

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

Ninety-Third Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1947

DAILY KENNEBEC JOURNAL
AUGUSTA, MAINE

HOUSE

Thursday, March 27, 1947.

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

Prayer by the Rev. John Miller of Newport.

Journal of yesterday read and approved.

**Papers from the Senate
Non-Concurrent Matter**

From the Senate: Bill "An Act to Provide Revenue for the Construction and Extension of Airports, and to Regulate and Control the Expenditures thereof" (H. P. 1638) (L. D. 1326) which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs in the House on March 21st.

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on Aeronautics in non-concurrence.

In the House: The House voted to recede and concur with the Senate in the reference of the Bill to the Committee on Aeronautics.

**Senate Reports of Committees
Ought to Pass in New Draft**

Report of the Committee on Labor on Bill "An Act relating to the Employment of Minors" (S. P. 146) (L. D. 341) reporting same in a new draft (S. P. 471) (L. D. 1318) under same title and that it "Ought to pass"

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

In the House, Report was read and accepted in concurrence, the Bill read twice and tomorrow assigned.

Ought to Pass

Report of the Committee on Judiciary reporting "Ought to pass" on Resolve to Modify the Conditions of the Gift from B. C. Jordan to the State for the Purpose of Encouraging Cultivation of Forests (S. P. 399) (L. D. 1148)

Report of the Committee on Legal Affairs reporting same on Bill "An Act relating to Penalty for Posing as Indian in Vending" (S. P. 367) (L. D. 1035)

Report of same Committee reporting same on Bill "An Act relating

to Veterinary Surgeons (S. P. 402) (L. D. 1151)

Report of the Committee on Public Health reporting same on Bill "An Act relating to Immunization Against Certain Infectious Diseases" (S. P. 293) (L. D. 800)

Report of the Committee on Welfare reporting same on Bill "An Act Relieving Towns from Care of Neglected and Dependent Children" (S. P. 246) (L. D. 663)

Came from the Senate with the Reports read and accepted and the Bills and Resolve passed to be engrossed.

In the House, Reports were read and accepted in concurrence, the Bills read twice, the Resolve read once, and tomorrow assigned.

**Ought to Pass with Committee
Amendment**

Report of the Committee on Legal Affairs on Bill "An Act Creating the Westport-Wiscasset Bridge District" (S. P. 378) (L. D. 1061) reporting "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Came from the Senate with the Report read and accepted and the Bill passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A".

In the House, Report was read and accepted in concurrence, and the Bill read twice.

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

Committee Amendment "A" to S. P. 376, L. D. 1061, Bill, "An Act Creating the Westport-Wiscasset Bridge District."

Amend said bill by inserting in the second line of section 4, after the word "bonds", the following: 'not to exceed \$350,000.'

Further amend said bill by deleting the last sentence of section 5.

Committee Amendment "A" was adopted in concurrence, and tomorrow assigned for third reading of the Bill.

Report of the Committee on Public Health on Bill "An Act relating to Mineral Oil in Food" (S. P. 294) (L. D. 799) reporting "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

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

amended by Committee Amendment "A".

In the House, Report read and accepted in concurrence, and the Bill read twice.

Committee Amendment "A" read by the clerk as follows:

Committee Amendment "A" to S. P. 294, L. D. 799, Bill "An Act Relating to Mineral Oil in Food."

Amend said Bill by striking out the last line of that part designated "Sec. 169-B" and inserting in place thereof the following underlined words: 'oil, except liquid food flavorings and the final products containing them.'

Thereupon, Committee Amendment "A" was adopted in concurrence, and tomorrow assigned for third reading of the Bill.

Ought to Pass with Senate Amendment

Report of the Committee on Military Affairs on Bill "An Act Creating the Department of Veterans Affairs" (S. P. 35) (L. D. 156) reporting same in a new draft (S. P. 472) (L. D. 1319) under title of "An Act Continuing the Division of Veterans Affairs" and that it "Ought to pass"

Came from the Senate with the Report read and accepted and the new draft passed to be engrossed as amended by Senate Amendment "A".

In the House, Report was read and accepted in concurrence and the Bill read twice.

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

Senate Amendment "A" to S. P. 472, L. D. 1319, Bill "An Act Continuing the Division of Veterans Affairs."

Amend said Bill by striking out all of section 5 thereof, and inserting in place thereof, the following:

'Sec. 5. R. S., c. 22, § § 295 - 297, § § 299 - 306-A, repealed, and § 298, amended. Sections 295 to 297, inclusive, sections 299 to 306, inclusive, and section 306-A, as enacted by chapter 150 of the public laws of 1945, all of chapter 22 of the revised statutes are hereby repealed. Section 298 of chapter 22 of the revised statutes, as amended by chapter 271 of the public laws of 1945, is hereby amended by replacing the 1st paragraph thereof.'

Thereupon, Senate Amendment "A" was adopted in concurrence,

and tomorrow assigned for third reading of the Bill.

The SPEAKER: The Chair at this time notes in the balcony the presence of the Carmel High School basketball team, accompanied by Coach Devitt. It is a pleasure for the Chair, on behalf of the members of the House, to welcome this group of outstanding young athletes who recently won the Maine Class C. High School Basketball Championship. (Applause)

Messages and Documents

The following Communication:

STATE OF MAINE

SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT

PORTLAND

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March 25, 1947

Hon. Harvey R. Pease,
Clerk of the House of Representatives of Maine,
Augusta, Maine.

Dear Mr. Pease:

I respectfully transmit herewith to the House of Representatives of the State of Maine the Answers of the Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court to the Questions upon which advisory opinions were requested by House Order of March 12, 1947.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) GUY H. STURGIS,
Chief Justice, Supreme Judicial Court.

TO THE HONORABLE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MAINE:

The undersigned Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court in obedience to the requirements of the Constitution of the State of Maine respectfully submit the following Answers to the Questions submitted to us under date of March 13, 1947 relating to a pending Bill designated as H. P. 1184, L. D. 754 and entitled "An Act to Protect the Right to Work and to Prohibit Secondary Boycotts, Sympathetic Strikes and Jurisdictional Strikes."

