

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Record

OF THE

Eighty-Third Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1927

KENNEBEC JOURNAL COMPANY
AUGUSTA, MAINE

SENATE

Tuesday, February 1, 1927.

Senate called to order by the President.

Prayer by the Rev. W. B. Bradford of Hallowell.

Journal of previous session read and approved.

Papers from the House disposed of in concurrence.

From the House: An Act to amend Chapter 148 of the Revised Statutes creating a field agent for the blind and guide, and defining the duties and compensation of such field agent and guide. (S. P. 4-1925.)

(In Senate, January 25th, referred to Committee on Pensions.)

In the House, indefinitely postponed in non-concurrence.

In the Senate, on motion by Mr. Douglass of Hancock indefinitely postponed in concurrence.

From the House: Resolve, to appropriate money for the State Highway Department. (H. D. 13.)

Resolve to appropriate money for the maintenance of State Highway Police. (H. D. 14.)

In the Senate, on January 26th, the two foregoing resolves were referred to the Committee on Ways and Bridges in non-concurrence.

In the House, that branch having voted to insist on its former action whereby the two resolves were referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, and asking for a committee of Conference, the Speaker named as members of such committee on the part of the House: Messrs. Hale of Portland, Deering of Saco, Thurston of Appleton.

In the Senate, on motion of Mr. Granville of York, the Senate voted to insist upon its former action and join the Committee of Conference, and the President appointed as members of such committee on the part of the Senate: Messrs. Smith of Somerset, Granville of York, Bond of Lincoln.

From the House: An Act relating to appropriation of automobile fees. (H. P. 45) (S. D. 13.)

An Act relating to maintenance of

the State Highway Police. (H. P. 46) (S. D. 14.)

An Act to revise the schedule of fees for registration of motor vehicles. (H. D. 17.)

An Act relating to appropriation of motor vehicles registration and operators' license fees. (H. P. 44) (S. D. 12.)

(In Senate, January 26th, the four foregoing bills were referred to the Committee on Ways and Bridges in non-concurrence.)

In the House, that branch having voted to insist on its former action whereby the four bills were referred to the Committee on Judiciary, and asking for a Committee of Conference, the Speaker named as members of such a committee on the part of the House, Messrs. Hale of Portland, Deering of Saco, Thurston of Appleton.

In the Senate, on motion by Mr. Granville of York, the Senate voted to insist upon its former action and join the Committee of Conference, and the President appointed as members of such a committee on the part of the Senate: Messrs. Smith of Somerset, Granville of York, Bond of Lincoln.

From the House: An Act to amend Chapter Six of the Revised Statutes relating to the opening and closing of the polls at primary elections. (H. D. 44.)

In the House, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

In the Senate, on motion by Mr. Spear of Cumberland, tabled pending reference, in non-concurrence.

From the House: An Act to amend Section 21 of Chapter 7 of the Revised Statutes, in relation to closing of polls at elections. (H. D. 45.)

In the House, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

In the Senate, on motion by Mr. Spear of Cumberland, tabled pending reference, in non-concurrence.

The following bills, petitions, etc., were received and on recommendation by the committee on reference of bills, were referred to the following committees:

Education

By Mrs. Allen of Penobscot, Resolve in favor of Hampden Academy, in the town of Hampden. (S. P. 76.)

By Mr. Speirs of Cumberland, Resolve in favor of Westbrook Seminary. (S. P. 77.)

Sent down for concurrence.

Legal Affairs

By Mrs. Pinkham of Aroostook, An Act to repeal acts incorporating Fort Kent Village Corporation. (S. P. 78.)

Sent down for concurrence.
(500 copies ordered printed.)

Pensions

By Mr. Smith of Somerset, An Act in favor of Frank J. Durgin of West Forks Plantation. (S. P. 79.)

Sent down for concurrence.

Salaries and Fees

By Mrs. Pinkham of Aroostook, An Act to increase the salary of the Register of Deeds in the County of Aroostook, Northern District. (S. P. 80.)

By the same Senator, An Act increasing the allowance for clerk hire in the office of the register of deeds in the county of Aroostook, Northern District. (S. P. 81.)

Sent down for concurrence.

Ways and Bridges

By Mr. Smith of Somerset, Resolve in favor of Madison for road. (S. P. 82.)

By the same Senator, Resolve in favor of the town of Madison for the repair of a road. (S. P. 83.)

Sent down for concurrence.

Orders of the Day

Mr. SMITH of Somerset: Mr. President, I move that we reconsider our action whereby we voted to refer Senate Document No. 6, "An Act to Amend the Charter of All Corporations Making, Generating, Selling, Distributing and Supplying Electricity," to the committees on public utilities and inland waters jointly.

Mr. GRANVILLE of York: Mr. President, I move that the motion made by Senator Smith be tabled.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair will ask the Senator from York, Senator Granville, to assign the day.

Mr. GRANVILLE: Mr. President: I will assign Thursday next, February 3rd.

The motion to table prevailed.

7, "An Act to Amend the Charters of the Maine Corporations Incorporated for Transmission of Electricity and to Limit the Rights of Foreign Corporation Authorized to do Business in Maine for Similar Purposes," to the committees on public utilities and inland waters jointly.

