

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Record

OF THE

Ninety-second Legislature



Special Session

July 8, 1946

SENATE

Tuesday, July 23, 1946

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Prayer by the Reverend Hazen F. Rigby of Gardiner.
Journal of yesterday read and approved.

Passed to be Enacted

Bill "An Act Relating to Additional Training by Normal Schools." (H. P. 1498) (L. D. 1208).

Bill "An Act to Incorporate the Sullivan Water District." (H. P. 1503) (L. D. 1207).

Finally Passed

"Resolve, in Favor of the University of Maine." (H. P. 1493) (L. D. 1200).

"Resolve, to Create an Educational Surplus Property Pool." (H. P. 1509) (L. D. 1223).

Orders of the Day

The President laid before the Senate the first tabled and today assigned matter, Resolve in Favor of Ricker Classical Institute and Junior College (S. P. 467) (L. D. 1212) tabled by the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Spear, pending passage to be enacted.

Thereupon, on motion by the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Spear, the Senate voted to reconsider its action of yesterday, where-by the Resolve was passed to be engrossed and that Senator presented Senate Amendment A and moved its adoption. The Secretary read Senate Amendment A:

"Senate Amendment A to Resolve in Favor of Ricker Classical Institute and Junior College (S. P. 467) (L. D. 1212). Amend said Resolve by striking out in the 3rd paragraph of the Emergency Preamble, the word, 'appropriation' and inserting in place thereof, the word, 'loan'

"Further amend said Resolve by striking out in the next to the last paragraph, the word 'appropriated' and inserting in place thereof, the word, 'loaned.'"

Mr. BROWN of Aroostook: Mr. President, I want to say I am opposed to this amendment. The only

reason that I didn't object to reconsideration was because I didn't know just what the amendment was and I was willing that the amendment should be heard. But this amendment won't help. A loan won't help the situation. I doubt if the state would loan money on the terms which the Senator from Cumberland (Senator Spear) suggested yesterday, that the money be loaned, and if it was without any interest it would be all right with him and if it never was paid it would be all right with him. That is what he said and I was wondering if he was considering that he was the State of Maine. I was wondering what a loan of that sort would amount to.

Ricker Classical Institute, like all of the schools of its class, is run on a non profit basis. There has never been a surplus and what little they have had, if any, from operating purposes, was used for the construction of buildings. A loan of this sort would be of no use to the institution and the state would not grant a loan which did not provide for the payment of interest and principle, and that would be a debt which would be forever hanging over Ricker Classical Institute.

So, if you are going to give us anything, if you think Ricker should have it, vote against this amendment and then give us the straight Resolve you have already passed.

Mr. WELCH of Aroostook: Mr. President and members of the Senate, I just want to give a brief explanation about this Resolve. This is not for housing purposes. The buildings are already built. But in order for the Institute to be able to take care of the additions for the veterans, which the Veterans Administration is asking them to do, it is necessary that they provide additional laboratory equipment for the courses which the veterans wish to take.

I have talked with the trustees, and for one thing, their average enrollment there over a period of years is in the neighborhood of 175 or over, up to around 200. Now, in order to be able to take on an additional 150 veterans, which the Veterans Administration is asking them to do, it is necessary to furnish additional equipment in their kitchen and they have also got to furnish rooms and do something about the housing of these veterans. It is not a plan of building; it is a plan of equipment and facilities for handling veterans.

This additional equipment which the institution will put in will be for the short period of a few years while the veterans load is at its peak. In a few years many of the things which they will be buying with this money if it is appropriated to them will be of almost no use to them. So I don't think it would be fair that after a period of a few years when the peak of this training period is over, we should ask them to pay for the things which they found it necessary to buy to support the veterans' program.

Mr. GOOD of Aroostook: Mr. President, there is one point that Senator Welch brought out that I don't think was quite clear in his mind. He said the equipment might not be of any use. The way that school has been increasing by leaps and bounds and the demand there is by pupils all over the state to come in there, that equipment will be used without any doubt and never will become obsolete because the science rooms and facilities have got to be provided for.

I was interested last night when a person from a certain part of the state told me that she thinks Ricker Classical Institute has done a wonderful job for a lot of boys. She said she knew of two boys who had gone to high school and felt that they were through going to school. And then someone persuaded them to go to Ricker Classical Institute and take the two year college course. They went up there and started in and got so interested that after they had taken the two year course they went to one of the other colleges and finished up their four years. One of them became a doctor and the other a dentist. This woman told me, "I know those boys wouldn't have gone any farther if they had not got started there." It seemed to be too far away for them to be able to go to a college. I have thought of that again and again. All over the county, from Presque Isle and Fort Fairfield and all those places, they have very fine schools, yet some of the boys and girls like to go to Ricker Classical Institute. They will take the last year of the high school course and then two years of college there and it has been a great asset to Aroostook County.

Now is the time to take care of the veterans and we have obligated

ourselves to try to do everything possible to take care of the boys coming in and right now we have 90 in the summer school and we can take care of 60 more if this \$50,000 is made available. It isn't going to put any tax burden on the state. We need a million, nine hundred thousand and some odd dollars for this purpose and it seems as though \$50,000 taken from the post war planning fund is economical and conservative. We believe there is no way that \$50,000 could be used to better advantage than at Ricker Classical Institute.

Don't misunderstand me. If we don't get the \$50,000 Ricker isn't going to cease. It is going on and take care of the civilian boys and girls but it will be just impossible to take care of the number of veterans they plan to take care of.

Therefore, I believe and I have confidence enough in this group of men sitting here this morning to believe, that they are going to give Ricker Classical Institute \$50,000 to buy the equipment and make their housing facilities possible whereby these boys can go there and take the load off some of the other schools and colleges. I hope that the amendment of the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Spear does not prevail.

Mr. HOWES of Penobscot: Mr. President, I am not going to speak for this or against it. I have always been real lenient in my town and when someone got burned out sometimes I voted to give the taxes. I live in Charleston where Higgins Classical Institute is. Our school burned up and the dormitories burned up and we all chipped in and built them. I gave \$125 myself when the dormitories burned. I cannot go back on what I have been doing here. I have not been in favor of giving the University of Maine any money. I have been willing to lend it. I felt that she was well taken care of by the mill tax and if they wanted to enlarge they could hire some money and finance it themselves and do business the way the rest of us have to do. When we need some money we have to hire it. I think we would be setting up something here that we may hear from in the future. That is my only objection, probably, to this.

All schools are in trouble. We have turned away over 112 veterans in our school because there was no dormitory for them. We don't

feel like asking the State to give it. The way I understand this amendment, I think it is liberal. They offer to lend money. Certainly; let the University of Maine have money and pay it back. But if you do this thing, the next time we burn out we are coming and ask for money. There are academies and preparatory schools all over the State. Who is going to say where this is going to stop? I always try to be fair. If you do this for this school, you have got to do it for mine and for the whole of them. If you don't we are not being fair.

I believe the amendment is fair, the way I understand it. The State will let them have money and if they can they will pay it back. If they can't they won't. You are not setting up anything that will bother in the future. I like to be fair. I know what the school is going through. Our school has gone through the same thing and we certainly had a lot of trouble to get back on our feet again.

Mr. BROWN of Aroostook: Mr. President, I hesitate to rise again when so much has already been said but to my mind, there is no comparison between this and emergencies which may have arisen before in different schools because the people of Aroostook County have exhausted every resource that Rick-er Classical Institute has and the people of Aroostook County have contributed over \$100,000 to erect a building and if any other school in the future should be faced with such a grave emergency as this when just before school they needed the money for equipment and with veterans waiting to come in, then it would certainly be their right to come before the legislature and lay their problem before the legislature and if that legislature in its wisdom decided that was the thing to do, they would do it.

The legislature always has that privilege and any school has a right to come before a legislature when they face an emergency. As for loaning the money, as I have already said, the state can loan the money without fixing the time when it shall be paid and I cannot see much difference between granting them the money right out and making a loan that the state would never expect to be paid back. If you are going to give them the money, what is the difference?

