

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

Seventy-Eighth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1917

AUGUSTA
KENNEBEC JOURNAL PRINT
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HOUSE

Friday, February 23, 1917.

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

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Dunnack of Augusta.

Journal of previous session read and approved.

Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

Senate Bills On First Reading

Senate 201. An Act changing the name of McGurdy Pond to Hilton Lake.

Senate 196. An Act to extend the charter of the Rockland, South Thomaston and St. George Railway.

Senate 60. An Act to amend Section 1 of Chapter 11 of the Revised Statutes of Maine, relating to the collection of taxes and the commitment of poll taxes in incorporated places.

From the Senate: Ordered, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they adjourn to meet Tuesday February 27, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon.

The order received a passage in concurrence.

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

Inland Fisheries and Game

By Mr. Gurney of Portland: An Act to amend Chapter 55 of the Revised Statutes relating to closed season on game birds. (1000 copies ordered printed.)

By Mr. Russell of Farmington: Remonstrance of O. B. Littlefield and 46 others against the passage of House Doc. No. 44, being "An Act to repeal Section 73 of Chapter 33 of the Revised Statutes, relative to Sunday being a closed season for game or birds."

By Mr. Hooper of St. George: Remonstrance of H. F. Kalloch and 30

others, residents of St. George, against same.

By Mr. Frost of Berwick: Remonstrance of Wilbur F. Holmes and 28 others, of Berwick, against same.

By Mr. Jennings of Wayne: Remonstrance of W. E. Cummings and others against same.

Judiciary

By Mr. Farrington of Augusta: An Act to amend Section 58 Chapter 64, Revised Statutes, relative to the licensing of children's homes and maternity hospitals. (500 copies ordered printed.)

By Mr. Barnes of Houlton: An Act relative to the term of office of the Commissioner of Agriculture. (500 copies ordered printed.)

By Mr. Dutton of Bingham: Petition of John Metcalf and 86 others of New Portland, Maine, in favor of changing the date of the State election from the second Monday of September to Tuesday after the first Monday of November.

Mercantile Affairs and Insurance

By Mr. Barnes of Houlton: An Act to amend Chapter 30, Section 55, Revised Statutes of 1916, relating to insurance commissioner investigating fires. (500 copies ordered printed.)

Public Utilities

By Mr. Rounds of Portland: An Act relating to storage demurrage and car service on railroads. (500 copies ordered printed.)

By Mr. Hammond of Van Buren: An Act relative to notice by public utilities of changes in rates. (1000 copies ordered printed.)

Sea and Shore Fisheries

By Mr. Harman of Stonington: Petition of Archie E. Redman and 43 others asking that Chapter 92 of the Public Laws of 1915 be repealed, relating to the taking of scallops during the summer months in Penobscot Bay.

By the same gentleman: Petition of Otis Walls and 41 others asking that there may be no change made in the present lobster law, or against shipping lobsters out of the State.

Ways and Bridges

By Mr. Billings of North Berwick: Petition of Frank J. Knight and 78 others, from the town of North Berwick, in favor of resolve to aid in the repair and construction of the highway from Wells to the New Hampshire state line.

By Mr. Frost of Berwick: Petition of Clarence L. Hussey and 83 others, from the town of Berwick, in favor of same.

Orders.

On motion by Mr. Sawyer of Eden, it was,

Ordered, the Senate concurring, that the remonstrance against An Act to regulate the sale of milk and cream in the town of Eden, signed by Charles L. Soper and eight others, and the remonstrance against same act, signed by J. V. Vaney and 11 others, introduced in the House of Representatives February 13, 1917, and referred to the committee on agriculture, be recalled from that committee, and delivered to the clerk of the House.

Reports of Committees.

Mr. Alden, from the committee on agriculture, reported "ought to pass" on bill, an Act to amend Section 11 of Chapter 222 of the Public Laws of 1909, as amended by Section 11 of Chapter 40 of the Public Laws of 1911, relative to damage done to domestic animals by wild animals and dogs. (On motion by Mr. Farrington of Augusta, the rules were suspended, and the bill given its two several readings.)

Mr. Brackett, from same committee, reported "ought to pass" on bill, An Act to give more power to the local sealers of weights and measures and their deputies.

Mr. Bowman, from same committee, reported "ought to pass" on Resolve to amend Chapter 32 of the Resolves of 1905, as amended by Chapter 96 of the Resolves of 1909, relating to the authority of the commissioner of agriculture.

Mr. Holt, from committee on claims, reported "ought to pass" in new draft on Resolve in favor of Freeman Boynton of Boothbay Harbor.

