

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

Seventy-Second Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1905.

HOUSE.

Friday, March 24, 1905.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Hayden of Augusta.

Journal of yesterday read and approved.

An Act relating to the Northern Gas and Electric Company, having been indefinitely postponed in the House, came from the Senate, that branch insisting on its action and asking for a committee of conference.

On motion of Mr. Higgins of Limerick, the House voted to adhere.

Mr. Milliken of Island Falls, presented the following order:

Ordered, the Senate concurring, that a special joint committee of three on the part of the House be appointed to inquire into the question of free transportation of State officials by the railroads and the best method of regulating the same. This committee shall serve without pay and report at the next legislature. This report shall be filed with the clerk of the House not later than December first, 1906.

Mr. MILLIKEN: Mr. Speaker, an order was introduced some time ago in reference to that matter and referred to the committee on salaries and the committee reported a bill. The bill has since been discussed by those in favor of the principle of the thing, but they have been unable to agree on just the proper method of getting at the difficulty; and it has seemed best to all those interested in the matter, as far as I know, that the matter now should be referred to the next legislature, and that whatever the committee may decide about the best method of proceeding, would be better considered at another session. With that in mind, this order has been introduced.

On motion of Mr. Kimball of Rockland, the order was tabled pending its passage.

On motion of Mr. Higgins of Limerick, it was

Ordered, the Senate concurring, that the public printer be directed to send to each member of the Senate and House the remaining numbers of the legislative record.

An Act to amend section two of

chapter 211 of the Private and Special Laws of 1895, relating to the Bangor Municipal court, came up on its first reading.

On motion of Mr. Baxter of Portland, the bill was laid on the table temporarily.

On motion of Mr. Belleau of Lewiston, bill, to encourage the cultivation of forests and wood lots, was taken from the table.

On motion of Mr. Sewall of Bath, the House voted to insist and ask for a committee of conference.

The Chair appointed on the part of the House Messrs. Sewall of Bath, Treworgy of Surry and Abbott of North Berwick.

Passed to be Enacted.

An Act to amend Section 1 of Chapter 301 of the Private and Special Laws of 1903, relating to the protection of deer in the counties of York, Cumberland, Sagadahoc, Lincoln, Knox, Waldo and Kennebec.

An Act to amend Section 16 of Chapter 90 of the Revised Statutes relative to partition of real estate.

An Act enlarging the duties and fixing the compensation of the attorney general.

An Act to amend Section 34 of Chapter 41 of the Revised Statutes relating to the taking of clams.

An Act to amend Section 15 of Chapter 57 of the Revised Statutes relating to free public libraries.

An Act to amend an Act entitled, "An Act to set off a part of plantation No. 7 and annex it to the town of Gouldsboro," of the Private and Special Laws of 1905, relating to the adjustment of their valuation.

An Act to amend paragraph 6 entitled "Oxford county," of Section 3 of Chapter 407 of the Private and Special Laws of 1903, relating to fishing in the Megalloway river and its tributaries.

An Act to make valid the action of the town of Standish in uniting the former school districts of South Standish and Bonny Eagle.

An Act to amend Section 2 of Chapter 25 of the Revised Statutes relating to ferries.

An Act relating to the compensation of certain State officers.

An Act to incorporate the Augusta Board of Trade.

An Act to enlarge the jurisdiction of the municipal court of Dexter.

An Act relating to the location and assessment of damages for property taken for public uses.

An Act to incorporate Eagle Lake Telephone Company.

An Act to incorporate the Fall Brook Dam and Improvement Company.

An Act to exempt soldiers and sailors of the Civil War from poll tax.

An Act relating to the powers of the Portland Gas Light Company.

An Act to amend Section 12 of Chapter 4 of the Revised Statutes of 1903, relating to the election of selectmen, overseers of the poor, and assessors.

An Act relating to the compensation of judges of probate.

An Act to grant certain powers to the town of Eden.

An Act to amend Section 23 of Chapter 119 of the Revised Statutes of Maine, relating to offenses against persons and preventing the improper use of telephones.

An Act relating to corporations.

An Act to incorporate the Kittery Water and Electric Light Company.

An Act for the assessment of a State tax for the year 1905, amounting to the sum of \$918,174.19.

An Act for the assessment of a State tax for the year 1906, amounting to the sum of \$918,174.19.

An Act preventing the use of titles ordinarily applied to banks and trust companies by other than duly authorized banking corporations.

An Act to regulate the taking of white perch and black bass in Whitney and Hogan ponds in the county of Oxford, and Tripp pond in the county of Androscoggin.

An Act to repeal Chapter 317 of the Private and Special Laws of the State of Maine for the year 1903, relating to the taking of clams for the town of Scarborough.

Finally Passed.

Resolve in favor of Samuel A. Hill.

Resolve in favor of Eugene Thomas, secretary of the committee on education.

Resolve in favor of secretary to committee on sea and shore fisheries.

Resolve in favor of Widows Island. Resolve in favor of the clerk to the committee on temperance.

Resolve in favor of the clerk of the committee on telegraphs and telephones, pensions, State prison and manufactures.

Resolve in favor of the State House employes.

Bill, relating to the wilful destruction of the trailing arbutus, came from the Senate indefinitely postponed.

On motion of Mr. Hodgkins of Jefferson, bill, in relation to Lincoln county municipal court, was taken from the table, and on further motion by Mr. Hodgkins, the House voted to adhere.

On motion of Mr. Higgins of Limerick, the vote was reconsidered whereby the House finally passed resolve in favor of the clerk to the committee on temperance.

On motion of Mr. Howes of Palmyra, the vote was reconsidered whereby the resolve was passed to be engrossed.

Mr. Howes moved to amend by inserting the words "one hundred and" before the word "fifty" in the first line.

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

On motion of Mr. Milliken of Island Falls, bill, in relation to bounty on bears in Franklin county, was taken from the table, and on further motion by Mr. Milliken the vote was reconsidered whereby the bill was passed to be engrossed.

Mr. Milliken offered an amendment, by striking out the word "state" in the second and third lines and inserting the word "county" and by inserting after the word "treasury" in the fourth line the words "upon recommendation of the county commissioners of this county;" also strike out the word "state" in the eighteenth line and insert the word "county;" also strike out the words "State of Maine" in the first line of schedule A and insert the words "county of Franklin."

Mr. MOREY of Lewiston: Mr. Speaker, I hope the amendment will not be adopted. This bill was introduced by the delegation from Franklin county, who are unanimously in favor of this bill that has been passed to be engrossed. Now, the county of Oxford has received a bounty from the State by a law passed at the last session of the Legislature in

1903. During the year 1903 Oxford county received from the State \$150, and during 1904, it received \$155, so that the burden placed on the State will be comparatively small. The western part of Franklin county, which is adjoining Oxford county, is overrun with quite a number of bears, and they work havoc with the farmers' sheep. The delegation from Franklin county desire very much that this bill should become a law, that it should be passed here without any amendment, such as is suggested by the gentleman from Island Falls, and it seems difficult to imagine the reason why, the State having passed a law for Oxford county to the same effect and the same tenor,—why the county of Franklin should not be paid for the bears killed within its borders, and the State of Maine pay a bounty on bears killed across the line in Oxford. It is a necessity for that community as far as the protection of sheep is concerned that an act of this sort should be passed, and it would be wholly inconsistent with the previous act of the Legislature of 1903 that the State should pay a bounty on bears in Oxford county, and that the county treasury should pay in Franklin county.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, that the amendment will not prevail, and that the bill that has been passed to be engrossed will continue on its way and become a law without any amendment.