The PRESIDENT: The question

before the Senate is on the adoption of Senate Amendment A.

Mr. SPEAR of Cumberland: Mr. President, I ask for a division.

A division of the Senate was had. Six having voted in the affirmative and twenty opposed, the motion to adopt Senate Amendment A did not prevail.

Thereupon, on motion by Mr. Brown, the Resolve was passed to be engrossed.

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Leavitt of Cumberland, the Senate voted to take from the table Senate Report "Ought Not to Pass" from the Committees on Military Affairs and Appropriations and Financial Affairs on bill An Act Authorizing Maine Development Commission to Promote New Industries (S. P. 457) (L. D. 1192) tabled by that Senator on July 19 pending acceptance of the report.

Mr. LEAVITT of Cumberland: Mr. President, I now move that this bill be recommitted to the committee. The opposition to this bill and myself have got together and I think we have something to tell the committee which will change the situation.

A viva voce vote being had

The motion to recommit did not prevail.

Thereupon, on further motion by the same Senator, the report and accompanying papers were retabled pending acceptance of the "Ought Not to Pass" report of the committee.

On motion by Mr. Smith of Knox, the Senate voted to take from the table, House Report "Ought to Pass in New Draft" from the Committee on Military Affairs and Appropriations and Financial Affairs on Resolve Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Provide for a Bond Issue for the Payment of a Bonus to or Insurance Premiums for Maine Members of the Military and Naval Forces in World War II and for the Payment of Other Veterans' Benefits and to Provide for the Payment of Such Bonds by a Sales Tax. (H. P. 1529) (L. D. 1244) tabled by that Senator on July 22nd pending acceptance of the report, and on further motion by the same Senator, the

report of the Committee was adopted, and the resolve was given its first reading.

Thereupon, under suspension of the rules, the resolve was given its second reading and passed to be engrossed, in concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Boucher of Androscoggin, the Senate voted to take from the table, House Report from the Committee on Judiciary, "Ought to Pass in New Draft" on Bill, An Act Relating to Control of Rentals (H. P. 1504) (L. D. 1218) tabled by that Senator on July 19th pending consideration; and on further motion by the same Senator, the "Ought to Pass in New Draft" report of the Committee was accepted.

Mr. Boucher presented Senate Amendment "A" and moved its adoption:

"Senate Amendment 'A' to H. P. 1527, L. D. 1242, Bill, An Act Relating to Control of Rentals. Amend said bill by adding at the end of Section 1 thereof the following sentence: 'Provided, however, that rentals of dwelling houses, apartment houses and flats under \$5.00 per week on June 30, 1946, may be increased up to \$5.00 per week.' Further amend said bill by striking out all of Section 5 and inserting in place thereof the following: 'Section 5. Penalty. Whoever violates the provisions of this act shall be punished by fine of not less than \$25.00 nor more than \$500.'"

Mr. LEAVITT of Cumberland: Mr. President, I move this bill and Senate Amendment "A" lie on the table until we have time to study it.

A viva voce vote being had.

The motion to table did not prevail.

The PRESIDENT: The question before the Senate is on the adoption of Senate Amendment "A."

A viva voce vote being had

The motion to adopt Senate Amendment "A" did not prevail.

Thereupon, the bill was given its first reading.

Mr. MORRILL of Cumberland: Mr. President and members of the Senate, last Friday I voiced two questions regarding this new draft, one being on the possibility of a

landlord who is acting in good faith, being penalized and having a criminal penalty, criminal action, brought against him, and since that time I have found that possibility could not take place. However, in discussing this bill with several individuals, I have discovered two other inconsistencies that come to my mind, and I'd like to present Senate Amendment "B" which will correct these inconsistencies. I offer Senate Amendment "B" and move its adoption.

The Secretary read Senate Amendment "B":

"Senate Amendment 'B' to H. P. 1527, L. D. 1242, Bill, An Act Relating to Control of Rentals. Amend said bill by striking out the period at the end of Section 1 thereof and inserting in place thereof the following: 'and from reducing the services rendered for such rents or accommodations on June 30, 1946.' Further amend said bill by striking out all of Section 2 thereof and inserting in place thereof the following: 'Section 2. Stay of writ of possession. In all cases of forcible entry and detainer brought under the provisions of Chapter 109 of the Revised Statutes of 1944 and acts additional thereto and amendatory thereof except the judge of the court may stay the issuance of writ of possession for good cause from time to time at no event longer than the duration of this act.'"

Mr. MORRILL: Mr. President and members of the Senate, the first part of the amendment will correct an error or an omission that will make this act effective as the federal OPA act was. To explain and give an example — if I had a rent, a \$30 rent on June 30th, 1946, under the bill as it is at present written, my landlord would have the authority to raise my rent 15 percent but if this were a steam-heated rent he would not be required to give me heat, water or light or any other services which he had given me as of June 30th. That is the first part. The second part in regard to stay of writ of possession, it seems to me the present wording and language protects the public only 30 days, and if this is an emergency it is going to last more than 30 days, or I assume it is inasmuch as the bill will remain in effect until June 30, 1947, I would think the provision to pro-

tect the public should last that long in the discretion of the court. Therefore, I changed the wording of that to read "from time to time in no case to exceed the duration of the act."

The **PRESIDENT**: The question before the Senate is on the motion of the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Morrill, to adopt Senate Amendment "B."

A viva voce vote being had Senate Amendment "B" was adopted.

Thereupon, under suspension of the rules, the bill as amended by Senate Amendment "B" was given its second reading and passed to be engrossed in non-concurrence.

Sent down for concurrence.

The **PRESIDENT**: Is there any further business to come before the Senate under Orders of the Day?

On motion by Mr. Brown of Aroostook

Recessed until this afternoon at three o'clock Standard Time.

After Recess

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Order

(Out of Order)

On motion by Mr. Batchelder of York, out of order and under suspension of the rules,

ORDERED, the House concurring, that there be paid to the Clerks and Clerical Assistants of Committees the amounts included in list certified to the State Controller by the several Committee Chairmen, and bearing the approval of the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. (S. P. 478)

Sent down for concurrence.

Emergency Measures

Bill "An Act Appropriating Moneys for Anticipated Overdrafts in the Department of Health and Welfare Due to Insufficient Appropriations." (S. P. 460) (L. D. 1191)

Which bill being an emergency measure, and having received the affirmative vote of 28 members of the Senate and none opposed, was passed to be enacted.

Bill "An Act to Incorporate the Brewer Water District." (H. P. 1497) (L. D. 1204)

Which bill being an emergency measure, and having received the affirmative vote of 28 members of the Senate and none opposed, was passed to be enacted.

Bill "An Act Adjusting the Salaries of All Full-Time State Employees and Appropriating Money Therefor." (H. P. 1501) (L. D. 1209)

(On motion by Mr. Currier of Androscoggin tabled pending passage to be enacted.)

"Resolve in Favor of Ricker Classical Institute and Junior College." (S. P. 467) (L. D. 1212).

(On motion by Mr. Good of Androscoggin tabled pending final passage.)

"Resolve in Favor of the Town of Greenville." (H. P. 1526)

Mr. **McKUSICK** of Piscataquis: Mr. President, I move the indefinite postponement of this resolve and in support of my motion I will say that at the time this measure was introduced I knew nothing about it and I supposed, as of course you all did, that this was a non-controversial measure. But this forenoon I received a telephone call from Greenville and I talked with the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. He said they were not in favor of this and had only recently become acquainted with the fact that this resolve had been introduced and they were opposed to it.

The resolve provides for the transfer of a sum of money which was allocated by the 91st legislature to the Wilson Pond Road so-called in the town of Greenville and the resolve seeks to change the location of that money to the completion of an underpass in the village of Greenville Junction which is, I understand, a state road. That is, it seeks to transfer it from a town road to a state road. That money has been allocated to the town of Greenville for something over three years and I believe it is the province of the town officials to say where that money should go. Not satisfied with that I took occasion this afternoon to call up Mr. Sanders of Sanders' Store, the information bureau of northern Maine and I

asked him if he knew anything about it. He said he didn't know anything about it personally, about the controversy, but he did know the Wilson Pond road was in need of repairs and he personally was not in favor of transferring from a town road to a state road.

