

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

Seventy-First Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1903.

took, the vote whereby the Senate concurred with the House in placing on file the several petitions and remonstrances relating to resubmission hereinafter named, was reconsidered; and on the further motion of the same senator, said following enumerated petitions and remonstrances, were referred to the committee on temperance, namely:

Petition of G. B. Nelson and 14 others in favor of resubmission in New Gloucester.

Petition of Lemuel S. Day and 14 others of New Gloucester, for resubmission.

Resolve of the Kennebunkport Christian Civic League against resubmission.

Remonstrance of Maine State Sunday School Association against resubmission.

Remonstrance of Rev. J. A. Bean and members of the M. E. church of Kennebunkport against resubmission.

Remonstrance of N. S. Mansur and 30 others citizens of Monroe against resubmission.

Remonstrance of Charles H. Carter of Portland, Maine and 42 others against resubmission.

Remonstrance of Rev. J. T. Closson of Lebanon and 49 others against resubmission.

Remonstrance of Rev. A. G. Hill and 45 others of Atkinson against resubmission.

Remonstrance of George A. Mills and 8 others against resubmission.

On motion by Mr. Guernsey of Piscataquis, the Senate adjourned to meet on Friday, February 13, 1903, at ten o'clock A. M.

HOUSE.

Thursday, Feb. 12, 1903.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Quimby of Gardiner.

Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

Senate Bills on First Reading.

An Act to incorporate the Squirrel Island Village Corporation.

An Act to incorporate the Pepperell Trust Company.

An Act to incorporate the International Trust and Banking Company.

An Act to amend Chapter 145 of the Private and Special Laws of 1895 entitled An Act to incorporate the Winn Water and Power Company.

The following petitions, bills, etc., were presented and referred:

Judiciary.

By Mr. Allen of Wellington: Petition of L. C. Williams and 26 others of Athens, with bill accompanying, for authority to remove the bodies of deceased persons in the old burying ground in Athens.

By Mr. Pettingill of Rumford: Bill, An Act incorporating the city of Rumford.

Also: Bill, An Act to amend Section 15 of Chapter 132 of the Revised Statutes.

By Mr. Sutherland of Biddeford: Bill, An Act in relation to fees of sheriffs and their deputies.

By Mr. Josselyn of Portland: Bill, An Act relating to the election and term of office of certain members of the board of assessors, board of the overseers of the poor, and female members of the school committee of the city of Portland.

By Mr. Patterson of Industry: Bill, An Act to extend the charter of the Strong Water Company.

By Mr. Potter of Brunswick: Petition and bill to amend act creating Brunswick Municipal Court.

Legal Affairs.

By Mr. Clarke of Nobleboro: Petition of L. H. Chapman and 91 others of Newcastle and Damariscotta asking that the Damariscotta Gas Light Company be authorized to furnish gas in the towns of Damariscotta and

Newcastle; of D. W. Chapman and two others of Newcastle for same.

By Mr. Nash of Kennebunk: Petition of R. W. Lord and 382 others in favor of amending Chapter 92 of the Special Laws of 1887.

By Mr. Weatherbee of Lincoln: Bill, An Act relating to Hawkers and Peddlers.

By Mr. Oakes of Auburn: Bill, An Act authorizing the Lewiston Trust and Safe Deposit Company to establish branches at Freeport and Bangham.

By Mr. Pettengill of Rumford: Bill, An Act in regard to compensation of town officers.

By Mr. Burrill of Ellsworth: Bill, An Act to extend the powers of the Union River Light, Gas and Power Company.

By Mr. Norton of Gardiner: Bill, An Act to amend the charter of the city of Gardiner, with a statement of facts.

By Mr. Howe of Canton: Bill, An Act in relation to judges of municipal courts.

By Mr. Mills of Stonington: Bill, An Act to amend Chapter 613 of the Private and Special Laws of 1893 entitled "An Act to establish the Western Hancock Municipal Court."

Education.

By Mr. Josselyn of Portland: Bill, An Act to change the corporate name of the "Maine Wesleyan Seminary and Female College."

Banks and Banking.

By Mr. Drew of Portland: Bill, An Act to amend Section 100 of Chapter 47 of the Revised Statutes relating to the investments of savings banks.

By Mr. Davis of Waterville: Bill, An Act to amend Section 100 of Chapter 47 of the Revised Statutes.

Agriculture.