Mr. MILLIKEN of Island Falls: Mr. Speaker, I have no personal interest in this matter, and I dislike to interfere with anybody's project of this kind. I wish to say, in the first place, that the bill was not called to my attention until I saw it on the calendar, tabled pending its third reading. I happened to be out when it went to its third reading. Now, with regard to the question of a bounty on bears, if I remember correctly we had a bounty on bears some time ago in this State, and that law was repealed two years ago. As it has been said, Oxford county did have a bounty on bears. Now, here is the condition of things we have in Aroostook county. If any county of the State ought to have a bounty on bears it ought to be Aroostook; we have a great many bears in that county, and a great many are killed every year. I have had letters, and I think others from Aroostook county have received letters asking for a bounty on bears in that county on this same ground, that Oxford county has one and therefore Aroostook county should have one. Now, gentlemen, it amounts to this,—it is not a question of one county of the State or another, but whether we shall gradually, county by county, go back to the condition which we had before, where we had a bounty on bears throughout the State. There is no good reason why Aroostook county should not have a bounty if this county of Oxford has a bounty, and probably that will be the result at the next session of the Legislature. In our opinion the danger is not great enough in Aroostook county so that the State should pay a bounty in

that county on bears. There are in that county men who make it their business to kill bears for the intrinsic value of the bear. There is one man in my district who has killed nearly three hundred bears in the last few years and who makes a business out of it. He would be glad to have this bounty placed upon bears, and it would have made a difference of fifteen hundred dollars with him in the last year. He kills bears now as a matter of business, and I doubt very much whether any more would be killed with this bounty. The proposition of this bill is this, that if it is necessary in Franklin county to have a bounty, if there is a local feeling there, then I think it is only fair that the county should pay. I do not advance that idea from any undue desire to economize, because it is not that amount of money that will be paid out to the county of Franklin, but if we keep on giving it to one county at a time then we have to extend the bounty all over the State as fast as the different counties ask for it. I believe, on the other hand that if the people of Franklin county would be satisfied to allow their county to pay a bounty on bears it would make only a difference of a few dollars a year. I merely bring forward this amendment as suggested on the line of what I have said.

Mr. HASTINGS of Bethel: Mr. Speaker, I should like to see the county of Franklin used the same as the county of Oxford is used. The county of Oxford is having its bounty paid out of the State treasury. Now, this measure has the unanimous support of the Franklin county delegation; and more than that, it was introduced into this House and referred to one of the great committees of the Legislature, the committee on agriculture, and that committee referred it back to the Franklin county delegation. So you will see, gentlemen, that it has had the consideration of a good committee, a strong committee of this Legislature; and I hope, Mr. Speaker, that the amendment will not prevail. It is a matter of vital importance to the people of Franklin county.

The question being on the adoption of the amendment,

The amendment was lost.

The bill was then passed to be engrossed as amended, and then passed to be enacted.

On motion of Mr. Hale of Portland the votes were reconsidered whereby bill, relating to corporations, was passed to be enacted and passed to be engrossed.

Mr. Hale offered House amendment A, by striking out the word "agreement" in line seventeen, and inserting the word "payment."

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

The committee on ways and means, on order of the Legislature relating to the assessment of the State tax for the years 1905 and 1906, reported bill, An Act for the assessment of a State tax for the year 1905 amounting to the sum of \$913,174.19.

The report was accepted, and on mo-

tion of Mr. Shaw of Clinton, the rules were suspended, the bill received its three several readings and was passed to be engrossed.

The same committee to which was referred the matter of the assessment of the State tax for the year 1906, reported bill, An Act for the assessment of a State tax for the year 1906 amounting to the sum of \$918,174.19.

The report was accepted, and on motion of Mr. Shaw of Clinton, the rules were suspended, the bill received its three several readings and was passed to be engrossed.

The same committee to which was referred the matter of the assessment of the State tax for the year 1906, reported bill, An Act for the assessment of a State tax for the year 1906 amounting to the sum of \$918,174.19.

The report was accepted, and on motion of Mr. Shaw the bill received its three readings and was passed to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr. Tupper of Bangor, bill, in relation to the Bangor municipal court, was taken from the table.

Mr. Tupper offered an amendment to the title by changing the word "two" to "three" in the first line.

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

On motion of Mr. Littlefield of Rockland, bill, An Act to amend Section 43 of Chapter 6 of the Revised Statutes, relating to the rejection of other than official ballots at elections, was taken from the table.

Mr. Littlefield offered an amendment, by adding to Section 2 the following: "but shall not affect the counting of ballots cast at elections which have already taken place, but as to all such elections the law as heretofore existing shall remain in full force."

The amendment was adopted and the bill was read the second time, and on motion by Mr. Littlefield the rules were suspended, the bill received its third reading and was passed to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr. Littlefield, bill, relating to the compensation of members of the government, was taken from the table.

Mr. Littlefield moved that the bill be indefinitely postponed.

On motion of Mr. Ingersoll of Biddeford, the motion was tabled.

On motion of Mr. Littlefield, bill, relating to compensation of sheriffs, was taken from the table.

Mr. Littlefield offered an amendment by adding Section 4, which was adopted, and the bill was read twice. On motion of Mr. Sewall of Bath, the rules were suspended, the bill received its third reading and was passed to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr. Johnson of Waterville, the vote was reconsidered whereby the House passed to be engrossed bill, An Act to amend Section 43 of Chapter 6 of the Revised Statutes, relating to the rejection of other than official ballots.

Mr. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, this relates to the section of our statute in regard to the reception of ballots which have upon them a distinguishing mark.

The statute now says that no ballots which have a distinguishing mark shall be received. The amendment proposed is to add after the word "received" the words "or counted." Under the rulings of the court and of legislative committees, if there is a cross in the square above the party name and other crosses are placed upon the ticket opposite the names of other persons, those ballots are counts. Or if the voter has erased a name of one of the candidates beneath the party square and in another column placed a cross for a candidate for the same position, that ballot has always been counted for the party above whose name the cross has been placed except that it has not been counted for the one whose name has been erased. Now, no two men will agree in the manner of making a cross and I don't know what would be considered a distinguishing mark by a warden. It seems to me that we had better keep our law as it is. We have come to understand pretty well all over the State that the principal thing is to get your cross in the square above the party name. Of course if it is claimed that the voter attempted to make a distinguishing mark, it might be thrown out, but it seems to me a very difficult thing to do. I think the court thus far have counted all these ballots where the cross has been placed in the party square, and I think if we understand fairly well how to use this ballot without losing a very large percentage of our vote, it is well enough to let it alone and not make it any more difficult. For that reason I move that the bill be indefinitely postponed.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. LITTLEFIELD of Rockland: Mr. Speaker, I wish to move a suspension of the rules in order that I may present two bills out of order, and I will say in relation to these bills that one is to authorize the trustees and parties in charge of the Insane hospital to detain a person who is committed to the Insane hospital at the building at Widow's Island. We have already voted an appropriation for the purpose of repairing that building, and have passed a resolve for it to be occupied during the summer season by patients from the hospital. Now, one of these bills simply makes it legal for the officials in charge of the insane to detain them at this place as well as at the hospital. Under the law as I understand it now, and as I have been informed, the detention of the insane persons is only authorized at one of the insane hospitals, so that if they were to take them to Widow's Island they would not be legally detained in that place.