That is the situation as it comes to me on short notice and I am passing it on to the Senate. It is for those reasons that I believe the measure should be indefinitely postponed on the ground that it is controversial in the town of Greenville.

The PRESIDENT: The Senator from Piscataquis, Mr. McKusick moves the indefinite postponement of this resolve.

Thereupon, on motion by Mr. Savage of Somerset, the resolve was laid upon the table pending the motion to indefinitely postpone.

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

The Majority of the Committees on Military Affairs and Appropriations and Financial Affairs, jointly, on Bill "An Act Providing for the Payment of a Bonus to or Insurance Premiums for Maine Veterans of World War II and for the Payment of Other Veterans' Benefits and to Provide for Such Payments by a Sales Tax or an Income Tax," (H. P. 1516) (L. D. 1240) reported the same in a new draft (H. P. 1528) (L. D. 1245) under a new title, Bill "An Act Providing for the Payment of a Bonus to or Insurance Premiums for Maine Veterans of World War II and for the Payment of Other Veterans' Benefits and to Provide for Such Payments by a Sales Tax," and that it ought to pass.

(signed)

Senators:

BATCHELDER of York
OWEN of Kennebec
CLEAVES of Cumberland
SAVAGE of Somerset

Representatives:

BREWER of Presque Isle
CROSBY of Farmington
JENNINGS of Strong
JORDAN of South Portland
ELA of Anson
BOWKER of Portland
SOUTHARD of Bangor
DOW of Eliot
WILLIAMS of Clifton
POULIN of Rumford

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject matter reported that the same ought not to pass.

(signed)

Representative:

BOUTIN of Lewiston

Comes from the House, the Majority report read and adopted, and the bill in new draft passed to be engrossed.

In the Senate:

Mr. BATCHELDER of York: Mr. President and members of the Senate, I might say that this bill came before the joint committee of Military Affairs and Appropriations and Financial Affairs on the call of coming here for the purpose of enacting some veterans' legislation has had some days of hearing before that joint committee. We had a total of 26 bills before us for discussion pertaining not only to the educational features but to the bonus which was in various amounts from \$100 to \$500; providing for insurance payments on a sliding scale and a revolving fund and in various other benefits included in this bill.

Now, I might say that the war has been over for about a period of a year and the situation has come to the point where there is great need of something being done as far as the veterans are concerned. This bill ties in under the G. I. Bill of Rights and on the part we are particularly interested in, it might be well that I read that portion pertaining to educational and vocational training under the G. I. Bill of Rights: "Title II. Educational and Vocational Training makes all World War II veterans regardless of age eligible to receive education or training for one year, plus the number of days of active service in the armed forces; provides requirements for eligibility. A World War II veteran must have had 90 or more days of active service, a portion of which is between September 16, 1940, and the termination of the war, and that he must be discharged under conditions other than dishonorable; requires the government to pay tuition and training fees up to \$500.00 a year plus \$65.00 a month subsistence to persons without dependents and \$90.00 a month for those with dependents."

I might say that in all colleges throughout the United States, we

find there is a very crowded condition. It is practically impossible to take on the influx of these veterans who are now returning and we find practically every state in the Union faced with the same problem, and in order that our veterans may take advantage under this particular feature of the act, it is necessary that we at this time do something if we are to aid them within the next year or two in helping to permit them to take advantage under this particular bill, or the opportunity of receiving some training along vocational lines.

Now, we had several bills before us. One was in regard to the University of Maine. It was found there that in view of the large number of veterans that were making application to that college it was practically impossible to take care of them without doing something as far as the housing condition was concerned. In order to do that we were given to understand it was going to require the building of two or three additional dormitories there to take care of quite a few veterans. We thought it might take a little time to accomplish that purpose. We found that there were probably about 800 that would not be in a position to be taken care of at that particular place and that it would require the setting up of some facilities other than in the campus. It was thought possible that Dow Field might be taken over for that purpose, lodge those boys and girls for the first year or two with a later adjournment to the campus where they might receive the 3rd or 4th year of training.

I think the Governor and Council recognized this condition some time ago when they set aside \$150,000 from out of the surplus fund in order to start this program, later expecting that we would be called here for the purpose of doing whatever was best to do as far as these later needs were concerned.

I might say that this bill which we had as to the University of Maine called for an appropriation of a million dollars for dormitories and also for trustees to be allowed to borrow an additional million dollars for the purpose of carrying out that part of the program.

Now, to get down to the particular part of the bill which provides for vocational training for veterans, I believe we all recognize the fact

that our boys are returning, many of them disabled as a result of injuries suffered in the service, many others who have come back and found that their jobs are taken and possibly it may be necessary to train them along other lines.

Recognizing this need we have considered that it is necessary to provide some facilities for training those boys, and after much discussion it was thought that it would require in the vicinity of \$700,000 for the purpose of obtaining buildings and grounds and making the necessary and proper changes and getting the necessary equipment in order to put that part of the program into effect. It would also require an additional sum of \$100,000 a year for an operating fund, and that probably without doubt would have to be increased later because of the number that might make application for it.

I might say on that particular line that whatever we do as far as the veterans are concerned it will be necessary for us to consider that within a matter of a short time. Otherwise it isn't going to be of any particular benefit to those boys who are now returning.

It was also considered that at the University of Maine they were in need of a plant science building and an engineering building, so it was a proposition of following this program as far as the veteran was concerned. And in consideration of that it was the final decision of the committee that the sum of \$400,000 would be needed for that particular purpose.

Now, another particular matter which we have come down to is the question of a bonus. This is provided for in this particular bill. I might say that as I understand it we have four states in the Union which have already paid the boys a bonus; our neighboring states of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. I understand that mostly in those particular states it has been on the basis of somewhere in the vicinity of \$100 bonus. We feel as though our boys who are coming back should have at least the same recognition as was given to the boys in World War I, we should put them on the same standard. And in speaking of that, I was a veteran of the last World War who received those benefits and I might say I have a son who was serving in this

World War II and I feel that I wouldn't want to place myself on a standard of thinking that I was any different than probably he was.

Now, as to the length of time that the boys have been in the service, it is a well recognized fact that we cannot recompense these boys possibly for the service they have rendered to us, but in appreciation of the patriotism and heroism of these boys whom we all recognize have done an exceptionally fine job for us, I think we owe them considerable. And I might say it would be impossible—probably no amount of money would pay these boys for what they have actually lost in the war, considering the high wages being paid in this country and the length of time that they were actually gone.

I might say, although it probably isn't on this particular program, that we have had some other legislation before this legislature which if finally enacted is going to require a considerable appropriation. We have been asked for an increase of \$500,000 yearly in the Welfare Department and also a like sum for the State employees.

Now in speaking of the benefits being paid to some of the veterans in the state of Maine at the present time, it is in the vicinity of \$850,000 yearly for the aid to our veterans and their dependents. That sum, as the years go along, will increase considerably. No one knows actually what the final figures may be that we will have to pay along that line. Whatever we actually have to pay I don't believe that any of us as tax payers will regret anything that we may have to do for the aid of any of these disabled boys who have received injuries in the service.

Now the bill as to the University of Maine, although it was in the original bill and has been taken out of this particular bill before us, this bill calls for the restoration of those funds which we would take out of the post war fund to restore a million dollars back to that particular fund.

I believe we have a statement before us prepared in the office of the Commissioner of Finance that might possibly give us some idea as to the cost of some of these benefits which we are faced with.

Now under the veterans' program if a bonus were paid in the amount of sixteen million dollars for that

particular purpose, it being taken care of over a period of ten years, it would require a payment of a million six hundred thousand dollars per year. The interest on the bonds would be \$140,000 the first year and that amount would decrease as time went on. The University of Maine's operating expense would be an additional amount of \$250,000; the Director of Veterans Affairs, \$60,000; Administration an item of \$10,000; Vocational Training an item of \$100,000 annually; Normal School expansion of \$30,000. That is also in line with the veterans program, thinking that probably some of our normal schools would give some assistance to the veterans. Thus total expenditures to the veterans would be \$2,190,000.

