

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

# Ninetieth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE



1941

KENNEBEC JOURNAL COMPANY

AUGUSTA, MAINE

**HOUSE**

Wednesday, January 15, 1941

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

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Bickmore of Augusta.

Journal of the previous session read and approved.

Bill and Resolve from the Senate requiring reference disposed of in concurrence.

From the Senate: The following Order:

ORDERED, the House concurring, that there be paid to committee clerks, messengers, and stenographers as advances on compensation such amounts as may be recommended by their respective committee chairman which shall be included in fortnightly lists certified to the state controller by the joint standing committee on appropriations and financial affairs (S. P. 61)

Same from the Senate, read and passed.

In the House, read and passed in concurrence.

The following Bills and Resolves were received, and upon recommendation of the Committee on Reference of Bills, were referred to the following Committees:

**Claims**

Resolve in favor of the town of China (H. P. 91) (Presented by Mr. Fuller of China)

(500 copies ordered printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Resolve in favor of Thomas Gray Harvey, M. D., of Mars Hill (H. P. 92) (Presented by Mr. Good of Monticello)

Resolve in favor of Edward Doyle of Fort Kent (H. P. 93) (Presented by Mr. Labbe of Fort Kent)

Resolve Granting Bonus to Charles Story Crossman of West Gardiner (H. P. 94) (Presented by Mr. Slosberg of Gardiner)

Resolve to reimburse the town of Winterport for Support of Maurice Stillman and family (H. P. 95) (Presented by Mr. Worth of Stockton Springs)

Resolve to reimburse the town of

Winterport for Support of Charles E. Reynolds and family, paupers (H. P. 96) (Presented by same gentleman)

Sent up for concurrence.

**Inland Fisheries and Game**

Resolve Regulating Fishing in Puffer's Pond in the town of Dexter (H. P. 98) (Presented by Mr. Otto of Dexter)

(500 copies ordered printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

**Judiciary**

Bill "An Act Amending certain Laws to Limit the Powers of the Council" (H. P. 99) (Presented by Mr. Payson of Portland)

(1,000 copies ordered printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Bill "An Act requiring the Election of the Members of the Public Utilities Commission by the Legislature" (H. P. 100) (Presented by Mr. Bubar of Weston)

(500 copies ordered printed)

Bill "An Act relating to Compensation of Judges upon Retirement" (H. P. 101) (Presented by Mr. Fenlason of Anson)

(500 copies ordered printed)

Bill "An Act relating to Fees of Referees" (H. P. 102) (Presented by same gentleman)

(500 copies ordered printed)

Bill "An Act to Provide a Legislative Commission to Revise certain Statutes in the event Governor's Council is Abolished" (H. P. 103) (Presented by Mr. Mills of Farmington)

(500 copies ordered printed)

Resolve proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Abolishing the Governor's Council" (H. P. 104)

(Presented by same gentleman)

(500 copies ordered printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

**Legal Affairs**

Bill "An Act Creating a State Lottery Commission" (H. P. 113) (Presented by Mr. Dwinall of Camden)

(500 copies ordered printed)

Bill "An Act relating to Sunday Hunting" (H. P. 114) (Presented by Mr. Keller of Hallowell)

(500 copies ordered printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

**Library**

Resolve for the Purchase of One Hundred Copies of "Sesquicentennial History of Greene" purchase

(H. P. 105) (Presented by Mr. Sanderson of Greene)  
Sent up for concurrence.

### Pensions

Bill "An Act relating to Old Age Assistance (H. P. 106) (Presented by Mr. Bubar of Weston)  
(500 copies ordered printed)  
Sent up for concurrence.

Resolve to Repeal a Resolve providing for a State Pension for Elizabeth McNaughton of Bangor (H. P. 107) (Presented by Miss Clough of Bangor)

Resolve in favor of George Emerson of Pittsfield (H. P. 115) (Presented by Mr. Goodrich of Palmyra)

Resolve providing for a State Pension for Bertha B. Baker of Lewiston (H. P. 108) (Presented by Mr. Lambert of Lewiston)

Resolve providing for an Increase in State Pension for Laura M. Hayes of Chelsea (H. P. 109) (Presented by Mr. Weston of Farmingdale)

Resolve providing for an Increase in State Pension for Evie B. Houstus of Brooks (H. P. 110) (Presented by Mr. Worth of Stockton Springs)

Sent up for concurrence.

### Public Utilities

Bill "An Act Extending the Exemptions from the Common Carrier Law" (H. P. 116) (Presented by Mr. Holman of Dixfield)

(500 copies ordered printed)  
Sent up for concurrence.

