

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

Saturday, April 5, 1941.

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

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Withee of Gardiner.

Journal of the previous session read and approved.

Senate Reports Ought Not to Pass

Report of the Committee on Military Affairs reporting "Ought not to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to Employees of the State Inducted into Military Service" (S. P. 444) (L. D. 886)

Report of same Committee reporting same on Resolve Authorizing a State Airplane for Defense Purposes (S. P. 216) (L. D. 882)

Report of the Committee on Motor Vehicles reporting same on Bill "An Act relating to Registration of Farmers' Motor Trucks" (S. P. 447) (L. D. 901)

Report of the Committee on Library reporting same on Resolve for the Purchase of Five Hundred Copies of "Vital Statistics of Georgetown" (S. P. 381) as it is provided for by other legislation.

Came from the Senate, read and accepted.

In the House, were read and accepted in concurrence.

Final Reports

Final Report of the Committee on Commerce.

Final Report of the Committee on Manufactures.

Final Report of the Committee on Pownal State School.

Final Report of the Committee on Towns.

Came from the Senate read and accepted.

In the House, were read and accepted in concurrence.

Ought to Pass in New Draft Report Tabled and Specially Assigned

From the Senate:

Report of the Committee on Labor on Bill "An Act relating to Hours of Employment" (S. P. 342) (L. D. 638) reporting same in a new draft (S. P. 524) (L. D. 1085) under same title and that it "Ought to pass"

(On motion by Mr. Gowell of South Portland, tabled pending acceptance of Report in concurrence, and specially assigned for next Monday afternoon, April 7th)

Senate Bills in First Reading

Bill "An Act Authorizing the Registration of Motor Vehicles Operated by Governmental Agencies" (S. P. 386) (L. D. 632)

Bill "An Act relating to Notification by Dealers to Secretary of State of Transfer of Motor Vehicles" (S. P. 452) (L. D. 898)

Bills were read twice and assigned for third reading the next legislative day.

Ought to Pass with Committee Amendment

From the Senate:

Report of the Committee on Motor Vehicles on Bill "An Act relating to Registration Number Plates for use on Motor Vehicles" (S. P. 450) (L. D. 899) reporting "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A"

Came from the Senate the Report read and accepted and the Bill passed to be engrossed as amended.

In the House, Report of the Committee was accepted in concurrence, and the Bill had its two several readings.

Committee Amendment "A" was then read by the Clerk as follows:

Committee Amendment "A" to S. P. 450, L. D. 899, Bill, "An Act Relating to Registration Number Plates for Use on Motor Vehicles".

Amend said bill by striking out in the 38th and 39th lines thereof the underlined words "**entitled to a rebate of**" and inserting in place thereof the underlined word "**re-funded**".

Committee Amendment "A" was adopted in concurrence, and the Bill was assigned for third reading the next legislative day.

Senate Divided Reports

Majority Report of the Committee on Public Health reporting "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to the Duties of Superintending School Committees" (S. P. 331) (L. D. 825)

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. TOWNSEND of Penobscot
EMERY of Hancock
—of the Senate.

Miss DEERING of Bath
 Miss CLOUGH of Bangor
 Messrs. SAYWARD of Kennebunk
 McFADDEN of Pembroke
 BOWERS of Sherman Mills
 FICKETT of Naples
 DOWNS of Rome

—of the House.

Minority report of same committee reporting "Ought not to pass" on same Bill.

Report was signed by the following member:

Mr. ELLIOT of Knox
 —of the Senate.

Came from the Senate with the Minority Report accepted.

In the House:

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Bangor, Miss Clough.

Miss CLOUGH: Mr. Speaker, I move the acceptance of the majority report "Ought to pass" on this bill, and in the absence of the House Chairman of the Committee on Public Health and other members of the committee, I move that the two reports lie on the table.

The SPEAKER: The gentlewoman from Bangor, Miss Clough, moves the acceptance of the majority report "Ought to pass." The same gentlewoman now moves that these two reports and accompanying papers lie on the table pending acceptance of the majority report and be specially assigned for next Tuesday. Is this the pleasure of the House?

Thereupon, the motion prevailed, and the two reports, with accompanying papers, were so tabled and so assigned.

Non-Concurrent Matter

From the Senate:

Bill "An Act to Authorize the Incorporation of Credit Unions" (H. P. 1415) (L. D. 595) which was passed to be engrossed in the House on April 2nd as amended by Committee Amendment "A."

Came from the Senate, passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A" as amended by Senate Amendment "A" thereto in non-concurrence.

In the House, Senate Amendment "A" read by the Clerk as follows:

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" to H. P. 1415; L. D. 595, Bill "An Act to Authorize the Incorporation of Credit Unions."

Amend said Committee Amendment "A" by striking out the first and third paragraphs thereof which provide for a change in the figures \$1000 to \$100 in section 3 of the bill.

Thereupon, the House voted to recede from its action whereby it passed this Bill to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A," on April 2nd, and further voted to recede from its action whereby it adopted Committee Amendment "A."

The House then voted to concur with the Senate in the adoption of Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A."

Committee Amendment "A" as amended by Senate Amendment "A" was then adopted in concurrence, and the Bill was passed to be engrossed as amended in concurrence.

Non-Concurrent Matter

From the Senate:

Bill "An Act to Provide Better Government for the town of Bar Harbor" (H. P. 645) (L. D. 281) which was passed to be engrossed in the House on April 1st.

Came from the Senate, passed to be engrossed as amended by Senate Amendment "A" in non-concurrence.

In the House, Senate Amendment "A" was read by the Clerk as follows:

Senate Amendment "A" to H. P. 645, L. D. 281, Bill "An Act to Provide Better Government for the Town of Bar Harbor."

Amend said Bill by striking out section 5 thereof.

Further amend said Bill by striking out in lines 2 and 3 of section 6 thereof the words "superintending school committee," and the words in line 9 "and superintending school committee."

Further amend said Bill by striking out in the headnote of section 8 thereof the words "superintendent of schools" and by inserting in section 8 thereof, after the word "created" in the 4th line thereof the word "and", and by striking out in the 4th and 5th lines thereof the words "superintendent of schools and a", and by striking out in the 6th line of said section the words "and superintendent of schools,".

Further amend said section 8 by striking out the word "their" in the 7th line thereof and substituting in place thereof the word 'his', and by

inserting after the word "be" in the 7th line thereof the word 'a', and by striking out the letter "s" in the word "citizens" in the 7th line thereof.

Further amend said Bill by striking out the last sentence of section 10 thereof.

Further amend said Bill by renumbering sections 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20 as sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bar Harbor, Mr. MacLeod.

Mr. MacLEOD: Mr. Speaker, I move you that Senate Amendment "A" to H. P. 645, L. D. 281, Bill "An Act to Provide Better Government for the Town of Bar Harbor" be indefinitely postponed. I will state briefly my reasons.