By Mr. Foss of Hancock: Petition of D. W. Wooster and others asking that the law enacted in the year 1899, Chapter 30, Section 12, be amended.

By Mr. Hill of Winterport: Bill, An Act to amend and act allowing annual stipend to the Waldo and Penobscot Agricultural Society.

Interior Waters.

By Mr. Barker of Bangor: Remonstrance of John A. Peters and 28 others against the passage of House document No. 1 to incorporate the West Branch Driving and Reservoir Dam Company, and petition asking for the passage of amendment now before the House to extend the powers of the Penobscot Log Driving Company.

Also: Remonstrance of R. A. Webster and 217 others of Bangor against the passage of House document No. 1, entitled "An Act to incorporate the West Branch Driving and Reservoir Dam Company."

By Mr. Sargent of Brewer: Remonstrance of Harlan P. Sargent and 153 others of Brewer against same.

By Mr. Ross of Bangor: Remonstrance of F. W. Ayer and 175 others of Bangor against same.

Also: Remonstrance of Lowell Engell and 202 others of Bangor against same.

By Mr. Cameron of Bangor: Remonstrance of John L. Parker and 421 others of Bangor against same.

By Mr. Weatherbee of Lincoln: Bill, An Act to incorporate the Madunkenunk Falls Dam and Improvement Company.

By Mr. Pettengill of Rumford: Bill, An Act to incorporate the Androscoggin Log Driving Company.

Federal Relations.

By Mr. Shaw of Bath: Petition of Harry H. Mayen and 778 others of Bath to Congress favoring national ownership of anthracite coal mines.

By Mr. Josselyn of Portland: Petition of H. A. Richardson and 1501 others for the national ownership of the anthracite coal mines, and permanent municipal coal and wood yards.

By Mr. Burrill of Ellsworth: Petition of O. C. Donnell and 69 others, residents of Hancock county, for the national ownership of coal mines.

By Mr. Buxton of Abbott: Petition of W. A. Dutton and 26 others of Abbott and vicinity praying for the Legislature to memorialize the Congress of the United States to secure national ownership of the anthracite coal mines.

Also: Petition of Charles F. Davis and others of Shirley for same.

By Mr. Page of Skowhegan: Petition of R. T. Patten and 83 others for the national ownership of the anthracite coal mines and permanent municipal coal and wood yards.

By Mr. Poor of Belfast: Petition of Amasa S. Heal and 23 others for same.

By Mr. Smith of Madison: Petition of F. A. Manter and 294 others of Madison, Mercer and Anson for same.

By Mr. Mead of Bridgton: Petition of Daniel T. Adams and 21 others of Sweden in favor of municipal coal and wood yards.

Also: Petition of George H. Richardson and 8 others of North Bridgton for same.

Also: Petition of J. B. Allen and 17 others of Bridgton and vicinity for same.

By Mr. Manson of Pittsfield: Petition of James O'Riley and 50 others for national ownership of anthracite coal mines.

By Mr. Clarke of Waldoboro: Petition of Edward Greenleaf and 40 others of Boothbay and Trent for same.

By Mr. Thomas of Harpswell: Petition of E. S. Leeman and 24 others of Harpswell in favor of establishing permanent coal and wood yards in the towns and cities of the State of Maine.

By Mr. Brewster of Dexter: Petition of G. L. Hersey and 58 others of Corinth for memorial to Congress regarding national ownership of coal mines, and for an amendment to the constitution of Maine.

Also: Petition of J. A. Smith and 355 others of Dexter for same.

By Mr. Sutherland of Biddeford: Petition of George G. Calderwood and 216 others of Biddeford and Saco for the national ownership of the anthracite coal mines and permanent municipal coal and wood yards.

By Mr. Randall of Freeport: Petition of R. V. Hunter and 135 others relating to national ownership of anthracite mines.

Ways and Bridges.

By Mr. Dodge of Troy: Petition of the selectmen and 72 others of Burnham for the maintenance of long bridges by the county and State.

Inland Fisheries and Game.

By Mr. Mead of Bridgton: Petition of P. P. Burnham and 45 others of Bridgton in favor of screening Peabody pond; of Joseph S. Dunham and 40 others of South Bridgton; of Eugene Chaplain and 27 others of Bridgton—all for same.

By Mr. Morrison of Eden: Petition of H. S. Conary and 38 others of Deer Isle to regulate the taking of sea birds.

