

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LEGISLATIVE RECORD**

**OF THE**

***Ninety-Fifth Legislature***

**OF THE**

**STATE OF MAINE**

**1951**

**DAILY KENNEBEC JOURNAL  
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

**HOUSE**

Tuesday, April 3, 1951

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

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. L. Winfield Witham of North Bridgton.

The members stood at attention during the playing of the National Anthem.

The journal of the previous session was read and approved.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Island Falls, Mr. Crabtree.

Mr. **CRABTREE**: Mr. Speaker, I request unanimous consent to address the House.

The **SPEAKER**: The gentleman from Island Falls, Mr. Crabtree, requests unanimous consent to address. Is there objection? The Chair hears none and the gentleman may proceed.

Mr. **CRABTREE**: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: As you probably surmise already, this is "Aroostook Day", and it is the very real pleasure of the delegation from Aroostook to leave on the desk of each member of the House, and I would judge a great many others from the load that arrived, a bag of those beautiful Aroostook potatoes. You will also see on your desks the special Aroostook Edition of the Bangor Commercial, and I do want to read the first paragraph, hoping thereby to arouse your interest enough so that you will scan the rest of this special edition which has been written by people who know our beloved Maine, and know our valuable Aroostook County.

"This is Aroostook, the Story of a Great American County.

"Aroostook is a name to conjure with. From one end of the United States to the other people know the name. Tell someone in Nebraska or Colorado or Virginia that you're from Maine, and chances are they'll ask you about Aroostook.

"In a way, that is what this special edition is all about—an attempt to portray in words and photographs a fabulous area, its people, its scenic beauty, its agriculture, industry and commerce, its history, and many other elements

of the composite picture that is Aroostook county, Maine.

"The words are those of Aroostook people, or of people who know the county intimately."

I hope that you will take time to read this Special Edition. Thank you. (Applause)

**Papers from the Senate**

From the Senate: Resolve in favor of the Town of Nobleboro (S. P. 525)

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on Highways.

In the House, referred to the Committee on Highways in concurrence.

**Senate Reports of Committees Ought Not to Pass**

Report of the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs reporting "Ought not to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to Salaries of the Members of the Industrial Accident Commission" (S. P. 222) (L. D. 497) as it is covered by other legislation.

Came from the Senate with the Report read and accepted.

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

**Ought Not to Be Adopted**

Report of the Committee on Judiciary reporting "Ought not to be adopted" on Memorial to Congress, Petitioning for Amendments to the Federal Wage and Hour Regulations Relating to Part-time Home Workers in the Needlecraft Industry (S. P. 315) (L. D. 716)

Came from the Senate with the Report read and accepted.

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

**Ought Not to Pass (cont'd.)**

Report of the Committee on Judiciary reporting "Ought not to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to Bastardy Proceedings" (S. P. 100) (L. D. 157) as it is covered by other legislation.

Report of the Committee on Labor reporting same on Bill "An Act relating to Compensation Benefits Under the Workmen's Compensation Law" (S. P. 126) (L. D. 234)

Report of the Committee on Legal Affairs reporting same on Bill "An Act relating to Lotteries" (S. P. 502) (L. D. 1213)

Report of same Committee reporting same on Bill "An Act relating to Building Codes" (S. P. 479) (L. D. 1141)

Report of the Committee on Transportation reporting same on Bill "An Act relating to the Licensing of Antique Motor Vehicles" (S. P. 365) (L. D. 879)

Came from the Senate with the Reports read and accepted.

In the House, Reports were read and accepted in concurrence.

