

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Record

OF THE

Ninetieth Legislature

OF THE

State of Maine

SPECIAL SESSION

JANUARY 12, 1942

KENNEBEC JOURNAL PRINT SHOP
AUGUSTA, MAINE

SENATE

Wednesday, January 21, 1942.

Senate called to order by the President.

Prayer by the Rev. Gordon H. Washburn of Hallowell.

Journal of yesterday read and approved.

**Senate Committee Reports
Ought to Pass as Amended**

Mr. Hildreth from the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs on bill "An Act Providing for Appropriations and Adjustments Made Necessary by the War, Relating to Additional State Policemen and to Institutional Emergency Fund," (S. P. 587) (L. D. 1200) reported that the same ought to pass as amended by Committee Amendment "A."

Mr. BURGESS of Aroostook: Mr. President, I wish to move the indefinite postponement of Committee Amendment "A." I want to say on the outset that as a very new member of this distinguished body, I feel very humble in offering the analysis and remarks on this particular measure.

To start with, I believe the bill, that part of it which pertains to increase in the state police, has been presented under the guise of a defense proposition and I do not agree that this is any part of our defense set-up. Using the statement of the chief of police, and I quote him when I say that it is necessary to have \$3,000 annually for each man on the force, and then referring to the allocation of the funds at the last legislature, he could well have 122 men on his force at this time without any increase in his appropriation, and I believe he has only 97 active men.

The best estimates by the Highway Department and by people who are in the gasoline business, estimate that in the future travel and income to the State Highway Department will be decreased by 35%. That to me, represents two things, less cars on the road and less need of duty for our active police to perform, and it means a smaller sum in the highway fund to pay this and other needed accounts.

The Committee on Ways and Bridges has had before it, and I am sure that when they report they will report wisely, on different arrangements whereby they can do away with or eliminate certain

functions of the highway department during this crisis when the income to the department will have been reduced, as I stated, an estimated 35%. It doesn't seem to me that now is the time to build up a department or an organization that is going to require constant funds. It isn't just for the emergency but it is going to require constant funds from our Highway Department and general funds when we are all aware that some of our highway functions must be done away with.

Gentlemen, our good Governor, in his message reported to us that the administration of the state had saved in administrative costs approximately \$300,000. I am sure every citizen in Maine is very, very grateful indeed for that kind of administration, and I do not believe that I or any of us would be fairly representing our people if we voted to spend what, in the first time to my knowledge, has been a real saving in state expenses.

We are faced, every citizen in Maine and the United States, are faced with certain large federal taxes. We must pay to our very limit of taxpaying ability in order to meet the national crisis, and I believe that is an additional reason why the State of Maine and every other state should be very, very careful to save rather than approve of appropriations to increase expenditures of funds because our people have labored under difficulties and will continue to labor under greater difficulties in order to meet those other and increasing taxes.

Mr. President, if my motion to indefinitely postpone Committee Amendment "A" is carried, I will then ask permission to offer Senate Amendment "A" to the same bill. I have no brief with any part of the bill except that part which pertains to the increase in appropriation, or an appropriation to the police. As I stated, if my motion to indefinitely postpone Committee Amendment "A" is carried, I will immediately offer an amendment which will clear up the bill itself without harming any other part of the bill. Mr. President, I thank you and the members of the Senate.

Mr. HILDRETH of Cumberland: Mr. President, I reported that bill for the committee, and without any desire to hold up matters at all, and desiring to get the issues clarified a little more, I am going to move

that this Committee Amendment "A" lie on the table pending acceptance, and I will take it off the table later in the day. There will be no further delay than that.

Thereupon, the bill and Committee Amendment "A" were laid upon the table pending motion to indefinitely postpone Committee Amendment "A."

Ought to Pass

Mr. Brown from the Committee on Ways and Bridges on bill "An Act Providing for Appropriations and Adjustments in the Highway Department Made Necessary by the War." (S. P. 594) (L. D. 1206) reported the same in a new draft (S. P. 620) under the same title, and that it ought to pass.

Thereupon the report was accepted and the bill laid upon the table for printing under the joint rules.