The SPEAKER: The Chair will have to rule that a motion to indefinitely postpone is not in order at this time, as the question is on the concurrence or non-concurrence with the Senate.

Mr. MacLEOD: Mr. Speaker, might I ask what would be the proper procedure? I want to indefinitely postpone the amendment somewhere along the line.

The SPEAKER: The Chair would entertain a motion that the House recede from its action whereby this bill was passed to be engrossed. If the House recedes from this action, then a motion to indefinitely postpone Senate Amendment "A" would be in order.

Mr. MacLEOD: Mr. Speaker, I move that the House recede from its action whereby this bill was passed to be engrossed.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Bar Harbor, Mr. MacLeod, moves that the House recede from its action whereby it passed this bill to be engrossed. Is this the pleasure of the House?

The motion prevailed, and the House voted to recede from its action whereby it passed this bill to be engrossed on April 1st.

Mr. MacLEOD: Mr. Speaker, I now move that Senate Amendment "A" to Bill "An Act to Provide Better Government for the town of Bar Harbor" be indefinitely postponed. I will state briefly my reasons.

The steps in getting this matter to the Legislature were all official actions of the town of Bar Harbor

at a regular Town Meeting on March 6th, 1939. The town voted to authorize the Selectmen to appoint a committee of five to draw up a charter for the Town Manager form of government for the town of Bar Harbor, and present the same, if prepared, to the next town meeting.

On April 13, 1939, the Selectmen appointed a committee to draw up a Town Manager form of government according to that article. There were three lawyers and two other citizens on that committee.

At a special Town Meeting on August 25th, 1939, there was an article to see if the town would hear the report of the committee to draw up a charter for the Town Manager form of government for the town of Bar Harbor and act thereon. The town accepted the report of the committee to draw up a charter for the Town Manager form of government for the town of Bar Harbor and voted that the matter be referred to the next annual town meeting and that an article for its adoption be inserted in the warrant for calling the same.

The town adopted the charter for the Town Manager form of government as submitted by the committee appointed by the Selectmen and authorized and instructed the Selectmen to appoint a committee to present the same to the next Legislature. At a meeting of the Selectmen on January 16, 1941, a committee was appointed to present the charter for the Town Manager form of government to the next Legislature. Senator Hodgkins and myself were members of that committee.

Now the author of this amendment had the privilege of attending all these different meetings that were held in the town of Bar Harbor and offer any objections. At the hearing before the Legal Affairs Committee the author of this amendment did not appear and did not voice any objection. The Selectmen and several other prominent Bar Harbor people appeared at that committee hearing and told the committee that they wanted the act to pass as it was, without any amendments, and the committee so recommended. Therefore I do not believe that we should adopt this Senate Amendment "A" and I move for its indefinite postponement.

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is on the motion of

the gentleman from Bar Harbor, Mr. MacLeod, that Senate Amendment "A" be indefinitely postponed. All those in favor of the indefinite postponement of Senate Amendment "A" will say aye; those opposed no.

A viva voce vote being taken, the motion prevailed, and Senate Amendment "A" was indefinitely postponed, and the bill was passed to be engrossed in non-concurrence and sent up for concurrence.

Senate Insisting—Conference Asked

From the Senate:

Bill "An Act relating to Pauper Settlements" (S. P. 93) (L. D. 99) which was passed to be engrossed in the House on April 3rd as amended by House Amendment "A" as amended by House Amendment "A" thereto in non-concurrence.

Came from the Senate that body voting to insist on its former action whereby the Bill was passed to be engrossed without amendment, and asking for a Committee of Conference, and with the following Conferees appointed on its part:

Messrs. MORSE of Waldo
SANBORN of Cumberland
CHAMBERLAIN of Penobscot

In the House:

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Gardiner, Mr. Slosberg.

Mr. SLOSBERG: Mr. Speaker, I move that the House insist on its former action and join in a Committee of Conference.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Gardiner, Mr. Slosberg, moves that the House insist on its former action and join in a Committee of Conference. Is this the pleasure of the House.

The motion prevailed, and the Chair appointed as conferees on the part of the House:

Messrs. SLOSBERG of Gardiner,
PAYSON of Portland,
DONAHUE of Biddeford.

Senate Insisting—Conference Asked

From the Senate:

Bill "An Act relative to Standish Game Preserve" (S. P. 241) (L. D. 393) on which the House accepted Report B of the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game and passed New Draft B (S. P. 519) (L. D. 1084) to be engrossed in the House on April 3rd.

Came from the Senate with that body insisting on its former action whereby Report A of the Committee was accepted and New Draft A (S. P. 518) (L. D. 1067) passed to be engrossed, and asking for a Committee of Conference, and with the following Conferees appointed on its part:

Messrs. BOOTHBY of York
SANBORN of Cumberland
BRIDGES of Washington

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Standish, Mr. Hanold.

Mr. HANOLD: Mr. Speaker, I move that the House insist on its former action and join in a Committee of Conference.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Standish, Mr. Hanold, moves that the House insist and join in a Committee of Conference. Is this the pleasure of the House?

The motion prevailed, and the Chair appointed as conferees on the part of the House:

Messrs. HANOLD of Standish
WELCH of Chapman
LAFLEUR of Portland

The SPEAKER: The Clerk has in his possession an additional paper from the Senate which does not appear on the printed calendar.

From the Senate: The following Order:

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they adjourn to meet on Monday, April 7th, 1941, at four o'clock in the afternoon (S. P. 538)

Came from the Senate, in that body read and passed.

In the House, was read and passed in concurrence.

Orders

On motion by Mr. Newcomb of Carmel, it was

ORDERED, that Rev. Mr. Frank Haselton of Carmel, be invited to act as Chaplain of the House on Monday, April 7th.

On motion by Mr. McGlauffin of Portland, it was

ORDERED, that Mr. Boyd of Winn, be excused from attendance today because of business; that Mr. Davis of Montville, Mr. Fickett of Naples, and Mr. LaFleur of Portland, be excused for today because of business.

House Reports of Committees Divided Reports

Majority Report of the Committee on Judiciary on Bill "An Act to Prohibit Certain Political Activities" (H. P. 1580) (L. D. 931) reporting "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Report was signed by the following members:

Miss LAUGHLIN of Cumberland
HARVEY of York
FARRIS of Kennebec
—of the Senate.

Messrs. GRUA of Livermore Falls
MILLS of Farmington
HINCKLEY of So. Portland
WILLIAMS of Bethel
PAYSON of Portland
BRIGGS of Hampden
—of the House.

Minority Report of same Committee reporting "Ought not to pass" on same Bill.

Report was signed by the following member:

Mr. McGLAUFLIN of Portland
—of the House.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlaulin.

