

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

SPECIAL SESSION

OF THE

Seventy-Ninth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1919

AUGUSTA
KENNEBEC JOURNAL PRINT
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SENATE

Wednesday, November 5, 1919.

Senate called to order by the President.

Prayer by Rev. E. S. Philbrook of Augusta.

Journal of previous session read and approved.

Papers from the House disposed of in concurrence.

From the House: An Act to repeal Chapter 134 of the Public Laws of 1919 regulating fishing in Kennebago Stream.

In the Senate referred to the committee on inland fisheries and game.

In the House indefinitely postponed.

On motion by Mr. Walker of Somerset the Senate concurred with the action of the House.

From the House: An Act to amend the charter of the Passadumkeag Boom Company.

In the Senate referred to the committee on interior waters.

In the House referred to the next legislature.

Mr. THOMBS of Penobscot: Mr. President, until we are better informed about the situation I move that the matter lie on the table.

The motion was agreed to.

From the House: An Act to amend Section 32 of Chapter 9 of the Revised Statutes, relating to the taxation of street railroad corporations.

In the Senate referred to the committee on taxation.

In the House indefinitely postponed.

On motion by Mr. Walker of Somerset the Senate concurred with the action of the House.

From the House: Ordered, the Senate concurring, that the State Highway Department be instructed to make safe for the passage of motor vehicles the detour road between the city of Hallowell and the city of Augusta.

In the House read and passed. The Senate concurred.

Mr. THOMBS of Penobscot: Mr. President, I move that we reconsider the vote whereby this order was passed in concurrence with the House.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. THOMBS: Mr. President and Senators, I try not to interfere with matters that do not particularly concern me, but I happened to be in the House yesterday morning when this order was presented and passed. I took it to be a joke. It does not seem to me that it is good policy for us to pass an order through the Legislature requiring the State Highway Commission to put a piece of road in proper shape. They are already under legal obligation to do so, and it seems to me it would be somewhat embarrassing to them for us to do anything of that kind. I think the care of the road is under the city, as all roads are, either of the cities or the towns.

My point is this: It does not seem to me that the passage of this order will add a single thing to the law already governing roads and making them safe. I was fully convinced, yesterday morning, when I heard the matter in the House that it was a matter of joke.

I move that we non-concur with the House, and that the order be indefinitely postponed.

The motion was agreed to.

From the House: Ordered, the Senate concurring, that no matters of legislation be received after 4 o'clock P. M., Tuesday, November 4, 1919.

In the House read and passed.

Mr. THOMBS of Penobscot: Mr. President, I move that this order be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. GRANT of Cumberland: I was just about to offer an amendment making the limit 12 o'clock today.

(Senator Thombs withdrew his motion.)

The order was tabled for the purpose of drawing an amendment.

Communication from the State Superintendent of Schools.

State Superintendent of Public Schools.

State House, Augusta,

November 5, 1919.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

In accordance with the vote of the four thousand members of the Maine

Teachers' Association at its annual meeting in Portland on October 30, 1919, I herewith submit copy of the resolutions adopted at that time which include commendation and appreciation of the attitude of the members of the present legislature in enacting progressive and constructive school legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

AUGUSTUS O. THOMAS,

State Superintendent of Public Schools.
MAINE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION
RESOLUTIONS

October 30, 1919.

We the members of the Maine Teachers' Association in convention assembled hereby wish to give expression to our thought upon the following matters of interest to all of us.

We believe in keeping in the closest possible touch with the great educational movements of the country. To that end we endorse the plan of state-wide enrollment of teachers as members in the National Educational Association.

We further believe that in this centennial year of Maine's history it should be our purpose to lead the students in our schools to know Maine better.

Therefore:—Be it resolved that we will in every possible way, by special programs and well-thought-out plans bring before our pupils the possibilities and resources of our state. No state anywhere offers better opportunities.

Again:—Recognizing that the supreme need of the hour, in the midst of the industrial and social unrest now so much in evidence, is for an Americanism so intelligent and so sincere that it can rise above partisan politics and special privilege.