Now along with this are other items which have been mentioned as to Health and Welfare Department of which the veterans are benefiting to quite an extent, and the increase as to state employees. If these bills all had passage, recognizing that fact, we have a deficiency of \$157,545. for the fiscal year 1946-47. This would show that we actually need an item of \$3,597,545.

Now getting to the question of taxes, that seemed to be the painful part of the whole thing which this committee had to solve some particular method under which that could be taken care of. We had a great many different proposals before us: straight sales tax, income tax, cigarette tax, liquor tax, luxury taxes and some other taxes were mentioned. Some of these taxes would provide only a small portion of this particular program. If we were considering only the item of a cash bonus it might be possible to finance that particular thing on a cigarette and liquor tax but taking into consideration that we have many other features of this particular bill pertaining to education and other aids to veterans we found this would be practically impossible.

Now that brought us back to the question of a general sales tax. I might say that in considering any of these particular taxes it is a specialized sales tax in some way applicable to when those particular people should use any of those particular articles. We had in mind the question of leaving out food if we had a general sales tax and when we took that particular thing

into consideration we found it would be practically impossible to administer the bill due to the fact that a great many of our smaller stores would not be in a position to actually handle that without putting on additional clerks to handle each individual sale, and practically the only way that could be taken care of would be by a general sales tax applicable to all particular articles, and the administration feature could be figured on the gross sales.

Now under the sales tax it was estimated that would produce somewhere in the vicinity of between four and five million dollars. That is practically the only thing from which we could actually see where-in we could put this veterans administration into operation. I might say in the consideration of the bonus bill many of these particular bills covered the period going back to the starting of Selective Service in September, 1940; many of the bills provided for the payment up to the President's Proclamation. That might do for a period of several years to come but we didn't feel that the State of Maine should pay anything toward maintaining the U. S. Army; that matter was entirely up to the federal government. We felt that if the boys were to receive any benefits in the bonus line that we should cover the period of the war and I believe any of those boys serving under 90 days would not receive anything. That is along the line of the federal government taking out the first 90 days.

Now I think I have covered somewhat this particular bill and many of its benefits that will be provided for it and at this particular time I move the passage of this bill.

Mr. HOWES of Penobscot: Mr. President and members of the Senate, the way I see this, there is nothing we could do to the advantage of the soldiers like sending a sales tax in. When I was in the legislature ten years ago and the sales tax was up, I don't think there has ever been any more interest in any bill that has ever been before the legislature than there was at that time between an income and a sales tax.

I have two of those boys working with me and I think a lot of them; and when they were little fellows twelve years old, I used to hire them to pull weeds for me. One of them has helped me in haying for

fourteen years except for the time he was gone. I think I understand what these boys are going through. These two particular boys have been gone four years, one of them went to the Pacific and came back with malaria and twice this summer has gone to a doctor and been inoculated. A week ago last Tuesday another boy was called over to Newport to check up on tuberculosis—no tuberculosis in his family. He weighs 190 and was a pretty rugged boy. What happened to those boys happened while they were gone, like thousands of others.

As for myself and the people of this Senate, we have got our homes and we have bought everything we need at home, most of us have something to sell and we don't want to buy anything but these boys came home with nothing, they never got into the big money. You put a sales tax on these boys—that doesn't mean my two boys, it means all of them. They are going to stay here and make homes of their own. One of my two boys brought home a wife and babies but neither one of them has a home. One of them bought a stove and the other bought a washing machine and they have got to buy everything they have. They are going to pay the sales tax. I am not going to pay it, you are not going to pay it. The boys are going to pay it.

I would like to say that I know I can never pay those boys. I would like to see a \$100 bonus and a luxury tax which I believe would raise all the money we need. I always liked a luxury tax. I have used tobacco since I was twelve years old. We had a little fun down at the house one night and got to figuring and we figured I had used \$1600. Now, if I am fool enough to do it, I am willing to pay for it and I don't know of anybody that has got a habit like that who would not do the same thing. You haven't got to have it, you haven't got to have it if you don't want it, but these boys have got to have things to set up their homes.

Another thing, I honestly don't believe the boys that went down into the Pacific and fought among the islands in the South Seas, that the average age of them would be over 40 years. We have a boy in my town who was down there and he was in the thick of it and my wife and I saw him at town meeting and didn't know him. I want you to

know that those boys went through something. We all want to make an effort to pay them for it but why make them pay for it themselves? If you give them a sales tax these boys are going to pay and pay and pay because they have got nothing and they have got to buy it and they are going to set up homes. I am against the sales tax. I never will vote for it and I honestly think if you send it along you will get it turned down bigger than ever. It was no small margin before.

Mr. CURRIER of Androscoggin: Mr. President and Senators, I move the indefinite postponement of this vicious, cruel bill, and in support of that motion I am going to say on a bi-partisan basis strictly as one Senator to another, and you Senators will all agree, that since I have been here you have never seen me vote on a party measure that was wrong; you have never see me vote on a minority measure because it was a minority measure any more than I have seen any of you—and I have seen it many, many times—vote on a majority measure because it was a majority measure, because the majority party in this state is too big to play parties and that is why I respect the majority party in the State of Maine.

So here we are tonight confronted with a vicious administration—no, not administration, because the administration is the party,—a one man steam roller bill. Members of the majority party, are you going to be dictated to by one man? No! No! Because you love the state of Maine as well as I love the State of Maine.

Now let's get down to some of the reasons why I ask you for indefinite postponement, that one man has no right to throw out a steam roller bill while the conditions in the State of Maine are so confused as they are now, and that confusion has existed for over ten years.

This state has not had a financial statement that tied together for much more than ten years. Instead of passing a sales tax why not pass a simple little order authorizing the Governor and Council to check into what is wrong with this state, to check and correct the figures that were sent out by the Research Committee, because they don't seem to be in order. There are several million dollars missing on that Research Committee's figures that they sent out.

I have a little smattering of business and I know what a profit and loss statement is. Unfortunately a great many times it has been on the loss side; and I know also what a surplus should be. What is should be. The Research Committee evidently forgot to tie up the profit and loss sheet statement to the surplus account because it is in the record in figures which they released that they have charged directly in the record of the surplus account of the State of Maine disregarding the profit and loss sheet. That is in the record. The figures are there — approximately twelve million dollars.

So the steam roller bill comes out and they want sixteen million. Let's go a little further. Let's go back to the memorable date 2/26/38. Let's go back there. Let's go into the ancient history of the State of Maine. What happened on that day? A city in my community was smirched. From that date they had a stigma and they still hold that stigma of a robbery. Do you want me to tell you the story of that robbery? No! I won't tell you the story. I will just ask you a question. Why was a cash book of the State of Maine plugged, almost simultaneously with that robbery, with thirty-five thousand dollars overage? Where did the State of Maine—where, where—and we are always running behind—where did the State of Maine get a thirty-five thousand dollar overage on that particular date?

Come on! Put your house in order! Throw this thing out the window and then when you have competent men, competent analysts that can study the financial structure of the State of Maine and give you Senators a true picture of the State of Maine and its actual financial resources and what they can do, then come and ask for a sales tax. But when the State Controller and the State Auditor, when there is a difference of five million dollars in their reports, come and ask the legislature of the State of Maine, in the face of that to burden the little people, my people, with a sales tax, wait a minute. Or go ahead, it is your state and you have had it for a long time. You have had it for a long time.

We have had the Auburn Robbery, we have had the inconsistency between the reports of the State

Auditor and the State Controller. They are book reports. All right. What is the actual cash difference? \$53,000. What do you want to do that to the little people of the State of Maine for? Haven't they suffered long enough? I say until the State of Maine can get a competent outside analyst—and I don't mean Ernst and Ernst because in 1940 they were working on the state books, possibly under pressure. Do you want me to tell you of the IOU's in the State Treasurer's till in 1940? I ask you. Do you? All right.