Mr. McGLAUFLIN: Mr. Speaker, I signed the minority report on this measure. I had reasons to do so and I wish to explain to the House those reasons.

This measure is what has come to be known as the "Little Hatch Bill". The big Hatch Bill was passed by the Federal government, and, from all the reports that I can learn, it turned out to be a failure.

This measure was introduced at the special session of the Legislature and was killed on the floor of this House at that time. Evidently the proponents of this measure think that this House does not possess the same intelligence as the former House, and so again they put this measure in, somewhat modified and tamed down.

What does this bill provide? It provides that no employee of the State can solicit funds for campaign purposes and nobody can solicit funds from them. The object of such legislation is due to the fact that in some places there is danger of building up a political ring in the State House, but no situation exists here. The Governor, for instance, can not tell a single clerk

under the civil service that they have got to contribute something for campaign purposes, because he has no control over that individual. I say there is no necessity for it.

But that is not all. This is a far-reaching measure. This is picking out a particular class and depriving them of the usual rights of citizenship. It is reported that there are more than three thousand employees in this State. If you apply such a measure to the State House, why not apply it to every town and county official? And, when you cut out all the State employees and the town employees and the county employees where are you going to find the men that are going to take an interest in political affairs.

What is politics? Politics is the science of government and government is a matter that every citizen should be allowed to take part in, and every citizen should contribute their proportional part towards the expense of bringing about political affairs. You and I have to contribute to political campaigns if we want to run for office. The next thing you know they will be passing a measure that we cannot contribute anything. Perhaps we would like that.

I am saying to you Members of the House: This is a far reaching measure. It is a ridiculous measure from my point of view. I do not believe that because a person works for this State that it is a crime for somebody to say to that person, "Aren't you willing to give twenty-five cents to join a Roosevelt Club or a Willkie Club?" That is what this measure does; you cannot solicit even a five-cent piece, and neither can those who work for the State.

Mr. Speaker, I move the indefinite postponement of this measure.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Mills.

Mr. MILLS: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I rise to give my reasons for signing the majority "Ought to pass" report. The first reason is that it is my bill, and I think that is a pretty good reason. The second reason is that we have had revealed to us from the investigating committee and through the activities of the past year that there certainly are political rings in the State of Maine and methods

have been used by State employees to solicit funds which were highly unethical. All I want to say to the member from Portland, Mr. McGlauffin, is that if he thinks there are not any political rings in the State of Maine and that there has not been some unethical solicitation by State employees, that for a man of his years he is very, very naive. We know of the instance of Mr. Fowler going to Boston to solicit campaign funds directly at the behest of a head of a department. We have known of others. I say to you that these are only a few that have come to light, these are only samples. We have known of heads of departments and others going through the State House at Christmas time—that is not soliciting political contributions perhaps—and at times of marriages, and saying to sixteen-dollar-a-week clerks, "How much?" And you know what the pressure is. They just contribute because the boss asks them to. At times of political campaigns it is a regular procedure to solicit from those employees to hold their jobs.

I say that the pressure is very necessarily there and a person cannot refuse. I think we ought to give our State employees that protection. They are not being paid by these people who are soliciting from them; they are being paid by the taxpayers of the State. They are not being paid by Republicans or Democrats; they owe their allegiance to all the taxpayers. I say it is unfair to the minority party to confer upon the majority party the right to tap this source of campaign contributions.

I would like to remind you that under the Federal law today a great number of our State employees are under very, very stringent regulation, much more stringent than this. This hardly deserves to be called a "Little Hatch Act" because it does hardly anything that the Hatch Act does, it is so mild in nature. All of our employees in the Department of Health and Welfare where Federal funds are received are under very strict regulation. Employees of the State Highway Commission where Federal funds are received are under very strict regulation. Employees of the State Highway Commission where Federal funds are used are under the Hatch Act, as well as those under Old Age Assistance and so forth.

This measure is not a wolf in sheep's clothing, as has been pointed out by the gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlauffin. It is true there was introduced in the special session last summer a much stronger measure than this one, patterned after the Hatch Act in Washington, and it was modified by the Committee on Judiciary and came out in similar form to the bill before us today. The reasons given at that time for not passing the bill was that at a special session we should consider only legislation which seemed important and necessary and right at that time. I will say to the gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlauffin, that I do not think it is an insult to the intelligence of this Legislature to reintroduce his bill. I think there is no inference at all that this Legislature is not competent to judge a bill a second time. Perhaps it was an insult to the Legislature to introduce a bill to repeal the title law, because the previous Legislature had said it was a good thing; but the people back home expected it to be introduced and expected it to be killed.

I would like to call attention of the House to the change that is made in the bill by Committee Amendment "A". Committee Amendment "A" would strike from the bill the provision that says no State employee except an elected official shall hold office in a political organization. That Committee Amendment "A" strikes that right off, and the bill as it stands with that committee amendment adopted would provide that no State employee shall be solicited or shall solicit funds for political campaigns. That does not, as Judge McGlauffin inferred, prohibit State employees from contributing. They contribute as much as they want to; they have the same freedom to contribute. It does free the employee from having a gun placed at his head and having someone say, "Either you contribute or else." It gives him the protection of law in that regard. I submit it is not an obnoxious measure and that it gives a measure of equality to our State employees.

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is on the motion of the gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlauffin, that the majority report "Ought to pass" be indefinitely postponed. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Calais, Mr. Murchie.

Mr. MURCHIE: Mr. Speaker, I will admit in the beginning that the real meat of the bill is something I do not know very much about, but it seems to me as I have listened here this morning that the suggested amendment itself shows the weakness of the bill. The gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlauffin, summed the thing up when he told you that it was foolish to think of such a thing.

State employees, as you know, are members of town governments, and you know as well as I do that we play politics in the State of Maine and you know as well as I do that State employees when they are home and outside of their employment go out and assist in trying to raise funds for political purposes. While in this particular case, being a State employee, he might not be asked to personally contribute because he was an employee, he certainly ought to have the privilege of helping us fight the battles as we go along. I think the gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlauffin, is right and you are making a great mistake if you pass this bill.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Houlton, Mr. McGillicuddy.

Mr. MCGILLICUDDY: Mr. Speaker, I agree with the motion of the gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlauffin. I would like to read from the bill, Legislative Document 931:

"Nor shall any person solicit funds directly or indirectly for the furtherance of any political campaign from any employee of the state."

As for the mildness spoken of by the gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Mills, I note in Section 2: "Penalty. Whoever violates any provision of this act shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$500."

I trust that the motion of the gentleman from Portland (Mr. McGlauffin) will prevail.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Chapman, Mr. Welch.