Under the Federal and State Constitutions and existing Federal Statutes as heretofore interpreted by the courts of last resort, it is our opinion that the Legislature has power to enact Section 123 of the proposed Bill and equal power to enact Sections 122, 124 and 125 unless prohibited by the National Labor Relations Act, 49 Stat. 449, U. S. C. A. par. 151-166, which it is intimated in *Am. Fed. of Labor v. Watson*, 66 S. Ct. 761, 90 L. Ed. 715, decided March 25, 1946, may be

construed by the Supreme Court of the United States as authorizing closed shop contracts negotiated through collective bargainings in industries engaged in interstate commerce. Such a construction would invalidate Sections 122, 124 and 125 if enacted in their present form.

It is also our opinion that in the present state of the law the Legislature does not have the power to enact Sections 126, 127, 128 and 129 of the proposed Bill in their present form because their terms are so inclusive that they would violate constitutional rights.

Very respectfully,
 (Signed) Guy H. Sturgis,
 Sidney St. F. Thaxter,
 Harold H. Murchie,
 Nathaniel Tompkins,
 Raymond Fellows.

March 25, 1947.

MEMORANDUM.

Mr. Justice Hudson is unable to act because of illness.

(Signed) Guy H. Sturgis.

Was read and ordered placed on file.

The SPEAKER: The Chair at this time notes the presence in the hall of the House of the Hon. George B. Barnes, of Houlton, the Speaker of this House in the 92nd Legislature, and under whose capable leadership many of us were privileged to serve. The Chair invites the gentleman to the rostrum and requests the Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms to escort him to a seat at the right of the Chair.

The Hon. George B. Barnes was then escorted to a seat at the right of the Speaker by the Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, amid the applause of the House, the members rising.

Mr. Collins of Caribou was granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: Yesterday, one of the great counties presented a sample of their products to the members of the Legislature, and also a sample of their wares. Today another county, the great County of Aroostook, wishes to present to the Legislature a sample of its principal product, the potato.

These superspuds that you have on your desks are one of the choice grades of potatoes that are grown in Aroostook County. They are sent

to you with the compliments of the Aroostook Potato Growers, Inc., of which Mr. Harry E. Humphrey is president.

In the potato movement this year, Maine has already shipped 41,000 cars of potatoes, and this is in spite of the fact that some potatoes have been dumped. We expect also to ship an additional 10,000 cars before the season closes, and this is in addition to the many thousands of truck shipments that are made from the county throughout New England. It is interesting to note that about ninety per cent of the potatoes grown in Maine are raised in Aroostook County.

This morning, also, it is our pleasure to have as our guest the Queen of the Potato Blossom Festival, who was selected last year as the Queen of the Festival. This charming young lady has served the potato industry in an exceedingly gracious manner and has travelled over the eastern part of the United States, helping to advertise the Maine potato. I am very happy, in behalf of the Aroostook delegation, to announce the presence in the Hall of the House of Miss Yvette Gagne, of Van Buren.

The SPEAKER: The Chair is pleased to invite Miss Gagne to the rostrum and requests the gentlewoman from Crystal, Miss Longstaff, to escort the young lady to a seat at the left of the Chair.

Miss Yvette Gagne was then escorted to a seat at the left of the Speaker by the gentlewoman from Crystal, Miss Longstaff, amid the applause of the House, the members rising.

**House Reports of Committees
 Divided Report
 Tabled**

Majority Report of the Committee on Labor on Bill "An Act Protecting the Right of Non-members of Labor Organizations to the Opportunity to Work" (H. P. 448) (L. D. 242) reporting same in a new draft (H. P. 1652) under title of "An Act Protecting the Right of Members and Non-members of Labor Organizations to the Opportunity to Work" and that it "Ought to pass"

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. Hopkins of Kennebec
 Spear of Cumberland

Haskell of Penobscot
 —of the Senate.
 Brown of Unity
 Sharpe of Anson
 Marshall of York
 Chase of Cape Elizabeth
 Collins of Caribou

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

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. Leavitt of Old Town
 Brown of Baileyville
 —of the House.

(On motion by Mr. Brown of Unity, the two Reports, with accompanying papers, were tabled pending acceptance of either report, and specially assigned for next Tuesday, April 1st, and the new draft ordered printed.)

Divided Report

Majority Report of the Committee on Labor reporting "Ought not to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to the Powers and Duties of the Commissioner of Labor and Industry" (H. P. 1546) (L. D. 1176)

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. Hopkins of Kennebec
 Spear of Cumberland
 Haskell of Penobscot
 —of the Senate.

Brown of Unity
 Sharpe of Anson
 Marshall of York
 Chase of Cape Elizabeth
 Collins of Caribou

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

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. Leavitt of Old Town
 Brown of Baileyville
 —of the House.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase.

Mr. CHASE: Mr. Speaker, I move the acceptance of the majority "Ought not to pass" report.

This is a bill which would extend the powers of the Commissioner of Labor and factory inspector to cover the building and construction of factories. It was believed by a majority of the committee that such inspection would involve considerable expense, that there was no present emergency justifying such

expense; and, as the bill carries no appropriation and the cost of it cannot even reasonably be estimated, it was the opinion of the majority of the committee that the bill ought not to pass.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase, moves acceptance of the majority "Ought not to pass." The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Woodland, Mr. Brown.

Mr. BROWN: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: This bill, from the way I interpret it, does not necessitate the setting up of any extra committees. It broadens the work of the Commissioner of Labor and his assistant so that there can be some form of inspection of stagings around construction.

I think it was brought out in the committee hearings that we have had, during the past few years, several cases where stagings have collapsed causing serious injury to a lot of workmen who were working on those jobs. I think if this bill, giving your Commissioner of Labor and his inspectors jurisdiction over this type of construction, is enacted that it would eliminate a lot of accidents in building construction.

We are all interested today in eliminating accidents just as far as possible. There was a time in this country when we figured there were plenty of people available so it did not matter, but I think in late years we have assumed a different attitude toward that, and we believe in conserving human life just as far as possible. There have been great gains made throughout industry and the building trades in eliminating accidents as far as possible. Surely we should make some move here in our State Legislature to protect the workers in the building and construction industry. I think that we should at least make some move to that end here in this Legislature, and, with that thought in mind, I hope that the motion made by the previous speaker will not be sustained by this House.

The SPEAKER: Is the House ready for the question?

The gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase, moves acceptance of the majority "Ought not to pass" report of the committee. All those in favor will say aye; those opposed no.

A viva voce vote being taken, the motion prevailed and the majority

"Ought not to pass" report of the committee was accepted.

On motion by Miss Longstaff of Crystal, House Rule 25 was suspended for the remainder of today's session.

Leave to Withdraw

Mr. Jordan from the Committee on Taxation on Bill "An Act Providing a Tax on Pay Rolls" (H. P. 1225) (L. D. 750) reported leave to withdraw.

Same gentleman from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Exemptions from Taxation of Property of Veterans" (H. P. 1323) (L. D. 892)

Reports were read and accepted.

Ought Not to Pass

Mr. Adams from the Committee on Agriculture reported "Ought not to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to Quarantine in Bang's Disease Law" (H. P. 1260) (L. D. 932)

Mr. Smith from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to the Indemnity Paid for Cattle Lost in Testing for Bang's Disease" (H. P. 1261) (L. D. 933)

Mr. Tabb from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to the Bee Industry" (H. P. 1255) (L. D. 927)

Mr. Marsans from the Committee on Education reported same on Bill "An Act Authorizing Portland University to Confer Degrees" (H. P. 1266) (L. D. 898)

Mr. Sharpe from the Committee on Labor reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Minimum Wages of Persons Employed in the Industry of the Packing of Fish and Fish Products" (H. P. 1547) (L. D. 1177)

Mr. Weeks from the Committee on Legal Affairs reported same on Bill "An Act Amending the Charter of the city of Portland for a Mayor and Alderman Form of Government" (H. P. 1619) (L. D. 1294)

Mr. Collins from the Committee on Salaries and Fees reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Salary of Clerks in the Office of Register of Probate in Kennebec County" (H. P. 470) (L. D. 275)

Same gentleman from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Fees Payable to Register of Deeds" (H. P. 467) (L. D. 273) as it is covered by other legislation.

Reports were read and accepted.

Tabled

Mr. Sleeper from the Committee on Salaries and Fees reported "Ought not to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to Compensation of Members of Boards of Registration" (H. P. 74) (L. D. 54)

(On motion by Mr. Legard of Bath, tabled pending acceptance of Committee Report)

Mr. Sleeper from the Committee on Salaries and Fees reported "Ought not to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to the Salary of the Treasurer of State" (H. P. 1206) (L. D. 826) as it is covered by other legislation.

(On motion by Mr. Bell of Thomaston, tabled pending acceptance of Committee Report)

Mr. Burton from the Committee on Taxation reported "Ought not to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to the Assessment of Taxes" (H. P. 1556) (L. D. 1185)

Mr. Burgess from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act Imposing a Tax on Dynamite" (H. P. 1621) (L. D. 1293)

Mr. Lombard from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Excise Tax on Trailers" (H. P. 1555) (L. D. 1184)

Reports were read and accepted.

Ought to Pass in New Draft

Mr. Broggi from the Committee on Education on Bill "An Act relating to Tuition for Pupils from Towns Not Maintaining a Standard Secondary School" (H. P. 432) (L. D. 256) reported same in a new draft (H. P. 1651) under same title and that it "Ought to pass"

Mr. Collins from the Committee on Salaries and Fees on Bill "An Act Increasing the Salaries of the Judge and Recorder of Fort Fairfield Municipal Court" (H. P. 468) (L. D. 274) reported same in a new draft (H. P. 1653) under title of "An Act relating to the Fort Fairfield Municipal Court" and that it "Ought to pass"

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

The SPEAKER: The Chair at this time recognizes the gentleman from Fort Kent, Mr. Cousins, one of the many sons of Maine who have returned to us with a distinguished war record. The Chair

designates him as Speaker pro tem, and requests the Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms to escort the gentleman to the rostrum.

Thereupon, the gentleman from Fert Kent, Mr. Cousins, was escorted to the rostrum, amid the applause of the House, the members rising, where he assumed the Chair, and Speaker Ward retired.

Ought to Pass

Mr. Adams from the Committee on Agriculture reported "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to Registration and Licensing of Dogs" (H. P. 538) (L. D. 406)

Mr. Tabb from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Weights and Measures" (H. P. 582) (L. D. 405)

Mr. Gray from the Committee on Counties reported same on Resolve in favor of Robert E. Cook of Portland (H. P. 1157) (L. D. 767)

Mr. Brown of Baileyville from the Committee on Labor reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Workshops and Factories Found Unsafe, Insanitary, or Injurious to Health" (H. P. 1397) (L. D. 1014)

Mr. Jennings from the Committee on Military Affairs reported same on Resolve relating to Certain Equipment Issued to Officers of Maine State Guard (H. P. 1356) (L. D. 957)

Mr. Berryman from the Committee on Salaries and Fees reported same on Bill "An Act relating to the Amount to be Paid for Clerk Hire in the Office of Register of Probate in the county of Cumberland" (H. P. 265) (L. D. 182)

Mr. Campbell from the same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act to Increase the Salary of the County Commissioners for Cumberland County" (H. P. 181) (L. D. 129)

Same gentleman from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act to Increase the Salary of the Register of Deeds in Cumberland County" (H. P. 179) (L. D. 127)

Same gentleman from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act to Increase the Clerk Hire in the Office of Recorder of the Portland Municipal Court" (H. P. 173) (L. D. 126)

Mr. Collins from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act to Provide for an Increase to be Paid for Clerk Hire in the Office of the Register of Deeds in the county of Cumberland and Salary of Deputy

Register of Deeds" (H. P. 180) (L. D. 128)

Same gentleman from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Salary of State Auditor" (H. P. 22) (L. D. 12)

Same gentleman from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act to Increase the Salary of the Sheriff of Washington County" (H. P. 1212) (L. D. 829)

Mr. Palmer from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Clerk Hire in Cumberland County Clerk of Courts Office" (H. P. 266) (L. D. 183)

Mr. Sleeper from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Salary of Clerk of Courts and Deputy Clerk of Courts of Cumberland County" (H. P. 188) (L. D. 152)

Same gentleman from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act to Increase the Salary of the County Treasurer and the Deputy Treasurer of Cumberland County" (H. P. 264) (L. D. 131)

Mr. Morison from the Committee on Taxation reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Excise Taxes on Liquors" (H. P. 1562) (L. D. 1191)

Reports were read and accepted and the Bills and Resolves, having already been printed, the Bills were read twice under suspension of the rules, the Resolves read once, and tomorrow assigned.

