traders in my vicinity, I feel as though it was my duty to support this measure.

Mr. Day of Turner: I hope this bill, so emphatically called for by the farmers of this State, will pass.

Mr. Holbrook of Brunswick: I represent a community of farmers as well as a large village. It is almost the unanimous wish of the farmers in my vicinity that this bill should have a passage. That we are buying concentrated feeding stuff which is adulterated is the unanimous opinion of all the farmers

throughout the State, and that we are buying it largely. On the spur of the moment I make these figures. Suppose there are 65,000 farmers in the State and that each one is buying \$100 worth of feed every year. That amounts to \$6,500,000. Suppose that was adulterated 1 per cent. That makes \$65,000. Suppose it was adulterated one-half of 1 per cent, and you get the sum of \$32,500, which in the aggregate makes quite an item. I think Daniel Webster was once asked whom he considered the greatest statesman. He said "Sir Robert Peel," because he looked after little things. The profits of our farmers are so small that we have got to look after these little things which in the aggregate make up a great sum total. This is a question of right and wrong, a question of equity. You never heard a man complain when he buys an article if he gets his money's worth. The farmers of Maine ask for the passage of this bill. (Applause.)

Mr. Wheeler of Gilead: I am a farmer in a small way and I represent a farming community. As I come in contact with my constituents, I find that they know what is going on down here as well as I do, and they ask me to cast my vote in favor of this bill. I do not feed a great quantity of concentrated feeding stuff, but what I do feed I want to be the pure article. I do not care if I pay 10 cents or \$1 a ton in excess of the miserable stuff such as I have bought sometimes has cost.

Mr. Cram of Mt. Vernon: I have not heretofore trespassed much upon your time, and will ask your indulgence now only for a few minutes. I have listened with interest and satisfaction to the discussion over this bill. And from the great outflow of words and whirls of eloquence from those that are in favor, as well as those that are opposed to it I have concluded that it is, that it must be a measure of magnitude and importance, and should receive our personal attention.

Now gentlemen what is this bill for? The title is an act to regulate the sale and analysis of concentrated commercial feeding stuff. Now this bill asks for what? Does it ask for an appropriation from the State treasury? No. Thank Heaven there is one measure of importance presented before this Legislature that does not make a grab at the State treasury—but vice versa from its revenue above a certain amount proposes to make a deposit in the State treasury upon the credit side.

Gentlemen what does this measure ask for? Simply protection, protection against those manufacturers who ship feed into this State for sale. I submit to you gentlemen is there anything unreasonable in this request that comes to us from the farmers of Maine. Well, some say that this protection is unnecessary, not needed, that the farmers can buy good pure unadulterated feeding stuff if he desires and is willing to pay the price for it. There are some things bought and sold that needs this protection, there are other things where a man can protect himself. Let me illustrate. A man goes to the

store he calls for a pound of the best whole coffee, pays for it and returns to his home. Finds when he opens the package to his great surprise that his coffee is about three-quarters coffee and one-quarter whole peas. What does he do? Does he steep it? No. He gathers up the package returns to the store unloads his mind at the time gently of course—the tender impulses of his nature. The dealer at once very quietly makes the exchange and gives him a pound of the best unadulterated coffee he turns on his heel leaves the store with smiles on his face, goes to his home, feels in a measure satisfied with his purchase for he has now got what he bought, and glad in the fact that he could protect himself. But how is it gentlemen with the farmer who goes to the dealer for cow feeding stuff—can he protect himself. Let us see. Take for instance Georgia cotton seed. He buys of the dealer we will say for \$25 a ton which we will call the price of the very best and we will admit that he gets the best, he feels it and is satisfied with the result. He buys again of another party or if you please of the same party; takes it home, he sees at once there is a difference between the two lots and yet it is impossible for him to tell which is the best or the poorest and no man can judge the difference between the values of the two kinds without their being analyzed. Analyzing has shown that there is a great difference in the feeding properties of Georgia cotton seed in consequence of adulteration. Raising the value of the best at \$25 other qualities have often been found the feeding value of which was not more than \$12, \$20 and even \$18 a ton. I have no doubt but what a similar difference exists in other cow feeding stuff. Neither do I doubt the honesty of the dealer who sold the poor cotton seed for best quality for the very reason like the farmer they didn't know nor couldn't tell. But gentlemen the manufacturer knew how much it was adulterated and its value. There is one other way that the farmer can ascertain the value of this feeding stuff and that is when his dairy cows shrink in milk and flesh. But I submit gentlemen, if this is not a costly way to ascertain. Now, gentlemen, this is the protection that the farmers of our State ask that we enact a law so that when they buy cow feeding stuff they may know by the brand what they are buying and what they are paying for. As I remarked before, gentlemen, is there anything unreasonable in this request? I think you will join with me in saying there is not. Now again, gentlemen, we have in the past and also in this Legislature enacted laws to protect our families and ourselves from disease. Our State has been wise in enacting laws and appropriating money to destroy tuberculosis from our herds; and why? Because we do not want the people of our State to use milk from diseased cows, whose milk is full of the germs of disease. We do not want to see our children from the use of such milk go prematurely to the grave—gentlemen, we all agree that these