Mr. WELCH: Mr. Speaker, I want to go along with the gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlauffin in the indefinite postponement of this bill. The gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Mills, has said we do not want people going around and pointing a gun at the head of State employees and asking them to con-

tribute or else; but even the investigating committee did not find any such condition as that existing in the State. Until such time as they do, I hope the motion of the gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlauffin, prevails.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Lambert.

Mr. LAMBERT: Mr. Speaker, at the last special session I believe I was the only one with the gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Mills, who appeared before the Committee in favor of the bill which he presented at that time. At that time I was very much in favor of the bill and I still am today in favor of any kind of a bill that will curb political activities on the part of State employees. The gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlauffin, told you that at that time it was defeated. I will concur with the gentleman from Portland (Mr. McGlauffin) that it was defeated; but the main argument at that time was that we did not have time to study the matter. At that time it was thought by the Committee on Judiciary that the special session was too short a session to consider such a far-reaching bill.

We have been here going on four months, and we have had time enough to digest any bill that is presented before this House. I will say this: I am very much in favor of this bill especially to curb the political activities of some of the State employees that I know of. I am going to say this, and I don't care how much it hurts: You have at the present time State Liquor Store inspectors that go around asking for contributions during the campaign, and if they do not get them it is just too bad for the party involved who refuses to contribute. In no time at all he loses his license. That has been done in the past, and I can prove it. I hope the bill has a passage at this time.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Auburn, Mr. Conant.

Mr. CONANT: Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the Legislature, I desire to go along with the proposition and the bill as advanced by the gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Mills. This is a concrete illustration I have to offer to you today. I am a young man and I have not been in politics very long, but I

have met up with gentlemen who have been in contact with politicians for quite a number of years, and these are two or three propositions that have been advanced to me. They pointed out the person whom we will call John Doe comes over to my establishment and asks me for a contribution for such and such a political campaign. Well, I do not have much choice, because I have to deal with that party over there for some reason or other, and while I do not like it and it is an imposition on me, it is sound business for me to go along with it, so I kick in twenty-five dollars.

Now we certainly have duties we owe to the citizenry of the State and one of those duties goes along with the measure that has been presented by the gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Mills. Any bill that will curb, in the manner that this bill seeks to do, the political activities of State employees certainly should have a passage. I hope the motion of the gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlauffin will not prevail.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Yarmouth, Mr. Arzonico.

Mr. ARZONICO: Mr. Speaker, the last speaker started off by saying that he was going to produce a concrete example. I have got a concrete example, too, in my own home town. I have got a concrete example that bears out what the gentleman from Calais, Mr. Murchie, has just said.

One of the most influential members of our Town Committee has been a member for seven or eight years. He is the man that the committee as a whole leans on largely for most of the work done in that town.

Now, he happens to be a State employee. If we should lose that member from our Town Committee, it would cripple us severely.

I just had that one concrete thought or one concrete example. That bears out what the gentleman from Calais, Mr. Murchie, has said.

There are a great many other State employees who, when they are back home, are very important to their local communities in conducting campaign affairs, which includes the solicitation of campaign funds, which I think they have a right to do, even though when they are out of

our small town they are State employees.

Therefore, I am bound to support the motion of the gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlauffin.

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is on the motion of the gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlauffin, that the majority report "Ought to pass" be indefinitely postponed. All those in favor of the motion of the gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlauffin, that the majority report "Ought to pass" be indefinitely postponed, will say aye; those opposed no.

A viva voce vote being doubted,

A division of the House was had. Forty-eight having voted in the affirmative and 45 in the negative, the motion prevailed and the majority report "Ought to pass", was indefinitely postponed.

Thereupon, the Minority Report "Ought not to pass" was accepted and sent up for concurrence.

On motion by Miss Clough, of Bangor, the House voted to suspend Rule 25 for the remainder of this morning's session, in order to permit smoking.

Divided Reports

Majority Report of the Committee on Judiciary reporting "Ought not to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to the Collection of Poll Tax" (H. P. 1412) (L. D. 789)

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. HARVEY of York
FARRIS of Kennebec
—of the Senate.
McGLAUFFIN of Portland
HINCKLEY of So. Portland
GRUA of Livermore Falls
WILLIAMS of Bethel
PAYSON of Portland
BRIGGS of Hampden

—of the House
Minority Report of same Committee reporting "Ought to pass" on same Bill.

Report was signed by the following members:

Miss LAUGHLIN of Cumberland
—of the Senate.
Mr. MILLS of Farmington
—of the House.

On motion by Mr. Hinckley of South Portland, the Majority Report "Ought not to pass", was accepted and sent up for concurrence.

Divided Reports

Majority Report of the Committee on Judiciary reporting "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act Declaring Municipal Airports to be Agencies of the State" (H. P. 1418) (L. D. 727)

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs.

HARVEY of York
 FARRIS of Kennebec
 —of the Senate.
 PAYSON of Portland
 GRUA of Livermore Falls
 HINCKLEY of So. Portland
 McGLAUFILIN of Portland
 BRIGGS of Hampden
 MILLS of Farmington
 —of the House.

Minority Report of same Committee reporting "Ought not to pass" on same Bill.

Report was signed by the following members:

Miss LAUGHLIN of Cumberland
 —of the Senate.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Bethel
 —of the House.

On motion by Mr. Payson of Portland, the Majority Report, "Ought to pass" was accepted.

Divided Reports

Majority Report of the Committee on Taxation reporting "Ought not to pass" on Bill "An Act Imposing an Income Tax" (H. P. 1473) (L. D. 568)

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs.

FELLOWS of Kennebec
 CHAMBERLAIN of Penobscot
 —of the Senate.
 MORRISON of Winter Harbor
 TOZIER of Fairfield
 DORSEY of Fort Fairfield
 JORDAN of Saco
 WORTH of Stockton Springs
 WARREN of Westbrook
 —of the House.

Minority Report of same Committee reporting "Ought to pass" on same Bill.

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs.

BOOTHBY of York
 —of the Senate.
 RICHARDSON of Strong
 —of the House.

On motion by Mr. Worth of Stockton Springs, the Majority Report, "Ought not to pass," was accepted and sent up for concurrence.

Ought to Pass in New Draft

Mr. Preble from the Committee on Mines and Mining on Bill "An Act relative to Mines and Minerals" (H. P. 1537) (L. D. 876) reported same in a new draft (H. P. 1895) under same title and that it "Ought to pass."

Mr. Baker from the Committee on Sea and Shore Fisheries on Resolve relating to the Taking of Clams in the town of Scarborough (H. P. 1630) (L. D. 977) reported a Bill (H. P. 1896) under title of "An Act relating to the Taking and Sale of Clams in the town of Scarborough" and that it "Ought to pass."