Passed to be Engrossed

Bill "An Act Changing the Name of Northern Finance and Investment Corporation to 'M-A-C Plan of NE.'" (H. P. 1940) (L. D. 1181)

Which bill was read a second time and passed to be engrossed in concurrence.

Bill "An Act Providing that the State of Maine May Become a Party to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Compact." (S. P. 598) (L. D. 1241)

Which bill was read a second time and passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment A.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act Permitting Acceptance of Federal Grants by the State." (S. P. 602) (L. D. 1238)

Which bill was read a second time and passed to be engrossed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act Amending the Charter of the City of Lewiston." (S. P. 607) (L. D. 1231)

Which bill was read a second time and passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment A.

Sent down for concurrence.

Orders of the Day

Mr. FARRIS of Kennebec: Mr. President, I would like to ask unanimous consent to introduce a bill at this time and in explanation I would say that during this emergency several notary publics and

justices of the peace have been appointed deputy sheriffs and constables in various counties all over the state and there is some question in regard to the validity of their acknowledgments on various deeds and documents, and it is the opinion of the Court and the Attorney General's Department that a validating act should go through at this time. For that reason I ask unanimous consent to introduce a bill.

The PRESIDENT: The Senator from Kennebec, Senator Farris, asks the unanimous consent of the Senate to introduce a bill at this time. Is there objection? Hearing none, the bill is received and the Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Farris.

Mr. FARRIS: Mr. President, I request that the Secretary read the bill so that the Senators may know what is in it.

The Secretary read "Bill, An Act Validating the Acts of Notaries Public Who Become Police Officers." (S. P. 621) (L. D. 1263)

Thereupon, on motion by Mr. Farris of Kennebec the bill was referred to the Committee on Judiciary and five hundred copies ordered printed.

The PRESIDENT: Is there any further business to come before the Senate at this time?

On motion by Mr. Elliot of Knox Recessed until this afternoon at two o'clock.

After Recess

The Senate was called to order by the President.

From the House:

Communication

(Out of Order)

STATE OF MAINE

Department of the Attorney

General

Augusta

January 19, 1942.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

I have your request for information in regard to the alleged shortage in the office of the Adjutant General, as reported by the State Auditor under date of August, 1941.

The first I knew of this matter was when I read it in the Auditor's report. I immediately called for details which were given to me as follows:

1. Sometime during the year 1940, prior to my taking office and prior to the taking of office of the present Adjutant General, two members of the State National Guard used a State truck which was assigned to the Guard, without authority and damaged it. The damage was estimated at \$700.00. No suit was ever brought to determine liability or the amount of damage, and prior to the time the matter was brought to my attention, the soldiers involved were inducted into the Federal service. Under Federal law, no action can be brought against them while they are in the service of the United States, so any action to determine whether or not they were liable and, if so, the amount of liability, must be held in abeyance until the men are discharged from the service.

2. The Auditor's report showed that in the years 1932 and 1933, a Captain in the National Guard had apparently failed to file a voucher in connection with his traveling expense accounts, so that there was a balance of \$51.35 unaccounted for. This officer is also now in the Federal service and under the Federal law, no action can be brought against him. But prior to the time when the case was referred to my office, contact had been made with him by the State Auditor or the State Treasurer and the Auditor's report to me is that the officer, while not agreeing with the figures, has promised to repay the State rather than have any question of his integrity. If the officer does not make repayment, of course action will be started against him as soon as it can be under the Federal law to recover the amount.

The Auditor's report also developed that between the dates of March 3, 1934 and July 7, 1939, there had accumulated in the traveling expense accounts of another National Guard officer, an unvouchered balance due the State of \$157.45. This amount was repaid by the officer as soon as it was brought to his attention.

In connection with the traveling expense accounts of another National Guard officer, from October 15, 1932 to September 20, 1939, there had accumulated a lack of vouchers so that there was an apparent balance due from the officer to the State of Maine of \$152.21. This was promptly paid by the officer as soon as it was called to his attention, although he stated

that, in his opinion, the State of Maine owed him considerably more than he owed the State.