Mr. Baxter, from committee on judiciary, on bill, An Act to amend Chapter

239 of the Private and Special Laws of 1913, relative to Lincoln municipal court, giving the recorder of said court and the clerk of courts for Lincoln county authority to issue warrants upon complaints for criminal offences, report in a new draft under title of "An Act to amend Chapter 239 of the Private and Special Laws of 1913, relative to Lincoln municipal court, giving the recorder of said court authority to issue warrants upon complaints for criminal offences" and that it "ought to pass."

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported "ought to pass" on bill, An Act providing for court jurisdiction in criminal cases originating in Hibberts Gore.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported "ought to pass" on bill, An Act amendatory of the existing law relating to review by the supreme judicial court of certain orders, decrees and decisions of the public utilities commission.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported "ought to pass" on bill, An Act relating to the jurisdiction of the municipal court of Dexter.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported "ought to pass" on bill, An Act to amend Section 28 of Chapter 64 of the Revised Statutes, relating to registration of vital statistics.

Mr. Garcelon, from committee on legal affairs, reported "ought to pass" on bill, An Act to amend Chapter 132 of the Private and Special Laws of 1913, relating to the ferry between Indian Island, so called, and the city of Old Town.

Mr. Chaplin, from same committee, reported "ought to pass" on bill, An Act to extend the charter of the North Bridgton Village Corporation.

Mr. Emerson, from committee on public utilities, reported "ought to pass" on bill, An Act to amend Section 8, Chapter 53 of the Revised Statutes, relating to approval of location of street railroads. (Tabled by Mr. Spiers of Westbrook pending acceptance.)

Mr. Tate, from same committee, reported "ought to pass" on bill, An Act to amend Section 31 of Chapter 3 of the Revised Statutes, so as to provide for a

maximum number of annual reports of the Public Utilities Commission.

Mr. Jordan, from committee on public health, reported "ought to pass" on bill, An Act additional to Chapter 51 of the Private and Special Laws of 1907, relative to the pollution of North or Varnum's pond.

Same gentleman, from committee on taxation, reported "ought to pass" on bill, An Act to amend Section 10, of Chapter 9 of the Revised Statutes of 1916, relating to the re-assessment of real and personal property. (On motion by Mr. Jordan of Baileyville, the rules were suspended and the bill given its two several readings.)

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

Mr. Bowman, from committee on agriculture, reported "ought not to pass" on bill, An Act to fix the weight of a bushel of apples.

Mr. Brackett, from same committee, reported "ought not to pass" on bill, An Act to provide a bounty on crows in the county of Washington, State of Maine.

Mr. Baxter, from committee on judiciary, reported "ought not to pass" on bill, An Act increasing the authority of constables in serving writs.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported "ought not to pass" on bill, An Act relating to the officers of the town of Eden, Hancock county.

Mr. Anderson, from committee on legal affairs, reported "ought not to pass" on bill, An Act to amend Section 3 of Chapter 18 of the Revised Statutes, relating to board of distribution being notified of dead human bodies.

Mr. Jordan, from committee on public health, reported "legislation inexpedient" on Act relative to sanitary conditions in places of employment.

Mr. Ames, from committee on sea and shore fisheries, to which was referred remonstrance of A. Simpson, Jr., and 20 others, restricting the taking of smelts below Sullivan Falls, reported that "the subject matter has been taken care of in the House Bill, No. 158, previously reported by this committee."

Mr. Jordan, from committee on taxation, reported "ought not to pass" on bill, An Act to establish a uniform poll tax.

The reports were accepted.

First Reading of Printed Bills and Resolves.

House 376. An Act relating to the digging of clams within the limits of the towns of Newcastle and Damariscotta.

House 375. An Act to amend Section 67 of Chapter 45 of the Revised Statutes, relating to scallops.

House 374. Resolve in favor of A. L. Dow and Company.

House 373. Resolve in favor of the town of Westfield for reimbursement for expense incurred on account of State pauper.

Passed to Be Engrossed.

Senate 189. An Act to extend the charter of the Salisbury Cove Water Company.

House 362. An Act to permit savings banks to invest in certain railroad bonds.

House 364. An Act to permit savings banks to invest in certain corporation bonds.

House 363. An Act to grant legislative assent to the provisions of the Federal Aid Road Act and to authorize the State Highway Commission to co-operate with the federal government according to the provisions of said act.

House 72. An Act to amend Section 13 of Chapter 45 of the Revised Statutes, relating to lobster license law.

Orders of the Day.