Mr. Clapp from same Committee on Resolve relating to the Taking of Clams in the town of Kennebunkport (H. P. 1631) (L. D. 978) reported a Bill (H. P. 1897) under title of "An Act relating to the Taking and Sale of Clams in the town of Kennebunkport" and that it "Ought to pass"

Mr. Smith from same Committee on Resolve relating to the Taking of Clams in the town of Cape Elizabeth (H. P. 1633) (L. D. 980) reported same in a new draft (H. P. 1899) under title of "An Act relating to the Taking and Sale of Clams in Certain Cumberland County Towns" and that it "Ought to pass"

Mr. Teel from the same Committee on Resolve relating to the Taking of Clams in the town of Kennebunk (H. P. 1634) (L. D. 981) reported a Bill (H. P. 1898) under title of "An Act relating to the Taking and Sale of Clams in the town of Kennebunk" and that it "Ought to pass"

Mr. Jacobs from the Committee on County Estimates to which was referred the County Estimates of the Several Counties reported two Resolves under the following titles:

"Resolve for the laying of the County Taxes for the Year Nineteen Hundred Forty-one" (H. P. 1900) and "Resolve for the laying of the County Taxes for the year Nineteen Hundred Forty-two" (H. P. 1901) and that they "Ought to pass"

Reports were read and accepted and the new drafts ordered printed under the Joint Rules.

Ought to Pass

Mr. Ayer from the Committee on Ways and Bridges reported "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act Creating the Maine Turnpike Authority" (H. P. 1601) (L. D. 917)

Report was read and accepted.

Ought to Pass with Committee Amendment

Report Tabled

Mr. Bubar from the Committee on Temperance on Bill "An Act relating to the Sale of Malt Liquors to Minors" (H. P. 1286) (L. D. 586) reported "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

(On motion by Mr. Slosberg of Gardiner, tabled pending acceptance of Committee Report)

First Reading of Printed Bills and Resolves

Bill "An Act relating to Teachers' Retirement System" (H. P. 1187) (L. D. 482)

Bill "An Act Concerning the Teachers' Retirement System" (H. P. 1247) (L. D. 529)

Bill "An Act Levying a Use Fuel Tax" (H. P. 1479) (L. D. 602)

Bill "An Act to Define Internal Combustion Engine Fuel" (H. P. 1483) (L. D. 610)

Bill "An Act relating to Registration of Motor Vehicles and Trailers" (H. P. 1891) (L. D. 1106)

Bill "An Act relating to the Safety on Highways" (H. P. 1892) (L. D. 1107)

Bill "An Act relating to Farm Tractor Trailers" (H. P. 1893) (L. D. 1108)

Bill "An Act to Encourage Safety on School Buses" (H. P. 1894) (L. D. 1109)

Bill "An Act relating to Licenses and Permits for Outdoor Advertising" (H. P. 1153) (L. D. 357)

Resolve in favor of the town of Farmington (H. P. 924) (L. D. 1110)

Resolve for the Purchase of One Hundred Copies of "Sesquicentennial History of Greene" (H. P. 105) (L. D. 1111)

Resolve to Repeal a Resolve providing for a State Pension for Elizabeth McNaughton of Bangor (H. P. 107) (L. D. 1112)

Bills were read twice. Resolves read once and assigned for third reading the next legislative day.

First Reading of Printed Resolve With Committee Amendment

Resolve for the Purchase of Two Hundred Fifty Copies of "The Old Man of the 103rd" (H. P. 1184) (L. D. 1113)

Resolve was read once. Committee Amendment "A" was read by the Clerk as follows:

Committee Amendment "A" to

H. P. 1184, L. D. 1113, Resolve for the Purchase of Two Hundred Copies of "The Old Man of the 103rd."

Amend said resolve by striking out the figures "100" in the 1st line thereof and substituting in place thereof the figures "300".

Further amend said resolve by striking out in the 3rd line thereof the figures "75c" and substituting in place thereof the figures "50c"; and by striking out the figures "\$187.50" in the last line thereof the substituting in place thereof the figures, '\$150.00.'

Thereupon, Committee Amendment "A" was adopted, and the Resolve was assigned for its second reading the next legislative day.

Amended Bill

Resolve proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to provide for an Adjustment of Real Estate Taxation (H. P. 1391) (L. D. 769)

Resolve was read once, and assigned for second reading the next legislative day.

Passed to Be Engrossed

Bill "An Act relating to Time of Completion of Work on Third Class Roads" (S. P. 72) (L. D. 43)

Bill "An Act relating to State Aid on State Aid Highways" (S. P. 73) (L. D. 44)

Bill "An Act Concerning Declaratory Judgments and Decrees and to Make Uniform the Law relating thereto" (S. P. 364) (L. D. 677)

Bill "An Act relating to Maintenance of Third Class Roads" (S. P. 453) (L. D. 889)

Bill "An Act relating to Suspension of Licenses of Malt Beverages" (S. P. 523) (L. D. 1080)

Bill "An Act relating to Restaurants and Locations of Restaurants Handling Malt Beverages" (H. P. 1890) (L. D. 1087)

Resolve in favor of the city of Eastport (H. P. 1322) (L. D. 1088)

Were reported by the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading, Bills read the third time. Resolve read the second time, all passed to be engrossed and sent to the Senate.

Amended Bills

Bill "An Act Enacting the Sabotage Prevention Act" (S. P. 362) (L. D. 675)

Bill "An Act relating to the Pownal State School" (H. P. 1402) (L. D. 780)

Bill "An Act relating to Payment of Wages" (H. P. 1432) (L. D. 749)

Bill "An Act relating to Birth Records of Children Proposed for Adoption" (H. P. 1527) (L. D. 865)

Were reported by the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading, read the third time, passed to be engrossed as amended and sent to the Senate.

Orders of the Day

On motion by the gentleman from Rockland, Mr. Sleeper, under suspension of the rules, the House voted to take up out of order the fifteenth tabled and unassigned matter, An Act Relating to Pre-Marital Medical Examinations (S. P. 412) (L. D. 637) tabled by that gentleman on April 3rd pending passage to be enacted.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Rockland, Mr. Sleeper.

Mr. SLEEPER: Mr. Speaker, in a rather hurried manner it was brought to my attention that there was a feature to the bill which I did not like. A careful examination has shown that such is not the case, so that I now move the bill be passed to be enacted.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Rockland, Mr. Sleeper, moves that the bill be passed to be enacted.

The motion prevailed and the bill was passed to be enacted and sent up for concurrence.

The Chair lays before the House the first matter of unfinished business, Majority Report "Ought to Pass" and Minority Report "Ought not to pass" of the Committee on Federal Relations on Resolution Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of the United States Relative to Taxes on Incomes, Inheritances and Gifts, (H. P. 466) (L. D. 202) the pending question at time of adjournment being the motion of the gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlauffin, that the Majority Report "Ought to pass" be accepted.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlauffin.