The last item in the Auditor's report involved the operation of the gas tanks at the Augusta airport. A National Guard official took charge on December 17, 1940 and continued in charge until May 6, 1941. An apparent shortage of 602 gallons of aviation gas with a net value of \$123.41 was found. There was also a matter of \$26.51 from the sale of oil and gas which was not properly accounted for, making a total in this officer's account of \$149.92. I have had two conferences with this officer. He is of the opinion that there was an error in the original billing of gas to the State, which would account for a part at least of the 602 gallons. He is now endeavoring to uncover evidence to show that error. To whatever extent he can develop it, the State will obtain a refund from the company selling the gas and oil. Any balance the officer has promised to pay immediately.

It is my intention to have this account taken care of one way or another during the current week, so that the alleged shortage in the Adjutant General's Department will be reduced to the unliquidated charge for \$700 for damage to a truck, which may or may not be a proper charge against the Department, and the amount of \$51.35 not immediate collectible because of the Federal Statute.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) FRANK I. COWAN

Attorney General.

(H. P. 2007)

Which was read and ordered placed on file in concurrence.

House Committee Reports

(Out of Order)

Leave to Withdraw

The Committee on Salaries and Fees on Bill "An Act Relating to the Salary of the Register of Probate of Sagadahoc County," (H. P. 1996) (L. D. 1254) reported that leave be granted to withdraw the same.

Referred to Next Legislature

The Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game on Bill "An Act Relating to the Open Season on Mink in Sagadahoc County," (H. P. 1976) (L. D. 1215) reported that the same be referred to the 91st Legislature.

The Committee on Salaries and Fees on Bill "An Act Relating to the South Portland Municipal Court," (H. P. 1961) (L. D. 1211) reported that the same be referred to the 91st Legislature.

The same Committee on Bill "An Act Relating to the Amount to be Paid for Clerk Hire in the Office of the Recorder of the Municipal Court of the City of Portland," (H. P. 1960) (L. D. 1210) reported that the same be referred to the 91st Legislature.

The Committee on Sea and Shore Fisheries on "Resolve Relating to Digging Clams on Certain Islands in Hancock County," (H. P. 1962) (L. D. 1244) reported that the same be referred to the 91st Legislature.

Which reports were severally read and accepted in concurrence.

Legislation Inexpedient

The Committee on Salaries and Fees on Bill "An Act Relating to the Salary of the Judge of the Municipal Court of Portland," (H. P. 1958) (L. D. 1208) reported that legislation thereon is inexpedient.

The same Committee on Bill "An Act Relating to Clerk Hire in Knox County," (H. P. 1945) (L. D. 1186) reported that legislation thereon is inexpedient.

The same Committee on Bill "An Act to Increase the Salary of the County Attorney of Sagadahoc County," (H. P. 1994) (L. D. 1225) reported that legislation thereon is inexpedient.

The same Committee on Bill "An Act Relating to the Salary of the Recorder of the Portland Municipal Court," (H. P. 1959) (L. D. 1209) reported that legislation thereon is inexpedient.

The same Committee on Bill "An Act Relating to Salary of Clerk of Courts in Knox County," (H. P. 1944) (L. D. 1185) reported that legislation thereon is inexpedient.

Which reports were severally read and accepted in concurrence.

Ought Not to Pass

The Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game on Bill "An Act Creating the Mayflower Hill Game Sanctuary," (H. P. 1977) (L. D. 1216) reported that the same ought not to pass.

The Committee on Judiciary on Bill "An Act Relating to the Necessities of Life," (H. P. 1979) (L. D. 1246) reported that the same ought not to pass.

The Committee on Salaries and Fees on Bill "An Act Relating to

Salaries of County Officials," (H. P. 1995) (L. D. 1256) reported that the same ought not to pass.

Which reports were severally read and accepted in concurrence.

Ought to Pass

The Committee on Judiciary on Bill "An Act Relating to Premarital Medical Examination in Emergencies," (H. P. 1953) (L. D. 1191) reported that the same ought to pass.

Which report was read and accepted in concurrence, the bill read once and tomorrow assigned for second reading.