laws and appropriations are right and just. Now let us go a step further. We all know that the feed that is given to our dairy cows to a greater or less extent affects the quality and purity of the milk. And we further know that their feed may be so adulterated as to affect it very much, make it impure and unfit for use. Therefore let us as representatives of the people enact a law that will enable our farmers to know what they are buying and I assure you that the most of them will buy and feed the best, and will dispense to the people of our State milk that is wholesome and pure. Gentlemen, in this body of representatives we have according to the biographical sketches 24 farmers. And the rest of us outside of the cities and large towns represent a constituency largely made up of farmers. As far as I know the representative farmers in this House are in favor of this bill. We have heard read by our Speaker from the desk petitions from farmers all over the State asking for the passage of this law. Gentlemen, shall we give heed to their request? Yes let us enact this bill, it can harm no one and let us study its effects in all its phases for two years and if it is not in every way satisfactory I feel assured that the farmers will be as willing and as ready to have it repealed as they are now anxious to have it passed. Gentlemen, let us in justice to our constituents, to all the people of the good old State of Maine and in justice to ourselves pass this bill.

Mr. Young of Hiram: I am interested directly on both sides of this question. I am a dealer in a small way and a consumer of commercial feeding stuff. While I have but little faith in the benefit which the farmers would derive from the passage of this bill, I sincerely believe that it is their wish and desire to have it passed. They say they are willing to pay for the expense that it will be to them and as long as they are willing to pay it and anxious to have it, and because they will feel, if this bill does not pass, that they are badly used by this Legislature, I am in favor of the bill as it is drawn.

The question being on the motion of Mr. Pearl of Bangor, to indefinitely postpone the bill, a division being had the motion was lost by a vote of 33 for to 70 against. (Applause.)

The bill was then read twice.

On motion of Mr. Fernald of Levant. the rules were suspended, the bill was read a third time and was passed to be engrossed.

Bill relating to the traffic in dead human bodies.

Mr. Day of Turner, offered an amendment, to insert after the word "deceased" in the 23rd line of section 2, the words "or sufficiently interested in to personally bear the expense of burial."

The question being on the adoption of the amendment, the amendment was lost.

Mr. Holmes of Addison, offered an amendment to add after the word "schools" in the 3rd line of section one, the following, "and all other institutions";

also add after the word "State" in the 3rd line of section one, the following, "which are in the opinion of the Governor and Council entitled to dead human bodies for the advancement of surgery."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. O'Neil of Biddeford, offered an amendment to section 2 by striking out all after the word "kin" in the 23rd line and adding the following, "or fraternal beneficiary organization to which the deceased may belong."

A division being had the amendment was adopted by a vote of 50 for to 43 against.

The bill was read twice, and on motion of Mr. O'Neil of Biddeford, the rules were suspended, the bill was read a third time and was passed to be engrossed, as amended.

Motion to reconsider the vote passing to be enacted and engrossed, bill relating to the charter of the city of Biddeford.

On motion of Mr. Hamilton of Biddeford, the motion was assigned for consideration for Wednesday morning of next week.

On motion of Mr. Kaler of Scarborough, report of the committee on judiciary reporting ought to pass on bill relating to physicians and surgeons employed in general hospitals was taken from the table and on further motion by the same gentleman the report of the committee was accepted.

On motion of Mr. Rodick of Eden, bill relating to the packing of sardines was taken from the table.

Mr. Rodick offered an amendment by striking out the word "deputies" in the second line of section 6, and inserting the word "wardens"; also after the word "each" in the 13th line strike out the words "and one warden each additional" for every town where sardines are canned in the State of Maine, and inserting the following, "and the compensation of the wardens shall be \$2 per day and expenses when actually employed."