So of course poor Ernst and Ernst working for them and they were working under pressure, they were making a spot check of the finances in the State of Maine. Have we had any figures? Where is even a partial report? Ernst and Ernst is one of the most reputable concerns in the country but I still maintain that for the protection of the people of the State of Maine and of the little people a competent analyst should check those figures.

And I sincerely hope that instead of voting for this vicious, horrible, rotten sales tax that is going to be a burden on the little people and not those who had those IOU's in the Treasurer's till in 1940, I think the little people are justified in asking for a fair deal and therefore I sincerely hope, but I know you won't. I know I will stand alone, and vote for the indefinite postponement of this bill.

Mr. DENNY of Lincoln: Mr. President and members of the Senate, there seems to be prevailing a feeling that anyone who is anti-cash bonus is anti veteran and that feeling seems to have grown even to the proportions that by misconstruing the statement of one of our own members, he has been threatened, but those of us who are anti-cash bonus feel we are more pro veteran, looking at the problem over a length of time, than those who favor the cash bonus.

I do not think that we should leave an inheritance with these veterans who will soon be the State of Maine, of a debt equal to the present debt of the State of Maine at this time, and that is just what we would be doing if we pass the cash bonus and raise a bond issue to pay for it.

I am not objecting to spending ten million dollars for veteran benefits,

but I am objecting to spreading ten or fifteen million dollars out so thinly—that \$100 to \$150 per veteran—that during the time, the next fifteen to twenty years that that is being paid, and a good part of it paid by the veterans, that it will be forgotten what the money was used for.

I think we all recognize the fact that the small amount of money we can give in a cash bonus will do the average veteran, in fact the major percentage of veterans, very little good, and for those who need some help, the \$150 is not at all adequate.

It is not fantastic at all to say that these 94 thousand veterans who have returned or will return to this state will soon be the active tax-paying citizens of the state who will soon take our places. When we will step down, they will take control. That is not at all fantastic.

I am definitely convinced that a small minority and only a small minority of veterans are demanding or asking for a cash bonus. Surely when you flash a \$100 bill or a \$500 bill in front of a veteran—and I will include in front of a Senator perhaps—we would like to find some way to get it but if we know it is going to cost us more to pay it back than we are going to get out of it, it isn't as much of a gift and it isn't given in the way we intend a cash bonus to be given.

We were told at the hearing that \$500 today would be the equivalent of only the \$100 which we gave to the veterans of World War I. On that basis any comparison of the amount that we would be giving as a cash bonus for \$150 would certainly be a disgraceful gesture.

It was also stated at the hearing, and I will quote, "If all you can give us is \$100, keep it, we don't want it." Now in view of that and in view of some eleven hearings and the conclusion the Research Committee arrived at I just want to refer you to what the Research Committee reported. I hope you have read it but I want to read it again. It is with reference to cash bonus demands: "We are far from convinced that the cash type payment by the state is a sound approach to the problem and we are far from convinced that the majority of Maine veterans favor new taxes with which to pay for this cash distribution. Certainly our hearings produced much evidence of desire but little evidence of real need."

We hear repeated quite often that this state is doing nothing for the veterans, that we are falling behind, that Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont have paid cash bonuses and Maine isn't doing anything for the veterans. Let's not fool ourselves into forgetting that some twenty million dollars which will be distributed to Maine veterans for terminal leave pay, to say nothing about benefits under the GI Bill of Rights are going to be paid for in fair proportion by the people of this state just as it is paid for by the citizens and taxpayers of every other state in the Union.

We are doing our share just as any other state, and when we talk about other states doing this and doing that, let us consider the State of Maine, the condition of the State of Maine. We have an area of something equal to the rest of all of New England. We have a population of less than the city of Boston. The sooner we forget the idea of trying to "live up to the Joneses", to do as the other states do who can do more along certain lines, the better off we will be and the better state this will be for our veterans to take over. The irony of the whole thing, of course, is that this tremendous deed, this gift of terminal pay and mustering out pay and the benefits of the GI Bill of Rights would have to be paid for in more than fair proportion by the veterans themselves, and I hope this state will not enter into that kind of business.

Neither is it the desire of the State of Maine to offer its veterans a cash bonus and turn around and ask them to pay it back or pay back a large proportion of it themselves. Creating the debt that the cash bonus would create would limit these veterans, when they take over control of the state, which unquestionably they will take over in their generation, would limit them as to both cash and credit. I am sure that during their day just as much as in our day they will need the credit of the State of Maine to do the things they want to do just as much as we need it in this day.

I think you will all agree that a cash bonus should be on a federal level. We have heard many times the inconsistency of Maine giving perhaps a \$100 bonus and Massachusetts a \$300 bonus, penalizing the Maine man just because he is geographically located in Maine,

went through the same service as a Massachusetts man but still gets \$100 and a Massachusetts man gets \$300.

I think you will all agree that possibly in an expanded bill of rights, an expanded GI bill, there may be a provision, and probably will be a provision, for a federal bonus on a federal level. The problem of taking care of and doing something for the veterans is not the problem that I think we are led to believe it is. There is an orderly approach to it. Certainly the first obligation which the state has is to see to it that the dependents, the mothers, fathers, wives, and the children of the veterans who laid down their lives in the service, to see that those dependents are taken care of. That is the first obligation of the state.

The second obligation is to those boys who were disabled in the service. It is the duty of the state to see to it that these boys can live as normal a life and as productive a life as possible. Supplementing the benefits of the GI bill to whatever extent is necessary to do that is certainly very definitely the second obligation of the state of Maine.

The third obligation is to those boys who were fortunate enough to come back from the service unimpaired mentally and physically but whose life was interrupted by their service in the armed forces. It is up to the State of Maine to see to it that at least in hardship cases for those boys there is some way to help them, some sort of benefit for hardship cases. Now after that what else can the State of Maine do, what should the State of Maine do? I know that if someone suggests a sound, workable plan, the legislature will see fit to pass it but until someone does suggest such a plan it seems to me that the State of Maine is doing and has done and will do its part without spending ten or fifteen million dollars and then asking the next generation, the veterans themselves to burden themselves with that debt and to pay it.

If we pass a cash bonus, I believe the Governor in his talk before the legislature was very sound when he insisted that it be accompanied by some tax measure which would raise the funds to pay it. That was certainly very sound and I think we all commend him for his policy in that respect.

We have had several tax measures offered. I think we can throw out the window without too much discussion dog racing, horse racing, and lotteries. I think there is little use in discussing those. A luxury tax has been proposed. It is an unstable tax and does not raise enough money in itself. A liquor tax has been proposed. We are now taxing liquor just about as much as it seems wise to tax it if we are going to continue to receive as much in net income as we are receiving at the present time. Then we have the cigarette tax and I want to read you a good example of the worth of a cigarette tax to pay a tax bonus. I refer you to the Governor's talk before the Woodford's Club on Saturday, February 9, 1946, in which he stated this, giving an example of the fallacy of certain types of taxes. He said: "For instance it has been pointed out to me by a Veterans Administration official that in Massachusetts if a veteran and his wife each smoke a package of cigarettes every two days and drink between them one-fifth of a bottle of liquor only every three weeks, the veterans will be paying back a \$100 bonus in two years."

It seems to me that is a very good example of levying a tax on something the veteran is going to buy and use and pay the tax on and pay back. It is unjust to the veteran, unfair to the veteran and it shouldn't be done.

We then have left two major sources of taxation, a state sales tax and a state income tax. Now, either of those taxes could be used to collect far more money than is needed to pay a cash bonus. There is no question about that. If either of those taxes are used, certainly it is only sound business for the State of Maine to consider at the same time the whole and complete financial problem, and I can refer you to the General Fund report which the Research Committee sent to the legislators. One glance at that and I think you will realize there is a problem coming before the 93rd and 94th legislatures, a problem which will warrant probably some such tax as a sales tax or an income tax.