By Mr. Foss of Hancock: Petition of Henry A. Butler and 39 others asking that a law be enacted replacing the bounty on wildcats.

Also: Petition of Frank Smith and others asking for an act to regulate the taking of black bass in the waters of Hancock county.

By Mr. Stover of Brunswick: Petition of J. F. Brown and 24 others of Yarmouth for close time on rabbits.

Also: Petition of J. Y. Stanton and 15 others of Lewiston and Auburn for same.

Also: Petition of Clarence E. Sawyer and others for same.

By Mr. Putnam of Danforth: Remonstrance against the non-resident hunters' license law.

By Mr. Mead of Bridgton: Resolve in favor of screening the outlet of Peabody pond in the county of Cumberland.

Shore Fisheries.

By Mr. Sutherland of Biddeford: Bill, An Act to prohibit the taking of clams in the shores and flats within the town of Scarborough.

Also: Bill, An Act to amend sections 24, 26 and 29 of chapter 284 of the Public Laws of 1901.

By Mr. Thomas of Harpswell: Bill, An Act to enable any person or persons to convert marsh lands into clam flats.

Public Charities and State Beneficiaries.

By Mr. Smith of Madison: Petition of R. C. Gray and 21 others of Madison praying for the establishment of a home and school for the feeble minded.

By Mr. Mead of Bridgton: Petition of the local board of health of the town of Bridgton in favor of the establishment of a State laboratory of Hygiene.

By Mr. Buxton of Abbot: Petition of the board of health of Foxcroft for same.

By Mr. Peaslee of Upton: Petition of the board of health of Bethel for same.

By Mr. Farnsworth of Tremont: Petition of the board of health of Tremont for same.

By Mr. Oakes of Auburn: Resolve in favor of the president and trustees of Bates College.

Public Buildings and Grounds.

By Mr. Gannett of Augusta: Petition of Mrs. Carolyn Kempton Partridge and 27 other officers and members of Kouisnoc Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, of Augusta, for an appropriation to improve the State reservation at Fort William Henry, Pemaquid.

Claims.

By Mr. Patterson of Industry: Resolve in favor of L. W. Looke.

Labor.

By Mr. Morrison of Eden: Petition of H. H. Young and 58 others of Eden asking that Chapter 82, Section 43, of the Revised Statutes be changed so that eight hours labor constitutes a day's work; of O. P. Wescott and 25 others of Eden for same; of J. S. Allen and 52 others of Eden for same; of J. A. Stevens and 32 others of Eden for same.

Temperance.

By Mr. Bussey of Dixmont: Remonstrance of L. D. Smith and 29 others against resubmission.

By Mr. McGregor of Enfield: Remonstrance of Mrs. Maud Bates and 28 others of Howland and Montague against same.

Revision of Statutes.

By Mr. Thornton of Ashland: Bill, An Act to repeal Sections 21, 22, 46, 66 and 70 of Chapter two of the Revised Statutes, relating to duties of treasurer of State and secretary of State.

Also: Bill, An Act to amend Section 12 of Chapter three of the Revised Statutes, as amended by Chapter 335 of the Public Laws of 1885. And to repeal conflicting statutes relating to the election of collectors of taxes.

Also: Bill, An Act relating to the dedication of streets.

Also: Bill, An Act to repeal Section 9 of Chapter 13 of the Revised Statutes relating to the practice of medicine and surgery.

Also: Bill, An Act to repeal Sections 14 and 17 of Chapter 6 of the Revised Statutes relating to the duties of county treasurers.

Also: Bill, An Act to repeal Section 200 of Chapter 6 of the Revised Statutes as amended by Section 10 of Chapter 70 of the Public Laws of 1895 relating to tax sales.

Also: Bill, An Act to repeal Section 201 of Chapter 6 of the Revised Statutes relating to tax sales.

Also: Bill, An Act to amend Section 83 of Chapter 6 of the Revised Statutes relating to tax sales.

Also: Bill, An Act to amend Chapter 162 of the Public Laws of 1895 relating to tax sales.

Also: Bill, An Act to amend paragraph 1 of Section 6 of Chapter 6 of the Revised Statutes relating to property exempt from taxation.

Also: Bill, An Act to repeal Sections 39, 40 and 41 of Chapter 3 of the Revised Statutes relating to the returns made by assessors.

Also: Bill, An Act relating to the duties of secretary of State.

