

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

Wednesday, February 9, 1927.

Senate called to order by the President.

Prayer by the Rev. E. C. McAllister of Gardiner.

Journal of previous session read and approved.

On motion by Mr. Speirs of Cumberland, out of order, it was

Ordered, that an invitation be extended to Professor Alfred Zimmern, Deputy Director of the League of Nations Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, to speak before the Senate at today's session and that Dr. Thomas, Commissioner of Education, be invited to accompany him.

Mr. Smith of Somerset, out of order, and under suspension of the rules, presented report of the Committee on Ways and Bridges on bill "An Act Relating to Bridge at Otter Creek" (S. P. 19), reporting that the same ought to pass.

The report was read and accepted, and on motion by Mr. Douglas of Hancock, the rules were suspended, the bill given its two several readings and passed to be engrossed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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

Agriculture

By Mr. Harriman of Kennebec, An Act to amend Chapter 62 of the Public Laws of 1923, relating to the production and sale of certified seed. (S. P. 122)

Sent down for concurrence.

(500 copies ordered printed)

Appropriations and Financial Affairs

By Mr. Dwinal of Knox, Resolve in favor of Knox County General Hospital, Rockland. (S. P. 123)

Sent down for concurrence.

Claims

By Mr. Drake of Sagadahoc, Resolve to reimburse the city of Bath for support of William A. Griffin, a former resident of Malaga Island. (S. P. 124)

Sent down for concurrence.

Commerce

By Mr. Harriman of Kennebec, An Act relating to Eastern Standard time. (S. P. 125)

Sent down for concurrence.
(500 copies ordered printed)

Education

By Mr. Harriman of Kennebec, An Act relating to schools being in session before the hour of eight of the clock in the forenoon. (S. P. 126)

Sent down for concurrence.
(500 copies ordered printed)

Inland Fisheries and Game

By Mr. Dwinal of Knox, An Act to create a game sanctuary in Camden in the county of Knox to be known as the Camden Game Preserve. (S. P. 127)

Sent down for concurrence.

Legal Affairs

By Mr. Drake of Sagadahoc, An Act to ratify, affirm and make valid certain doings of the City Council of the City of Bath. (S. P. 128)

By Mr. Dwinal of Knox, An Act to renew the charter of the R. and T. Cement Railroad. (S. P. 129)

By the same Senator, An Act to empower the Governor and Council to lease the right to gather and harvest kelp, seaweed and other vegetable growth on tide lands or reefs within the jurisdiction of the State. (S. P. 130)

By Mr. Roberts of York, An Act to enlarge the civil jurisdiction of the Municipal Court of the City of Biddeford. (S. P. 131)

Sent down for concurrence.

(500 copies of each ordered printed)

Salaries and Fees

By Mr. Dwinal of Knox, An Act relating to the salary of the Clerk of Courts of Knox County. (S. P. 132)

Sent down for concurrence.

Sea and Shore Fisheries

By Mr. Drake of Sagadahoc, An Act to amend Sec. 68 of Chap. 45 of the Revised Statutes relating to use of purse or drag seines in certain waters. (S. P. 133)

Sent down for concurrence.

Ways and Bridges

By Mr. Dwinal of Knox, Resolve to aid in repairing State Fish Hatchery road in Camden, County of Knox. (S. P. 134)

By Mr. Mitchell of Aroostook, Resolve in favor of the town of Weston. (S. P. 135)

By Mr. Roberts of York, Resolve in favor of the town of Lyman for road construction. (S. P. 136)

Sent down for concurrence.

Passed to be Engrossed

Resolve, Appropriating money for the construction and equipment of a new wing for the Bangor State Hospital. (S. D. 41)

Orders of the Day

On motion by Mr. Smith of Somerset the Senate voted to take from the table, An Act relating to fees for registration of vehicles (H. D. 70), tabled by that senator on February 8th pending reference.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. President, I now move that House Document No. 70 be referred to the Committee on Ways and Bridges in non-concurrence and I would state that already a committee of conference has made a similar reference.

The motion prevailed.

On motion by Mr. Smith of Somerset, the Senate voted to take from the table, An Act relating to a tax upon gasoline (H. D. 75), tabled by that Senator on February 8th pending reference and on further motion by the same senator the bill was referred to the committees on ways and bridges and taxation, jointly, in non-concurrence.