Ought to Pass as Amended

The Committee on Education on Bill "An Act Providing for Transfer of Certain State Property to the Maine Nautical Training School," (H. P. 1939) (L. D. 1180) reported that the same ought to pass as amended by Committee Amendment "A".

The Committee on Judiciary on Bill "An Act Relating to Gambling," (H. P. 1986) (L. D. 1219) reported that the same ought to pass as amended by Committee Amendment "A".

Which reports were severally read and accepted in concurrence, Committee Amendments "A" were severally read and adopted in concurrence, and the bills as so amended were read once and tomorrow assigned for second reading.

Bill in First Reading

(Out of Order)

Bill "An Act Providing for Appropriations and Adjustments in the Highway Department Made Necessary by the War." (S. P. 620) (L. D. 1262)

Which bill was read once, and tomorrow assigned for second reading.

Senate Committee Reports

(Out of Order)

Ought to Pass

Mr. Boothby from the Committee on Taxation on Bill "An Act Providing Means for Assistance in the Maintenance of and Snow Removal from Airports," (S. P. 580) (L. D. 1198) reported that the same ought to pass.

The same Senator from the same Committee on Bill "An Act Clarifying Certain Tax Laws to Safeguard Present Revenue," (S. P. 581) (L. D.

1199) reported that the same ought to pass.

Which reports were severally read and accepted, the bills read once and tomorrow assigned for second reading.

Emergency Measure

An Act to Create the Maine Civilian Defense Corps and Provide for the Safety of the State in Time of War. (S. P. 618) (L. D. 1260)

Which bill being an emergency measure, and having received the affirmative vote of twenty-nine members of the Senate, and none opposed, was passed to be enacted, and having been signed by the President, was by the Secretary presented to the Governor for his approval.

Orders of the Day

On motion by Mr. Hildreth of Cumberland the Senate voted to take from the table, bill, An Act Providing for Appropriations and Adjustments Made Necessary by the War Relating to Additional State Policemen and to Institutional Emergency Funds (S. P. 587) (L. D. 1200), tabled by that Senator earlier in today's session pending motion to indefinitely postpone Committee Amendment A.

Mr. HILDRETH of Cumberland: Mr. President, I would first like to make the issue clear on this bill. This bill happens to contain two or three different subject matters. The Senator from Aroostook, Senator Burgess, moved the indefinite postponement this morning of Committee Amendment A. Committee Amendment A pertains solely to the portion of this Legislative Document 1200 which deals with increased appropriation to allow the increase of the state police.

I have conferred with Senator Burgess and I think that is the only issue about which there is any disagreement.

This Legislative Document 1200, so far as it pertains to the state police sets up the appropriation of sufficient funds to allow the state police to be increased by as many as fifty additional troopers. As a member of the Appropriations Committee I signed the report "Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment 'A'" which reduced the appropriation to a sufficient amount so that only twenty-five additional state troopers, rather than fifty ad-

ditional state troopers, could be added to the force.

I do not wish to go into facts and figures to any extent unless it is necessary, so for the moment I would like to merely call your attention to the fact that in the Governor's message to this special session the first item he mentioned in regard to the administration of state government was the desirability of an increase in the state police force. Before the legislature convened the Governor spoke before the Legislative Research Committee and at that time he made this situation clear, that even if there were not any real crisis, any war crisis, he felt that an increase in the state police force was highly desirable.

The Legislative Research Committee took no action on the substance of the bill, as you will see from their report, but they did say in concluding their report, "We did, however, examine and discuss all of them"—referring to the various bills which were put before them—"not with the intention of passing on their merit or lack of merit but chiefly as to whether they were of sufficient emergency importance to require consideration at this special session." And the Legislative Research Committee did feel that it was of sufficient importance to be introduced at this special session of the legislature.

Before the Appropriations Committee there was only one opponent to the bill. The Appropriations Committee did reduce the appropriation from the amount required for fifty additional men to an amount adequate to provide twenty-five additional troopers, and the committee report was unanimous.