#### Ought to Pass

Report of the Committee on Business Legislation reporting "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to the Transmission of Television Signal by Wire" (S. P. 489) (L. D. 1169)

Report of the Committee on Natural Resources reporting same on Bill "An Act relating to Deposit of Potatoes into Waters of the State" (S. P. 417) (L. D. 977)

Report of the Committee on Taxation reporting same on Bill "An Act Exempting Navy Clubs from Taxation" (S. P. 419) (L. D. 979)

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

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

#### Ought to Pass with Committee Amendment

Report of the Committee on Transportation on Bill "An Act to Clarify Certain Provisions of Motor Vehicle Law" (S. P. 72) (L. D. 78) 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 was read twice.

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S. P. 72, L. D. 78, Bill "An Act to Clarify Certain Provisions of Motor Vehicle Law."

Amend said Bill by striking out all of section 10 thereof.

Further amend said Bill by renumbering sections 11 to 26, inclusive, to be sections 10 to 25, inclusive, respectively.

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

#### Ought to Pass with Senate Amendment

Report of the Committee on Education on Bill "An Act relating to the Number of Trustees of the University of Maine" (S. P. 269) (L. D. 608) reporting a new draft (S. P. 515) (L. D. 1234) under title of "An Act relating to the Trustees of the University of Maine" and that it "Ought to pass".

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

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

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

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" to S. P. 515, L. D. 1234, Bill "An Act Relating to the Trustees of the University of Maine."

Amend said Bill by adding at the end thereof the following underlined sentence:

**"no person shall be a trustee of the university who is over 70 years of age nor, with the exception of the member appointed under the provisions of chapter 196 of the public laws of 1883, who is not a legal resident of this state."**

Senate Amendment "A" was adopted in concurrence and the Bill was assigned for third reading tomorrow morning.

#### Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act to Create the Veazie Sewer District" (H. P. 1208) (L. D. 766) which was passed to be engrossed in the House as amended by Committee Amendment "A" February 13, and which was recalled to the Senate by Joint Order.

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

In the House: The House voted, under suspension of the rules, to reconsider its action of February 13th whereby this Bill was passed to be engrossed.

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

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" to H. P. 1208, L. D. 766, Bill "An Act to Create the Veazie Sewer District."

Amend said Bill by striking out the 3rd sentence from the end of section 15 thereof and inserting in place thereof the following sentence:

"This act shall take effect for all purposes hereof immediately upon its acceptance by a majority of the legal voters voting at said election; provided that the total number of votes cast for and against the acceptance of this act equals or exceeds 20% of the number of voters on said check list."

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

On motion of Mrs. Daggett of Ashland, House Rule 25 was suspended for the remainder of today's session, in order to permit smoking.

#### Senate Report Tabled

Report of the Committee on Welfare reporting "Ought not to pass" on Bill "An Act Liberalizing Old Age Assistance" (H. P. 173) (L. D. 104) which was committed to the Committee on Welfare in the House on March 21.

Came from the Senate with the Report accepted in non-concurrence.

In the House: Report was read.

(On motion of Mr. Bubar of Blaine, tabled pending consideration.)

#### Orders

Mr. BUBAR of Blaine: Mr. Speaker—

The SPEAKER: For what purpose does the gentleman rise?

Mr. BUBAR: Mr. Speaker, I wish to present an order and move its passage, and I wish to speak to the order.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Blaine, Mr. Bubar, presents an order and moves its passage. The Clerk will read the order.

Sec. 1. ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that a special committee composed of five members, three of the members of which committee shall be members of the Republican party and two of the members of which committee shall be members of the Democratic party, all to be citizens of the United States and residents of the State of Maine, shall forthwith be appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court in and for the State of Maine. Said committee is authorized and directed to make a full and complete study and investigation of criminal activities and crime within the State of Maine.

Sec. 2. The committee shall select a chairman from among its members. Vacancies in the membership of the committee shall not affect the power of the remaining members to execute the functions of the committee, and shall be filled in the same manner as the original selection. A majority of the members of the committee, or any subcommittee thereof, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, except that a lesser number, to be fixed by the committee, shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of taking sworn testimony.