The PRESIDENT: Pursuant to the order introduced by the senator from Cumberland, Senator Speirs, inviting Professor Alfred Zimmern to address the Senate, the Chair now appoints as the committee to present Professor Zimmern and Dr. Thomas, the senator from Cumberland, Senator Speirs, the senator from Aroostook, Senator Pinkham, and the senator from Penobscot, Senator Allen, they composing the Educational Committee on the part of the Senate.

The committee retired and subsequently returned escorting Professor Zimmern and Dr. Thomas.

The PRESIDENT: Members of the Senate, the Maine Senate is always delighted to listen to distinguished visitors and it is a privilege and a pleasure to present to you this morning the Deputy Director of the League of Nations Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, Professor Alfred Zimmern.

Address by Professor Zimmern

Mr. President and members of the

Senate, I feel almost overwhelmed by the honor you have conferred upon me so suddenly in giving me the privilege of addressing you. I would like first to thank you very warmly for allowing me to come here as your guest and permitting me to say a few words about my work. Now, I hope that you are not unduly alarmed by the description given you of my title. It is quite true that I am an official of the League of Nations. It is also quite true that the United States is not a member of the League of Nations. However, I feel perfectly comfortable here because the side of the League of Nations with which I am connected, the intellectual and educational side, has the warm support and co-operation of the United States, and has had from the beginning.

The institute in Paris of which I am the Deputy Director, is the working instrument of what is known as the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, which is a committee composed of fourteen eminent scholars. Dr. Einstein, Professor Gilbert Moore, Madame Curie who, with her husband, discovered radium, are some of its members. It also numbers among its membership that distinguished scientist from California, Dr. Milliken, who has discovered what is called the Milliken ray which I am afraid I could not explain to you at this time.

As I first entered the room this morning I saw sitting here your committee on bridges. Well, we are a bridge. I think it is better to discuss us as a bridge than as an institute of intellectual co-operation. That is a term which is very much too long for me. Our work is to do all we can to help the intellectual workers of the world, the scholars, the scientists, the literary men, the artists, the teachers, to promote those interests which are common and which are international. It is that work that brings me here. My friend, Dr. Thomas, has founded, or helped to found, a very important international association of educational associations including teachers, and the interests of teachers are worldwide, and there are very large numbers of matters on which the teachers of the old world do not cooperate with the teachers of the new world. If I were to go through with you all the different tasks which we

are trying to undertake it would far outstrip the limits of my time, so I mention but one or two. The diffusion of knowledge: At present there are no adequate arrangements for enabling the results of a research for new discoveries in one country to be made quickly available to other countries. There is an enormous task of organization to enable the astronomer, the botanist or the chemist—I am taking the a b c of the matter, but I could continue down through the alphabet—who has made a discovery, say, in Norway, to make it known to his fellow workers in Central America, or in India, or in Japan. There are no adequate facilities for enabling that knowledge to be made quickly available to the common people. That means a very great chance for organization. It means organizing horizontally as between scholars in different countries, arranging for abstracts of summaries of learned works to be made quickly available. And it also means a vertical organization, from the man in the laboratory down through the university teachers on the subject, the high school teachers on the subject, and the teachers in the primary schools on the subject. It means working through the big libraries, the specialist libraries, the libraries in the larger towns and, ultimately, in the smaller places. So, we have the big problem of international library organization and that is one matter in which we count very much upon the organization of the United States, because the United States has taken the lead in library organization and we in Europe are learning a great deal from American technic and efficiency. The American library is not like some libraries, a place where you cage up the books and keep them like animals in a zoo. It is a center of organized knowledge and learning where your people have learned to come to get information on the latest subjects.

We are doing a similar work in connection with museums. It has never occurred to anyone before that the museums of the world ought to be in contact with one another, that they have, for instance, a great number of duplicates by which they could mutually benefit through exchanges, that they have photographs, casts, etc., which could be used to

mutual advantage. And again, it is true that in this country the organization of museums has advanced very considerably beyond what it has in other countries. So that by bringing together on a small central committee the museum authorities of the world, as we are doing, we are making it possible to exchange useful topics and useful digests for improving the work of the museums of the world so that the backward countries will be enabled to come up to the standard of the advanced countries.

Another problem is the problem of translation. At present it is only an accident if a good book is translated from one language into another. It is the accident of a publisher or some enthusiast who is willing to take the thankless task of turning, say, a Norwegian book or a Spanish book, as the case may be, into English, or vice versa. That is again a matter which needs some kind of central organization.