Be it resolved:—That we will make it an important part of our state-wide program for the coming year to lead our children, native and foreign-born alike, to appreciate the ideals of American citizenship as shown in the lives of great Americans and to carry out the spirit and letter of the law passed by our last Legislature, regarding the use of the English language in all the schools of the State.

As teachers of Maine we have tried to do our part in helping our country and our State during the hard and critical years through which we have passed. We pledge our continued service and loyalty. We do not believe that it is in accord with the dignity and standing of our profession to ally ourselves formally with any labor or political organization. We are forced, however, by the economic conditions now prevailing to give consideration to the question of adequate compensation for adequate service.

Therefore:—Be it resolved that this Association through its president appoint a committee to co-operate with the State superintendent in giving publicity to the needs of well qualified teachers and adequate compensation and to bring about better conditions in the schools.

As a body of Maine teachers, we fully recognize the efficiency and helpful co-operation in our work of the State superintendent and his associates. We especially wish to commend his stand regarding the improvement of rural education in Maine as shown by the special school for rural teachers at Castine, the value of which is already being recognized all over the country. Therefore,

Be it resolved:—That we pledge our loyal support and co-operation to Dr. Thomas in the carrying out of his plans for the further development of our educational work.

As educators of the State we realize that little can be done without the assistance and authority of all the people. We further realize that this will of the people is expressed by their representatives in the Legislature.

Therefore, be it resolved:—That we commend and appreciate the statesmanlike attitude of the members of the present Legislature in enacting the progressive and constructive legislation of the last session and we recommend that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Legislature soon to assemble in special session, and

Be it resolved:—That we express our appreciation to Governor Milliken for his active and helpful co-operation

with us in all matters of educational interest to Maine.

In addition to the above resolutions bearing on our state-wide program of work, we wish to express our appreciation to the officers of the association who have prepared and are carrying out the splendid program of this convention, to the railroads for reduced rates, to the school officials and citizens of Portland for their many courtesies extended to us, and to all who have in any way contributed to the success of this occasion.

(Signed) George T. Goldthwaite,
Drew T. Harthorn,
Florence M. Hale,
Committee on Resolutions.

On motion by Mr. Walker of Somerset, placed on file.

The following bills were received and on recommendation of the committee on reference of bills were referred to the following committees:

Legal Affairs

By Mr. Baxter of Sagadahoc, An Act to amend paragraph 111 of section 11, chapter 197, Private and Special Laws of 1915, entitled "An Act to incorporate the Bath Water District."

Library

By Mr. Gannett of Kennebec, An Act to provide for the preservation of archeological objects and sites and for the appointment of a commission of archeology.

Salaries and Fees

By Mr. Googin of Androscoggin, An Act to increase the salary of the county commissioners of the county of Androscoggin.

By Mr. Grant of Cumberland, An Act to provide a bonus for the heads of State departments.

By Mr. Baxter of Sagadahoc, An Act to amend section 40, chapter 117, Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter 214, Public Laws of 1919, relating to the salary of the clerk of courts of Sagadahoc county.

On motion by Mr. Tuttle of Aroostook it was

Ordered, the House concurring, that a committee consisting of two members of the Senate and three members

of the House of Representatives be appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives respectively to attend the exhibition of the Eastern States Exposition, to be held in September, 1920, at Springfield, Massachusetts, for the purpose of determining the advisability of the erection of a building by the State of Maine for annual display of agricultural products of the State, and report at the next session of the Legislature.

The Chair appointed on such committee Senators Tuttle of Aroostook and Babb of Cumberland.

On motion by Mr. Thombs of Penobscot, it was

Ordered, that the secretary of the Senate be authorized to procure the same stenographic assistance during the present special session as in the previous session.

On motion by Mr. Googin of Androscoggin, it was

Ordered, the House concurring, that 675 copies of the Legislative Record for the present special session be printed and bound for distribution to the members and officers of the Legislature and the balance to be deposited with the State Librarian for exchange and library purposes.

On motion by Mr. Walker of Somerset, it was

Ordered, that L. B. Raynes of Bangor be appointed assistant to the official reporter of the Senate with compensation the same as the official reporter.