The other Act simply accepts the arsenal building and grounds across the river, and we have already passed a resolve to fit up one of those buildings, as I understand the committee has recommended and the resolve has been passed to fit up one of those buildings in order to relieve the present overcrowded condition of the hospital. In the first place, it is necessary for us to accept the gift which has been made to the State by the United States government, and in the next place it is necessary to make those

grounds and buildings a part of the insane hospital of the State in order that the proper officials may take the patients there and detain them legally. That is all there is to these two bills, and I therefore move a suspension of the rules that these bills may receive their three readings at the present time without being referred to a committee.

Mr. Littlefield introduced bill, An Act giving the trustees of the insane hospital authority to control and occupy Widow's Island. (Read three times and passed to be engrossed under suspension of the rules.)

Also bill, An Act authorizing the acceptance of the conveyance of the Kennebec arsenal property by the State of Maine. (Read three times and passed to be engrossed under suspension of the rules.)

On motion of Mr. Milliken of Island Falls, report of the committee on salaries, reporting ought to pass on bill, relating to free transportation of public officers, was taken from the table.

Mr. Milliken moved that the same be referred to the next Legislature.

Mr. Kimball of Rockland, moved that the same be indefinitely postponed.

The motion was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Kimball of Rockland the order introduced by Mr. Milliken of Island Falls, for the appointment of a committee to inquire into the question of free transportation of State officials and report to the next Legislature, was taken from the table.

Mr. Kimball moved that the order be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. MILLIKEN of Island Falls: Mr. Speaker, I wish to say that the purpose is merely to start a matter that interests a good many people in this State, that is, the pass question, a matter on which a bill has been unanimously reported by the committee on salaries. I don't know why anybody should object to the consideration of the matter and to a report on it.

Mr. SEWALL of Bath: Mr. Speaker, if the House should adopt the motion of the gentleman from Rockland I cannot understand why the House should show, as it will show, a spirit of hostility to an investigation of a question which has been in the minds of all of us and which has not been settled at this Legislature for the reason that with our varying opinions there seems to be no definite plan which could command the approval of all. It is connected with as important a question as we can deal with. It is connected indirectly with the question of whether or not the time has come or is coming when the Legislature of Maine can properly vote to pay its

members a sum sufficient at least to pay their expenses in Augusta. It is a strange fact that the salaries of the members of the Legislature are the only salaries which have not been raised four or five times in some cases of any of the salaries existing for State officials at the time of the organization of the State. Every salary of every State official has been raised, four or five times in some cases, from what it was in the beginning, except the salaries of the members of the Legislature. The pay of members at the time of the organization of the State was two dollars a day and expenses, a larger pay than we receive today. Our pay has gone down; the pay of all other State officials has gone up. Two years ago the proposition was put before the people of the State and by only twenty-five per cent. of the votes cast they acted upon it. Connected with that was the question of the free transportation of members of the Legislature by the railroads. It was felt that there was something wrong in that proposition, and it was also felt that while the pay of the members remained at such an inadequate figure and while railroads in the State certainly were not taxed at any excessive rate, it was wrong to impose upon ourselves the cost of transportation on the railroads and equally wrong perhaps to impose it upon the State. The gentleman from Island Falls introduced a bill which was referred to the committee on salaries prohibiting the use of passes by members of the Legislature. It seemed on its face a very fair proposition; it certainly has abundant precedent. In the state of New Jersey it is provided by the general organization laws under which the railroads are organized that railroads be required to give free transportation to every official of the State. I joined in the unanimous report of the committee on salaries in favor of the bill introduced by the gentleman from Island Falls; but when we were confronted by the fact of the vote of the people of the State upon the salaries of the members of the Legislature, and in view of the fact that however by so small a vote they voted

that down, it did not seem right at the same time to prohibit to the members of the Legislature this transportation given by the railroads. Then there came up this proposition—could we arrange in any way so that the members of the State Legislature and State officials should receive transportation from these great corporations which have their life and hold their franchises at our hands, not as a matter of favor from them but as a matter of right? I believe that that ultimately is the position this Legislature will assume and ought to assume, and that such a proposition would commend itself to the people of the State. To that end I submitted a bill but I recognize the fact that we were at the closing hours of the session and that the Legislature is in no temper for debate or discussion of so important a matter. It seemed impossible to agree upon exact terms; and with these varying propositions before those of us who had given any consideration to the matter, it seemed a reasonable and a decent solution of the question to support the order introduced by the gentleman from Island Falls; and if this Legislature cannot safely entrust the investigation of such an important and at the same time such a complicated matter to a committee appointed by our Speaker and the President of the upper branch to report to the next House, a committee costing the State nothing, binding nobody, simply submitting the results of their investigation to the next Legislature—I say, gentlemen, if we cannot support that proposition it places us in a very equivocal position. (Applause.)

Mr. REED of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I perhaps have not shown on every occasion any undue desire at least to submit questions of legislation to the people. I firmly believe in our form of government as it has passed down to us from our fathers. This is not and never was proposed to be a democracy. Never in the history of the world am I aware that a democracy has been a success, but only to the advantage of demagogues.

Mr. SEWALL: Mr. Speaker, may I interrupt the gentleman to ask him if he is aiming at the order introduced by the

gentleman from Island Falls arranging for a committee to be appointed by this legislature to report to the next on exactly the plan of the commission last summer to abolish the fees? Or is he talking of a reference to the people of the state. I don't understand that is in question at all.

Mr. REED: If the gentleman will give me a moment I will endeavor to show that what I am about to say is not foreign to the issue. It has been wisely decided that all the people cannot legislate as well for themselves as can a few who have been particularly selected and brought together into a single body where the evidence can be presented to the representatives of the people, and that under this condition these men are better able to give to the people just laws for their government and control, than the people themselves are able by any possibility, left as they always are in any attempt to exercise a pure democracy, to act upon the information which perhaps is not properly before them or where the evidence is difficult to present to them in a candid and fair way.

Among other things, we have the power of referring matters to the people for their consideration. If this matter were an original proposition I should perhaps strongly favor the position of the gentleman from Bath. The last legislature saw fit to present to the people a law relative to the salaries of its members which of course could not take effect until the next legislature under the provisions of the constitution. That matter was presented to the people. I believe the members of this House should have voted upon it as they were chosen to vote upon the salaries not only of other officials of this state but upon the salaries of their successors if they saw fit. I don't think perhaps that that should have been left with the people. I don't believe in referring every little matter to the people. Let us not try to undo the great principle of representative government which has only and ever been the safeguard of liberty. Liberty needs protection sometimes against itself, against demagogy, against the efforts of politicians to control the masses. Our forefathers determined the principle of this government, a government of checks and balances. Our pre-

decessors submitted this question to the people and it carried the whole measure to them and the question was shelved. This was the practical question submitted to the people,—shall the compensation of the members of the legislature of this state remain as it is, passes and all? The whole matter was considered by them. Shall this matter remain as it is or shall we double their salary? And the voice of the people was clearly determined; and if I am correctly informed, from every single town in this state, save one, there came back an emphatic no. I am willing to take the responsibility of legislation, but I am not willing to stand up here and defy the will of my master. The people are our masters. They have passed upon this question. If they have not passed upon it, as their representative then I should be willing to pass upon it to the best of my judgment and the best of my information; but since they have told us that they were taking charge of this matter and have settled it for the present, for us to dabble with this matter or to throw it over to another legislature for their consideration, and attempt in any way to bind the action of our successors upon this matter that the people have so emphatically passed upon, is an insult to our constituencies, a reflection upon their good judgment. It is saying to our people, "We will consider your wishes except when they touch upon the salaries of some of us who hope to be returned, and then we will vote it down." I do not believe, gentlemen, that the people of this state are sighing and pining for any more special junketing commissions. I am willing to consign to the next legislature the honor of originating this measure and of doing away with the existing conditions of passes and also of appointing the necessary commission that they may decide upon. I am willing to trust that to the next legislature and refer it to their free will to originate it. I agree, therefore, with the motion to indefinitely postpone.