Now, that is the technical side of our work. I will leave that. I want to say a few words in relation to what is to me the most interesting side of our work, the human side. All the troubles of the international world arise from misunderstandings. I am not exaggerating. I am convinced, gentleman, that there are no insoluble political problems; there are only impenetrable minds. That is to say, minds that have not been trained to understand the point of view of the other side. If there were enough people in the world who had got into the habit of understanding the points of view of others—of the towns, of the cities, of the countries and of the races—we could be quite sure that there would be no more war. There is an example, very clear to our own minds at the present moment, in the relations between my continent and your continent. You read articles which say that Americans are very unpopular in Europe. Well, there may be matters on which we have different opinions, the debt question and matters of that sort, but the real difficulty between America and Europe is not economic it is not political, it is purely intellectual. It is simply due to the fact that this is an utterly different continent with utterly different conditions

and traditions from those existing in Europe and as we have not got together on the deeper level, so we cannot easily get together on matters of passing interest. The controversies that take place on the events of the day are utterly foolish. Take, for instance, the catchword that is quite common now in Europe that the United States is a Shylock. Nobody who knows the United States could believe that for a moment because if there is one characteristic of the American people it is an open-handed generosity. Americans, in their private deeds, in their attitude toward benefactions, etc., are inevitably more generous than Europeans. People come to your country to collect money for all kinds of purposes. Why do they call you Shylocks? Because they do not understand your debt policy. And why don't they understand your debt policy? Because they do not understand the traditions of this country underlying that policy.

You have a somewhat different attitude towards economic questions than we have because you have been employed for over a century in opening up a great continent and therefore economic enterprises loom larger in your minds than in ours and, not analyzing your attitude toward these questions we do not understand it. And so we simply invent the first bad name that occurs to us and throw it at you. Now, I could give you many other instances of similar situations existing between the countries of Europe. I could give you instance after instance in the relations between England and France because I am an Englishman living in France and every day I come up against traditions of the two nations that are entirely different and always will be. We are not trying to take the nations of the world and put them into a common mould and turn out a uniform product. Far from it. We clearly need diversities. We want to make England more English, France more French and America more American. We want to make the world more diverse, we want to have the full riches that come from that diversity, but we realize all the time that while we are making the world more diverse we are making it more complicated and that out of that com-

plexity there may easily come confusion unless there are enough people who have trained themselves to understand—well, on the debt question, both the European tradition and the American tradition, and on the reparation question of a few years ago both the British tradition and the French tradition, etc., etc. And it is because of the part that Dr. Thomas and his organization are taking in that work of mutual understanding, so that we are able to build bridges between country and country, continent and continent, race and race, that I am so happy to be with you here in his own home to see him in the wonderful work he is doing in this state.

Gentlemen of the Senate, let me thank you once more for having given me the great privilege of addressing you.

Professor Zimmern then withdrew amid the applause of the Senate, the members rising.

Mr. MAHER of Kennebec: Mr. President, I move that the Senate extend a rising vote of thanks for the interesting and informative address of Professor Zimmern.

The motion prevailed and the Senate rose in a vote of thanks to Professor Zimmern.

The PRESIDENT: The Senate will now be at ease subject to call from the Chair.

After Recess

Mr. DOUGLAS of Hancock: Mr. President, I rise to a point of personal privilege.

The PRESIDENT: You may state your point.

Mr. DOUGLAS: Mr. President and members of the Senate, I simply wish to thank you, very much for your courtesy this morning and to perhaps give you a brief outline of the reason. Mr. Rockefeller's lawyer told me that if something out of the ordinary could be done with this matter that it might mean that the State of Maine would have more roads and more bridges, that he thought Mr. Rockefeller would appreciate the fact that the Senate and the House had passed under suspension of the rules, and made a record in the passage of a bill giving us half a million dollars and that it would be the first one signed by the Governor this session. Thank you.

Passed To Be Enacted

An Act relating to bridge at Otter Creek.

The PRESIDENT: Does the Senator from Hancock, Senator Douglas, wish to have this bill taken to the Governor immediately?

Mr. DOUGLAS: I would like to have that done, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT: The Secretary will attend to that duty.

On motion by Mr. Crafts of Piscataquis,

Adjourned until tomorrow morning at ten o'clock.