Sec. 3. The committee, or any duly authorized subcommittee thereof, is authorized to sit and act at such places and times within the State of Maine as it deems advisable. Said committee is authorized to require by subpoena or otherwise the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such books, papers, and documents, to administer such oaths, to take such testimony, to procure such printing and binding, and to make such expenditures as it deems advisable.

Sec. 4. The committee shall have power to employ and fix the compensation of such attorneys, officers, experts, and employees as it deems necessary in the performance of its

duties. The committee is authorized to utilize the services, information, facilities, and personnel of the various departments and agencies of the State to the extent that such services, information, facilities, and personnel, in the opinion of the heads of such departments and agencies, can be furnished without undue interference with the performance of the work and duties of such departments and agencies.

Sec. 5. The members of the committee shall be compensated for the time spent in attendance at meetings of the committee at the rate of \$20 per day and actual expenses incurred while attending said meeting. Provided, however, that if a member of the Legislature shall be appointed to said committee by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court of the State of Maine, such member shall receive no compensation for attendance at any meeting of the committee held while the Legislature is in session.

Sec. 6. The expenses of the committee, which shall not exceed \$50,000.00, shall be paid from the contingent fund of the State upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee.

Sec. 7. All evidence of crime within the State of Maine discovered by or disclosed to the committee shall, by the committee, be forthwith transmitted in writing to the Chief of the State Police, and to the County Attorney and Sheriff in the county where the alleged criminal activities are believed to exist. If the committee discovers facts or has facts disclosed to it, which in the opinion of the committee violate the laws of the United States Government, evidence thereof shall be transmitted in writing to the head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation at Washington, D. C.

Sec. 8. The committee shall report to the next regular session of the Legislature, said report to be filed with the said next regular session of the Legislature not later than thirty days after the said next regular session of the Legislature convenes. All authority conferred by this order shall terminate upon the filing of the aforesaid report

with the said next regular session of the Legislature.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Blaine, Mr. Bubar.

Mr. BUBAR: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House:

The SPEAKER: For what purpose does the gentleman rise?

Mr. BUBAR: I wish to speak to the order, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Would the gentleman from Blaine, Mr. Bubar, come to the rostrum, please.

Mr. BUBAR: I will, Mr. Speaker. After consultation at rostrum, Mr. Bubar resumed his seat on the floor of the House.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Blaine, Mr. Bubar.

Mr. BUBAR: Mr. Speaker, I move that this order lie on the table pending consideration until we can have a conference.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Blaine, Mr. Bubar, moves that the order lie on the table pending consideration. Is this the pleasure of the House?

The motion prevailed, and the order was so tabled.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ashland, Mrs. Daggett.

Mrs. DAGGETT: Mr. Speaker, I note in the rear of the House the presence of the Aroostook County Potato Blossom Queen, Miss Norma Collins.

The SPEAKER: The Chair thanks the gentlewoman from Ashland, Mrs. Daggett, for the information, and requests that she at this time accompany Miss Norma Collins, the Aroostook County Potato Blossom Queen to the rostrum, escorted by the Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms.

Thereupon, Miss Norma Collins was escorted to the rostrum, by the Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, accompanied by the gentlewoman from Ashland, Mrs. Daggett, amid the applause of the House, the members rising.

The SPEAKER: Miss Collins, How-do-you-do.

Members of the House, it is a great pleasure and a privilege for me to introduce to you Miss Norma Collins of Caribou, Queen of the Aroostook County Potato Blossom

Festival. The lady on her right (Mrs. Daggett) needs no introduction. (Applause)

Thereupon, Miss Collins and Mrs. Daggett assumed seats at the Speaker's right.

**Orders (cont'd)**

On motion of Mr. Kelly of Rumford, it was

ORDERED, that Rev. Fr. John T. Minnehan of Rumford, be invited to officiate as Chaplain of the House on Friday, April 13, 1951.