Mr. SEWALL: Mr. Speaker, it is very painful for me to differ with my good friend from Portland and it is equally painful to say a word additional on this or any other subject at this hour of the session. I would not say it if I did not feel perfectly clear in my mind that the

gentleman himself misunderstands the position of those of us who favor the order introduced by the gentleman from Island Falls, and has made actually mis-statements in what he last said. If I am not mistaken we have been treated a little today to a warmed over speech on the referendum which the gentleman had not quite the time to dispose of to his satisfaction. (Applause.) As a matter of fact he has misapprehended our position.

In the first place, there is no junketing expedition involved in the proposition of the gentleman from Island Falls, for it is expressly provided that there is to be no compensation for the members of this committee. In the second place, the people of the State never have passed upon the proposition involved in the order of the gentleman from Island Falls at all. Passes were not mentioned in the proposition that was put before the people of this State, and I believe if they had been the vote would have been very different.

Mr. RIBED: May I ask the gentleman if passes were not mentioned in the bill, if the bill did not provide that members should not receive passes?

Mr. SEWALL: I understand that in the proposition put before the people on the ballots passes were not mentioned, not mentioned on the ballots as the people voted, that so far as the people were concerned in the votes they were called upon to cast there was no mention of passes whatsoever; and I believe if there had been there would have been a different vote cast upon that proposition.

The gentleman says that we have no right, after that vote, to vote for an increased compensation. Every member of the State government has received railroad transportation which acts as a matter of compensation. The most that this committee could report would be not that there would be any additional compensation derived through free transportation from the railroads, but taking the most extreme view, that the railroads would be required to give us the transportation we now receive, and we would be put in the clean and decent and independent position of receiving that transportation as members of the legislature and not as we receive them now as a matter of favor from these corporations. I don't know what view the committee might take, but I can trust to the judgment of our Speaker and the President of the Senate to select a committee which, to say the least, after two years study of this somewhat complicated and involved question, can present some figures and some suggestions to the next legislature which will be of use to them in their deliberations instead of leaving them to deal with the subject through a committee, which they are perfectly able to do if they so choose after they receive the report of this committee. One would think to hear the gentleman from Portland talk that this was an extraordinary proposition to appoint this committee without pay of our own members, just to submit their suggestions

to the next legislature. It is a simple, honest, fair and reasonable proposition. Mr. Speaker, in my judgment, and ought to have and will have the endorsement of this legislature. (Applause.)

Mr. STEVENS of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I think the gentleman from Bath has presented the best argument why this commission should not be appointed. I think the gentleman will agree with me that the laborer is worthy of his hire. He says that this committee must put in two years of study and time, or at least must devote considerable time, to the consideration of this matter. Now, I do not believe there are very many of you here who want to spend very much time without pay. Neither do I believe that you want to go upon record that at this present time you have legislated to appoint any more commissions under pay. I think we have appointed enough. And so, for that reason, unless a commission can be appointed that can receive something for its labor and do some work that is good for something, I don't believe that one should be appointed.

Mr. MERRILL of Skowhegan: Mr. Speaker, it is remarkable to me that so brilliant and so bright a gentleman as my friend from the great city of Portland should talk to this House about appointing more commissions. Commissioners are not mentioned in this order. It is merely to appoint a committee without pay to report to the next legislature upon this question. It is not for the purpose of creating any more commissions, and, Mr. Speaker, by whom have these commissions in the past been appointed, and who has the authority and the right to appoint commissioners on various subjects? By your votes in this House. And we hear from this same source that we heard in opposition to the commission under the Sturgis bill, we hear this same howl that we have heard during this whole session. Gentlemen of this House, you have acted in honesty and in good faith, and I believe that we should not sit here in silence and have it thrown at us from morning till night that we have been legislating for commissions. You have acted in good faith, and no commission has been authorized except by a majority vote of this House.

My friend from Portland says that he don't believe in a Democratic form of government. He don't believe in the people being listened to.

Mr. REED: May I interrupt the gentleman. I said, or meant to say, that I did not believe in a pure democracy. The gentleman is too wise not to recognize the difference between what is known as a pure democracy where every person engages directly in legislation and one which is a representative government.

Mr. MERRILL: I accept the gentleman's explanation. But the gentleman distinctly stated here and in your presence, and you are the jurors to decide what he said, and he said that he did not believe in referring to the people and letting the people pass upon the question as to the law by which they should be governed. And in the next breath he

says that the people are our masters. How can he explain his position?

Mr. REED: Mr. Speaker, I desire that the gentleman quote me correctly. I said I did not believe in referring all matters of legislation or many matters of legislation, to the people, under some circumstances.

Mr. MERRILL: I wrote down the words as they came from his mouth. (Applause.)

Mr. REED: I question the accuracy of his penmanship. (Laughter.)

Mr. MERRILL: He stated in exact words "the people are our masters."

Mr. HIGGINS of Limerick: Mr. Speaker, I arise to a parliamentary inquiry. I would ask if it is in order to move that the gentleman be allowed to print his speech and refer it to the next legislature?

Mr. MERRILL: I am glad that the distinguished gentleman from Limerick has once arisen on the floor of this House without making the motion, "I kick." (Applause.)

Gentlemen, the people are our masters, and we are here to do their service and their will; and I say to you, Mr. Speaker and gentlemen, that I heartily approve, and by your votes I hope you will approve of the order introduced by the gentleman from Island Falls.

On motion of Mr. Sewall of Bath, the yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER: The question is on the passage of the order. Those in favor of the passage of the order will say yes when their names are called; those opposed will say no. The clerk will call the roll.

Yea—Allan, Baldwin, Belleau, Berry, Blanchard, Bradford of Friendship, Bradford of Livermore, Briggs, Bunker, Burkett, Cobb, Cole, Cohn, Cushman, Davis of Benton, Davis of Guilford, Dennison, Dudley, Fawcette, Foss, Fulton, Garcelon, Grant, Hall, Hanson, Hastings, Hathaway, Hill, Hodgkins, Holmes, Hussey, Hutchins, Ingersoll, Irving, Jones, Jordan of Yarmouth, Libbey, Littlefield, Longfellow, Lougee, Marshall, Merrill of Dixfield, Merrill of Skowhegan, Miller, Milliken, Morey, Morton, Mullen, Nash of Damariscotta, Newcomb, Norcross, Oakes of Auburn, Oakes of Milford, O'Brien, Page of Appleton, Page of Hampden, Peacock, Percy, Philbrook, Purinton, Russell, Sanborn, Sargent of Brewer, Sargent of Castine, Sawyer of Milbridge, Sawyer of Smithfield, Scribner of Charleston, Sewall, Shevenell, Smart, Smith of Saco, Sparrow, Talpey, Thomas, Thompson of Roque Bluffs, Treworgy, Trickey, Turner, Usher, Webb, White, Whitmore, Wilder, Witherspoon.—84.