Salaries.

By Mr. Campbell of Cherryfield: Bill, An Act to establish the salary of the judge of probate in the county of Washington.

Orders.

On motion of Mr. Allen of Wellington,

Ordered, That the trustees of the University of Maine be instructed to obtain for the benefit of the members of the Legislature the salary and perquisites received by the president, professors and instructors and all other attaches, including clerks, stenographers and typewriters, and all others drawing compensation at the University of Maine, giving each individual separately, and the duties of each. Also the number of students attending the college from out of the State and how many are paying their tuition annually; also how many are pursuing

the classical course of study in said college, and report the same as soon as practicable to the Legislature.

Mr. Mead of Bridgton offered the following order:

Ordered, That James A. Chase be and hereby is elected first folder of the House in place of J. F. Frederic excused.

On motion of Mr. Mead this order was laid on the table.

Mr. WEATHERBEE of Lincoln: Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to suspend the rules that I may introduce an order out of order.

Mr. WEEKS of Fairfield: Mr. Speaker, Before the rules are suspended I would like to know the contents of the order and the reason for a suspension of the rules.

The SPEAKER: The order is as follows: "Ordered, That the clerk of the House be directed to make up the payroll of the House to include F. A. Morey, Alonzo M. Garcelon and Michael A. Coyne in full the end of the session."

Mr. WEEKS: Mr. Speaker, I have no objection to the passage of the order but I believe that those gentlemen can wait until tomorrow before they get their pay. It strikes me that there is no urgency in this matter, and I ask the gentlemen from Lincoln to withdraw the order for the present.

Mr. WEATHERBEE: Mr. Speaker, if there is any objection to the consideration of the order at this time, of course I will withdraw it.

Reports of Committees.

Mr. McFaul from the committee on legal affairs on bill, An Act to abolish the bureau of industrial and labor statistics, reported ought not to pass.

Mr. Randall from the committee on education, on Resolve in favor of the establishment of a normal school at Machias to be known as the Washington county normal school, reported that the same be referred to the next Legislature.

Mr. Farnsworth from the committee on shore fisheries, on petition of H. A. Wallace and 64 others praying for repeal of Chapter 172 of the Laws of 1899, An Act establishing a close time on lobsters in Pidgeon Hill Bay, reported leave to withdraw.

Mr. Shackford from same committee, on bill, An Act to amend Sections 43, 47 and 50 of Chapter 284 of the Public Laws of 1901 relating to sea shore fisheries, reported ought not to pass.

Mr. Barker from the committee on legal affairs, on bill, An Act to amend Chapter 486 of the Private and Special Laws of 1889 relating to the city of Westbrook, reported ought to pass.

Mr. Kelley from same committee reported in a new draft bill, An Act to amend Chapter 97, Section 3 of the Revised Statutes, relating to bastard children and their maintenance, and that it ought to pass.

Mr. Barker from same committee, on bill, An Act to amend Chapter 346 of the Private and Special Laws of 1897 entitled "An Act to amend the charter of the city of Westbrook," reported ought to pass.

Mr. Sutherland from the committee on railroads, telegraphs and expresses, on bill, An Act for the protection of railroad signals, reported ought to pass.

Mr. Burrill from same committee reported in a new draft bill, An Act to authorize the Augusta, Winthrop and Gardiner Railway to supply electricity in the towns of Winthrop and Manchester, and that it ought to pass.

Mr. Shaw from same committee on bill, An Act to amend Chapter 236 of the Public Laws of 1893 relating to taking of lands or other property by railroads, reported ought to pass.

Mr. Burrill from same committee, on bill, An Act extending the sundry existing statutes to street railroads, reported ought to pass.

Mr. Boyd from same committee, on bill, An Act to enlarge the powers of the railroad commissioners over street railroads, reported ought to pass.

On motion of Mr. Boyd the rules were suspended and the bill received its first reading and was assigned for to-morrow morning.

Mr. Kimball from same committee, on bill, An Act to amend Chapter 271 of the Private and Special Laws of 1901 relating to the Lincoln Electric Railway Company, reported ought to pass.

Mr. Kimball from same committee, on bill, An Act to incorporate the For-

est Telegraph and Telephoning Company, reported ought to pass.

Mr. Clarke from same committee reported in a new draft bill, An Act to incorporate the Camden and Liberty railway, and that it ought to pass.