Mr. MCGLAUFLIN: Mr. Speaker, owing to the fact that there is at least one member absent who wishes to talk upon this matter and the small number of persons present at this session, I move to lay this matter on the table.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlauffin, moves that these reports lie on the table pending the motion of the same gentleman that the majority report "Ought to pass" be accepted. Is this the pleasure of the House?

The motion prevailed, and both reports were tabled pending the motion of the gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlauffin, that the majority report "Ought to pass" be accepted.

The Chair lays before the House the second matter of unfinished business, Report A "Ought to pass in new draft" and Report "B" "Ought not to pass" of the Committee on Legal Affairs on Bill "An Act Relating to Caucuses in the City of Waterville" (H. P. 1609) (L. D. 950) both reports tabled by the gentleman from Waterville, Mr. Poulin, on March 28th, pending acceptance of either report; and the Chair recognizes that gentleman.

On motion by Mr. Poulin, Report A "Ought to pass in new draft" was accepted.

The Chair lays before the House the third matter of unfinished business, Bill "An Act Relating to Mileage of State Employees" (S. P. 512) (L. D. 1036) which was engrossed in the Senate as amended by Senate Amendment "A"; tabled by the gentleman from Thomaston, Mr. Smith, on March 28th, pending third reading.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Waterville, Mr. Rodrigue.

Mr. RODRIGUE: Mr. Speaker, would it be in order to go along on the next matter of unfinished business? Mr. Smith is out of the Hall at the present time.

The SPEAKER: The Chair would say that it could be tabled and later removed.

On motion by Mr. Rodrigue, the bill was tabled pending third reading.

The Chair lays before the House the fourth matter of unfinished business, Bill "An Act Relating to School Tax in Unorganized Territory." (H. P. 1341) (L. D. 569), tabled on March 28th by the gentleman from Greenville, Mr. Rollins, pending its third reading, and the Chair recognizes that gentleman.

Mr. ROLLINS: Mr. Speaker, the gentleman for whom I tabled this bill is absent also, but I would like

to make a statement of fact on the bill.

It is a department measure. It would only affect the town of Rockwood in Somerset County. They would be able to tax that township known as Rockwood Strip for school purposes.

This seems to be in line with these organized towns which are going back to deorganization. In the deorganization, they have penalized such towns, by adding onto their incorporation an Act which would allow the State to collect school taxes, which have never been collected on unorganized townships.

This little township or strip—it is a gore—that Rockwood Strip has never been organized but still this bill would penalize them for something they have not done.

I would move the indefinite postponement of this bill.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Greenville, Mr. Rollins, moves that this bill be indefinitely postponed.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bingham, Mr. Dutton.

Mr. DUTTON: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: This measure was introduced by me by request. I became the unwilling father of this bill.

Most every measure in the House in which I have been interested has been killed. This measure which I am not interested in, I hope will be killed.

Yesterday I caught a severe cold here, between the draft that came from Farmington, and Livermore Falls on the west, and the draft coming back from Portland and Lewiston on the east. (Laughter) You are going to escape the privilege of any speech from me on this measure, but I certainly hope that the House will simply kill this bill.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Turner, Mr. Pratt.

Mr. PRATT: Mr. Speaker, I will say to the members of the House that this bill was heard before the Committee of Education. We talked very carefully with the Department of Education.

They felt that where the town of Rockwood would have to contribute on this, and the town of Rockwood was perfectly able to contribute on this—it was a township situated pretty well financially—that it was well able to pay.

I hope the motion will not prevail.

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is on the motion of the gentleman from Greenville, Mr. Rollins, that this bill be indefinitely postponed. All those who are in favor of the indefinite postponement of this bill will say aye; those opposed no.

A viva voce vote being doubted. A division of the House was had.

Twenty-four having voted in the affirmative and 39 in the negative, the motion did not prevail.

Thereupon, the bill was given its third reading, and was passed to be engrossed and sent up for concurrence.

The Chair lays before the House the fifth matter of unfinished business, Majority Report "Ought not to pass" and Minority Report "Ought to pass" of the Committee on Judiciary on Bill "An Act Relating to Levy upon Shares of Stock" (H. P. 1426) (L. D. 590) both reports tabled on April 3rd by the gentleman from Augusta, Mr. Southard, pending acceptance of either report; and the Chair recognizes that gentleman.

Mr. SOUTHARD: Mr. Speaker, since some of the persons interested in this measure wish to study it over the week-end, I move that the matter lie on the table.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Augusta, Mr. Southard, moves that both reports lie on the table pending the acceptance of either report. Is this the pleasure of the House.

The motion prevailed and both reports were tabled pending acceptance of either report.

The Chair lays before the House the sixth matter of unfinished business, House Report "Ought to Pass" of the Committee on Towns on Bill "An Act Relating to Expenses of Town Clerks" (H. P. 479) (L. D. 213) tabled by the gentleman from Bethel, Mr. Williams, on April 3, pending acceptance.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Portland, Mr. Hinckley.

Mr. HINCKLEY: Mr. Speaker, noting the absence of the gentleman from Clifton, Mr. Williams, who apparently is interested in this matter, I move that it lie on the table.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from South Portland, Mr. Hinckley, withdraws his motion.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Clifton, Mr. Williams.

Mr. WILLIAMS: Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the gentleman from South Portland, Mr. Hinckley. I believe I was absent when he rose to speak.

This matter may appear like a very minor matter to the Members of the House but it has been the minor matters in the State of Maine that have increased our burden of taxation.

Yesterday we had a long debate over taxation in the State of Maine. The reason that we have taxes where they are today, on the municipal governments of the state, is due to the fact that one session of the Legislature after another has allowed these little, minor laws to creep in, which have increased the expense of operating our town and city governments.

This appears a very minor matter to the town, because it calls for \$10 or \$25 each year, to allow their Clerk to go to the Clerk's Association meeting; but \$10.00 or \$25.00 added onto one office, and then another, in a small town, increases the tax. That is the real objection to this measure.

Now, it is true a Town Clerk might receive a lot of advantage in attending those meetings, but I believe that an elected officer of a town should pay their own way to the Clerks' Association Meeting, just the same as you, or I, or anybody else, does when attending meetings of clubs or organizations or fraternities, or anything of that sort. We pay our traveling expenses and why does not the official of a town pay his expenses?

Another objection to this measure, if we enact it, is that it will be an opening wedge. If we enact this law to give to the town clerks the right to charge, and make it mandatory, if they go, that the town or city must pay for their going. If they elect on their own selves to attend the Clerks' Association Meeting, then the town must pay the bill. The Selectmen have nothing to say about it. It is a matter of statute, if we enact this law.