The amendment was adopted and the bill was then passed to be engrossed as amended.

On motion of Mr. Fogler of Rockland, resolve relating to the Children's Aid Society 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. Macomber of Augusta, the report of the committee on legal affairs, reporting ought not to pass on bill an act to incorporate the Somerset Traction Co., was taken from the table.

The question being to reconsider the acceptance of the report, the acceptance of the report was reconsidered, and on further motion by Mr. Macomber, the matter was re-committed to the committee on legal affairs.

On motion of Mr. Philbrook of Waterville, bill relating to the duties of State superintendent of schools was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gentleman, the bill was read a third time and was passed to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr. Stetson of Bangor, bill to establish traveling libraries was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gentleman, the bill was read twice and assigned for tomorrow morning.

On motion of Mr. Fogler of Rockland, bill relating to the Oxford Light Co. was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gentleman, the bill was read a second time as amended and assigned for tomorrow morning.

On motion of Mr. Hill of Portland, bill relating to the sale of property in warehouses on which charges have not been paid, was taken from the table.

Mr. Hill offered amendment "A," by inserting in the ninth line the word "register" between the words "by" and "letter."

The amendment was adopted, and on further motion by Mr. Hill, the bill was read a second time and assigned for tomorrow morning.

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

Mr. Hutchins offered an amendment to section 1, to strike out wherever it appears the word "town," and insert "city"; amend section 2, by striking out the words "or town," wherever they appear.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Fogler moved that the bill be indefinitely postponed.

After some discussion by Messrs. Fogler of Rockland, Stetson of Bangor, and Hamilton of Biddeford, the motion to indefinitely postpone was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Weeks of Fairfield, resolve relating to the State Reform school was taken from the table.

The resolve was read the first time, and on further motion by Mr. Weeks, the rules were suspended and the resolve was assigned for tomorrow morning.

On motion of Mr. Pearl of Bangor, bill relating to the charter of the city of Bangor, was taken from the table.

On further motion by Mr. Pearl, the House non-concurred with the Senate in the passage of amendments "A" and "B."

Mr. Pearl offered amendment "A," to strike out in the 10th line after the word "or," the words "by at least 10 members," and insert the words "a majority"; in the 39th line strike out the words after the word "or," "by at least 10 members," and insert the words "a majority."

The amendment was adopted and the bill was then passed to be engrossed as amended.

On motion of Mr. Macomber of Augusta, bill relating to the investigation of the causes of fires, was taken from the table.

Mr. Fogler of Rockland, withdrew amendment "A," and offered amendment "B," to strike out section 6 and substitute therefor the following: "The insurance commissioners may employ such clerks and assistants and incur such expenses as may be necessary to carry out

the provisions of this act, not to exceed \$2000 in any one year, and all bills and expenses incurred shall be audited by the Governor and Council."

The amendment was adopted and the bill was then passed to be engrossed as amended.

On motion of Mr. Stetson of Bangor, resolve relating to traveling libraries was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gentleman, the resolve was read once and assigned for tomorrow morning under suspension of the rules.

On motion of Mr. Knowlton of Knowlton of Portland—
Adjourned.

Afternoon Session.

On motion of Mr. Murray of Pembroke, bill relating to the Bath municipal court was taken from the table.

Mr. Murray offered amendment "A," by inserting in the title of the act after the word "to," the following, "the appointment of a recorder for."

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

On motion of Mr. Blanchard of Wilton, bill an act for the better preservation of highways and commoding public travel was taken from the table.

Mr. Simpson of York, offered an amendment to add before the word "remove" in the fourth line, "and wherever so directed by the selectmen"; also add after the word "travel" in the 12th line, "and wherever so directed by the selectmen."

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

On motion of Mr. Currier of Farmington, bill an act relating to the Wilton Electric Light and Power Co., was taken from the table.

Mr. Currier offered amendment "A." to strike out the words "in the towns of Wilton, Jay and Farmington," in the third and fourth lines of section 2, and insert in lieu thereof the words, "in the towns of Wilton and Jay."

The amendment was adopted, the bill was read a second time and was assigned for tomorrow morning.

On motion of Mr. Austin of Milford, resolve relating to High school buildings in the town of Frenchville, was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gentleman, it was read a second time and passed to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr. Searls of Chelsea, bill an act relating to the election of town superintendents, powers and duties of school committees and superintendents, was taken from the table.

