

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Record
OF THE
Ninety-first Legislature

Special Session

April 17, 1944

SENATE

Wednesday, April 19, 1944.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Prayer by the Reverend William R. Wood of Augusta.

Journal of yesterday read and approved.

Joint Order

On motion by Mr. Emery of Hancock, it was

ORDERED, the House concurring, that there be paid to the officers of the Senate and House of Representatives for salaries, the amounts included in lists certified to the State Controller by the Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House, respectively, subject to the approval of the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. (S. P. 510)

Sent down for concurrence.

Subsequently the foregoing order was returned from the House, having been read and passed in concurrence.

Committee Report

Messrs. Sanborn and Farris from the Committees on Legal Affairs and Judiciary, jointly, on Bill "An Act to Facilitate Voting by Men and Women Serving in, Connected with, or about to Become Members of the Armed Forces," (S. P. 505) reported the same in a new draft (S. P. 509) under a new title, Bill "An Act to Facilitate Voting by Members of the Armed Forces of the United States," and that it ought to pass.

On motion by Mr. Farris of Kennebec, the report was read and accepted, and the bill laid upon the table for printing under the joint rules.

Recessed to the sound of the gavel.

After Recess

The Senate was called to order by the President.

House Committee Reports

From the House, out of order and under suspension of the rules:

The Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs on Bill "An Act to Appropriate Monies for the Expenditures of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1944," (H. P. 1376) (L. D. 479) reported that the same ought to pass as amended by Committee

Amendment "A" submitted herewith.

Which report was read and accepted in concurrence, and the bill read once; Committee Amendment "A" was read and adopted in concurrence, and under suspension of the rules, the bill as amended was read a second time and passed to be engrossed in concurrence.

The Committee on Judiciary on Bill "An Act to Facilitate Voting by Duly Qualified Registered and Enrolled Voters in the Armed Forces of Our Country, the Merchant Marine, and Other Services Necessary to the Successful Prosecution of Wars Against Germany and Japan," (H. P. 1377) (L. D. 918) reported that the same ought not to pass.

Which report was read and accepted in concurrence.

First Reading of a Printed Bill

(Out of Order)

Bill "An Act to Facilitate Voting by Members of the Armed Forces of the United States." (S. P. 509) (L. D. 919)

Which bill was read once, and under suspension of the rules was read a second time and passed to be engrossed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Emergency Measure

From the House, out of order and under suspension of the rules:

Bill "An Act to Facilitate Voting by Members of the Armed Forces of the United States." (S. P. 509) (L. D. 919)

Which bill being an emergency measure and having received the affirmative vote of 31 members of the Senate and none opposed, was passed to be enacted.

Emergency Measure

Bill "An Act to Appropriate Monies for the Expenditures of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1944." (H. P. 1376) (L. D. 479)

Which bill being an emergency measure and having received the affirmative vote of 31 members of the Senate and none opposed, was passed to be enacted.

Committee Reports

(Out of Order)

Mr. Farris from the Committee on Judiciary presented its Final Report.

Mr. Emery from the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs submitted its Final Report.

Mr. Sanborn from the Committee on Legal Affairs presented its Final Report.

Which reports were severally read and accepted.

Sent down for concurrence.

Orders

(Out of Order)

On motion by Mr. McGlauffin of Cumberland, it was

ORDERED, that a message be sent to the House of Representatives, informing that body that the Senate has transacted all business before it, and is ready to adjourn without day.

The President appointed Mr. McGlauffin of Cumberland to convey the message.

Subsequently that Senator reported that he had delivered the message with which he was charged.

A message was received from the House of Representatives informing the Senate that the House had transacted all business before it and was ready to adjourn without day.

On motion by Mr. Varney of York, it was

ORDERED, the House concurring, that a committee of three on the part of the Senate, with such as the House may join, be appointed to wait upon his Excellency, the Governor, and inform him that both branches of the Legislature have acted on all matters before them and are ready to receive any further communications he may be pleased to make. (S. P. 511)

The President appointed on the part of the Senate, as members of such a Committee:

Senators: Varney of York, Good of Aroostook, Clement of Androscoggin.