**House Reports of Committees  
Divided Report**

**Tabled**

Majority Report of the Committee on Taxation reporting "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to Exemptions from Taxation" (H. P. 336) (L. D. 194)

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. NOYES of Hancock  
WIGHT of Penobscot  
—of the Senate.

SINCLAIR of Pittsfield  
DOW of Falmouth  
LOW of Rockland  
CHASE of Cape Elizabeth  
CARTER of Bethel  
—of the House.

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

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. ALLEN of Cumberland  
—of the Senate.

ROLLINS of Greenville  
DUQUETTE of Biddeford  
—of the House.

Report was read.

(On motion of Mr. Perry of Chelsea, the two Reports with accompanying papers were tabled pending acceptance of either report)

**Divided Report  
Tabled**

Majority Report of the Committee on Taxation reporting "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to Taxation of Boats" (H. P. 1356) (L. D. 931)

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. ALLEN of Cumberland  
WEEKS of Cumberland  
—of the Senate.

CHASE of Cape Elizabeth  
LOW of Rockland  
CARTER of Bethel  
DUQUETTE of Biddeford  
—of the House.

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

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. NOYES of Hancock  
—of the Senate.

ROLLINS of Greenville  
SINCLAIR of Pittsfield  
DOW of Falmouth  
—of the House.

Report was read.

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

Mr. ROLLINS: Mr. Speaker, owing to the absence of Mr. Center, I move that this item lie on the table pending acceptance of either report.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Greenville, Mr. Rollins, moves that the two reports, with accompanying papers, lie on the table pending acceptance of either report. Is this the pleasure of the House?

The motion prevailed.

**Ought to Pass in New Draft**

Mr. Caswell from the Committee on Labor on Bill "An Act relating to the Employment of Women During War and Other Emergencies" (H. P. 927) (L. D. 540) reported same in a new draft (H. P. 1683) (L. D. 1257) under same title and that it "Ought to pass"

Mr. Littlefield from the Committee on Sea and Shore Fisheries on Bill "An Act relating to Scallop Fishing Licenses" (H. P. 1130) (L. D. 699) reported same in a new draft (H. P. 1682) (L. D. 1256) under same title and that it "Ought to pass"

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

**Ought to Pass  
Printed Bills**

Mr. McGlauffin from the Committee on Judiciary reported "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to

Composite Certificates of Organization of Corporations" (H. P. 1108) (L. D. 688)

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

The SPEAKER: The Chair, at this time, notes in the balcony of the Hall of the House the presence of the Norridgewock Grammar School, under the supervision of Mr. C. Curvin Hovis of Gorham.

In behalf of the House the Chair at this time bids you welcome. (Applause)

### Ought to Pass

#### Printed Bills (cont'd)

Mr. Bucknam from the Committee on Sea and Shore Fisheries reported "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to the Digging of Shellfish and Marine Worms in the Town of Yarmouth" (H. P. 1395) (L. D. 987)

Mr. Clapp from the same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to the Taking of Alewives in Winnegance Lake in the City of Bath and the Towns of Phippsburg and West Bath" (H. P. 1186) (L. D. 744)

Mr. Hanson from the same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to the taking and sale of Clams in the Town of Westport" (H. P. 330) (L. D. 166)

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

At this point Miss Norma Collins and her escort were conducted by the Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms to the rear of the House, amid the applause of the members.

Mr. Knapp from the Committee on Sea and Shore Fisheries reported "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to the Taking and Sale of Clams in the Town of Boothbay" (H. P. 30) (L. D. 7)

Same gentleman from the same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Non-Resident Commercial Fishing Licenses" (H. P. 439) (L. D. 262)

Mr. Littlefield from the same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to the Taking of Alewives in the Town of Arrowsic" (H. P. 1063) (L. D. 643)

Mr. DeBeck from the Committee on Towns and Counties reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Time of Registration of Voters in Towns" (H. P. 1554) (L. D. 1115)

Mr. Edwards from the same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act to Authorize Towns to Own Scales" (H. P. 1443) (L. D. 1054)

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

### Tabled

Mr. Martin from the Committee on Towns and Counties reported "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act to Provide Fire Protection for Connor Township" (H. P. 394) (L. D. 230)

Report was read and accepted and the Bill, having already been printed, was read once.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Limestone, Mr. Burgess.