On motion by Mr. Walker of Somerset, it was

Ordered, that the official reporter of the Senate be authorized to employ the services of a typewriter operator for the special session.

Ordered, the House concurring, that the Governor and Council be authorized and directed to pay out of the State contingent fund the hotel and travelling expenses of General Edwards and party upon his recent visit

to the cities and towns in Maine which furnished companies in the 103d Regiment. Introduced by Mr. Gannett of Kennebec.

Mr. DAVIES of Cumberland: Mr. President, may I inquire of the Senator from Kennebec through you if he has any idea how much that expense is?

The PRESIDENT: Will the Senator from Kennebec answer the Senator from Cumberland through the Chair?

Mr. GANNETT: I am informed by the Governor that that is about \$700. This came about in this way. At the last session I introduced an order, I believe, to invite General Edwards to come to Maine and to visit the towns where companies were furnished in the 103d Infantry, 26th Division, and through an oversight that order simply read Augusta and did not cover the other localities. When the State Auditor came to pay the bill he looked the original order up and hung these bills up on a technicality; so this is put in to correct that.

Mr. DAVIES: Mr. President, undoubtedly General Edwards' visit to the State of Maine was one that we should encourage, and undoubtedly the State feels as if it should pay whatever the expenses were, and if the sum is not in excess of \$700 I make no objection.

The order was passed.

Reports of Committees

Mr. Folsom, from the committee on salaries and fees, reported ought to pass in new draft, under same title, An Act to amend paragraph 18 of section 45 of chapter 214, Public Laws of Maine, 1919, relating to expense of county commissioners.

Under suspension of the rules, the bill was given its first reading without being printed, and was assigned for its second reading tomorrow morning at ten o'clock.

Orders of the Day

The PRESIDENT: The Chair lays before the Senate the Granville bill, so-called, An Act to provide aid for the assistance of towns in maintaining town highways, which was re-

ferred to the special session of this legislature.

Mr. DAVIES of Cumberland: Mr. President, my understanding is that that is one of the measures which was mentioned in the Governor's message, is that correct?

The PRESIDENT: It is.

On motion by Mr. Davies, the bill was referred to the committee on ways and bridges.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair lays before the Senate, Resolve to limit the scope of the work of the special session of the 79th Legislature, laid on the table at the request of the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Davies.

Mr. DAVIES: Mr. President, some things have occurred which make it necessary for me to ask the Senate for the postponement of the hearing on that resolution until tomorrow. I move that it be specially assigned for tomorrow.

The motion was agreed to.

On motion by Mr. Grant of Cumberland the order relating to the time for the reception of legislation was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same senator the following amendment was adopted:

Amendment A. Amend said order by striking out the words "four o'clock P. M., Tuesday, November 4, 1919," and substituting the words, "one o'clock P. M., Wednesday, November 5, 1919."

On motion by Mr. Cobb of Kennebec a recess was taken until 11.30.

After Recess

Senate called to order by the President.

Mr. WALKER of Somerset: Mr. President, I move that we reconsider the vote whereby we passed the order in regard to the compensation of the assistant reporter.

The motion was agreed to, and on further motion by the same Senator the order was tabled and assigned for tomorrow morning.

Papers from the House disposed of in concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Thombs of Penobscot, An Act relating to construction of a dam on the Passadumkeag Stream was taken from the table.

Mr. THOMBS: Mr. President, may I inquire the status of this matter?

The PRESIDENT: In the Senate this bill was referred to the committee on interior waters; in the House it was referred to the next Legislature in non-concurrence.

Mr. THOMBS: Mr. President, in view of the fact that there has been a general acceptance of bills this morning I see no reason why there should be any distinction or exception

made in this case. I move that we insist and ask for a committee of conference.

The motion was agreed to and the President appointed as such committee on the part of the Senate, Senators Thombs, Walker and Clement.

The PRESIDENT: I declare a recess until a quarter of twelve, hoping we may be able to get a few more papers from the House.

After Recess

Senate called to order by the President.

On motion by Mr. Thornton of Aroostook, adjourned until ten o'clock tomorrow morning.