Either tax is far out of proportion to the size of the job which we are asking it to do in paying the cash bonus. To say that a cash bonus is inevitable I believe is en-

tirely wrong. To say that we in the State of Maine are doing nothing for the veterans is also entirely wrong. To expect us at a special session to consider, as we should if we consider a sales tax, the whole financial problem of the State of Maine, is asking too much. This will take instead of three weeks, at least three months.

So along with several others, I am definitely opposed to a cash bonus because it doesn't solve the problem and I am definitely opposed to either a sales tax or an income tax to pay a cash bonus, riding it through by subterfuge on the bonus, because it is far too large a tax and too valuable a tax for the State of Maine to use for this purpose.

Mr. HOWES of Penobscot: Mr. President and members of the Senate there are one or two things my colleague brought up here that I wish to try to straighten out a little. He allowed that if a man and his wife smoke a package of cigarettes and take a drink or so a day that they are going to pay out more money than we are going to give them. I wonder what these people are going to do before they set up housekeeping. I believe it is conservative to estimate that at least they will pay out a thousand dollars. As for a luxury tax we have heard all day that there wasn't money enough to carry out the program. Any luxury tax program I have seen has merely scratched the surface. They have picked out a few things that would give a million dollars or a large amount of money and there are thousands of things that have not been mentioned that could have a small tax. I believe a luxury tax, I don't believe it, I know it, would raise all the money we need. I agree that \$100 to \$200 is nothing. We haven't got the taxable property in the State of Maine that New York and Massachusetts have. We can't pay any such bonus as they can but I just don't want to go home without giving the boys as much as their fathers got because I think there would be hard feelings and I think we should remember them with something no less than the other states.

Mr. BOUCHER of Androscoggin: Mr. President and members of the Senate, I am opposed to this bill for one good reason. I don't believe we were called into session to settle the tax problems of the State and

that is what this bill is attempting to do. I think that tax problem should be sent back to the next legislature which will convene in January. I am in favor of a bonus. I am in favor of a large bonus, but this bill here does not provide a bonus from my point of view. I will try in a very few minutes to show you by a very simple problem which I heard today, why it does not. If the average earnings of the common laborer or journeyman is \$40 a week and you multiply it by 50 weeks in the year, his earnings are \$2000. If he has to pay a two percent sales tax of it, it is \$40 a year, and in ten years it will be \$400. So in this bill if you give him \$150 you are not giving him a bonus, but taxing him \$400. We are handing him \$150 with one hand and asking him to give the State back \$400. From my viewpoint it is not a bonus bill but a tax bill and it doesn't belong in a special session but belongs in the regular session of the State Legislature.

Furthermore, I am of the opinion, and I think it will be borne out in September, if you pass this measure the citizens of Maine will send it back to you, to the next legislature, by overwhelming majority because I, for one, will certainly go out and tell the citizens in my county what this tax bill will mean to them. The average citizen in Androscoggin County I know does not earn over \$2000 a year and if he knows he has got to pay \$400 to pass this measure through, I know he will disapprove of it. I know that the veterans who asked me to introduce a bill for them will go into the byways, every town and city in the State and work against this tax measure.

Therefore, not for the reason given by my colleague in Androscoggin County, Senator Currier, but for reasons I have enumerated, I shall vote against this measure.

Mr. BROWN of Aroostook: Mr. President, I might as well make my position clear here now as well as any time. I am one of those who has been consistently opposed to the cash bonus, but we are not discussing the matter of a cash bonus but we are discussing whether we should indefinitely postpone the bill. Although I am not in favor of a cash bonus, I am not in favor of indefinite postponement because we have not had, and cannot have this evening, discussion enough to cover every angle of the situation.

We don't want to be in the position of passing a tax measure that has not had more discussion than we can have on this tonight. Although I am opposed to a cash bonus, I hope the motion of the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Currier, will not prevail at this time.

Mr. CURRIER of Androscoggin: Mr. President and Senators and the very capable chairman of the Research Committee, I have had in locker 17,362 names of veterans of World War II who individually and not by organizations, has endorsed the 10-5 bonus, which was \$10 for each month in the Service plus \$5.00 for each month overseas. Twice during this session I tried to bluff a little bit and brought those names in and threatened to filibuster and read those names, but Lee Currier doesn't bluff, and because of my friends there, taking those notes so industrially, I could not wish it on them. I have those names and I will separate them by counties and will separate them by towns. I have worked hard and countless veterans of World War II have worked hard, and I will sit up all night tonight and half the day tomorrow and I will put on each Senator's desk the list of names of boys from their own county and from their own towns. I don't know them other than by signatures. You check them through and then, Senators, if you see they are not deserving veterans, if they are not boys with any overseas service, if their wishes are not to be respected, then I will abide by your decision. Senators, I will assure you that the names I put on your desk as endorsers of the 10-5 bill are not the type of the cheering section that was in the public hearing. I promise you that. Do you want me to go ahead on that?

But the very able Chairman of the Research Committee says that on his tour he didn't get an indication of what the veterans wanted. That is true, because they passed the ammunition to Lee Currier and then they skipped the Research Committees. I would be very pleased to submit the names by counties to you Senators, if you wish them.

The PRESIDENT: The question before the Senate is on the motion of the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Currier, that the "Ought to Pass" report of the committee be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. DUNBAR of Washington: Mr. President and Senators, I am really not going to make a speech. I do want to go on record as being in favor of a bonus as reported by the Committee and the Committee's bill, and to finance that bonus I am in favor of a general sales tax as the only method that will finance the over-all program. With those few brief remarks, Mr. President, I hope the motion of the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Currier, will not prevail and I request when the vote is taken it be taken by the yeas and nays.

Mr. BISHOP of Sagadahoc: Mr. President and members of the Senate, because I doubt if very many of the members of the Senate have read through this document, No. 1245 or that we are ready to take any vote or that we are prepared to make a thorough discussion, because of that, and because we should have more time to reason on this, I move you, Mr. President, that we adjourn until ten o'clock tomorrow morning.

The PRESIDENT: The question before the Senate is on the motion of the Senator from Sagadahoc, Senator Bishop, that the Senate adjourn until tomorrow morning at ten o'clock.

A viva voce vote being had, the motion did not prevail.

The PRESIDENT: The question before the Senate is on the motion of the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Currier, that the "Ought to Pass" report of the Committee be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. LEAVITT of Cumberland: Mr. President, I wish to go along with the Senator from Aroostook, Senator Brown, in asking that this bill not be indefinitely postponed at this time although I have been against the bonus. There are certain parts of the bill, No. 1245, that should be saved,—Title 2 and Title 4 specifically. I do hope that we will work out some way to save out those parts of the bill before any such movement as indefinite postponement is acted upon.

The PRESIDENT: The question before the Senate is on the motion of the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Currier, that the "Ought to Pass" report of the Committee be indefinitely postponed. The Senator from Washington, Senator Dunbar has asked that the vote be taken by the yeas and nays. To

order the yeas and nays, an affirmative vote of one fifth of the members present is required. Those in favor of the vote being taken by the yeas and nays will rise and stand until counted.

Obviously more than one-fifth of the members having risen, the yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair will restate that the question is on the motion of the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Currier, that the "Ought to Pass" report of the Committee be indefinitely postponed. A vote of "Yes" is in favor of indefinite postponement and a vote "No" is against indefinite postponement. The Secretary will call the roll.

The Secretary called the roll.

YEA: Senators Boucher, Clough, Currier, Spear, Willey — 5.

NAY: Senators Batchelder, Bishop, Brown, Cleaves, Clements, Cross, Denny, Dorr, Dow, Dunbar, Good, Hall, Hopkins, Howes, Leavitt, McKusick, Morrill, Noyes, Owen, Savage, Sayward, Smith, Sterling, Townsend, Washburn, Welch — 26.

ABSENT: Senator Gould — 1.

Five having voted in the affirmative and twenty-six opposed, the motion to indefinitely postpone did not prevail.

The PRESIDENT: The question before the Senate is on the motion of the Senator from York, Senator Batchelder, to adopt the "Ought to Pass" report of the Committee.