Now I would like to call the attention of the members of the Senate the very difficult task which confronts the state police force today. In the first place, under ordinary conditions the state police force has an extraordinarily large amount of mileage to cover. In some of the more favored states the average coverage is not more than 500 square miles per post. Massachusetts has 331, Connecticut has 497, New Hampshire has 239, New Jersey has 330, Pennsylvania has 447. Maine has 5506 square miles per post.

Now that 5506 square miles is the normal burden which is imposed on our state police force because of

the very large area of this state and the small amount of troopers on the force. Today we are facing very unusual demands. The Governor and Council have sent fifteen troopers all over the country to various schools for instruction and those troopers have come back, have been largely taken off from their regular routine duties and have spoken, or one group has spoken and trained and instructed, over five thousand civilian defense officials or those who are anxious to become civilian defense officials under the legislation presumably to be enacted at this session. Another group of these state troopers has instructed over four thousand civilian defense officials. These demands upon the state troopers obviously are going to continue and probably to increase.

Now with this situation facing us it seems to me that it is highly desirable that the police force at least be increased sufficiently so that the normal protection which we expect would not be lacking. It seems obvious that with the entire situation such as it is that travel on the highways is probably going to become a good deal more dangerous in the future than it has been in the past; and those are rather sad words to contemplate.

I am not at this moment going to go into any facts and figures because I understood the Senator from Aroostook (Senator Burgess) this morning to say that he merely felt that it was not a desirable time to increase the state police force. If necessary I can go into some facts and figures. Merely on behalf of the Appropriations Committee recommending this bill unanimously I wanted to point out some of the factors which caused the report to be made out that way and to which I signed my name.

Mr. BURGESS of Aroostook: Mr. President, just in case there is some misunderstanding as to the amendment I promised this group that I would offer in case the motion I made to indefinitely postpone were carried, I will explain it just briefly. The amendment which I propose to offer is merely striking out from the bill, the original bill, any reference to the state police or funds for state police and leaving the remainder of the bill intact. I have no brief with the other items in that bill.

And now, gentlemen, if I may for just a moment reply as best I can

to my very good friend Senator Hildreth, let me say this: I believe that the work of instructing the public does not require the powers that a state policeman has and that a civilian can take the job and not ask to be a policeman at the same time. I am quoting the Chief in saying that instruction work would be completed, so far as he knew, early in February. I state here, and I think I am correct, that there is money enough to the credit of the state police this minute to take care of an addition of eight or nine men, and they have not been added.

The Governor, under the emergency bill which this legislature will pass or has passed, has the authority to appoint twenty-five police or five thousand, to take care of this situation, and they will be temporary, their duties will end when the emergency is over and will not have to take any part in building up the present police force to a point where it will be a constant expensive maintenance proposition. I am convinced, gentlemen, and I give it to you for what it is worth, that an attempt is being made to build a state police force up to a position where it will subordinate all other law-enforcement units in the state, and I don't believe it is necessary.

I made reference this morning, and I will repeat briefly, that I do not believe that this legislature should go on record as favoring the expansion of any department unless it is absolutely necessary, with money which this present administration has saved. I believe we should give the money of their good saving, their good work, to the taxpayers of our state, because they will have in the future to pay it through the nose.

It is true that the square miles per man in Maine for state policemen may be greater than other states. I have no brief with the men. I think they are a swell bunch. I have no brief with the force, with the chief or with the men. I am only opposed to appropriating money at this time to expand the force. I see no necessity of it and I hope, gentlemen, that my motion made this morning to indefinitely postpone Committee Amendment A will prevail.

Mr. CHASE of Washington: Mr. President, your Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs heard the evidence, both for and against this measure and decided

unanimously on the bill which has been reported to you. Surely I need add nothing to that. The Committee was convinced by the evidence that this was a just and proper bill.

Mr. DOW of Oxford: Mr. President, when the vote is taken I ask for a division.