Mr. BURGESS: Mr. Speaker, as the services which this measure would provide are also covered in another act in our calendar, I would move at this time that Item 14 lie upon the table pending second reading.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Limestone, Mr. Burgess, moves that Bill "An Act to Provide Fire Protection for Connor Township" lie on the table pending second reading. Is this the pleasure of the House?

The motion prevailed and the Report and Bill were so tabled.

Mr. Martin from the Committee on Towns and Counties reported "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to Fire Protection Tax in Unorganized Territory" (H. P. 1327) (L. D. 890)

Mr. Peterson from the same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act Increasing the Salary of the Recorder of the Bar Harbor Municipal Court" (H. P. 1139) (L. D. 671)



Same gentleman from the same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Clerk Hire of the Lewiston Municipal Court" (H. P. 1135) (L. D. 667)

Same gentleman from the same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act Increasing the Salary of the Recorder of the Western Hancock Municipal Court" (H. P. 555) (L. D. 313)

Mr. Taylor from the same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Purposes for which Cities and Towns May Raise Money" (H. P. 1645) (L. D. 1208)

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

**Ought to Pass with  
Committee Amendment  
Tabled and Assigned**

Mr. Finnegan from the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs on Bill "An Act relating to Automobile Travel by State Employees" (H. P. 791) (L. D. 471) reported "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Report was read.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Orono, Mr. Bates.

Mr. BATES: Mr. Speaker, I would like to inquire from some member of the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs the amount of additional money involved, taking into consideration Committee Amendment "A".

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Orono, Mr. Bates, requests information from some member of the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Any member may answer if he chooses.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Jalbert.

Mr. JALBERT: Mr. Speaker, it amounts to \$20,000 each year.

Mr. BATES: Thank you.

Thereupon the Report of the Committee was accepted and the Bill had its two several readings under suspension of the rules.

(On motion of Mr. Woodworth of Fairfield, tabled pending assignment for third reading and

specially assigned for Thursday, April 5th).

Mr. Bearce from the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game on Bill "An Act Creating Beauchamp Point Game Preserve" (H. P. 1412) (L. D. 1020) 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. 1412, L. D. 1020, Bill "An Act Creating Beauchamp Point Game Preserve."

Amend said Bill by striking out, in the 6th line thereof, the underlined words "except fox" and by inserting after the underlined word "direction" in the 8th line thereof the underlined words 'along number 1 highway'.

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

Mr. McGlauffin from the Committee on Judiciary on Resolve, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Providing for Additional Signers for Direct Initiative of Legislation (H. P. 1114) (L. D. 694) reported "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

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

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H. P. 1114, L. D. 694, Resolve, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Providing for Additional Signers for Direct Initiative of Legislation."

Amend said Resolve by striking out the underlined figure and percentage mark "10%" in the eighth line of that part of the Resolve designated as Sec. 18, and inserting in place thereof the underlined figure and percentage mark, '12%'.

Committee Amendment "A" was adopted and the Resolve was as-

signed for second reading tomorrow morning.

The following papers from the Senate were taken up out of order and under suspension of the rules:

From the Senate: The following Orders:

ORDERED, the House concurring, that (S. P. 295) (L. D. 654) "An Act Relating to Salaries of Members of Employment Security Commission" be recalled from the Legislative Files to the Senate. (S. P. 528)

Came from the Senate read and passed.

In the House, read and passed in concurrence.