Mr. Searls offered an amendment by adding to section 3 the words, "except Private and Special Laws authorizing towns, cities and incorporated districts to choose school committees, other than those herein provided for."

The amendment was adopted and the bill was then read a second time and assigned for tomorrow morning.

On motion of Mr. Briggs of Auburn, bill an act relating to the sale of agricultural seeds, was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gentleman, assigned for Tuesday of next week.

On motion of Mr. Hathorn of Medford, bill an act relating to the town of Maxfield, was taken from the table.

Mr. Hathorn further moved the indefinite postponement of this bill.

A division being had, the motion was agreed to by a vote of 46 for to 2 against.

Mr. Austin of Milford, raised the point of order, that the vote shows that there is not a quorum present.

The Speaker: The eye of the Chair discloses a quorum in their seats. The point is not well taken. (Applause).

On motion of Mr. Murray of Pembroke, bill an act amending section 75, of chapter 63, of the Revised Statutes, was taken from the table.

Mr. Murray offered amendment "A," to amend by inserting in the title of the act after the word "Statutes," the following: "relating to probate courts."

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

On motion of Mr. Pattangall of Machias, resolve relating to Potter academy 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. Merrill of Portland, bill an act relating to free high schools was taken from the table, and assigned for Tuesday of next week.

On motion of Mr. Blanchard of Wilton, bill an act relating to the examination of teachers was taken from the table and assigned for Tuesday of next week.

On motion of Mr. Merrill of Portland, bill an act relating to the taxation of property of religious societies was taken from the table, and assigned for Tuesday of next week.

On motion of Mr. Weeks of Fairfield, bill an act relating to the service of trustee writs was taken from the table.

The bill was then read twice and assigned for tomorrow morning.

On motion of Mr. Walton of Skowhegan, bill an act relating to the collection of taxes was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gentleman, re-committed to the committee on legal affairs.

On motion of Mr. Macomber of Augusta, bill an act to establish wards and ward lines in the city of Augusta, was taken from the table.

On further motion by the same gentleman, the bill was read three times and passed to be engrossed under suspension of the rules.

On motion of Mr. Murray of Pembroke, bill an act repealing chapter 182, of the Private and Special Laws of 1891, was taken from the table.

Mr. Murray offered amendment "A," to amend by inserting in the title of the act after the figures "1891" the following;

“relating to the taking of fish from Bungancaant pond.”

The amendment was adopted and the bill was passed to be engrossed as amended.

On motion of Mr. Smith of Presque Isle, bill an act relating to the Mars Hill and Blaine Water Company, was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gentleman the bill was indefinitely postponed.

On motion of Mr. Knowlton of Portland, bill an act relating to the compensation of surviving partners was taken from the table.

Mr. Knowlton offered an amendment to add to section 32 as amended “provided that no commission shall be allowed any surviving partner who succeeds to the business of his late firm either alone or with others.”

The amendment was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Fogler of Rockland, the bill was laid on the table pending its third reading.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Austin for the committee on towns, on petition of Mary A. Dunham praying that a certain parcel of land with the buildings thereon, situated in the town of Bethel, and annexed to the town of Moscow, reported that the petitioner have leave to withdraw.

Mr. Murchie for the committee on railroads, telegraphs and expresses, reported ought to pass on bill an act to permit the Fatten and Sherman Railroad Company to sell or lease its road. Printed under rule.

Mr. Fogg for the committee on military affairs, on petition of the 17th Maine Regimental Association and the Third Army Corps of the Union, praying for the erection of a monument to the memory of Hiram G. Berry, reported that the petition be referred to the next Legislature.

The Speaker appointed Mr. Greenleaf of Southport, upon the committee on county estimates in place of Mr. Ames of Jefferson, who has declined to serve in that capacity.

A communication was received from the secretary of State transmitting the county estimates of the several counties of the State for the years 1897 and 1898, which was referred to the committee on county estimates.

On motion of Mr. Hamilton of Biddeford, resolve relating to the Little Samaritan Aid Society 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. Hamilton of Biddeford, resolve relating to the Bath Military and Naval Orphan Asylum 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. Thurston of Appleton, resolve relating to bridge across Dickey brook, was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gen-

tleman, the resolve was read a second time and passed to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr. Martin of Liberty, resolve relating to the town of Frenchville was taken from the table.

On motion of Mr. Gagnon of Frenchville, the resolve was indefinitely postponed.

On motion of Mr. Greenleaf of Southport,

Adjourned.