Mr. BRIDGES of Washington: Mr. President, I was present in this chamber the other day when the sheriffs of the state of Maine gathered here asking for increases in salaries. They appeared before the Committee on Salaries and Fees and a member of that committee asked the spokesman for the sheriff's organization if the state police force did not cut down to some degree the duties of the sheriffs' departments of the state. And the answer of that spokesman, a sheriff of one of our counties, was that the state police force did not cut down the duties of the work of the sheriffs of the state, that the work of the state police was more in duplication of the sheriffs' departments. And I gathered from the sheriffs that not the best of feeling exists between the state police and the sheriffs' departments, that they are not working with the spirit of co-operation which we have a right to expect from officials in the state. If that be true then I submit that rather than increase the number of state policemen over and above what they now have money enough for, eight or nine as the Senator from Aroostook has said, I submit that we ought, rather than increase their number, to suggest to them that they work in co-operation with the sheriffs' departments of the various counties of the state of Maine.

I don't know where the state police keep themselves but I came up here to the regular session without missing a day, going back and forth to Robbinston, Maine, and I have been up twice to this session, and I have yet to meet a state policeman. They may be off teaching people artificial respiration. Now, all of the sheriffs have had that training, the fire chiefs in every city and the larger towns in the state have had training along that line. Why should the state police? If they can find time to leave their regular work and teach groups of women artificial respiration why is it necessary to have more state police whose duties, as I understand it, are upon the highways of the state of Maine? Why, at

the last session we thought that the highways were so sufficiently protected that we took the state police off the highways and put them on the fair-grounds.

It seems to me that if the situation arises where the Governor of this state thinks an emergency exists and he calls the legislature into special session, as provided in another bill that has passed to be enacted, then and then only will it be necessary to argue that an increase in the state police force is necessary. So, Mr. President, I am seconding the motion of the Senator from Aroostook, Senator Burgess, that the committee amendment be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. HILDRETH: Mr. President, according to the figures before the Appropriations Committee given by Chief Weaver there are not sufficient funds to take on seven or eight men to the state police force at this time. He is within two hundred and twenty-two dollars and thirty-six cents of his budget, and that is running about as close as you can expect a competent official to run.

As regards adding state police to the forces when the emergency arises, it would seem as though the policy of the state police to train men before putting them into uniform and putting them on active duty is a sound policy and if we are going to need them they should be put on before an acute situation exists where there wouldn't be any doubt of needing a great many additional men. It is quite true that a good deal of consideration is being given, or contemplated being given, to instructions that could be given by civilians but the fact is that the Governor and Council chose to send some 15 state policemen to schools in various parts of the country where they took courses in subjects which are by no means as simple as artificial respiration, and that is not what the state police are doing.

I would like to say that I am supporting this measure on behalf of the committee. We tried to consider all this evidence. It is regrettable that these arguments were not brought before the committee so that the committee would have a chance to consider them. The evidence before the committee was that it was desirable that 25 additional troopers should be put on, that they were urgently needed by the state police force so that they could be trained at this time.

Mr. BRIDGES: I suppose, Mr. President, that the reason why some of these arguments were not brought before that committee is that we had not then passed the recent emergency measure, giving the Governor the right to appoint constables with authority, running right across county lines from town to town and from city to city, to appoint deputy sheriffs with plenary powers, and when they are all appointed if they are on the job we won't be able to travel half a mile on the highways of this state without being confronted by an officer. Therefore, there was no need to present these arguments before the committee.

Mr. BROWN of Aroostook: Mr. President, I wish to make one statement that perhaps has not been impressed quite enough. Not only does the Governor have the power under the emergency bill, but also under the Highway bill which has been reported in here, that the Highway Commission, with the consent of the Governor and Council have the right to allocate or use those funds in any particular department that may be necessary so that if it becomes an emergency and we should need more highway police appointed temporarily for the emergency this week or next week there is ample power and there are ample funds to do it, and when the emergency has expired or when the allocations for the year have expired that would immediately be terminated and would not be permanently enlarging your police force, which seems to be the bone of contention and the reason why most of us are opposing it.

There was one reason which was briefly touched upon, why there were not more people at the committee hearing. We were carrying on about 10 or 12 meetings daily at the same time and most of the members, at least of the Senate, were engaged in other places so that we could not appear before all the committees at the same time.