Next year, the Assessors and Overseers of the Poor, and the Selectmen, who all have their association meetings, will want the town to pay, and we will make it mandatory that they shall receive their pay. Next year we will have every

kind of association meeting down to the dog-catchers. (Laughter)

So it is not a matter of \$15.00 or \$25.00 that the town has to pay, but a matter of \$100 or \$200. It is one more burden placed upon the State of Maine.

The place for us to relieve real estate is right here now, instead of enacting laws that will add on to the tax burden of the State of Maine.

For that reason I would like to move the indefinite postponement of this bill.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Shesong.

Mr. SHESONG: Mr. Speaker, I am afraid the gentleman from Clifton, Mr. Williams, is under a misapprehension in connection with this bill.

I can assure him that nothing was intended to increase the burden of the town in any respect.

I put the bill in at the request of the City Clerk of Portland, who happens to be Auditor and Clerk at the same time. You will notice that the bill reads:

"Town and city clerks shall be entitled to receive the actual expenses incurred by them in attending the annual meeting of the Maine City and Town Clerks' Association."

I think most of us will agree that this Town Clerk's Association is a splendid thing. It gives them a chance to get together and discuss problems of importance and the right and proper methods of rectifying these problems.

I know that in Portland we are very glad to have Mr. Smith go to those meetings, because we feel he gets a lot out of it. I know that other towns and cities feel the same way.

I want to assure the gentleman from Clifton, Mr. Williams, that there is no intention of putting any more burden on the town. I would like to assure him of that.

I do hope that the bill will have passage. I have no particular interest in the measure except that I think it is a good sensible measure, which should be passed.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Mills.

Mr. MILLS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to concur with the sentiments expressed by the gentleman from Clifton, Mr. Williams.

This bill, as you will note, would discriminate in favor of the Town Clerks.

The Maine Municipal Association holds a convention each year, for two or three days in Augusta, and the Assessors, Selectmen, and Overseers of the Poor attend these meetings. They are just as much entitled to receive their actual expenses as would be the Town Clerks. As has already been suggested, there might be other associations that would want their expenses paid, going down as far even as the dog-catchers. (Laughter)

We know that many times these meetings are beneficial, and that they receive a good deal of benefit in going to them. But you also know that many times they are just junkets or trips that officials take, and have a very good time for themselves at a convention.

I think that the Selectmen and other people in the town should not be put to the expense of maintaining the clerks while they go to those meetings.

Now, the Teachers' Association meets every year and that is very beneficial, as we all know. The teachers, however, are expected to take care of their own expenses in attending those meetings. I think, for that reason, that we should not expect the town to pay the expenses of the town clerks.

If we had been miserly with the Town Clerks, and had not treated them pretty well in this session and last session, it might be another thing. Two years ago, however, the Town Clerks' Association of the State came here to the Legislature and received quite considerable increase in the fees of their office. Some of you who might be contemplating marriage know that the fee was raised from \$1.00 to \$2.00. Other fees along that line were raised.

This year we have raised the fees in a minor way. It is just one of those things which come in every session, one year after another, asking a little increase here and a little increase there, and before you know it, the burden is considerable upon the taxpayers.

I hope the motion of the gentleman from Clifton, Mr. Williams, to indefinitely postpone this measure, will prevail.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recog-

nizes the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Payson.

Mr. PAYSON: Mr. Speaker, I wish to demonstrate Portland's solidarity upon this measure, by going along with the gentleman from Clifton, Mr. Williams. (Laughter)

I do not think that all that the gentleman from Farmington (Mr. Mills) has said is valid argument. I think, regarding marriage licenses, that some of you will agree that a good wife is worth \$2.00. (Laughter)

In my opinion this bill is wrong, because it interferes with the right of Home Rule in purely local affairs. If a Town wishes to send a Town Clerk to the Convention and pay his expenses, they have a right to do so. If they do not wish to do it, I do not believe the State should impose the burden on that town.

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is on the motion of the gentleman from Clifton, Mr. Williams, that the "Ought to pass" report and accompanying bill, be indefinitely postponed.

All those in favor of the motion of the gentleman from Clifton, Mr. Williams, for the indefinite postponement of this bill will say aye; those opposed no.

A viva voce being taken, the motion prevailed and the bill and report were indefinitely postponed and sent up for concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Rodrigue of Waterville, the House voted to take from the table the third matter of unfinished business, Bill "An Act Relating to Mileage of State Employees" (S. P. 512) (L. D. 1036) which was in the Senate engrossed as amended by Senate Amendment "A", tabled on March 28th by the gentleman from Thomaston, Mr. Smith, pending third reading, and retabled earlier in today's session by the gentleman from Waterville, Mr. Rodrigue.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Thomaston, Mr. Smith.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I tabled this bill for reasons of economy only. I have talked with members of the committee that brought in the "Ought to pass" report. They inform me that they did not go very much into the extra costs if this bill became a law. I did not attend this hearing and go into these costs,

due to the fact I was not here at the time.

The Department of Finance informs me that if this bill becomes a law, the extra expense to the State will be \$38,225. This is a lot of money, and I ask when and where are we going to stop? The Budget Committee made no provisions for this extra money.

I am not saying a word as to the merits of the bill and I am sorry indeed to go against the committee report, but, nevertheless, in the interest of economy, I ask, Mr. Speaker, that the bill be indefinitely postponed.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Thomaston, Mr. Smith, moves the indefinite postponement of this bill. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Calais, Mr. Murchie.

Mr. MURCHIE: Mr. Speaker, the reason that I take a hand in this matter is purely from the point of view of the Committee on Appropriations. If this bill becomes a law, it will mean an entire review of the departments that are affected and in it the Committee on Appropriations will be called upon to find a total sum of about \$38,000. To be sure, perhaps the proper thing to do might be to set it up as a straight four-cent rate, but I have no wish to bear down on the people who drive State cars. I am simply calling your attention to the fact that if you go along with the gentleman from Thomaston, Mr. Smith, the present bill of the present day stands. There could have been an explanation made of the present bill, but I do not believe that is necessary. I could, if necessary, make it. All I am stating to you is that if you decide not to go along with Mr. Smith, then you can accept a supplemental bill from the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and we have got to review each department of the State of Maine and find in each department sufficient money to meet the needs of the new measure so that if it does go that way, you then will be justified in going along with the added appropriation. I concur with the gentleman from Thomaston, Mr. Smith, in the motion for indefinite postponement of this bill.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Auburn, Mr. Robie.

Mr. ROBIE: Mr. Speaker, I was

on the committee, and at the hearing there were a lot of State employees who own cars under the present setup who stated they had to pay as high as sixty-five dollars out of their salary to run their car. That does not seem fair. I talked with one of the officials of the State who is informed on the measure and he told me the rate should be a straight five cents. I therefore hope that the motion of the gentleman from Thomaston, Mr. Smith, does not prevail.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Presque Isle, Mr. Brewer.