Ought to Pass with Committee Amendment

Mr. Payson from the Committee on Legal Affairs on Bill "An Act to Incorporate the Chelsea School District" (H. P. 1618) (L. D. 1291) reported "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Report was read and accepted and the Bill, having already been printed, was read twice under suspension of the rules.

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

Committee Amendment "A" to H. P. 1618, L. D. 1291, Bill "An Act to Incorporate the Chelsea School District."

Amend said bill by striking out in line 4 of section 5, before the "¢" sign, the figure "2" and inserting in place thereof the figure "5".

Committee Amendment "A" was adopted, and tomorrow assigned for third reading of the Bill.

Mr. Anderson from the Committee on Legal Affairs on Bill "An Act to Incorporate the Farmingdale School District" (H. P. 1617) (L. D. 1290) reported "Ought to pass as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Report was read and accepted and the Bill, having already been printed, was read twice under suspension of the rules.

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

Committee Amendment "A" to H. P. 1617, L. D. 1290, Bill "An Act to Incorporate the Farmingdale School District."

Amend said bill by striking out in line 4 of section 5, before the "%" sign, the figure "2" and inserting in place thereof the figure '5'.

Committee Amendment "A" was then adopted and the Bill was assigned for third reading tomorrow morning.

Mr. Atherton from the Committee on Legal Affairs on Bill "An Act to Incorporate the Fort Kent School District" (H. P. 1612) (L. D. 1278) reported "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Report was read and accepted and the Bill, having already been printed, was read twice under suspension of the rules.

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

Committee Amendment "A" to H. P. 1612, L. D. 1278, Bill, "An Act to Incorporate the Fort Kent School District."

Amend said bill by striking out in line 5 of section 4 the figures and words \$300,000 at any one time outstanding" and inserting in place thereof the figures '\$100,000'.

Further amend said bill by striking out in line 6 of section 5, before the "%" sign, the figures "2 1-2" and inserting in place thereof the figure '4'.

Further amend said section 5 of said bill by striking out in the 8th line of paragraph 3 the figure "40" and inserting in place thereof the figure '30'.

Committee Amendment "A" was adopted, and tomorrow assigned for third reading of the Bill.

Tabled

Mr. Berryman from the Committee on Salaries and Fees on Bill "An Act relating to the Salary of the Judge of the Lisbon Municipal

Court," (H. P. 186) (L. D. 134) reported "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Report was read and accepted and the Bill, having already been printed, was read twice under suspension of the rules.

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

Committee Amendment "A" to H. P. 186, L. D. 134, Bill "An Act Relating to the Salary of the Judge of the Lisbon Municipal Court."

Amend said Bill by striking out in the 5th line thereof the underlined figures "\$1,200" and inserting in place thereof the underlined figures '\$900'.

(On motion by Mr. Plummer of Lisbon, tabled pending adoption of Committee Amendment "A" and specially assigned for Wednesday, April 2nd)

Mr. Berryman from the Committee on Salaries and Fees on Bill "An Act Increasing the Salaries of the Judge and Clerk and Clerk Hire of the Bangor Municipal Court" (H. P. 510) (L. D. 331) reported "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Report was read and accepted and the Bill, having already been printed, was read twice under suspension of the rules.

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

Committee amendment "A" to H. P. 510, L. D. 331, Bill, "An Act Increasing the Salaries of the Judge and Clerk and Clerk Hire of the Bangor Municipal Court."

Amend said Bill by striking out in the 5th line thereof the underlined figures "\$3,300" and inserting in place thereof the underlined figures '\$3,000'.

Further amend said Bill by striking out in the 5th line thereof the underlined figures "\$3,000" and inserting in place thereof the underlined figure '\$2,750'.

Further amend said Bill by striking out at the end thereof the following underlined words: "payments of said salaries and said clerk hire to begin January 1, 1947."

Committee Amendment "A" was then adopted, and the Bill was assigned for third reading tomorrow morning.

Mr. Palmer from the Committee on Salaries and Fees on Bill "An Act

relating to Salary of Clerks in the Office of Clerk of Courts in Kennebec County" (H. P. 267) (L. D. 184) reported "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Report was read and accepted and the Bill, having already been printed, was read twice under suspension of the rules.

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

Committee Amendment "A" to H. P. 267, L. D. 184, Bill "An Act Relating to Salary of Clerks in the Office of Clerk of Courts in Kennebec County."

Amend said Bill by striking out at the end thereof the underlined figures "\$2,500" and inserting in place thereof the underlined figures "\$2,200."

Committee Amendment "A" was adopted, and the Bill was assigned for third reading tomorrow morning.

Mr. Palmer from the Committee on Salaries and Fees on Bill "An Act to Increase the Salary of the Clerk of Courts of Penobscot County" (H. P. 348) (L. D. 217) reported "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Report was read and accepted and the Bill having already been printed, was read twice under suspension of the rules.

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

Committee Amendment "A" to H. P. 348, L. D. 217, Bill "An Act to Increase the Salary of the Clerk of Courts in Penobscot County."

Amend said Bill by striking out at the end thereof the underlined figures "\$3,290" and inserting in place thereof the underlined figures "\$3,000."

Committee Amendment "A" was adopted, and tomorrow assigned for third reading of the Bill.

First Reading of a Printed Resolve

Resolve Granting a Pension to Dorothy L. Springer, of Lisbon Falls (H. P. 1647) (L. D. 1338)

Resolve was read once and tomorrow assigned.

Passed to be Engrossed

Bill "An Act Regulating Handling of Animals Seized by Humane Agents" (H. P. 1257) (L. D. 929)

Was reported by the Committee

on Bills in the Third Reading, read the third time, passed to be engrossed and sent to the Senate.