Mr. CLEAVES of Cumberland: Mr. President, and members of the Senate, I think that this Senate is in accord with me on one thing when I say we have listened for three weeks to the pros and cons of this question sufficiently to last us for the next 25 years if we never hear anything about it again. I think further, gentlemen, that knowing this Senate as well as I do, all the oratory and speech making in the world will not change our individual minds and individual consciences. It works down to one thing: Are we in favor of a soldiers' bonus, or are we not? If we are in favor of a soldiers' bonus, are we in favor of a tax to go with it? Your committee which labored three solid days — and I am not kidding when I say labored,—have explored into every possible tax there is, every possible combination that could be put together, and we could not come out with a tax that

would give sufficient money to pay the soldiers' bonus and the program that was set up. I feel, gentlemen, this State must eventually face a sales tax. It is coming just as sure as God made little kittens. It cannot help it. Our financial picture shows it. I hope the motion of the Senator from York, Senator Batchelder, will prevail.

Mr. WILLEY of Hancock: Mr. President, I think there are a lot of us here who are in favor of a soldiers' bonus but the program set up by the Committee is rather vague. I think there are quite a few of us here who would rather see some other set-up than the sales tax, and that is the reason I voted as I did on the motion to indefinitely postpone.

Mr. CURRIER of Androscoggin: Mr. President, we have just heard from the honorable Senator from Cumberland, Senator Cleaves, and he says that a sales tax sometime is inevitable. Sometime it is, but let's have more courtesy and let's have more heart to the veterans coming back than to load on them a party issue you have tried to get through and which was thrown back in your faces by the people. Don't make them the goats. We have been accused that the soldiers' bonus must ride in on the backs of the horses. At least a horse is a beast of burden and is used to carrying a load; but let's not make beasts of burden of the soldiers of Maine as an excuse to get it passed. In closing, I must say I most sincerely and deeply hope the motion of the Senator from York, Senator Batchelder, will not prevail.

Mr. GOOD of Aroostook: Mr. President, in discussing this bonus for our veterans, I realize this is probably one of the largest problems which has ever faced the State of Maine. First, I want to say I am in favor of a general sales tax when that sales tax is levied on the people to relieve other taxes, but to place a sales tax on the people at this time and make a heavier tax, well, I am not in favor of it.

There has been a lot of discussion about a bonus. Probably there isn't anybody in the State any more in favor of doing something for the boys than I am. Now, I am not speaking as one who doesn't know what it means to send a boy to war. I had a boy who spent 30 months

in India, China and Burma. I had two sons-in-law and three nephews in the service. There isn't any money we can give them, whether \$100 or \$100,000 that can pay them for the contribution they have rendered to the State of Maine. If we give them anything at all, it is just a token of our appreciation. The reason I am not in favor of a bonus at this time is because there has never been any evidence anywhere that I can see, that will show that the boys really want the bonus at this time. In the second place, they are not in need of a bonus at this time. The government provides \$20 a week for 52 weeks, I understand, if the boys want to avail themselves of it, to rehabilitate themselves and get ready for the future. Third, there are plenty of jobs available all over the State of Maine everywhere. In four weeks' time any of the young men who haven't been incapacitated in any way, shape or form, can earn as much as we hope to give the boys in the form of a bonus.

Next, if we give a bonus, let's pay for it and not ask them to pay for it themselves. Some of us who are here today won't be paying a tax 20 years from now. We will probably be where they don't impose taxes on us. I am not sure but what we may be thinking wrong. For the last sixteen or eighteen years we have been thinking in the New Deal sphere, that we have got to give and give and give. Back when I was a young man it wasn't to give, it was to get, and you had to earn it by the sweat of your brow. We have been brought up that way but we have got into that channel of giving and now it has come to the point when we cannot give any more.

The tax structure is so heavy over the heads of the people today that if depression in any form came to the State of Maine, it would be impossible for us to pay our taxes. In one town alone—and I live in it—we pay ten dollars on every hundred dollars valuation or one hundred dollars on every thousand, in taxes and the load is so great that the people can't bear it. Now to put on a sales tax or a cigarette tax or any other kind of a tax these boys have got to pay it. I tried to figure it out in my own mind just a little. Figuring on a two percent sales tax, suppose a young man earns \$40 a week. At two percent he would pay 80 cents a week. In

52 weeks he would pay \$41.60 and in ten years he would pay \$416 of taxes.

Now if you want to do something for the boys let's exempt them from all taxes for five or ten years up to three thousand dollars. We didn't ask them to pay any money when they were in the army and the war has been going on for four or five years and if we exempt them from taxes for from three to five years up to three or five thousand dollars, it looks to me as though we are taking a load off those boys and cutting it down to where they can bear it and live and have a home.

I don't believe the rank and file of young men want a bonus. I said to a couple of young men the other night going up in the train, three of them were sitting in one seat and I went over across the aisle and sat with them. And I said, "Boys, I take it you are veterans."

And one fellow who had had a couple of drinks said, "I take it you are a legislator." I said, "That is right and I am asking for information now. I want to know what you boys think of a bonus. Tell me, I am not telling you."

Two of the boys said, "We have got to get off at the next stop and we have got to tell you quickly." One fellow said, "I don't want a bonus." The other said, "I don't want a bonus." He said, "What we need if the state can manage it is to set up a fund so that it will accumulate in years to come and if we need anything we can go to the state of Maine and get it but as it is now we don't want and are not asking for a bonus and we don't want the people of the State of Maine to impose a tax on us for ten or twenty years and make us pay for \$100 bonus when it will cost us three or four hundred dollars."

Then I contacted some more boys during the week-end and practically everyone of them said that. Now it seems to me we have got, if I am correct in my figures, one million nine hundred sixty thousand dollars for post war planning. We have heard this afternoon, I think, that it was a million or two million. Seven hundred thousand of the unappropriated surplus would give us over two million dollars. We can take care of the educational program they have today, we can provide housing for 500 veterans in the different schools that we have been

trying to take care of, probably take care of the University of Maine to a certain extent, without a doubt set up a fund of maybe a million dollars and let it accumulate from year to year, put a certain amount of money in and probably in ten years we will have a ten million dollar fund that we might be able to give to a boy or his wife, or if he is paying for a home and loses his job and has got his home half paid for he can go to the Board and say, "I want \$200 or \$500," and we can loan him that money to save his home. It seems to me that is sound and I think it is the logical thing to do rather than putting a great load on the boys. We should take the load off and see if we can get down to a level where these boys can be self supporting, and give them the American way of living and let them go along and use their ability to earn money the same as some others have been earning it during the last few years.

Here is a thing that may not sound too good and I think it is wrong. I understand some of the boys have already come back to the State of Maine and asked for their job back in the State. They were employed by the State in the Forestry Department and one boy had been in there and should have had his job when he came back, and as I understand it, his job has been graded up and he should have taken the next higher grade and instead of that they placed him in there and made it so tough for him that he had to get out. I understand another boy by the name of Jones—some of you may know about it—and they made it so tough for him he had to get out. I think that some of us should give these boys their jobs back and try to treat them as boys who have done something for us and we could settle this problem and there wouldn't be any problem.

The rank and file of the boys, all they want is not to hand them out something but give them a fair and square show. That is the American way of living. Now I am not in favor of the bill in its present form and therefore I hope the motion of my colleague to accept the majority report "Ought to Pass" will not prevail.

Mr. SMITH of Knox: Mr. President and members of the Senate, I don't agree that the people will not pass this sales tax when they know it is for the benefit of the

veterans. I ask you Senators, did you turn down your pay check today for \$80 for eight days work? Yet, some of you refuse to give the veterans the small bonus asked for in this bill which is a small token for showing them our appreciation of what they went through so that you and I can live in safety. I am for the bill. It is the least we can do.

Mr. MORRILL of Cumberland: Mr. President, I move that when the vote is taken it be taken by the Yeas and Nays.