ORDERED, the House concurring, that the following bills and resolves be recalled from the Governor to the Senate:

(S. P. 246) (L. D. 548)—Resolve, Appropriating Moneys for Automatic Emergency Electric Power for State Police Radio System.

(H. P. 444) (L. D. 273)—An Act Relating to Compensation for Members of State Racing Commission.

(S. P. 221) (L. D. 496)—An Act Relating to Court Stenographers.

(H. P. 955) (L. D. 567)—An Act Relating to Expenses of the Reporter of Decisions.

(H. P. 794) (L. D. 1224)—Resolve, in Favor of the Maine Historical Society.

(H. P. 803) (L. D. 1225)—Resolve, in Favor of Knox Memorial Association, Inc. for Support and Maintenance of "Montpelier."

(H. P. 801) (L. D. 1226)—Resolve, Restoring the Frederick Robie Library Fund. (S. P. 530)

Came from the Senate read and passed.

In the House, read and passed in concurrence.

#### Passed to be Engrossed

Bill "An Act Relating to Inheritance Tax" (S. P. 218) (L. D. 468)

Bill "An Act Relating to Over-taking and Passing School Buses" (H. P. 94) (L. D. 39)

Bill "An Act Relating to Salary of Judge of the Bar Harbor Municipal Court" (H. P. 559) (L. D. 317)

Bill "An Act Relating to the Salary of the Judge of the Western

Hancock Municipal Court" (H. P. 560) (L. D. 318)

Bill "An Act Clarifying the Definition of 'Compact' in the Highway Laws" (H. P. 1112) (L. D. 692)

Bill "An Act Relating to Police Docket in re Juveniles" (H. P. 1232) (L. D. 785)

Bill "An Act Relating to Sewer Service Charges" (H. P. 1238) (L. D. 790)

Bill "An Act Permitting Incorporation of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post Under General Law" (H. P. 1428) (L. D. 1034)

Bill "An Act Relating to Assessments for Road Repairs in Unorganized Territory" (H. P. 1442) (L. D. 1053)

Bill "An Act to Incorporate the 'Paris Company'." (H. P. 1662) (L. D. 1231)

Bill "An Act Relating to Duties and Powers of Aroostook County Fire Marshal" (H. P. 1678) (L. D. 1246)

Bill "An Act Relating to Mill Privileges, Dam Sites, Flowage Rights, Pole Lines and Roads" (H. P. 1680) (L. D. 1248)

Bill "An Act Relating to Elderly Teachers' Pensions" (H. P. 1681) (L. D. 1251)

Resolve Appropriating Moneys for Compilation of Certain Decisions of Supreme Judicial Court (H. P. 1510) (L. D. 1104)

Resolve in Favor of the Town of Bethel (H. P. 1677) (L. D. 1245)

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

#### Amended Bills

Bill "An Act Relating to Distribution of Antitoxins in Emergencies" (S. P. 418) (L. D. 978)

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

Bill "An Act Relating to the Military Law" (H. P. 344) (L. D. 203)

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

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

Mr. CHASE: Mr. Speaker, this bill originally called for an appropriation estimated at \$20,000 and was marked up by the Committee Amendment to \$25,000 or \$26,000 a year. I suppose the bill is all right, but \$25,000 does not grow in trees at this time in the fiscal year, and I therefore think it should be justified to the House. I would like to say the same regarding any other bill calling for an appropriation where the amount of the appropriation is not expressly stated on the face of the bill.

Thereupon, the Bill was given its third reading.

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

Mr. CHASE: Mr. Speaker, I would still ask for a justification for the need of this appropriation.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Strong, Mr. Jennings.

Mr. JENNINGS: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: This resolve has to do with members of the National Guard. In the National Guard, the officers that they like to have as a rule come up from the ranks. They do not always have the necessary funds, even though they are capable in other ways to become officers; they do not have sufficient money to pay for the uniforms. The required uniform that they should have costs \$250. This resolve asks for \$100 to be paid toward the uniform.

