

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

Seventy-Eighth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1917

AUGUSTA
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HOUSE.

Wednesday, January 17, 1917.

The House met according to adjournment and was called to order by the Speaker.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Anderson of Augusta.

Journal of previous session read and approved.

Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

The following bills, petitions and resolves were presented and, on recommendation of the committee on reference of bills, were referred to the following committees:

Appropriations and Financial Affairs.

By Mr. Farrington of Augusta: Resolve in favor of Maine Children's Home Society, for maintenance.

Education.

By Mr. Libby of Litchfield: Resolve in favor of Litchfield Academy.

Federal Relations.

By Mr. Bragdon of Westbrook: Resolve to provide for the appointment of a commission to perfect plans for the celebration of Maine's Centennial and the Three Hundredth Anniversary of the Landing of the Pilgrims.

By the same gentleman: An Act authorizing a Centennial Week in 1920, and cities and towns to raise and appropriate money for the observance thereof.

Indian Affairs.

By Mr. Hartwell of Old Town: Resolve in favor of Teachers' School and Hospital on Indian Island, Old Town, Maine.

Judiciary.

By Mr. Allan of Portland: An Act to authorize a guardian to release dower in certain cases.

By Mr. Farrington of Augusta: An Act providing for State Paper.

Legal Affairs.

By Mr. Barnes of Houlton: An Act to provide compensation for town

clerks for issuance and recording of burial permits.

By Mr. Libby of Litchfield: An Act to legalize and confirm the incorporation and doings of the Congregational Church Society of Litchfield, Maine.

Military Affairs.

By Mr. Bragdon of Westbrook: Resolve in favor of 12th Company, C. A. C., N. G. S. M. on account of Presidential Inauguration.

Portland Delegation.

By Mr. Allan of Portland: An Act to authorize the city of Portland to pension Dora B. McIntosh.

Salaries and Fees.

By Mr. Barnes of Houlton: An Act amendatory of Chapter 173 of the Public Laws of 1905 to increase the salary of register of deeds, southern registry, Aroostook county.

State Sanatoriums.

By Mr. O'Connell of Millinocket: Resolve to provide funds to pay outstanding debts of the Central Maine Association for the Relief and Control of Tuberculosis.

Ways and Bridges.

By Mr. Pattee of Harmony: Resolve for aid in repairing and permanently improving a highway in the town of Ripley; also petition of C. C. McLaughlin of Harmony and nine others in favor of same; also petition of C. W. Wakefield and 63 others of Ripley in favor of same; also petition of Sanford E. Bailey of Cambridge and 40 others in favor of same.

By Mr. Daigle of New Canada: Petition of C. E. Jones and 68 others in favor of an appropriation for the erection of a bridge across the Allagash River in Allagash Plantation.

Orders of the Day.

On motion by Mr. Barnes of Houlton, the order relating to changing the name of one of the joint standing committees was taken from the table and put upon its passage, and on further motion by the same gentleman, the order received a passage.

The following communication was received and read from Hon. William Widgery Thomas, Ex-Minister to Sweden, in reply to the joint order which passed the Senate and House on January 9th, inviting Mr. Thomas to address the House and Senate and citizens of Augusta on Wednesday evening, January 17:

"Hon. W. E. Lawry, Secretary of
Maine Senate:

Dear Sir:—

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of January 11, transmitting the joint order of the Senate and House inviting me to address the Legislature of Maine on 'The Story of New Sweden' on Wednesday evening, January 17, in the Hall of the House of Representatives. Please convey to the honorable Senate and House of Representatives of Maine my sincere thanks for the high honor thus conferred and the great pleasure it gives me to accept this distinguished invitation.

(Signed)

W. W. THOMAS."

The above communication was placed on file in concurrence.

The SPEAKER: Members of the House, it so happens that Mr. Thomas is present. It is not often that we have a Speaker of the House who has served two terms. Mr. Thomas was Speaker of the House of Representatives in the years 1875 and 1876; and as we have just read the reply of Mr. Thomas to this joint order, I am going to ask him to stand up and say something to this House if he sees fit. (Applause.)

Mr. THOMAS: Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Representatives of Maine: It is indeed a great pleasure, as well as a high honor, to meet you here in the Hall of the House of Representatives, to look you in the eye, and to be assured of what I knew before that the State of Maine continues to send her best men to legislate here in this Capitol building. It also brings to mind freshest memories of now more than two score years ago

when I had the privilege of taking part in the Legislature of Maine, and when I was striving with all my might, as I know you gentlemen legislators of today are striving, if possible to do something for the good of our grand State of Maine.

The subject of the colonization of our wild lands with industrious and thrifty farmers, thus increasing our rural and agricultural population, upon which the welfare and the prosperity of the State of Maine so much depends, is now again attracting the attention of our citizens all over the State. In any discussion of the future colonization of Maine, it is well, I am sure, to take into consideration the founding of the colony in our State nearly half a century ago which has proved a complete success. Nearly fifty years ago a little band of resolute men, with their wives and children, sailed from the lofty north of Europe across the stormy Atlantic, landed on the shores of America, cut their way to the back woods of our State, and there founded the prosperous and successful colony of New Sweden. It will be my privilege, by your invitation, to address you this evening upon the circumstances and causes which made that colony possible, and which have contributed to its success. Such causes and such circumstances it is well that we take into contemplation now when the future colonization of Maine is one of the topics of the hour. I shall have the pleasure and honor of meeting you again—I hope all of you—this evening at eight o'clock. Come, gentlemen and bring your friends with you, and I will try to give you a little information and to entertain you and not be tedious. I shall have the pleasure of addressing you this evening and I hope you will all come and hear me. (Applause.)

On motion by Mr. Jordan of Cumberland,

Adjourned until tomorrow morning at ten o'clock.