Mr. Shaw from same committee, reported in a new draft bill, An Act to enlarge the powers of street railroads in taking lands, and that it ought to pass.

Mr. Maybury from the committee on banks and banking, on bill, An Act to extend the charter of the South Portland Trust and Banking Company, reported ought to pass.

Mr. Maybury from same committee, on bill, An Act to extend the charter of the Sanford Trust Company, reported ought to pass.

Mr. Maybury from same committee, on bill, An Act to incorporate the Union Trust Company of Saco, reported ought to pass.

Mr. Furbish from the committee on inland fisheries and game, on Resolve in favor of establishing a fish hatchery and feeding station at the Rangeley lakes, reported ought to pass. (Referred to committee on appropriations and financial affairs.)

Mr. Todd from the committee on shore fisheries, on bill, An Act for the better protection of shell fish within the town of Georgetown, reported ought to pass.

Mr. Farnsworth from same committee, on bill, An Act to repeal Chapter 582 of the Public Laws of 1864 relating to taking fish in Frenchman's Bay except by ordinary process of hand line, reported ought to pass.

The reports were accepted and bills and resolves ordered printed under joint rules.

On motion of Mr. Page of Skowhegan, bills on their passage to be enacted were taken up at this point.

Passed to be Enacted.

An Act to amend Chapter 258 of the Public Laws of 1893 as amended by Chapter 130 of the Public Laws of 1895 relating to the taxation of savings banks.

An Act to confer additional powers upon the Lincoln County Street Railway.

An Act to establish a street and sewer commission for the city of Bath.

An Act to regulate the placing of permanent moorings in harbors.

An Act to authorize the Biddeford & Saco Water Company to issue bonds and for other purposes.

An Act to amend Section 4 of Chapter 91 of the Revised Statutes, relating to notice of foreclosure of mortgage of personal property. (Tabled on motion of Mr. Libby of Mechanic Falls).

An Act to amend Section 17 of Chapter 77 of the Revised Statutes, relating to times of holding terms of the supreme judicial court in Knox county.

First Reading of Printed Bills and Resolves.

An Act in relation to the salaries of the justices of the supreme judicial court.

An Act to legalize the doings of the Crosbyville chapel at Bangor, Maine.

Resolve providing for the compensation of steamboat inspectors for the years 1900, 1901 and 1902.

An Act in relation to the election of the members of the school committee of the city of Portland.

An Act to change the name of the town of St. Agatha in the county of Aroostook to Cleveland.

An Act to amend Section 5 of Chapter 42 of the Public Laws of 1899, as amended by Chapter 326 of the Private and Special Laws of 1901, relating to fishing through the ice in Thompson pond.

On motion of Mr. Libby of Mechanic Falls, the rules were suspended and this bill received its three readings and was passed to be engrossed.

An Act additional to and amendatory of Chapter 54 of the Private and Special Laws of 1895, creating the Rumford Falls Village Corporation.

On motion of Mr. Pettengill of Rumford, the rules were suspended and this bill received its three readings and was passed to be engrossed.

An Act concerning attorneys at law.

Passed to be Engrossed.

An Act to ratify certain doings of the Eliot Bridge Company.

An Act to authorize the State land agent to convey to the Fish River Railroad Company right of way over public lot owned by the State.

An Act to authorize the Bangor & Aroostook Railroad Company to extend yard tracks across a way in Houlton.

Orders of the Day.

On motion of Mr. Ross of Bangor, House documents 88 and 87 were taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gentleman they were referred to the committee on interior waters.

On motion of Mr. Mead of Bridgton, the order for the appointment of L. E. Thornton for first folder for the remainder of the session, was taken from the table.

Mr. MEAD: Mr. Speaker, the other candidates for this office having withdrawn, I move that this order have a passage.

MR. SMITH of Presque Isle: Mr. Speaker, I move to amend the order by striking out the word "first." I will state that I have been informed that the other candidate has withdrawn, and, tomorrow, I shall present an order fixing the rank of the folders; and under that order, if it receives a passage, Mr. Dixon will rank as first folder, Mr. Lydstone as second folder, and if Mr. Thornton is elected he will rank as third folder. I have prepared the order after a personal consultation with Mr. Lydstone and Mr. Dixon. I refrain from presenting the order, today, because I haven't much hair left on my head, and what little I have got I am going to save, keep and protect my scalp from the gentleman from Fairfield.