On motion by Mr. Emerson of Lewiston, unanimous consent was given, and that gentleman introduced, out of order at the present time, bill, "An Act to incorporate the Peat Powder Producing Company," and, on further motion by the same gentleman, the bill was referred to the committee on legal affairs.

On motion by Mr. Sawyer of Madison, unanimous consent was given, and that gentleman introduced, out of order at the present time, "Resolve in favor of the town of Solon, to repair Robin Hill in said town," and, on fur-

ther motion by the same gentleman, the resolve was referred to the committee on ways and bridges.

On motion by Mr. Ellis of York, unanimous consent was given, and that gentleman introduced, out of order at the present time, bill, "An Act to incorporate the York Beach Chamber of Commerce," and, on further motion by the same gentleman, the bill was referred to the committee on legal affairs.

Mr. PURINGTON of Mechanic Falls: Mr. Speaker, if it is in order, I will move to reconsider the vote whereby the House passed to be engrossed House Bill No. 362, bill, "An Act to permit savings banks to invest in certain railroad bonds." The bank examiner spoke to me a day or two ago, and said that the bill needed some amendment and that he would prepare the amendment and give it to me, but he has not done so.

On motion by the gentleman from Mechanic Falls (Mr. Purington) the House reconsidered its vote whereby House Document No. 362 was passed to be engrossed, and, on further motion by the same gentleman, the bill was tabled pending its passage to be engrossed.

Mr. Clarke of Randolph presented out of order, under suspension of the rules, the following order and moved its passage: "Ordered, the Senate concurring, that 300 extra copies of Senate Bill No. 185 be printed for the use of the House and Senate."

The order received a passage.

Mr. BARNES of Houlton: Mr. Speaker, there is in the Clerk's possession, it having been recalled from the committee on judiciary, a bill, introduced early in the session, entitled "An Act relating to widows' allowance," and I move that 500 copies of the same be printed.

The motion was agreed to.

On further motion by the same gentleman, the bill was recommitted to the committee on judiciary.

On motion by Mr. Cole of Eliot, the rules were suspended to consider out of order the following Senate Report on the order of the Senate, January 31, 1917, which read as follows:

"Ordered: that the Superintendent of Buildings be and hereby is instructed to procure and have placed above the President's chair in the Senate Chamber a suitable coat of arms of the State of Maine appropriately draped at a cost not exceeding five hundred dollars; and ordered further that a special committee of three, consisting of the President of the Senate and two other members of the Senate, be appointed by him to act with the Superintendent of Buildings in making any arrangements for suitable design, contract for said coat of arms and hangings, and see that the same is put in place as soon as possible."

In the Senate, the committee on public buildings and grounds to which was referred this order, reported resolve entitled, "Resolve providing the sum of \$500 for a coat of arms of the State of Maine for the Senate Chamber."

Came from the Senate, read and accepted.

In the House, accepted in concurrence, and under a suspension of the rules, the resolve was given its two several readings and passed to be engrossed.

Mr. SNOW of Mars Hill: Mr. Speaker, I wish to say a word or two. I would not like to shut anybody off from introducing private bills, and I think perhaps some of those introduced this morning come in properly at this time; but we ought to establish a limit somewhere when this thing should stop. Two weeks ago there was a time limit set for private and special bills to be introduced which was advertised by the clerk in all the newspapers of the State, and it seems time now that we should insist upon the action that we then took. There are more than 300 bills advertised in the Kennebec Journal for hearing this morning. As many, or more, are in the hands of committees to be heard, besides a lot of others they have had hearings upon but have not reported on. We have spent eight

weeks now in this legislative session and it seems time that we get a hustle on.

The SPEAKER: The Chair would suggest that the opposition of one member will stop the introduction of any bill at any time. The remarks of the gentleman from Mars Hill, Mr. Snow, would have been appropriate at the time of the introduction of these measures this morning when the motion was before the House. However, I trust what he has said may have a salutary effect.

The SPEAKER: The Chair lays before the House as a matter of unfinished business, House report of the committee on inland fisheries and game, reporting "ought not to pass" on House Doc. 48, entitled "An Act to amend

Section 22 of Chapter 33, Revised Statutes, relating to the unlawful selling or purchasing of fish", tabled, February, 21, by the gentleman from Eliot, Mr. Cole, pending acceptance of the report.

Mr. Jordan of Baileyville moved that the report be not accepted.

The pending question being on the acceptance of the report,

A viva voce vote being taken,

The motion of Mr. Jordan prevailed.

On further motion by the same gentleman, the bill was recommitted to the committee on inland fisheries and game.

On motion by Mr. Pendexter of Cornish,

Adjourned until ten o'clock Tuesday morning, February 27.