Nay—Abbott, Barrows, Baxter, Buzzell, Clark, Downs, Gannett, Giddings, Goodwin, Gray, Hale, Higgins, Howes, Jillson, Johnson of Waterville, Jordan of Cape Elizabeth, Josselyn, Kimball, Kinsman of Cornville, Knapp, Leighton, Leonard, Martin, Newbegin, Poor, Powers, Reed, Scribner of Springfield, Seavey, Shaw, Smith of Madison, Staples, Stevens, Swain, Swett, Thompson of Orono, Verrill.—37.

Absent—Albert, Bean, Bliss, Byron,

ousins, Hagerthy of Ellsworth, Hagerthy of Sedgwick, Johnson of aClais, Johnson of Hollowell, Kinsman of Augusta, Laliberte, Lanigan, Morrison, Nash of Kennebunk, Pendleton, Perry, Price, Putnam, Stearns, Terreault, Thurlough, Tracy, Tupper, Vittum, Walker, Washburn, Weatherbee, Webster, Witt.—29.

So the order received a passage.

Mr. Tupper from the committee on appropriations and financial affairs, reported resolve in favor of Louis Barrows. (Read twice and passed to be engrossed under suspension of the rules.)

Initiative and Referendum.

The Speaker laid before the House resolve, proposing an amendment to article four of the constitution of the State of Maine establishing a people's veto through the optional referendum, and a direct initiative by petition and at general elections.

The SPEAKER: This resolve has received its two several readings and has been passed to be engrossed. The pending question is on its final passage. Under the constitution a two-thirds vote is necessary taken by the yeas and nays. All those who favor the passage of the resolve to amend the constitution will say ye, all those opposed will say no. The clerk will call the roll.

YEA:—Allan, Belleau, Berry, Clark, Cobb, Davis of Benton, Davis of Guilford, Dennison, Fawsette, Foss, Fulton, Gannett, Garcelon, Grant, Hanson, Hastings, Hill, Hodgkins, Howes, Hussey, Hutchins, Jillson, Johnson of Waterville, Jones, Kinsman of Cornville, Leighton, Littlefield, Longfellow, Marshall, Merrill of Skowhegan, Miller, Milliken, Morey, Morton, Mullen, Nash of Damariscotta, Newbegin, Norcross, Oakes of Auburn, O'Brien, Peacock, Pendleton, Philbrook, Russell, Sanborn, Sargent of Castine, Sawyer of Milbridge, Seavey, Sewall, Smart, Sparrow, Thompson of Roque Bluffs, Treworky, Trickey, Turner, Usher, Verrill, Washburn, Webb, White, Wilder, Witherspoon.—62.

NAY:—Abbott, Baldwin, Barrows, Baxter, Blanchard, Bradford of Friendship, Bradford of Livermore, Briggs, Bunker, Burkett, Buzzell, Copp, Cushman, Downs, Giddings, Goodwin, Hale, Hall, Hathaway, Higgins, Holmes, Ingersoll, Irving, Jordan of Cape Elizabeth, Josselyn, Knapp, Leonard, Libbey, Martin, Merrill of Dixfield, Oakes of Milford, Page of Appleton, Percy, Poor, Powers, Reed, Sargent of Brewer, Sawyer of Smithfield, Shevenell, Smith of Madison, Smith of Saco, Staples, Stevens, Swain, Swett, Talpey, Whitmore, Witt.—48.

ABSENT:—Albert, Bean, Bliss, Byron, Cole, Cousins, Dudley, Johnson of Calais, Johnson of Hollowell, Jordan of Yarmouth, Laliberte, Lanigan, Nash of Kennebunk, Page of Hampden, Perry, Price, Purinton, Putnam, Scribner of Charleston, Scribner of Springfield, Shaw, Stearns, Terreault, Thomas, Thompson of Orono, Thurlough, Tracy, Tupper, Vittum, Walker, Weatherbee, Webster.—32.

PAIRED:—Hagerthy of Ellsworth, Yes; Gray, No. Hagerthy of Sedgwick, Yes;

Lougee, No. Morrison, Yes; Kimball, No. Kinsman of Augusta, Yes; Newcomb, No.

The SPEAKER: It is not a vote; it lacks the two-thirds.

Passed to Be Enacted.

An Act relating to compensation of registers of deeds.

An Act authorizing acceptance of conveyance of the Kennebec Arsenal property by the State of Maine.

An Act giving the trustees of the Maine hospitals authority to control and occupy Widow's Island.

An Act relating to corporations.

An Act enlarging the duty of the county attorney.

An Act relating to the compensation of sheriffs.

An Act to amend Section 73 of Chapter 10 of the Revised Statutes, in relation to the collection of taxes.

Finally Passed.

Resolve in favor of the Maine Insane Hospital.

Resolve in favor of the Eastern Maine Hospital.

Resolve in favor of Albert W. Buck, messenger to the president of the Senate.

Resolve in favor of the stenographers to the presiding and recording officers of the Senate and House.

Resolve in favor of clerk hire of the committee on taxation.

Resolve in favor of towns for reimbursement for money spent on State roads during the year 1903, under the provisions of Chapter 23 R. S.

Resolve in favor of the town of Bristol.

Resolve appropriating money for the purpose of obtaining information in regard to the wild lands for the purpose of taxation.

Resolve in favor of the Senate postmaster.

Resolve in favor of Louis Barrows.

Resolve in favor of the clerk to the committee on temperance.

The committee of conference on the disagreeing action of the House and Senate, in regard to bill, enlarging the duties of county attorney, reported that House amendment A should be adopted. (Report accepted in concurrence.)

Resolve in favor of the postmaster to the Senate, came from the Senate read twice and passed to be engrossed under suspension of the rules.

In the House the rules were suspended, the resolve received its two readings and was passed to be engrossed in concurrence.

Bill, relating to costs in contested cases, having been indefinitely postponed in the House, came from the Senate that branch non-concurring and appointing a committee of conference, the committee reporting that the bill ought not to pass.

In the House the report was accepted in concurrence with the Senate.

Report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing action of the Senate and House on bill, to establish a law uniform with other states relative to insurance policies, came from the Senate

reporting that they cannot agree. (Report accepted.)

On motion of Mr. Briggs of Auburn, the House voted to adhere to its former action.

Report of the committee of conference on bill, to amend Chapter 180 of the Private and Special Laws of 1879, establishing a police court for the city of Belfast, came from the Senate reporting that the committee cannot agree. (Report accepted.)

On motion of Mr. Sparrow of Freedom, the House voted to adhere to its former action.

The joint order, providing for a joint special committee to report the next Legislature in regard to the obligations of the State to the University of Maine, came from the Senate that branch having appointed on its part Messrs. Potter of Cumberland and Morse of Waldo.

The Speaker joined on the part of the House Messrs. Thompson of Orono, Hale of Portland, Davis of Guilford, Newcomb of Eastport and Cousins of Limington.

On motion of Mr. Higgins of Limerick, the House took a recess until 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Afternoon Session.

The order passed by the House in regard to investigation of free transportation for State officials came from the Senate concurred in.

The Speaker appointed on the part of the House Messrs. Milliken of Island Falls, Hastings of Bethel and Kimball of Rockland.

Bill, in relation to the Bangor municipal court, came from the Senate with Senate amendment A adopted.

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

On motion of Mr. Ingersoll of Biddeford, bill, relating to compensation of members of the government, was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gentleman it was indefinitely postponed.

Passed to be Enacted.

An Act relating to compensation of registers of deeds.

An Act authorizing the acceptance of the conveyance of the Kennebec arsenal property by the State of Maine.

An Act giving the trustees of the insane hospitals authority to control and occupy Widow's Island.