The amendment was adopted, and the order received a passage as amended.

Woman's Suffrage.

The special assignment for today, was the majority and minority reports of the committee of legal affairs on bill, An Act to enable women paying taxes to vote in municipal elections.

Messrs. Staples, Clark, Allan, Oakes, Morey and McFaul, a majority of the committee, report in a new draft bill, An Act to enable women to vote in municipal affairs, and that it ought to pass.

Messrs. Barker, Campbell, Manson and Pierce, a minority of the committee, report ought not to pass.

MR. BARKER of Bangor: Mr. Speaker, As this matter has been more or less generally discussed, and inasmuch as I feel that the gentlemen realize that the majority of the women of Maine do not desire to vote, and feeling as I do that the minority position of the committee is clearly and generally understood, without further trespassing upon the time of the House I move you that the minority report be substituted for that of the majority.

Mr. OAKES of Auburn: Mr. Speaker, I have waited patiently to hear something said in support of the motion, but hearing nothing it seems to me proper that I should proceed to say what little I have to say in opposition to the motion, or to say what I have to say in support of the majority report. It happens that I am a member of the committee, and one of the members signing the majority report. It happens, very unfortunately I think, that the distinguished gentleman from Portland (Mr. Allan), who introduced the bill and whose name appears at the head of the report on the part of the House, is not with us today to speak and to represent the views of the majority as he is so well qualified to do. But as a member of the committee introducing the majority report, I think at least that the question should be fully discussed. I am free to say at the outset that I think perhaps that some other member of the committee might speak better in place of myself. I am not a radical advocate of woman's suffrage. I have not reached the conclusion to support this measure without hesitation and without careful consideration. I think that we must all agree that it is a most far-reaching bill. If this passes it will change many conditions,—not simply in voting, it will reach into business, it will reach into all social affairs, it will reach into home life and its effects are difficult to measure, as it seems to me. I am free to say that I have had much sympathy with the views expressed by many ladies, voiced recently by a distinguished married lady in a speech which I saw in the papers, in which she said that if woman could retain her privileges she did not care very much for her rights; and I think that very many women in this State have that same feeling. I know that it is a fact that for many a man who supports woman's suffrage, his opponents would be in his own household. I know it is a fact, as has been evidenced in the hearing before the committee, that many brilliant ladies believe this would be undesirable, and have even joined together to oppose it. And yet, Mr. Speaker, in my judgment the conclusion must be reached, on a careful consideration of this question,

conceding everything which we ought to the other side of the question, conceding all the difficulties which attach to the subject, it is my view that the conclusion must be reached that suffrage should be granted to women in municipal affairs, and it is for that reason that I wish to discuss the question very briefly from the standpoint which I have reached in the matter.

Now I will lay aside in a discussion of the matter a good many things which might fairly be claimed and are strenuously urged in behalf of woman's suffrage. I lay aside the claim that woman's suffrage has been demonstrated by experience in other places to be a success. I do that in this argument because that claim is stoutly controverted, and I do not care to rest what I may say upon such claims. I lay aside the claim that by this measure the conditions of society will be greatly and immediately improved, although that claim is urged with great force and may be entitled to great weight.

Let us concede that the conditions will not be much changed, and that the average position of things in society, in business matters, in political matters, will remain nearly as it is now at the present time. I concede, as I said, that there is great opposition among many intelligent, refined, loyal women throughout this State. All these things I think should be reckoned with and yet, I say, the conclusion I think still should be reached that woman's suffrage should be granted.

Now so far as I have noticed the present discussions in this matter, there are certain things which nearly everybody will concede at the present time. I believe that there are few persons at the present day who will deny that the women of the State of Maine are intellectually qualified to cast a proper vote. I believe there are few people today who will deny that the women of Maine are morally qualified to cast a proper vote. I believe that there are few people in the State of Maine today who will deny that the women of the State of Maine are physically qualified to cast a proper vote. I believe today that we shall agree that the women of the State of Maine, with the enlarged rights which have been granted by the State of Maine by statute, enabling them to take part in the business of the Commonwealth, enabling them to conduct their own affairs and own their own property, with the increasing education of the women of the State of Maine, that the enlarged concessions made by public opinion throughout the State of Maine, the greater recognition of the intellectual rights and possibilities of the women of the State of Maine make them, today, citizens, as they are designated in the bill reported by the majority of this committee. They are citizens of this State of Maine, today. They are active parts in this body politic today in the State of Maine. Now if that is so, it seems to me that the conclusion is irresistible that the women of