### Taxation

Bill "An Act Creating a Tax on Cigarettes" (H. P. 117) (Presented by Mr. Good of Monticello)

(1000 copies ordered printed)

Bill "An Act providing for the Levy of an Excise Tax on Sales of Manufactured Tobacco Products" (H. P. 112) (Presented by same gentleman)

(1000 copies ordered printed)  
Sent up for concurrence.

### Ways and Bridges

Bill "An Act to provide for the Reconstruction or Enlargement of the International Bridge at Calais, in the county of Washington, known as the Ferry Point Bridge" (H. P. 97) (Presented by Mr. Murchie of Calais)

(500 copies ordered printed)  
Sent up for concurrence.

Resolve in favor of the town of Springfield (H. P. 118) (Presented by Mr. Boyd of Winn)

Resolve in favor of the town of Winn (H. P. 119) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Winn (H. P. 120) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Lee (H. P. 121) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Cumberland (H. P. 122) (Presented by Mr. Dow of Falmouth)

Resolve in favor of the town of Cumberland (H. P. 123) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Monroe (H. P. 124) (Presented by Mr. Farwell of Unity)

Resolve in favor of the town of Troy (H. P. 125) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Jackson (H. P. 126) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Thorndike (H. P. 127) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Buckfield (H. P. 128) (Presented by Mr. Forhan of Canton)

Resolve in favor of the town of Orono (H. P. 129) (Presented by Mr. Goldsmith of Orono)

Resolve in favor of the town of Milford (H. P. 130) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Bridgewater (H. P. 131) (Presented by Mr. Good of Monticello)

Resolve in favor of the town of Monticello (H. P. 132) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Mars Hill (H. P. 133) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Blaine (H. P. 134) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Palmyra (H. P. 135) (Presented by Mr. Goodrich of Palmyra)

Resolve in favor of the town of Pittsfield (H. P. 136) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of West Gardiner (H. P. 137) (Presented by Mr. Keller of Hallowell)

Resolve in favor of the town of Manchester (H. P. 138) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the city of Hallowell (H. P. 139) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of Wallagrass Plantation (H. P. 140) (Presented by Mr. Labbe of Fort Kent)

Resolve in favor of the town of Fort Kent (H. P. 141) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Trescott (H. P. 142) (Presented by Mr. McLellan of Trescott)

Resolve in favor of the town of Dexter (H. P. 143) (Presented by Mr. Otto of Dexter)

Resolve in favor of the town of Garland (H. P. 144) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Turner (H. P. 145) (Presented by Mr. Pratt of Turner)

Resolve in favor of the town of Mechanic Falls (H. P. 146) (Presented by the same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Minot (H. P. 147) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Turner (H. P. 148) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of New Vineyard (H. P. 149) (Presented by Mr. Richardson of Strong)

Resolve in favor of the town of Weld (H. P. 150) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Phillips (H. P. 151) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Carthage (H. P. 152) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Industry (H. P. 153) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Strong (H. P. 154) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Kennebunkport (H. P. 155) (Presented by Mr. Sayward of Kennebunk)

Resolve in favor of the town of Kennebunkport (H. P. 156) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Kennebunk (H. P. 157) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Norway (H. P. 158) (Presented by Mr. Wyman of Norway)

Resolve in favor of the town of Waterford (H. P. 159) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Lovell (H. P. 160) (Presented by same gentleman)

Sent up for concurrence.

### Orders

On motion by Mr. McGlauffin of Portland, it was

ORDERED, that Mr. Jordan of Saco, be excused from attendance during the present week; also that Mr. Keller of Hallowell, be excused from attendance during the present week because of illness.

Mr. Payson of Portland, presented the following Order and moved its passage:

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that the Communications System carrying the proceedings of the Senate and House to the recording offices of the two branches be extended to carry such proceedings to the Executive Department and Newspaper Room (H. P. 111)

Mr. PAYSON: Mr. Speaker, in brief explanation of this Order, I will say that it would carry the proceedings of this House to the Governor's Office and to the Press Room upstairs, so that all proceedings could be heard at these different places. It seems to me it would be a very useful thing if this might be done. Later in the session, when controversial measures are under debate, the Executive Department will have the benefit of the arguments pro and con in making its decision as to final enactment. For that reason, it is suggested by this Order that the legislative branch offer to the Executive and the Press this facility.

The SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House that the Order receive passage?

Thereupon, the Order received passage and was sent up for concurrence.