Tabled

*Bill "An Act to Create a Legislative Research Committee" (H. P. 1646) (L. D. 1332)

(Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading, and on motion by Mr. Payson of Union, tabled pending third reading)

Resolve to Correct Error in 1945-46 Road Resolve Appropriation (S. P. 74) (L. D. 1310)

Resolve to Repeal Certain Special Resolve Pensions (S. P. 264) (L. D. 726)

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

Amended Bills

Bill "An Act relating to Deputy Insurance Commissioners" (H. P. 61) (L. D. 60)

Bill "An Act to Create the Castle Hill-Chapman-Mapleton Community School District" (H. P. 1465) (L. D. 1069)

Bill "An Act Excluding Circus Wagons from Definition of Trailers in Motor Vehicle Law" (H. P. 1468) (L. D. 1072)

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

At this point Speaker Ward assumed the Chair.

The SPEAKER: In behalf of the members of the House, Mr. Cousins, it is a pleasure for me to present you with this gavel as a remembrance of this occasion.

Thereupon, the gentleman from Fert Kent, Mr. Cousins, was escorted to his seat, amid the applause of the House.

Passed to be Enacted Emergency Measure

An Act Appropriating Moneys for Anticipated Overdrafts in the Department of Institutional Service Due to Insufficient Appropriations (H. P. 1139) (L. D. 839)

Was reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an

emergency measure and a two-thirds vote of the entire elected membership of the House being necessary, a division was had, 107 voted in favor of same and 11 against, and accordingly, the Bill was passed to be enacted, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Passed to be Enacted

An Act relating to School Committee in town of Rumford (S. P. 98) (L. D. 197)

An Act relating to the Salaries of Various Officers in Aroostook County (S. P. 135) (L. D. 281)

An Act relating to Rights of Creditors and Beneficiaries Under Policies of Life, Endowment, or Accident Insurance, and Under Annuity Contracts (S. P. 286) (L. D. 803)

An Act to Authorize Fraser Paper, Limited to Merge with and into, or to Consolidate with, a Corporation Organized Under the Laws of the State of Maine (S. P. 454) (L. D. 1274)

An Act relating to Protection of Interest of Employees, Beneficiaries or Joint Annuitants Under Group Annuity Contracts and Pension Trusts (S. P. 462) (L. D. 1297)

An Act relative to Beaver Dams (H. P. 1630) (L. D. 1303)

An Act relating to the Salary of the Judge of the Lincoln Municipal Court (H. P. 125) (L. D. 100)

An Act to Increase Salaries of Lincoln County Officers (H. P. 126) (L. D. 101)

An Act relating to Salaries of Judge and Recorder of the Bath Municipal Court (H. P. 182) (L. D. 130)

An Act Requiring the Licensing of Insurance Adjusters (H. P. 252) (L. D. 178)

An Act relating to the Salaries of the Judge and of the Recorder of the Old Town Municipal Court (H. P. 689) (L. D. 445)

An Act relating to Limitation of Actions for Tort (H. P. 916) (L. D. 613)

Finally Passed

Resolve Closing Pleasant Pond, in Oxford County, to Ice Fishing (H. P. 1388) (L. D. 1007)

Were reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed, Bills passed to be enacted, Resolve finally passed, all signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Orders of the Day

The SPEAKER: Under Orders of the Day, the Chair lays before the House the first item of unfinished business, Bill "An Act Relating to Commitment of Children to the Custody of Certain Officers." (H. P. 659) (L. D. 457). In the House, passage to be enacted reconsidered and passage to be engrossed reconsidered. Tabled on March 20th by the gentleman from Auburn, Mr. Williams, pending passage to be engrossed.

Mr. Williams offered House Amendment "A" and moved its adoption.

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

House Amendment "A" to H. P. 659, L. D. 457, Bill "An Act Relating to Commitment of Children to the Custody of Certain Officers."

Amend said Bill by striking out in the 4th line thereof the underlined words "any adjournment" and inserting in place thereof the underlined words "final disposition"

House Amendment "A" was adopted, and the bill, as amended, was passed to be engrossed in non-concurrence, and sent up for concurrence.

The SPEAKER: The Chair lays before the House the second item of unfinished business, House Majority Report "Ought to pass" with Committee Amendment "A" and House Minority Report "Ought not to pass" of the Committee on Legal Affairs on Bill "An Act Relating to Town of Norridgewock School District." (H. P. 615) (L. D. 380), tabled on March 25th by the gentleman from New Sweden, Mr. Anderson, pending motion of the gentleman from Anson, Mr. Sharpe, to accept the Majority Report. The Clerk will read the reports of the committee.

(Reports of the committee read by the Clerk)

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Anson, Mr. Sharpe

Mr. SHARPE: Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my pending motion to accept the majority report "Ought to pass."

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Anson, Mr. Sharpe, withdraws his motion for the acceptance of the majority "Ought to pass" report of the committee.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Sweden, Mr. Anderson.

Mr. ANDERSON: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: Since that report came out, it has been called to my attention that there is an error in the bill. At this time, I move to have the bill recommitted to the committee for further consideration.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from New Sweden, Mr. Anderson, moves that this matter be recommitted to the Committee on Legal Affairs. Is this the pleasure of the House?

A viva voce vote being taken, the motion prevailed, the Bill was recommitted to the Committee on Legal Affairs, and sent up for concurrence.

The SPEAKER: The Chair lays before the House the third item of unfinished business, House Amendment "A" to Bill "An Act Setting Aside Certain Lands for Settlement by Displaced Persons of Baltic Origin." (H. P. 1543) (L. D. 1173), tabled on March 25th by the gentleman from Augusta, Mr. Peirce, pending adoption. The Clerk will read the amendment.

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

House Amendment "A" to H. P. 1543, L. D. 1173, Bill "An Act Setting Aside Certain Lands for Settlement by Displaced Persons of Baltic Origin."

Amend said bill by striking out in the 3rd line of that part designated "Sec. 49-B" thereof, the underlined word "immigrants" and inserting in place thereof the underlined words 'displaced persons.'

Further amend said bill by striking out in the 4th line of that part designated "Sec. 49-B," the underlined word "immigrants" and inserting in place thereof the underlined words 'displaced persons.'

Further amend said bill by striking out in the 7th line of that part designated "Sec. 49-B" thereof, the underlined words "state forestry" and inserting in place thereof the underlined word 'forest.'

Further amend said bill by striking out in the 8th line of that part designated "Sec. 49-B" thereof, the underlined words "this act" and inserting in place thereof the underlined words 'sections 49-A to 49-C, inclusive.'