the State of Maine today have a right to vote. I take the position, and I take it after due consideration, that the women of the State of Maine today, having reached the position that they have as members of society today in the State of Maine, as members of our great citizenship, are entitled as a matter of right to vote in this State which is a government of the people, by the people and for the people, as was declared in our Declaration of Independence. The women of the State of Maine today are a part of the people of this State, in a large sense. As a part of the people of this State they have the right to vote; and I am inclined to think that, having the right to vote, although it will be putting burdens upon many of them which they do not care to assume, I am inclined to think that there is the corresponding duty upon the women of this State to vote if they have the opportunity.

Now, Mr. Speaker, my conclusion further is that this right to vote is not a right of women as a class or as a sex, but it is the right of the individual woman. If it is the right of the individual woman, the fact that many women do not believe in this, the fact that many women do not care to vote, the fact that many women believe that it will be better for them not to vote, does not prevent this right from coming to the front for those who do wish to vote. As I say, Mr. Speaker, I have reached this conclusion after some hesitation. I have reached it not entirely in accordance with my own wishes and rather against the prejudices which I had; but it seems to me that, conceding the propositions which I think cannot be denied, it seems to me that the right thing is that women should have the opportunity to vote.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I believe furthermore that the argument of the time condition is with us. I believe that this thing is something which must be met by an affirmative at the present time, or in the not distant future. I believe, if I can read the signs of the times aright, considering the progress of events from the time when this movement first started years ago, considering that many an argument which was made at the time of its beginning has been destroyed by the march of time and events, I believe at this time we can see that progress has been steadily made towards this end and that it is only a matter of time when suffrage shall be granted to women as it is claimed today. We find women taking more and more a part in public matters, as it is. We find women taking more and more a part in the great societies which exist. We find today the State Grange sending a unanimous vote for the suffrage for women. We find that through the meetings of that body, an intelligent body, a body which discusses matters of business, which discusses matters of politics in their higher sense, a body which deals with questions of general welfare, we find the conclusion reached by the members of that body that

woman should be allowed to represent her own business, to represent the business of her locality as she is qualified to do by her ability, by her character and by her intellectual attainments. We see it, I think, in the higher education of women as it has developed. We see it in the training of women, which has extended not merely into the intellectual fields but into the physical fields. We find it, it seems to me, in all directions; and, Mr. Speaker, in presenting this matter I have, in view of the time to which I desired to limit myself, refrained from discussing the many things which seemed to me to be open to discussion bearing favorably upon this question, but I have confined myself, as I say, to what I think will be the fundamental question involved here. I believe that this thing is a question of right. It should not be turned aside but we should consider whether at the present time we have not reached the moment when this thing ought to be done, when this door ought to be opened to the enlightened and intelligent women of the State of Maine. (Applause).

Mr. CAMPBELL of Cherryfield: Mr. Speaker, As a member of the legal affairs committee, signing the minority report, we do not wish it to be understood that those of the committee who supported the minority report—which now in the absence of our distinguished chairman and our lamented friend from Lewiston is really the majority report before the House—we do not wish it to be understood that by any delay in advocating on the floor of the House this minority report we shirk our duties. But, on the other hand, Mr. Speaker, in a matter of this kind where we have had such an exhaustive hearing, so largely attended by the members of the House, where every intelligent man is so well informed and every intelligent member of this House knows now how he is going to vote, I do not think that at this stage of the proceedings very much time should be taken to thrash over this old straw. But if there should be any doubt in the mind of any member as to how he should cast his ballot in this matter, it is up to the members presenting the minority, or those who are asking for the substitution of the minority report for that of the majority, to give their reasons for the faith which is within them.