Subsequently, the foregoing order was returned from the House, having been read and passed in concurrence, the Speaker having appointed on the part of that branch:

Representatives: Ela of North Anson, Rollins of Greenville, Estabrook of Stacyville, Cleaves of Portland, Crosby of Farmington, Dunham of Biddeford, Grenier of Lewiston.

The Committee retired, and subsequently Mr. Varney for the Committee reported that it had delivered the message with which it was charged.

Communication

STATE OF MAINE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

April 19, 1944

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

I am happy to report that I have signed the three bills which you have enacted at this Special Session. By the passage of the Soldier Vote bill our purpose in meeting has been accomplished. By accepting a further gift of land from former Governor Baxter our park facilities have been advanced for all future time.

The careful and expeditious manner in which you have attended to these legislative matters merits the appreciation of the citizens of Maine.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) SUMNER SEWALL
Governor of Maine

Which communication was read and ordered placed on file.

Sent to the House.

The President recognized the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Sanborn.

Mr. SANBORN of Cumberland: Mr. President and members of the Senate, to allay at the outset any concern which you may have as to the purpose of my being on my feet I will say that I arise for the purpose of moving final adjournment but I trust that I may be pardoned if, in violation of the rules, I make some brief observations perhaps not germane to the question.

I am a little uncertain whether I should say in good conscience that I arise to the performance of an agreeable duty. I know, to be sure, that you all share with me my feeling of satisfaction that we are thus early in a position where we can feel that we have performed our task and can return to our homes. So far my duty is agreeable.

On the other hand, these friendships and acquaintances that we make in Bodies like this, which are bound to be among the most treasured possessions of our lives, cannot be interrupted with unalloyed pleasure. There is bound to be a measure of sadness in separating but, again, we have hope of the future. It is rumored, and in some quarters it is even accredited, that some day, some time, a revision of the statutes will be ready for our consideration and if that eventuates we will have

an opportunity to return and resume these contacts and friendships, which is something to look forward to.

Again, I am a bit uneasy myself over the question of whether it is a real honor to be designated as the one to make this motion. I cannot escape the recollection of a representative from my country town who came to Augusta many years ago and served his term in the legislature. One of the prominent business men of the community had cause to come to the Capitol toward the end of the session, and on his return a grocery store bevy were quite concerned to get a report as to what their legislative representative had done during the session. And the report was to the effect that so far as known, his single service had been that on one day he moved to adjourn.

I think I may with some propriety make a brief reference to the major task that this Special Session has performed, as a member of the Committee which was charged with the duty of giving special consideration to this measure. Personally I approached the task with considerable diffidence because we had presented to us a draft which was the product of the labors of men who had familiarized themselves with the subject matter and had worked upon it for weeks, and I confess that it seemed to me a bit strange, to say the least, that a group of us who had had no occasion to study the

question should be expected to revise and improve upon the work that we had laid before us and I know that all the members of that joint committee shared my feeling that we must exercise care and caution. And that, we endeavored to do. And I still can only say that I hope—and I cannot say that I feel certain—I hope that the result, when it goes out to the public, may not disclose some defect which we would have been very glad to have obviated had it been brought to our attention. We have simply done the best we could.

It is some satisfaction to know that those who have worked on the bill from the first, this morning expressed themselves as satisfied that the bill was right, and if it is right and if it is good, we can congratulate ourselves on having been privileged to be chosen to perform a task of real genuine public value, one which is in line with the best traditions of free popular government; and no man can perform a higher service than to do something that contributes to the public welfare through the channels of constitutional government.

And now, Mr. President, I formally move that the Senate stand adjourned without day.

Thereupon, on April 19, 1944 at 12:21 o'clock in the afternoon, Horace Hildreth, President, declared the Senate of this Special Session of the Ninety First Legislature adjourned without day.