An Act relating to corporations.

Finally Passed.

Resolve appropriating money for the purpose of obtaining information in regard to wild lands for the purpose of taxation.

Resolve in favor of Senate postmaster.

Resolve in favor of Louis Barrows.

Resolve in favor of the clerk to the committee on temperance.

On motion of Mr. Baxter of Portland, the vote was reconsidered whereby the House passed to be engrossed bill, An

Act to amend section 73 of chapter 10 of the Revised Statutes, in relation to the collection of taxes.

Mr. Baxter offered House amendment A to section two, by striking out the word "ten" and substituting the word "fifteen."

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

Mr. Higgins of Limerick, introduced the following order:

Ordered, That the officers and employes of this House be required to remain after the adjournment until this House is put in order under the direction of the superintendent of public buildings.

The order received a passage.

At this point the Speaker requested Mr. Johnson of Waterville to come to the platform and said:

The SPEAKER: Mr. Johnson, the members of this House early recognized you as the leader of the minority party in the Legislature. We have noted with satisfaction that the members of your party have served you with loyalty, and in the management of that leadership and in your intercourse with the majority party and with your fellow members you have gained not only the affection but the love of every member of this House; and I know that I voice the sentiment of this House when, as a slight token of their regard, I present in their behalf this dictionary which has been in the possession of the House upon the Speaker's desk during the session. I hope that you will accept it as a testimonial of our love and affection for you. (Applause.)

(Speaker presents dictionary to Mr. Johnson.)

Mr. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House: I think you will believe me when I say that I am sincere in saying that I am deeply touched by the words of the Speaker of the House and also by the action of the members of the House in bestowing upon me this token of your regard and esteem, which I know is so little deserved by me. I came here, as you all did, with the desire to discharge my duty well as I might see it, and I knew that in my intercourse with my fellow members I should find that kindly spirit, that touch of good fellowship which I have ever found to be characteristic of the citizens of Maine. I thank you sincerely. (Applause.)

Now, Mr. Speaker and gentlemen of the House, one good turn deserves another. That is an old adage with which we are all familiar, and when I was called to the Speaker's desk I was not expecting this good turn and this manifestation of your good will and esteem. I stand here at the close of this very busy session extending over twelve weeks, during which time we have worked together, as I believe, for the best interests of the State of Maine; and to say now at this time as the session closes that we feel conscious that we have made no mistakes I think would be to arrogate to ourselves something that none of us would desire.

But I think I can say that in all that we have done, all that we have endeavored to do here, I for my part have seen upon the part of every member of this House a sincere and honest desire to do his duty well. In the discharge of these duties, perplexing as they have been, and in the conduct of the business of this House, which has been of large volume during this present session, we have been ably assisted, and not only assisted but led by the gentleman who occupies the responsible position of Speaker of this House. (Applause.) I know that every one of you will fully sustain me when I say that we feel that we have had in him not only a Speaker, an official who has been chosen to preside over the deliberations of this body, but we have also had a personal friend; and that we shall carry away with us when we go to our respective homes a pleasant picture which we shall often wish to call up of the kindly manner of his executive ability, of the promptness with which he has discharged the duties of his high office.

And now at this time I wish not only on behalf of the minority party of this House but in behalf of its members, to offer this resolution:

Resolved, That it is the unanimous sense of this House that in Speaker Drew it has had a most efficient and impartial presiding officer, whose uniform courtesy and kindness extended to every member have sustained the dignity of his important office and secured for him the respect and esteem of all; that in the discharge of the duties of that office during a long and busy session he has by his thorough knowledge of these duties combined with rare executive ability, most successfully conducted and expedited its business.

I move the unanimous adoption of the resolution. (Applause.)

Mr. POWERS of Houlton: Mr. Speaker, I rise to second the resolutions which have been presented by the gentleman from Waterville. I know that they voice the sentiment of every man in this House and it gives me great pleasure to second the resolutions that have been presented. In behalf of myself and in common with the other members of this House I desire to express the deep sense of obligation under which you have placed us by the fairness and impartiality and the courteous manner in which your administration as presiding officer of this House has been discharged to its members.

Sir, the recollection of the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Seventy-second Legislature of Maine will live in our holiest remembrance. We feel that our every legal and parliamentary right has been abundantly guaranteed to us, and we cannot be less than doubly impressed with a sense of endless gratitude to you. (Applause.)

Mr. REED of Portland: Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House: As we are about to separate and forego for a time these many pleasant associations which I feel we have all so generally enjoyed and go back to our every day life, it is exceedingly pleasant, while we may

have sometimes differed one from another to join in this universal sentiment of respect to our common presiding officer, which I believe is shared by every member of this House. No man whose measure has succeeded can consider it as having been aided by any unfair help from the Chair; no man whose bill has failed can say that he has not received fair treatment from the Chair. All, the majority and the minority, have received prompt and uniform justice. I think no higher compliment could be paid to a presiding officer.

And I wish to call attention to what I may say is a most unusual circumstance, I cannot remember that a ruling of the Chair has during the entire session, been once questioned. I am new at this business, but it seems to me that this is rather a remarkable record. Our business has been promptly despatched, and we have had for the presiding officer of this House a man who is broad enough to fully and ably discharge his duty, friendly to us all, we who are new members, have been able to go to him for counsel and advice; and I am sure that every member of this House as he departs will retain a most kindly remembrance of our able Speaker. (Applause.)

Mr. OAKES of Auburn: Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasant duty which comes to us at the close of our long and somewhat arduous session of labor for our State's welfare, labor which perhaps has not always been appreciated at what we deem its full value, to say a few words to each other in friendship as we come to the parting of the ways; and when we go to our several homes we shall carry with us, not a great amount of wealth, but we shall carry with us something after all which we shall always value as long as life shall last. It is pleasant to say a few words as we separate. It is pleasant for us all to recognize the value of the services of our leader since we came here strangers to each other, strangers very largely to the work which was before us, strangers to the way of doing business, uncertain very often where to turn in order to accomplish what we wished to do. It is pleasant to recall the way in which we have grown together, the way in which we have become acquainted with one another, the manner in which the work has been done, the way in which we have been helped and steered and assisted by the gentleman who has presided over us and whose experience has often filled our deficiencies.

I am impressed very often when I see how smoothly one of us does business so far as the records show. We get up and make a motion and we take a bill, so far as the record shows, through its various stages, add an amendment to it, get some things out of the way and adjust others, and after all when you come down to the real fact it is the Speaker who has taken the burden from our shoulders and smoothed the passage over these technicalities. We all of us realize how important it is that a body like this should have a gentleman at its head who is willing and competent and always

ready to assist every member, to look ahead for the work of the House, to plan for it, to see that the work goes along smoothly; and we come to the point at the close of the session when we can look back and say that all our work has been pleasant, has been harmonious,—that we can come here at the close of the session having had our “scraps,” having had our differences of opinion, and still feeling that after all, through it all and very largely owing to the successful administration of our leader here, we have worked together, we have worked together for the good of our constituents and the good of the State of Maine.

Now, members of the House, let us go home and take with us these pleasant recollections; and I think that one of the pleasantest of the recollections which we shall have is the opportunity which we take at the present time, as we all do, of testifying our high esteem for our presiding officer, our appreciation for his efficient work and our expression of our entire good will and hope for his future success.

It gives me great pleasure to second the motion. (Applause.)