I do not think, in a discussion of this question, that we should go to the length to which my brother from Auburn (Mr. Oakes) has gone. This merely proposes municipal suffrage for women; it merely proposes that our women may take part in the annual spring elections, the regular "scrap" that we have all over the State of Maine sometime in March or April. (Laughter). Now I am "agin" it. (Laughter). And why? In the first place, the women of Maine don't want it. Did you ever hear of any proposed improvement or of any radical change in matters in Maine that was not supported by petition from a great number? Where are

the petitioners in this case? Not one. We have had some hired speakers who have enlightened us somewhat, but on the other hand we have had remonstrants by the hundreds from the thinking, intelligent women of this State who say, "Don't thrust this upon us." It is for those who propose a change to show that the change will be for the better. Nothing that has been said in the discussion before the committee or on the floor of the House, shows that. Will it improve the condition of women? Much has been said of the condition of women in the states where they now vote. Is it going forwards or backwards when we imitate the example of Utah or Wyoming or Idaho? Civilization is crude there; these things are experiments there. The civilization of the State of Maine is of a different character. They tell us that in Utah the principal prop of the Mormon influence is woman's suffrage. And in Idaho they expect now to return two Mormon United States senators through the influence of the woman vote in that state. (Laughter).

Mr. Speaker, the function of a woman in the State differs so from that of a man that we cannot discuss a question applying to them both, from the same standpoint. The duties of a woman, the duties of home life and of the mother, are not compatible with the duties imposed by the suffrage. Woman has her sphere. Woman is satisfied to labor within the scope of her sphere. And when the women of Maine come here and ask for the right to participate in the suffrage, it will be granted by this House; but until that time I say let us confine our suffrage to the lines which we have followed so many years, and give municipal suffrage to women when by overwhelming majorities or by considerable numbers they ask for it at our hands. (Applause).

Mr. SMITH of Presque Isle: Mr. Speaker, The ladies are here today in full force and I suppose they want to get us on record in this matter. I suppose our wives are all looking at us and are anxious to have us on record. I want to go on record on this question. I have been taught to believe, since I was married, that it is the vested right of the wife to nag the husband, day in and day out, if she wants to. (Laughter). And I don't want anything done to hinder, obstruct or curtail that right. (Laughter). And so, in order that we may be on record so that our wives can properly "nag" us because of the way we vote, I move that when the vote is taken it be taken by the yeas and nays.

The motion was agreed to.

The question being, shall the minority report be substituted for the majority, the yeas and nays were ordered.

YEAS:—Abbott, Allen of Sanford, Allen of Wellington, Barker, Bener, Blake, Blanchard, Bodwell, Boyd, Brewster, Burrell, Bussey, Buxton, Buzzell, Cameron, Campbell, Carleton, Clarke of Nobleboro, Clark of Prospect, Cook, Crowell, Curtis, Daniels, Davis, Dilling, Dodge, Downing,

Drew, Dudley, Eaton of Calais, Eaton of Wells, Farnsworth of Fembroke, Farnsworth of Tremont, Favour, Foss, Furbish, Gagnon, Gannett, Gardner, Greenleaf, Hawkes, Hayes, Hill of Buxton, Hill of Winterport, Hinckley, Howe, Howes, Hubbard, Irving, Jones, Josselyn, Kelley, Kimball, Krapp, Knowlton of New Portland, Libby of Oakland, Little, Littlefield, Low, Manscn, McGregor, McIntire, McNamara, Mills, Morrison, Nelson, Newcomb, Nickerson, Norton, Page of Skowhegan, Parrott, Perkins, Pooler, Poor, Putnam of Danforth, Putnam of Houlton, Randall, Reynolds, Rice, Ross, Ruggies, Sargent, Shackford of Harrington, Shackford of Poland, Shaw, Smith of Hartland, Smith of Madison, Smith of Presque Isle, Spear, Stearns, Sturgis, Sweet, Sweeney, Tapley, Tartre, Taylor, Thomas of Harpswell, Thomas of Topsham, Thompson of China, Thompson of Orono, Thurlow, Tremblay, Tripp, Twambly, Waterhouse, Weatherbee, Weeks, Wentworth, White, Williams—110.

NAY:—Albert, Bailey, Briggs, Butler, Coburn, Cole, Davidson, Hall, Haskell, Hill of Brownfield, Leavitt, Libby of Mechanic Falls, Maybury, McKusick, Mead, Merriam, Mewer, Oakes of Auburn, Page of Drew Pl., Patterson, Peaslee, Pettengill, Purinton, Sewall, Snowe, Stover, Sutherland, Todd, Watson—29.

ABSENT:—Knowlton of Camden, Lamb, McFaul, Oakes of Milford, Pike, Potter, Savage, Thornton—8.

PAIRED:—Libby of Newfield, No; Nash, Yes.

So the motion prevailed, and the minority report was substituted for the majority

The minority report was then accepted. On motion of Mr Clark of Penobscot, Adjourned.