Further amend said bill by inserting in the 2nd line of the heading of that part designated "Sec. 49-C," thereof, after the underlined

words "Department of State," the following underlined words: 'Department of Justice.'

Further amend said bill by striking out in the 5th line of that part designated "Sec. 49-C" thereof, the underlined words "immigrants among."

House Amendment "A" was adopted, and the bill, as amended, was passed to be engrossed, and sent up for concurrence.

The SPEAKER: The Chair lays before the House the first tabled and today assigned matter, Bill "An Act Relating to Jurisdiction of Municipal Courts in Juvenile Cases." (S. P. 256) (L. D. 718). In the House, passage to be engrossed reconsidered; tabled on March 20th by the gentleman from Auburn, Mr. Williams, pending passage to be engrossed.

On motion by Mr. Williams, the Bill was tabled, pending passage to be engrossed.

The SPEAKER: The Chair lays before the House the second tabled and today assigned matter, House Amendment "A" to Bill "An Act to Authorize the Creation of Public Bodies to be Known as Housing Authorities to Serve Urban Areas in the State." (H. P. 842) (L. D. 537), tabled on March 25th by the gentleman from South Portland, Mr. Weeks, pending adoption; and the Chair recognizes that gentleman.

Mr. WEEKS: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: There has been submitted to the Legislature this morning House Amendment "B" which was designed I believe to replace House Amendment "A." Therefore I move at this time that House Amendment "A" be indefinitely postponed.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from South Portland, Mr. Weeks, moves the indefinite postponement of House Amendment "A." Is this the pleasure of the House?

A viva voce vote being taken, House Amendment "A" was indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Weeks then offered House Amendment "B" and moved its adoption.

House Amendment "B" was read by the Clerk as follows:

House Amendment "B" to H. P. 842, L. D. 537, Bill "An Act to Authorize the Creation of Public Bodies to be Known as Housing Authorities to Serve Urban Areas in the State."

Amend said Bill by striking out the first sentence of subsection "(b)" of Sec. 23 thereof and inserting in place thereof the following:

"(b) 'Municipality' shall mean any city or town having a population of 10,000 or more inhabitants and any city or town in which there is a Federal War Housin' Project.'

The SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt House Amendment "B"?

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase.

Mr. CHASE: Mr. Speaker, is it proper to discuss the merits of the bill, giving effect to the amendment which is proposed?

The SPEAKER: The Chair would state that the House Amendment and the bill are before the House for discussion.

Mr. CHASE: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I want to make it clear that I am from Cape Elizabeth and not from South Portland, as the matter of locality has some bearing on my views on this matter.

It may appear to the Members of the House from communities under ten thousand in population that this bill is not important to them, but it does involve a pretty radical departure from former policy in this state, and it is, I think, the concern of every member of the House that we here legislate as wisely as we may for all communities both large and small.

Previous to this session, I discussed with Federal officials interested in housing, the matter of housing legislation at this session. The ostensible reason for housing legislation was that there existed in the state certain Federal housing projects which might be declared surplus and the municipalities in which they were located might see fit to take those over. And to that I had no objection. I suggested at that time, apparently without great enough force, that such legislation should probably be introduced as private and special legislation applying only to those communities in which this emergency did exist, but when the bill was introduced it was of an entirely different character from private and special legislation, and I believe it should be called to the attention of the Members of the House what this bill would do.

In the first place, it would create a housing authority in every community coming under the scope of

the amendment which has been proposed. This authority might stay asleep until awakened, but it does exist and, as I read the bill, it can be awakened and vitalized by the simple act of the governing body of that municipality without public notice, without any vote of the people, and the word "governing body" is specifically defined in the act to mean the board of selectmen of the town, so that a city council or a board of selectmen in a community coming within the scope of the act could, by simple resolution, invoke and vitalize this authority.

Commissioners would be appointed, and the commissioners having been appointed by the governing body would have certain very broad powers, powers which the people of Maine usually have been reluctant to delegate without very serious consideration; more serious consideration than this Legislature perhaps has given this act so far.

Among the powers of this housing authority, it says in Section 7 that the authority "shall have all the powers necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes of this act, (but not the power to levy and collect taxes or special assessment),**" Then it goes on to include the authority to make and execute contracts and other instruments necessary or convenient to the exercise of the powers of the authority, not inconsistent with this act. Then at the end of Section 7 appears these words, the application of which would be extremely difficult to predict at this time: "No provision of law with respect to the acquisition, operation or disposition of property by other public bodies shall be applicable to an authority unless the legislature shall specifically so state."

In other words, if the Legislature does not specifically limit, no one knows what other laws of the state may be affected by the passage of this measure.

There are interesting provisions with respect to the people to whom this property shall be rented. The authority appears to have a low rental proposition and the authority appears to have complete authority to pick the people who shall have the benefit of these low rents.

The property which the authority acquires shall be exempt from all taxes and special assessments of the city, county or state or any political sub-division thereof, which includes I presume districts, and in lieu of taxes the authority may

agree to make some payment to the city or county in lieu of taxes, but it does not have to.

The authority has unlimited power as to amount to issue bonds from time to time in its discretion, and these bonds are declared to be issued for an essential public and governmental purpose and to be public instrumentalities and to be exempt from taxes.

The authority has apparently full discretion to accept any sort of a gift or loan from the Federal Government which the Federal Government may see fit to make, without limitation as to amount.

The section as to eminent domain, modified somewhat by certain amendments, but the section as to eminent domain, as amended, would still permit, as I read it, this authority to take any individual's house in any one of these communities in which the law runs; to take his house for no stronger reason than that they did not like the looks of it and did not think it was properly designed.

The words "State Public Body" which appear in Section (b) under Section 23, has a definition, and the definition of "State Public Body" appears to have been stricken from that section by the amendment which is before us, and right under it you will see confirmed that the governing body which can invoke this authority does include specifically the board of selectmen. They have the authority to condemn blighted areas which are defined on page 13, and there finally appears a section which is a very popular section in laws which have their source in Federal authority, and the meaning of which is far-reaching, in so far as the provisions of this act are inconsistent with the provisions of any other law, the provisions of this act shall be controlling.