So I am heartily in favor of going along with the motion of Senator Burgess and I will so vote.

Mr. BATE of Kennebec: Mr. President, I understand that the Senator from Washington, Senator Bridges, in his remarks stated that at a hearing before the Committee on Salaries and Fees a sheriff stated that the state police and the

sheriffs do not cooperate. Well, that may be so in that particular county but I do not believe that that condition obtains very generally.

It so happens that I had the honor to serve the county of Kennebec as its prosecuting attorney for three terms and I can say to this Senate that during my term of office the sheriffs and the members of the state police did cooperate. And not only that, members of the Senate, but the state police saved the county of Kennebec a good many dollars, in this way: a number of cases came up while I was occupying that office that would have required the service of a private detective at a considerable fee but because of the state police, trained men as they are, they stepped into the picture and helped to solve the case and thereby, I believe, saved the county a good many dollars.

So I want to go on record as in favor of this bill which was heard before the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, where they had all the evidence and they had unanimously reported this bill "ought to pass."

Mr. FINDLEN of Aroostook: Mr. President, I hesitate to rise in opposition to my good colleagues, Senator Brown and Senator Burgess. In previous sessions of the legislature while I have been in here Governor Barrows advocated an increase in the state highway police, which was not granted, and Governor Sewall now advocates an increase in the highway police. We have cut that down to 25 men instead of the requested 50, which I think is wise, and then we proceed to argue whether or not that is necessary at this time.

It just seems to me that we are attempting to fiddle while Rome burns and that when the emergency does come, if it comes, we will be totally unprepared to cope with it. I think we all agree that the most efficient police officers that at least country folks have, and I would almost say city folks as well, are the state police officers. I happened to pick up my morning paper and I noticed that gambling devices, three cases, were apprehended in my own town. The arrests were made by the highway police. There isn't any question that in those places the sheriffs of our town knew that these gambling devices were there because they have been

shaved in those places many times. They knew the devices were there but they just didn't pay any attention to them.

Now, if you want law enforcement I think you have got to get it through the highway police. We did put the highway police in charge of fairs at the last session of this legislature and those of us who watched the operation of the fairs were very much gratified by the manner in which fairs were handled. All fair officials that I know anything about were well pleased with the set-up. Now I think we should be reasonable. I think we should look out for our future in this emergency. I hope the motion of Senator Burgess does not avail.

Mr. HILDRETH: Mr. President, I would like to say just one more word on the question of whether or not the sheriffs' departments and the state police cooperate. This was discussed before the Appropriations Committee. The chief of the state police, who can not speak except before the committee, stated that it was his policy whenever a situation arose in a county or a town that could be handled by local authorities, that he invariably called the matter to the attention of the local authorities. He has never taken steps without giving the local authorities an opportunity to first clear up any situation. In fact, he has always given them more than one opportunity. If there wasn't harmony between the sheriffs and the state police it strikes me that there would have been some sheriffs say so before the committee rather than leaving it to

current gossip and innuendo that that was the case.

The PRESIDENT: Is the Senate ready for the question? The question before the Senate is on the indefinite postponement of Committee Amendment "A". A division has been requested.

A division of the Senate was had. Fourteen having voted in the affirmative and thirteen opposed, the motion to indefinitely postpone Committee Amendment "A" prevailed.

Thereupon, Mr. Burgess of Aroostook presented Senate Amendment "A" and moved its adoption:

"Senate Amendment 'A' to S. P. 587, L. D. 1200, bill, An Act Providing for Appropriations and Adjustments made Necessary by the War Relating to Additional State Policemen and to Institutional Emergency Funds. Amend said bill by striking out from the title the following words: 'To Additional State Policemen and'. Further amend said bill by striking out all of section one thereof and correctly renumbering the remaining sections."

Senate Amendment "A" was adopted and the bill as amended by Senate Amendment "A" was tomorrow assigned for second reading.

The PRESIDENT: The Senate is working under Orders of the Day. Is there any further business to come before the Senate at this time?

On motion by Mr. Elliot of Knox Adjourned until tomorrow morning at ten o'clock.