Mr. SEWALL, of Bath: Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House: It seems to me that if the leader of the minority party is entitled to take part in the felicities of this occasion, I might claim just a word as the leader of a smaller minority on one fateful evening here when we first assembled, and in extending those felicities I beg you to understand for myself and in justice to all of you that those felicities as coming from me do not go back any farther than to the time “when I also ran.” I had the pleasure and the honor of meeting our Speaker in those memorable days which I am trying to forget, on many a bloodless field; and I can testify well to his prowess in politics, his management of men and his broad dealings with all those questions with which all citizens ought to concern themselves; and I can testify to that prowess by the scars of nearly one hundred votes which I did not receive, and I beg now to pay my humble tribute and my few words of homage to any man who can be so skilled in the field of politics and yet when elevated to a supreme position, second only to the governorship of this State,—and I have heard that it is quite as hard to attain that position as it is to reach the governorship, and I can well believe it (Laughter).—I want to pay my homage, I say, to a gentleman of those qualifications, such as our Speaker possesses, but who, when elevated to a position in which he sits supreme over all of us and holds in a way the fate of all our careers in his hand for the time being, can rise to the full measure of it and rank, as he can claim to rank, in impartiality, in fair dealing and in honest ability with any of his most distinguished predecessors in his high office. (Applause.)

Mr. HALE of Portland: Mr. Speaker, as the session comes to a close I cannot help having a feeling of sadness. Brought together as we have been from every

corner of the grand old State of Maine, we have in the last 12 weeks become welded into one great family. We have had our disputes and our troubles; we have locked horns in debate, and we have defeated each other's pet measure, and it has all been done in a friendly way. The credit for that is due in a great measure to the man at the helm. Whenever our eloquence has run away with us in any way and we have made personal remarks the sharp rap of the Speaker's gavel has brought us to order; whenever we have indulged in any horse play the same gavel has brought us up sharp and always the dignity of the House has been maintained, and at all times, Mr. Speaker, we have felt the hand of the master; and we have liked it for we know that the master is our friend. How many of us who have been trying to get some matter through the House when we have not known just how to do it have dropped in on the Speaker for a little advice? And we have always got it. Kindly, patient and considerate, the least one of us has always been able to get the Speaker's ear and get the full benefit of his greater experience. Strict and impartial, Mr. Speaker, in the duties of your office, ready for every emergency and absolutely firm in your rulings, we think, Sir, that you have made us an ideal Speaker.

Now, as the time draws near when we must separate and go to our homes we want to give you something that you can remember us by; and in token of the high esteem which we have for you, we, the members of this House, now present to you this loving cup which is truly, as the inscription upon it reads, from your friends of the House. (Applause.)

(The cup was placed upon the Speaker's desk.)

The CLERK: Gentlemen of the House of Representatives, you have heard the resolutions as presented and read by the gentleman from Waterville, who moves that the resolutions have a passage. All those who favor giving the resolutions a passage will indicate it by rising.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

The SPEAKER: Friends and Gentlemen of the House: I sincerely thank you for the kind words that you have spoken and for the kind thoughts that are contained in the resolutions. When I accepted the honor to which you elevated me I did it with the full intention of striving to the best of my ability to serve you impartially, to assist if I might in your deliberations, and to make the pathway of all as smooth as possible. Whatever may have been my feelings in regard to any matter of legislation when out of the chair, I have striven while occupying the chair to deal fairly and justly with all. I assure you, gentlemen, that whenever there have been obstacles in my path, I have always found helping hands reaching out to assist me. Whichever way I might turn there I found friends, and loving friends.

This Legislature which is about to close has been one wherein there have been sharp contests and differences of opinion, and yet I believe that no Legislature

in the past has been actuated with a more ardent love for the State of Maine or a keener desire for legislation in the interests of the whole people. I believe, gentlemen, that our constituencies will so think when they read over our deliveries and acts.

Now, for this beautiful cup, this beautiful testimonial of your love and affection, I thank you most sincerely. The knowledge that I have won your esteem and love is indeed a treasure that shall ever give me courage whatever my lot in life may be in the future. This cup shall remain with me till the end of my journey, and then it shall pass to my posterity; and I doubt not that it will be my son's greatest joy to know that his father won your friendship, esteem and love.

Again, friends, I thank you one and all. (Applause.)

Mr SWETT of Portland: I have been asked to contribute a little to the presentation of the testimonial which the House has arranged. I shall not consume your time by attempting to extend the sentiments which are contained in the little poem which I will read.

ON LENDING A PUNCH-BOWL.

This "punch-bowl" was, according to old family traditions, a cauldrep. It is a massive piece of silver, its cherubs and other ornaments of coarse repousse work, and has two handles like a loving cup, by which it was held or passed from guest to guest.

This ancient silver bowl of mine, it tells of good old times,
Of joyous days and jovial nights, and merry Christmas chimes;
They were a free and jovial race, but honest, brave and true,
Who dipped their ladle in the punch when this old bowl was new.

A Spanish galleon brought the bar,—so runs the ancient tale;
'Twas hammered by an Antwerp smith, whose arm was like a fall;
And now and then between the strokes, for fear his strength should fail,
He wiped his brow and quaffed a cup of good old Flemish ale.

'Twas purchased by an English squire to please his loving dame,
Who saw the cherubs, and conceived a longing for the same,
And oft as on the ancient stock another twig was found,
'Twas filled with caudle spiced and hot, and handed smoking round.

But, changing hands, it reached at length a Puritan divine,
Who used to follow Timothy, and take a little wine,
But hated punch and prelacy; and so it was, perhaps,
He went to Leyden, where he found conventicles and schnapps.

And then, of course, you know what's next, it left the Dutchman's shore

With those that in the Mayflower came,—a hundred souls and more,—
Along with all the furniture, to fill their new abodes,—
To judge by what is still on hand, at least a hundred loads,

'Twa on a dreary winter's eve, the night was closing dim,
When brave Miles Standish took the bowl and filled it to the brim;
The little captain stood and stirred the posset with his sword,
And all his sturdy men-at-arms were ranged about the board.

He poured the fiery Hollands in—the man that never feared—
He took a long and solemn draught and wiped his yellow beard;
And one by one the musketeers—the men that fought and prayer—
All drank as 'twere their mother's milk, and not a man afraid.

That night, affrighted from his nest, the screaming eagle flew,
He heard the Pequot's ringing whoop, the soldiers' wild halloo;
And there the sachem learned the rule he taught his kith and kin;
"Run from the white man when you find he smells of Holland's gin!"

A hundred years, and fifty more, had spread their leaves and snows,
A thousand rubs had flattened down each little cherub's nose,
When once again the bowl was filled, but not in mirth or joy—
'Twas mingled by a mother's hand to cheer her parting boy.

Drink, John, she said, 'twill do you good—poor child, you'll never bear
This working in the dismal trench, out in the midnight air;
And if—God bless me!—you were hurt, 'twould keep away the chill,
And John did drink—and well he fought that night at Bunker's Hill!

I tell you there was generous warmth in good old English cheer;
I tell you, 'twas a pleasant thought to bring its symbol here.
'Tis but the fool that loves excess; hast thou a drunken soul?
The bane is in thy shallow skull, not in my silver bowl!

I love the memory of the past, its pressed yet fragrant flowers—
The moss that clothes its broken walls, the ivy on its towers;
Nay, this poor bauble is bequeathed—my eyes grow moist and dim,
To think of all the vanished joys that danced around its brim.

Then fill a fair and honest cup, and bear it straight to me;
The goblet hallows all it holds, what e'er the liquid be;
And may the cherubs on its face protect me from the sin
That dooms me to those dreadful words—
"My dear, where have you been?"