### Orders of the Day

The SPEAKER: Under Orders of the Day the Chair lays before the House the first tabled and today assigned matter, House Order relative to amending House Rule 36 relating to printing or reproducing amendments, tabled on January 14th by the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Payson, pending passage; and the Chair recognizes that gentleman.

Mr. PAYSON: Mr. Speaker, in explanation of this Order, which I introduced yesterday, let me say that later in the session, when the real work of the Legislature is underway, you will have measures in

here which will be amended on the floor of this body or on the floor of the other branch of the Legislature. Without this rule, those amendments could be simply made in writing and read by the Clerk, and that would be the only method you would have of studying those proposed changes. These amendments may be so vital and so serious as to change the whole complexion of the Bill or measure under consideration. For this reason, we have this Order, which requires the reproduction of all amendments, so that every member will have a chance to study them. This reproduction is not done by the expensive process of printing; it is a mimeographic process. I now move that this Order have a passage.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Portland, Mr. Payson, moves that the Order have a passage. Is this the pleasure of the House?

The motion prevailed, and the Order received passage.

On motion by Mr. Farwell of Unity, the House voted to take from the table the first unassigned matter, Bill "An Act Levying Certain Luxury Taxes" (H. P. 54) (L. D. 39) tabled by that gentleman on January 14th pending reference; and on further motion by the same gentleman the Bill was referred to the Committee on Taxation and sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Gould of Gorham, was granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. GOULD: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House:

This morning there was placed on the desk of each member of the House a copy of a chart. Its purpose is to set forth some trends in our political, social and economic conditions. It covers the period from 1900 to 1938.

There are a few outstanding facts in this chart to which I would like to call your attention.

Less than thirty years ago the State of Maine did not owe a penny to anyone. The loan we had made to carry on the war with Spain had been paid and we were absolutely out of debt. In 1938 we find that there were twenty-four states in the Union that were better off financially than Maine. We were owing thirty million dollars.

Since we were owing nothing thirty years ago, we had no interest to pay. Today we are paying a million and a quarter dollars in interest charges alone, half as much as it used to cost to run the State.

Forty years ago it required less than three million dollars to run the State of Maine. In 1938 it cost over forty-two million dollars. We had added a million dollars each year to our expenses and we were borrowing each year at the rate of a million dollars. In the last ten years, as recorded in the chart, our expenditures had doubled.

We have about the same number of people in Maine as forty years ago; about the same number of taxpayers to foot the bills.

Forty years ago our valuation was three hundred thirty-six million dollars. Now it is six hundred seventy-two million dollars. Just twice as much. With our wild land stripped of its timber, many of the saw mills, cotton mills, woolen mills gone, and our farm buildings all but falling down, with little to take their places, we are told that we are worth twice as much as we were then.

Forty years ago it cost us for Sea and Shore Fisheries sixteen thousand dollars. In 1938 it cost seventy-six thousand dollars.

The Public Utilities Commission started its career in 1914 at an expense of thirty-one thousand dollars. In 1938 it functioned on ninety-five thousand dollars.

The Department of Agriculture formerly was made up of nine agricultural activities. For more efficiency and economy in management these activities were combined and were operated at a total cost of about thirty thousand dollars. That department in 1938 functioned on four hundred thirty-three thousand dollars.

The Department of Education, in 1910, spent one and a quarter million dollars. In 1938 it used two and three-quarter million.

The Highway Commission, in the days of 1910, used three hundred thousand dollars. That department, in 1938, was spending twelve million dollars.

These, Mr. Speaker, are facts contained in the chart, which I have asked the privilege of presenting to the House. Through you I wish to thank the members for allowing me to do so.

Mr. McGlauffin of Portland, was granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. McGLAUFFLIN: Mr. Speaker, I wish to call the attention of the Legislators to Rule 19 of the House Rules, and particularly to this provision: ". . . and no member shall be absent more than two days without leave of the House; and no member shall have such leave unless it be reported by the Committee on Leave of Absence. . . ."

I call attention to this Rule because in the past many times Legislators have left for days at a time without being excused, and this Rule should be better enforced. Any member that needs leave of absence

can apply to any member of the Absentee Committee.

The SPEAKER: The Chair wishes to thank the gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlauffin, for his brief remarks in calling this Rule to the attention of the members of the House.

The SPEAKER: Are there any further matters to come before the House under Orders of the Day? If not, the Clerk will read the notices.

On motion by Mr. Anderson of Oxbow,

Adjourned until tomorrow morning at ten o'clock.