It seems to me that this is a measure which ought not to pass without full understanding on the part of the Legislature. There are communities represented here which will be affected by it. I am entirely in sympathy with any desire which they may have to solve their local problems of housing, in so far as the housing situation may exist, and if they want to go further into housing, and they can go into public housing without limit under this act, not only on the property which exists, but they can buy and build and construct and go

as far as they can get the money to go. If there is any community here which has an emergency which they think should be met by this Legislature, I am in sympathy with them and I will be glad to defer to any motion to amend this act so as to limit the application of it. I do not think that this Legislature on the excuse that an emergency does exist in a few communities should pass a law which applies to many other communities and which, if once enacted as amended, can be made to apply to all the communities in the state by the simplest sort of an amendment by a subsequent session of the Legislature which simply repeals a couple of sentences in this bill. The bill could be made to run state wide by striking out three lines in the law if we pass it as it is.

Mr. Speaker, if there is anyone here who feels so strongly that a need exists in his own community, I will be glad to defer to him for any motion that he may care to make, but I do not think this amendment which we are now considering puts this bill into shape that the Legislature of Maine ought to pass.

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

Mr. WEEKS: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I had not appreciated the fact that this was such a radical piece of legislation, although it may appear to be so on the surface of it.

In the first place, let me explain that the wording of the act in its essential character is designed to meet the requirements of federal legislation under which a city or town may operate, depending upon their capacity to comply with these requirements. Now if we do pass legislation which does not meet with these Federal requirements, there is no sense in talking about it at all. If you want to take out some of the features of which the last speaker has spoken, you will practically ruin the bill.

At the present time there are 42 states—and I believe more—which have passed this legislation. Perhaps it is not identical; I do not say that it is; but its essential characteristics remain the same in each one. I do not conceive that the local officers of every city and town in this state are so far below the caliber of those in other states that

they cannot handle important issues.

In the first place, as the bill is now amended and as I count them up, there are about fifteen cities or towns that could participate under the act. It specifically limits it to cities and towns of over ten thousand population and those in which there is now a federal project already established during the war to meet the requirements of housing. To give you a view of one particular location: in South Portland we have a five hundred unit proposition there. As we understand it, the federal authorities are going to divest themselves of control over that piece of property by the end of this year, preferably this summer. They have two ways of doing it: they can sell it out to private ownership, or they are willing that we should set up an authority under which we would operate the same as we are now, with a representative from the city controlled by the city council, not sitting on top of the council but controlled by the council. If they do not conform to the requirements of the council they may be replaced at once. So far as setting up an organization to dictate to the community, you are not doing it. The city council remains the same. They are capable of running the interests of a city which has a taxable valuation of fifteen million dollars, and yet at the same time it has been said that they are not capable of controlling a particular part of that city where five hundred housing units are involved.

Now we are concerned with this proposition. It is very simple to say we should continue as we are in regard to all other personal property. We have the obligation of furnishing police protection, fire protection, health protection, road maintenance and everything else. Under the housing authority we can control the manner in which it will be run. Without the housing authority, we can visualize without any difficulty at all the very serious slum propositions that would develop in a very short time. We had a startling exhibition of that at Bath after the last war. Conditions there became practically intolerable.

Looking at this from the angle of the ability of the local officials to properly run their own community, that is not a matter for me to debate. I would not get up and say

that anyone who is on the council of Biddeford or Bangor is not as capable to run his own affairs as I am. I think they have a lot of capacity and I believe we can trust them in that capacity.

There are only fifteen towns in the State of Maine involved under this bill. I believe there is a lot of sense in this bill and that it is going to help them. It is not going to hinder them. It is not going to enable them to pledge the obligation of the town: they do not saddle one cent's worth of debt on the community. It is simply a Housing Authority obligation. The bill as amended, would go far towards meeting the requirement of the Federal Government even if we are ostensibly given the power. So I move the matter have passage.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bath, Mr. McClure.

Mr. McCLURE: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I concur with my colleague, Mr. Weeks, the gentleman from South Portland. Our city government in Bath within the past year has organized a housing authority. This housing authority is composed of contractors, some of our bankers and business men, and they are working only so that the condition that arose after World War I will not rise again. I believe they are capable of representing the people of Bath. The people of Bath elected our council who elected these people and the Housing Authority of Bath. As far as I can learn, the business men of our city are in favor of the passage of this bill which will not cost the State of Maine an extra cent in taxation.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Augusta, Mr. Peirce.

Mr. PEIRCE: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: The City of Augusta is one of these municipalities in the group of fifteen mentioned by the gentleman from South Portland which would be eligible to participate under a federal housing program. The members of the Augusta city government, with whom I have talked, would like to see this legislation enacted. They are not sure they would participate, but if the occasion arises when they feel it would be desirable for the city to participate they want this enabling legislation available to them.

It seems to me that housing is not a problem of just a few municipi-

palities in the State of Maine: it is a state-wide and nation-wide problem. I have heard people conjecture that the State of Maine housing situation would not be as acute today if we had participated in some of these projects before the war. That, of course, is purely a matter of conjecture. But I do hope that this Legislature will enact enabling legislation which will permit these municipalities that want to participate, if there is a need for their participation in federal housing, to do so.

The SPEAKER: Is the House ready for the question? The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Meloon.

Mr. MELOON: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: There are just one or two thoughts which I would like to bring out in connection with this matter.

We have now in existence the South Portland Housing Authority, which I have not been connected with in any way but which I have had occasion to study several times. Probably it has been pointed out to your satisfaction that the authority is composed of men of high caliber in our community who serve without pay and who are backed by the municipal officers. It is a very desirable thing in South Portland as it is working now.

We have one project in the City of Portland that could very easily be transferred into very undesirable hands. I think it would be to our mutual advantage, to Cumberland County and to those sections where this thing could be worked, to have a duplicate authority set up for the purpose of handling that portion of our city which can very easily become a dilapidated slum district. The angle of low rent, which is of particular benefit to those veterans who cannot pay more, is a desirable feature. I would like to go on record as being in favor of Mr. Weeks' bill.

The SPEAKER: Is the House ready for the question?

The question before the House is upon the motion of the gentleman from South Portland, Mr. Weeks, that the House adopt House Amendment "B." All those in favor will say aye; those opposed no.

A viva voce vote being doubted,

A division of the House was had.

The SPEAKER: Seventy-one having voted in the affirmative and 28 in the negative, the motion of the

gentleman from South Portland, Mr. Weeks, prevails, and House Amendment "B" is adopted.