(The reading of the poem was received with applause.)

Mr. LITTLEFIELD of Rockland: Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House, we are glad that the time is near at hand when we shall return to our own private affairs, but we are indeed even now sorrowful in the contemplation of the parting which that return involves; but before we have said good-byes it is fitting that we should acknowledge faithful, honest and conscientious service. It was my privilege, pleasure and honor, when I came to this House as a new member, to put in nomination for the position of assistant clerk a gentleman who was then contesting for a re-election to that office. Not only have I never had occasion to regret it, but I have had occasion frequently to pride myself upon the honor which I indirectly received by reflection from the way that office was filled. At this session we elevated that gentleman to the position of clerk of the House, and I am sure that you are all well satisfied with the manner in which he has discharged the important duties of that office; my first act was to nominate him as an officer of this House, my last is to commend his official acts; he is therefore the "Alpha" and "Omega" of my legislative experience. As a memento of and that we may write upon the record our esteem for him, I move the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the thanks and appreciation of this House, for the ability displayed and the kindness and assistance extended to each member by its clerk, be expressed by a rising vote, adopting this resolution, which shall be to E. M. Thompson a sincere expression of our esteem and good will and our wish for long life for him and the fullest measure of happiness and prosperity. (Applause.)

Mr. STEVENS of Portland: Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to second the resolution which has been presented by the gentleman from Rockland. It is a fact that the duties of the clerk of this House have been most faithfully and efficiently performed and this House was most fortunate in having a man in that position so well qualified as is our clerk. We are all aware that it requires very much time and very great and painstaking care to attend to all the duties and look after all the little details in connection with his work, and that it has been well and faithfully and most faithfully done by our present clerk goes without saying; and I most cheerfully and heartily second the resolution. (Applause.)

The SPEAKER: The House has heard the resolution. All those in favor of adopting the resolution will rise.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Mr. SEWALL of Bath: Mr. Speaker, our gratitude on this occasion reaches out beyond those who have occupied a prominent position in this body, for the test of gratitude is loyal service, and I have a resolution here which I wish to

present in recognition of those in humbler positions who have toiled by day and toiled by night to assist us in our work. This is the resolution, Mr. Speaker, and I move its adoption by a rising vote.

Resolved, That the thanks of this House be extended to the assistant clerk and the several employes of the House for the faithful manner in which they have all performed their duties. (Applause.)

Mr. MERRILL of Skowhegan: Mr. Speaker and gentlemen of the House, the hour has nearly arrived when we shall all go to our respective homes and again return to the every day avocations of our lives. We came here as it were but a few days ago, the most of us strangers to one another. In this short time we have become as it were members of one family, with a feeling of brotherly love extending from each to the other of the members of this House. And while some of us may have in heated debate said some apparently sharp things at the time, I do not believe there is a member in this body that will go away feeling that any member of this Legislature has from his heart said an unkind word by which any other member could carry away with him any feeling of resentment. It is with gladness that we go and yet it is with a feeling of sorrow; and I hope, Mr. Speaker and gentlemen of the House, that we shall be permitted, perhaps not on occasions like this, but that we shall all be permitted to have the extreme pleasure of meeting each other in the days and years to come.

While there has been much said in appreciation of the magnificent manner in which our Speaker has conducted the affairs of this House, and how magnificently well have been performed the duties of our clerk, our assistant clerk, and the other employes of the House, each and every one has seemed to strive to do everything that was in his power to make pleasant the work and the labor of this House; and, Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to second the resolution extending a vote of thanks to the assistant clerk and employes who have so faithfully performed their duty. (Applause.)

The SPEAKER: The House has heard the resolution offered by the gentleman from Bath. All those in favor of adopting the resolution will rise.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Passed to be Enacted.

An Act enlarging the duties of county attorney.

An Act relating to compensation of sheriffs.

An Act to amend Section 73 of Chapter 10 of the Revised Statutes in relation to collection of taxes.

On motion of Mr. Baxter of Portland, a recess was taken for half an hour.

After Recess.**Finally Passed.**

Resolve on the pay-roll of the Senate.
Resolve on the pay-roll of the House.
Mr. Holmes of Caribou presented the following order:

Ordered, That the superintendent of public buildings be and hereby is authorized and directed to deliver to the Hon. Morrill N. Drew, Speaker of the House, the chair which he as Speaker of this House has occupied during the present session, as a memento of the esteem in which he is held by the members of this House.

The order received a unanimous passage by a rising vote.

Passed to be Enacted.

An Act to amend Section 3 of Chapter 211 of the Private and Special Laws of 1895, relating to the Bangor municipal court.

On motion of Mr. Powers of Houlton, the House took a recess till 5.15 o'clock.

After Recess.

Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

The committee of conference on the disagreeing action of the House and Senate on bill relating to preservation of forests and wood-lots, reported that the same be referred to the next Legislature.

The report was accepted and the bill was referred to the next Legislature.

On motion of Mr. Kimball of Rockland the House took a recess till 6 o'clock.

After Recess.

On motion of Mr. Thomas of Topsham, the House took a recess until 8 o'clock.

After Recess.

Mr. Russell from the committee on appropriations and financial affairs, to which was referred matter of appropriations for the year 1905, reported bill, An Act to provide in part for the expenditures of the government for the year 1905.

The report was accepted and on motion of Mr. Powers of Houlton, the rules were suspended, the bill received its three several readings without being printed and was passed to be engrossed.

Mr. Russell from the committee on appropriations and financial affairs, to which was referred the matter of appropriations for the year 1906, reported bill, An Act to provide for the expenditures of the government for the year 1906.

The report was accepted, and on motion of Mr. Higgins of Limerick, the bill received its three several readings without being printed and was passed to be engrossed.

Passed to be Enacted.

An Act to provide in part for the expenditures of government for the year 1905.

An Act to provide for the expenditures of government for the year 1906.

A message was received from the Senate through Senator Gardner of Penobscot, informing the House that the Senate had transacted all business before it and was ready to adjourn without day.

On motion of Mr. Higgins of Limerick, that gentleman was charged with and conveyed a message to the Senate informing that body that the House had transacted all business before it and was ready to adjourn without day.

Subsequently Mr. Higgins reported that he had performed the duty assigned him.

Mr. BAXTER of Portland: Mr. Clerk, I move that this House present to the Speaker the gavel that he has wielded so ably and so successfully during this present session.

The motion was agreed to.

The SPEAKER: Gentlemen, I sincerely thank you for the presentation of this gavel.

The following order was received from the Senate:

Ordered, That a committee of three on the part of the Senate with such as the House may join be appointed to wait upon the Governor and inform him that both branches of the Legislature have acted upon all matters before them and are now ready to receive any communications he may be pleased to make.

The order received a passage in concurrence.

The Speaker joined on the part of the House Messrs. Merrill of Skowhegan, Percy of Bath, Johnson of Waterville, Baxter of Portland, Sargent of Mrewer, Philbrook of Lisbon and Staples of Eliot.

Subsequently Mr. Merrill from the committee, reported that the committee had waited upon the Governor who stated that he had no further communication to make except to transmit a list of the acts and resolves approved by him.

The following communication was received from the Executive:

Augusta, March 24, 1905.

To the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a list of the acts and resolves passed during the present session of the Legislature and approved by me, numbering 573 acts and 176 resolves.

I have no further communication to make.

(Signed)

WILLIAM T. COBB.

On motion of Mr. Philbrook of Lisbon, the Speaker then declared the House adjourned without day.