Mr. GRANVILLE of York: Mr. President, I move that the motion made by Senator Smith lie upon the table and be specially assigned for Thursday next.

The motion to table prevailed.

On motion by Mr. Carter of Androscoggin, it was voted to take from the table joint order requesting information from the committee on mines and mining, tabled by that gentleman on January 26th, pending passage.

Mr. CARTER: Mr. President, I yield the floor to the Senator from Knox, Senator Dwinal.

Mr. DWINAL: Mr. President, I am going to move indefinite postponement of the order. I am reluctant to appear to reject an opportunity to give to the committee on mines and mining an experience and an importance which it has never previously enjoyed but I cannot see how under the order we can accomplish anything that will be of any value to the Legislature or the State. We might go down into the Library and reproduce parts of the geological survey, we might make inquiry from members of the legislature as to mining conditions in their districts or we might travel about over the state, if the Legislature wished to provide the funds, and make an inspection of mining conditions, but I cannot see that we would even then be in a position to suggest any legislation which would be of any benefit. It has not been intimated to me from any source that our present mining laws have any defects which are retarding the development of the mineral resources of the state, and what experience I have had induces me to believe that industry is not encouraged by promiscuous legislation. I therefore move indefinite postponement of the order.

The motion prevailed.

Mr. SMITH of Somerset: Mr. President, I now move that we reconsider our action whereby we voted to refer Senate Document No.

On motion by Mr. Foster of Kennebec, it was voted to take from the table Senate Document 11, "An Act in Relation to Signs in Public High-

ways," tabled by that gentleman on January 25th pending reference and on further motion by the same gentleman the bill was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

On motion by Mr. Maher of Kennebec, it was voted to take from the table Senate Document 15, "An Act Regulating the Exportation of Hydro-Electric Power from Maine," tabled by that gentleman on January 25th pending reference.

Mr. GRANVILLE of York: Mr. President, I move you that this document be retabled and specially assigned for Thursday next.

Mr. MAHER: Mr. President, if that is exactly what the Chairman of the Public Utilities Committee means, I have no objection. If he is interested in having it occupy the same status that the other hydro-electric matters have it will be necessary to have a preliminary motion in as much as this is the next legislative day or else it will be permanently referred to the committee.

The PRESIDENT: The Senator from York, Senator Granville, the Chair is of the opinion, is within his rights when he asks the matter to be retabled and specially assigned.

Mr. MAHER: Mr. President, realizing, of course, that that motion is not debatable, I merely rise to a point of parliamentary inquiry—

The PRESIDENT: The motion for assignment is debatable which gives the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Maher, latitude to debate.

Mr. MAHER: I do not desire to debate it, Mr. President. I simply desire information. Without doubting for a moment that the Senator from York, Senator Granville, is within his rights, I would like to know if this matter is now retabled and assigned for Thursday next whether it is too late for this body to reconsider any action which it took upon this matter Thursday last.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair is of the opinion that this is entirely within the Senate, the papers not having left the Senate, the matter being on the table, in the Senate the motion of the Senator from York being in order according to the opinion of the Chair. Does that answer the Senator?

Mr. MAHER: Not at all. Please make it plain. Is it or is it not necessary to move a reconsideration on the next legislative day?

The PRESIDENT: The Chair did not hear the motion for reconsideration.

Mr. MAHER: I did not hear it either and my suggestion was that if they desire to leave this just where it is now then all that is necessary is for the Senate to adopt the motion of the Senator from York, Senator Granville. If, on the other hand, it is desired that this occupy the same position as the other hydro-electric matters it would be necessary for a primary motion with reference to reconsideration. Do I make my position clear?

The PRESIDENT: The Chair does not quite understand the trend of the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Maher.

Mr. CARTER of Androscoggin: Mr. President, I seek information. What was the parliamentary status of this bill?

The PRESIDENT: The parliamentary status of the bill, after the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Maher, had asked and been granted the privilege of taking it from the table, was the question of reference to a committee.

Mr. MAHER: The Chair will pardon me. Upon this matter, unless I am very much in error, there was a vote on the last legislative day referring it to the committees on public utilities and interior waters.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair will state for the benefit of the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Maher, that the bill was tabled pending reference to a committee and upon the calendar of today appears under pending questions, the pending question of this bill being reference to a committee. Does that answer the Senator?

Mr. MAHER: Well, not to take up valuable time, it depends on what you mean by "pending." Has it been voted to refer this bill to any particular committee?

The PRESIDENT: It has not.

Mr. MAHER: Then, Mr. President, I am under an entire misapprehension of what happened on the last legislative day.

The PRESIDENT: Would the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Maher, like the record read of the last legislative day?

Mr. MAHER: No, Mr. President, the President's assurance that it has not been referred is sufficient.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair is as-

suring the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Maher, that there is no notation of reference upon the bill. Further than that the Chair does not care to make any statement. The question now is on the motion of the Senator from York, Senator Granville, that the bill be retabled and

specially assigned for Thursday next. Is this the pleasure of the Senate?

The motion prevailed.

On motion by Mr. Dunbar of Hancock,

Adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.