Mr. BREWER: Mr. Speaker, as a member of that Committee I would like to ask the Chair what the proposed amendment is. Somehow or other it escaped my attention.

The SPEAKER: The Clerk will read Senate Amendment A.

Senate Amendment "A" to S. P. 512, L. D. 1036 (Bill "An Act Relating to Mileage of State Employees.")

Amend said Bill by striking out the crossed-out words "in any 1 fiscal year" in the 9th line thereof and inserting in place thereof the following: "in any 1 fiscal year."

Further amend said Bill by striking out the period and the underlined words "The state" in the 11th line thereof and inserting in place thereof the underlined word "and".

Further amend said Bill by inserting after the word "miles" at the end of the Bill thereof, the following underlined words "during said fiscal year".

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Thomaston, Mr. Smith.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, they have spoken about the mileage cost involved. Now I have got a few facts as to the cost of running a car, and I am going right back into my own business.

We have a pick-up truck on which we have kept this account of cost. Let me read it to you.

Here is what it costs to operate this car, in our own business. Everybody drives it, who works for me. We trade this car in every year, of course. Our costs include the gas, oil, grease, repairs, insurance for fire, theft, public liability, and property damage, registration and excise tax. Because of the trade-in for a new car, we operate these cars for a year. For the past two years our

average cost has been three cents per mile on that truck.

Now, if I can operate a truck for three cents a mile, why cannot State employees operate their cars for three cents a mile, providing they are operating a low cost car?

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is on the motion of the gentleman from Thomaston, Mr. Smith, that this bill be indefinitely postponed.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Clifton, Mr. Williams.

Mr. WILLIAMS: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: Being a member of that committee, I would like to speak very briefly and not on either side of the question.

I would like to give you a little summary of the testimony that came before the Committee. It was of a peculiar nature, in that nobody but State employees testified there, one way or the other.

In the first place, we had quite a few from the Department of Health and Welfare, including the head of that Department and his immediate assistant, who testified that it was not sufficient—the rate which we have been paying for the last few years. We had a great many workers who apparently were receiving pay for their day's wages from the State of Maine, who had driven anywhere from the vicinity of Augusta to one hundred miles, to come here and tell us that the State does not pay enough money.

In fact, some persons were rather indignant when we asked about the depreciation on their cars. It appeared that people who were only driving from 4,000 to 10,000 miles were very emphatic that they were not receiving enough for driving their cars. They thought that they should have a straight five cent rate, because they were figuring depreciation, taxes and insurance and all of the fixed costs that go with operating an automobile. They thought they should receive that from the State, when they were operating 5,000 to 10,000 miles. They felt that they could not operate a car, and pay all those fixed charges on such a small margin.

It was interesting to hear a gentleman from the Highway Department who talked, as I am, on both sides of the question. He said that it was not enough—what we are paying at this time, but he thought that five cents was an excessive

amount. He gave us records of men over a period of years,—it was all noted in a little index—it was not five or even four. I have not a copy so I cannot give you the exact figures now.

Then we had from the Inland Fisheries & Game Department, Major Brown. He told us definitely that he thought we were paying plenty. He substantiated that fact with a few figures compiled by the Department of Inland Fisheries & Game. I do not remember the exact figures.

I do not believe that anyone outside of State employees were before us.

The point Major Brown made was that it would increase the cost of that Department at least \$17,000 a year, if we gave the increase we decided to give.

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is on the motion of the gentleman from Thomaston, Mr. Smith, that this bill be indefinitely postponed.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Falmouth, Mr. Dow.

Mr. DOW: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I think that the increases granted during the last few months to many State employees would go quite a long way toward their mileage costs.

I would like to support the motion of the gentleman from Thomaston, Mr. Smith.

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is on the motion of the gentleman from Thomaston, Mr. Smith, that this bill be indefinitely postponed. All those in favor of the indefinite postponement of this bill will say aye; those opposed no.

A viva voce vote being taken, the motion prevailed, and the bill was indefinitely postponed in non-concurrence and sent up for concurrence.

On motion by the gentleman from Rockland, Mr. Jones, the House voted to take from the table the fifth tabled and unassigned matter, House Report "Ought not to pass" of the Committee on Judiciary on Bill "An Act Relating to the Time of Opening and Closing of Polls". (H. P. 1152) (L. D. 452) tabled by that gentleman on April 1st. pending acceptance.

On further motion by the same gentleman, the House voted to sub-

stitute the bill for the "Ought not to pass" report of the committee.

Mr. JONES: Mr. Speaker, I now wish to offer House Amendment "B" and move its adoption. I would, if I have permission, like to inform the members of this House that this amendment meets with the approval of the committee.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Rockland, Mr. Jones, offers House Amendment "B" and moves its adoption. The Clerk will read the amendment.

House Amendment "B" to H. P. 1152, L. D. 452, Bill "An Act Relating to the Time of Opening and Closing of Polls."

Amend said bill by striking out the title thereof and inserting in place thereof of the following title: "An Act Relating to Boards of Registration".

Further amend said bill by striking out all after the 1st paragraph thereof and inserting the following in place thereof:

"The municipal officers in any city and town in which daylight saving time is in general use may vote to open and close the sessions for registration 1 hour earlier than provided for hereinbefore".

Thereupon the House voted to adopt House Amendment "B".

On motion by Mr. Starrett of Warren, the House voted to take from the table the seventh tabled and unassigned matter, House Report "Ought not to pass" of the Committee on Claims on Resolve to Reimburse the Town of Washington for Support of Certain State Paupers. (H. P. 42) tabled by that gentleman on April 1st pending acceptance.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Warren, Mr. Starrett.

Mr. STARRETT: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: As additional facts have been discovered in the files of the Health and Welfare Department in connection with this resolve and these facts have been brought to the attention of the Claims Committee, it is with their permission that I am going to ask that this report and accompanying papers be recommitted to the Committee on Claims, and I so move.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Warren, Mr. Starrett, moves that the report and accompanying papers be recommitted to the Committee on Claims. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Perham, Mr. Bragdon.

Mr. BRAGDON: Mr. Speaker, I will say that Mr. Starrett is absolutely correct in his statement that the Claims Committee have no objection.

The SPEAKER: All those in favor of the motion of the gentleman from Warren, Mr. Starrett, that this report and accompanying bill be recommitted to the Committee on Claims will say aye; those opposed no.

A viva voce vote being taken, the motion prevailed and the bill and report were recommitted to the Committee on Claims and sent up for concurrence.

The SPEAKER: The House is proceeding under Orders of the Day. If there is no further business to come before the House, the Clerk will read the notices.

On motion by Mr. Bolduc of Biddeford,

Adjourned until Monday, April 7, 1941, at four o'clock in the afternoon.