Mr. BROWN of Aroostook: Mr. President, I hoped we would not have to make a complete discussion of this bill tonight. Of course we can discuss it later because this is simply accepting the committee report. I am sure there are going to be some amendments that will be in here before its final passage. I am, however, opposed to a cash bonus, particularly for the reason that a great many boys have so expressed themselves and also for several other reasons of my own which involve the peculiar way I have of thinking. At least, I seem to think things out in a way that nobody else agrees with me.

Just because a certain percent of the veterans want a bonus isn't any reason why the state of Maine should grant it. I have always said that the best inheritance a father could give to his child was, after giving him a foundation in morals so that he knew what was right and what was wrong and knew the Golden Rule and a few other precepts a man should know in order to get along in the world, the next best thing he could leave to his child was to know how to work and to be thrifty. All wealth is accumulated by work and by thrift. No wealth is accumulated, no wealth is made by laws that you pass. You pass laws to protect a man in the making of wealth and you make laws in many cases, have made them in recent years, to take it away from the man who is wealthy and give it to someone else. But every dollar which a man gets for nothing, every dollar which a man doesn't return economic value for as differing from a sentimental value—the trouble is with this legislature and a great many people, that we are trying to put a value on sentiment, but we have to live in a world of economics. When you give any person for any reason, money which he has not earned

economically, then you are taking it away from somebody that did earn it. There is no way around it.

Now the greatest dis-service, to my mind, which a parent can give to his child is the habit of spending and the habit of thinking that the world owes him a living because that child is never going to get along in the world. He is a parasite and always will be. The greatest dis-service which a state or nation can give to its citizens is to make them think that the state owes them a living or that the state owes them something which they have not earned economically. Sentimentally, if you look at it that way, there is nothing we can do about these boys for the suffering which they have gone through. But do they want to be paid for it? How are you going to pay them for the suffering that they have gone through during the years of war?

I talked with a veteran the other day. He is a very proud man and he has been around here in uniform and he says, "We didn't have the hardest job over there; it was those waiting back home; it was the mothers and the fathers and the wives and sweethearts that did the suffering. I remember sitting here and seeing Senator Good read a letter from his boy and I saw the tears roll down his face. I don't believe that boy was suffering any more mentally than the father was here, and that is the case in millions of homes.

Are you going to pay the fathers and mothers a cash bonus for the suffering which they went through? It is foolish. I don't believe it is a question of sentiment. I think you are actually doing the boys a dis-service by the state when you pay a cash bonus to a fellow just because he wants it. Most anybody wants a \$100 but I am saying the majority of veterans, and in Aroostook County 90% of them, do not want a cash bonus. They say it simply means a few of the veterans are going to take it and throw it away and they and the rest of us are going to pay the tax. We are all of us going to pay the tax. Unfortunately a lot of those boys who went over there were brought up in what we now term under-privileged homes. Most of the families had no restraint over them. They allowed them to run wild in the street. Some of them, before they went over, had already been engaged in

things which had attracted the attention of the police. But owing to the doctrine which we have heard in the last fourteen years, these children were brought up with the idea that the world owed them a living, perhaps from the WPA, and they got the idea that they had to be supported and there is a certain percentage of them that went over thinking that way and came back with that idea and those are the people that are making a great howl about the cash bonus.

They say the state of Maine isn't doing anything for the veterans. The gentleman here gave a few of the things we are doing. Every dollar that the federal government pays out in benefits to the veterans has got to be raised by we the people and the state of Maine has got to pay its share of it. I believe the mustering out pay is \$300, which means \$300 for each veteran in the state of Maine and that figures close to thirty million dollars. We won't see it visibly but it is in the invisible tax. The State of Maine is going to pay back to the federal government that thirty million dollars with interest over and over again but that is only a small thing. If they pass a terminal leave bill—and it has already been passed in both House and Senate—it will mean about \$200 to the average veteran in the state of Maine and that will mean another twenty million dollars that we citizens of Maine and the soldiers themselves will be taxed to pay. But that is only the beginning. If a boy doesn't want to work at all or who cannot find the job he wants, the government will pay him \$20 a week for 52 weeks. The members of that group are known as the 52-20 club. Yet we have had plenty of evidence that those gentlemen were represented at the hearing. It means that they can draw a thousand dollars. I don't know what percentage of the boys in the State of Maine are going to draw it but if only five thousand of them draw it it would be a very small percentage, which means five million dollars more that we are going to pay.

Then there is the training on the job. Any boy who wants to train for any kind of a job he feels he could do, can go into a lawyer's office or into a bank or a blacksmith shop and if he is trained for a higher position the Veterans Ad-

ministration will urge him and tell him that the government will pay him while he is training on the job. There are young men training in automobile factories whom the employers are paying \$40 a week and the government pays them \$20 a week so that they are getting sixty. And that will mean millions of dollars, we cannot estimate how much, and the citizens of Maine are going to pay that in cash over a period of twenty or thirty or forty or fifty years. We are going to pay that back to the federal government.

Then there is the educational program under which boys can go to school. We have heard discussion regarding the University of Maine and vocational training schools. The federal government will pay them \$90 a month so they can get an education and \$30 additional for each dependent they have, and the State of Maine will pay for it or pay our share. As near as I can estimate now the federal government has already obligated the citizens of the state of Maine to pay to its veterans between two hundred and three hundred million dollars plus interest forever.

Now, why say the state of Maine isn't doing anything for its veterans? So I believe those are some of the reasons why I am opposed to a cash bonus and I shall have to vote against the bill as it stands. However, I do think there are some things that should be saved and that maybe we can work out something, and therefore I think we should give it due consideration.

Mr. BOUCHER of Androscoggin: Mr. President, I am astounded at the remarks I have just heard from my good friend from Aroostook County. He has criticized the federal government and he has criticized the veterans who in common language have the "gimme's". My recollection of being in the House and Senate of the legislature for the last few years is that the County of Aroostook has always had the "gimme's" and they still have them today for Ricker Classical Institute.

Mr. CURRIER of Androscoggin: Mr. President, I certainly admire the soundness of Aroostook County because they still today have that independence, the great independence that caused Aroostook County to declare war against the federal government and, like the Seminole Indians, they have yet to sign the peace treaty.

Mr. LEAVITT of Cumberland: Mr. President, as I sit here I just wonder what are the mechanics of what we are doing. There are certain parts of this bill that need saving and I think most everybody here wants to save part of it. As I understand it, the only way we can amend this bill is by accepting the original report from the committee and then making our changes on the second reading.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair will state that the bill is not in order for amendment at the present time.

Mr. LEAVITT: There is no way we can put in an amendment until after we accept the report? Is that right?

The PRESIDENT: The Chair can go no further than to state that amendments are not in order at the present time.

Mr. LEAVITT: Mr. President, for the privilege of having the bill to work with, I hope we accept the report.

The PRESIDENT: The question before the Senate is on the motion of the Senator from York, Senator Batchelder, that the Senate adopt the majority report "Ought to Pass" of the committee. The Senator from Cumberland, Senator Morrill, has requested the Yeas and Nays. To order the Yeas and Nays requires the approval of one-fifth of the members present. Those in favor of the vote being taken by the Yeas and Nays will please rise and stand until counted.

A division of the Senate was had.

Obviously more than one-fifth of the members having risen, the Yeas and Nays were ordered.

The Secretary called the roll:

YEA: Senators Batchelder, Brown, Cleaves, Clements, Cross, Denny, Dorr, Dow, Dunbar, Good, Hall, Hopkins, Leavitt, McKusick, Noyes, Owen, Savage, Sayward, Smith, Sterling, Townsend, Washburn, Welch—23.

NAY: Senators Boucher, Clough, Currier, Howes, Morrill, Spear, Wiley—7.

ABSENT: Bishop, Gould—2.

Twenty-three having voted in the affirmative and seven opposed, the majority "Ought to Pass" report of the committee was accepted in concurrence, and the bill was given its first reading.

Thereupon, under suspension of the rules, the bill was given its second reading.

On motion by Mr. Leavitt of Cumberland, the bill was laid upon the table pending passage to be engrossed in concurrence.

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

On motion by Mr. Savage of Somerset

Adjourned until tomorrow morning at nine o'clock Eastern Standard Time.