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

On motion by Mr. Mills of Farmington, the House voted to take from the table the 19th tabled and unassigned matter, Bill "An Act Relating to the Brewer Water District." (H. P. 1641) (L. D. 1325) tabled on March 25th by that gentleman pending assignment for third reading; and on further motion by the same gentleman the bill was assigned for third reading tomorrow morning at ten o'clock.

On motion by Mr. Rollins of Greenville, the House voted to take from the table the 15th tabled and unassigned matter, House Report "Ought not to pass" of the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game on "Resolve, Regulating Smelt Dipping in Whetstone Pond in Piscataquis County." (H. P. 1064) (L. D. 696). In the House, acceptance of report reconsidered: tabled on March 20th by that gentleman pending acceptance of report.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Greenville, Mr. Rollins.

Mr. ROLLINS: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I tabled this report by request. Upon investigation I find that it can be handled by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Game by a directive. That is another example of how this Legislature has delegated its powers other than to itself. I now move, Mr. Speaker, that we accept the "Ought not to pass" report of the committee.

The motion prevailed and the "Ought not to pass" report of the committee was accepted.

On motion by Mr. Rollins of Greenville, the House voted to take from the table the 16th tabled and unassigned matter, House Report "Ought not to pass" of the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game on "Resolve, Regulating Smelt Dipping in Sebec Lake, Piscataquis County." (H. P. 1065) (L. D. 697) In House, acceptance of report reconsidered; tabled on March 20th by that gentleman pending acceptance of report; and on further motion

by the same gentleman, the "Ought not to pass" report was accepted.

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

Mr. DOUCETTE: Mr. Speaker, I move that the House reconsider its action of yesterday whereby it accepted the "Ought not to pass" report of the committee on Bill "An Act Creating a State Lottery Commission." (H. P. 1462) (L. D. 1066)

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Doucette, moves that the House reconsider its action of yesterday whereby it accepted the "Ought not to pass" report of the committee on Bill "An Act Creating a State Lottery Commission." (H. P. 1462) (L. D. 1066) Is this the pleasure of the House?

(Cries of "No, no.")

Mr. DOUCETTE: Mr. Speaker, may I address the House?

Owing to the fact there are several other bills coming up pertaining to the bonus, that is the reason, Members of the House, that I ask for reconsideration of this item. I would therefore like to have you give me that consideration.

The SPEAKER: All those in favor of the motion of the gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Doucette, that the House reconsider its action taken yesterday whereby it accepted the "Ought not to pass" report of the committee will say aye: those opposed no.

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

Forty-five having voted in the affirmative and fifty-two in the negative, the motion for reconsideration failed of passage.

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

Mr. ALLEN: Mr. Speaker, I move to take from the table the second tabled and unassigned matter, House Report, "Ought not to pass" of the Committee on Legal Affairs on Bill "An Act Creating a State Board of Examiners of Electricians and Defining Its Powers and Duties." (H. P. 610) (L. D. 375), tabled on February 20th by the gentleman from South Portland, Mr. Weeks, pending acceptance of the report.

The SPEAKER: Will the gentleman from Portland please approach the rostrum?

Mr. ALLEN: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I would like to explain at this time that this bill was tabled on February 20th by the gentleman from South Portland, Mr. Weeks, in my absence and at my request. I understood, although it is not perhaps proper parliamentary procedure, that with the consent of the gentleman from South Portland, Mr. Weeks, that I could take it from the table. I would like to make this explanation to the Members of the House so that the House would not think I was trying to take away the prerogatives of Mr. Weeks in the matter.

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

Mr. WEEKS: Mr. Speaker, the representation made by my colleague, the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Allen, is quite correct. It was at his request that it was placed on the table.

The SPEAKER: The Chair understands that the gentleman from South Portland, Mr. Weeks, moves to take from the table the second tabled and unassigned matter, House Report "Ought not to pass" of the Committee on Legal Affairs on Bill "An Act Creating a State Board of Examiners of Electricians and Defining its Powers and Duties." (H. P. 610) (L. D. 375), tabled on February 20th by that gentleman, pending acceptance of the report. Is this the pleasure of the House?

The motion prevailed.

On motion by the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Allen, the report and accompanying papers, were tabled pending acceptance of report, and specially assigned for Thursday, April 3rd.

The SPEAKER: The Chair would state at this time that it has been the longstanding custom in this House that when any gentleman tables a matter that the matter remains there until that gentleman takes it from the table, unless he gives his consent to some other member to remove it from the table for him.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Fairfield, Mr. Woodworth.

Mr. WOODWORTH: Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House on a matter of proposed legislation.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Fairfield, Mr. Woodworth, asks unanimous consent to address the House. Is there objection? The Chair hears none and the gentleman may proceed.

Mr. WOODWORTH: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: From time to time the Legislature has created school districts consisting of the inhabitants of the territory of a single town. In most of these charters no provision has been made for calling a meeting of the district. One Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court sitting alone has suggested that meetings of the town are not district meetings, and in order that we may know what a legal meeting of a school district is, a bill has been prepared defining the legal meeting of a school district. I ask unanimous consent to introduce a Bill, An Act Relating to Meetings of Certain School Districts.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Fairfield, Mr. Woodworth, requests unanimous consent to present a bill to this House. Is there objection? The Chair hears none and the Bill has been received by unanimous consent.

On motion by Mr. Woodworth, the bill was referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs, ordered

printed, and sent up for concurrence.

On motion by the gentleman from Fort Kent, Mr. Cousins, the House voted to take from the table the eighth tabled and unassigned matter, House Report "A" "Ought to pass" and House Report "B" "Ought not to pass" of the Committee on Taxation on Bill "An Act Assessing a Poll Tax on Females." (H. P. 1224) (L. D. 749), tabled on March 6th by that gentleman, pending acceptance of either report.

(Committee Reports read by the Clerk)

On further motion by the same gentleman, the two reports with accompanying papers, were tabled pending acceptance of either report, and specially assigned for Wednesday, April 2nd.

The SPEAKER: The House is proceeding under Orders of the Day.

If there is no further business to come before the House, the Clerk will read the notices.

On motion of Mr. Carville of Eustis,

Adjourned until ten o'clock tomorrow morning.