In the New England States we are the only state that does not have such a law. This amount of money runs about the same as other states. Some states are slightly less and some are more.

It is the feeling in the military quarters and among the officers who are interested in this matter that they get more efficient and finer type of men in their commands if they can use these men that go up from the ranks, non-commissioned officers.

I hope this explanation is something in the line that Representative Chase would like to have.

Thereupon, the bill was passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A" and sent to the Senate.

#### Amended Bills (Cont'd)

Bill "An Act to Incorporate the Town of Hancock School District" (H. P. 1276) (L. D. 845)

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

Bill "An Act Relating to Penalties for Violations of Liquor Laws by Unlicensed Persons" (S. P. 381) (L. D. 907)

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

#### Orders of the Day

The SPEAKER: Under Orders of the Day, the Chair lays before the House the first matter of unfinished business with which the House was engaged at the time of adjournment the last legislative day, being the third reading of Bill "An Act to Appropriate Monies for the Expenditures of State Government and for Other Purposes for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1952, and June 30, 1953", S. P. 495, L. D. 1196. At the time of adjournment the item under consideration was "Board and Care of Neglected Children" in paragraph entitled "HEALTH AND WELFARE, DEPARTMENT OF".

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

Mr. CHASE: Mr. Speaker, I hope it will be deemed in order at this point in the discussion of this measure, to take our financial bearings as the matter now stands. In this review of the situation, I start from the budget picture which was presented to us by the Governor, who gave us a budget which was unbalanced, based on the estimate of the then assured revenue, a budget which was in the red by \$3,500,000, I think, in round figures, the first year, and \$4,100,000 the second year.

Picking up at the point where we now are in the budget bill, the committee bill, which is before us, assuming that we stick to the commit-

tee bill from now on, or concur with the Senate action, we will have increased that Governor's estimated budget deficit by a little over a million dollars in each of the two years. The Governor recommended the abolition of the state property tax, which, if accomplished, would require \$5,500,000 per year from some other source.

The reclassification of state employees' amendment for \$300,000 a year, which was adopted in the Senate, I understand is not sufficient.

This is one of the many items upon which I am in a state of confusion and, unless it can be clarified when we come to it, I think it might well be left for a supplemental appropriation because there are a number of bills involved in the consideration of this item.

Now, if we allow one million dollars a year to take care of these numerous appropriation L. D's., which seem likely to pass, and this will involve some pruning of those items, we come out with a total amount to be raised, on this assumption, of \$11,307,490 the first year, and \$11,975,379, the second year. I repeat that is on the assumption that we stick to the bill from now on or concur with the Senate action.

Now, if you consider these figures in the light of new revenue, if a major tax bill can be passed so as to become early effective and which will raise \$11,000,000 a year when it comes into full operation, there will be a small margin over expenditures if we follow that program. I might say, here, that the Governor, in his recommendations, apparently assumed that in the event the property tax should be abolished, the cities and towns might be willing to assume some of the services, which are now carried by the State. So far, the evidence of such eagerness on the part of the cities and towns has not been impressive.

Now, I would suggest that from now on we might consider concurrence with the Senate, or, if we raise one item, try to reduce another. If we can do that, we will not be wandering too far into the fiscal dreamland.

With respect to appropriations coming out of surplus for the cur-

rent fiscal year, there are bills calling for about \$800,000 out of the current year. It is estimated that to restore the contingent fund as the finance officer is required to do at the end of each fiscal year, it would cost about \$100,000. That is \$900,000 potential drain on existing surplus and it is doubtful, as I understand it, if there will be that much in surplus at the end of this fiscal year.

Now, I would hope that from this point we could expedite consideration of this budget. We are already in a disagreeing action with the Senate, which will require some kind of conference or compromise in bringing the bill into line.

I hope that in our consideration of it, we can stick to the facts and leave sentimentality for future debates of which there will, no doubt, be many. I recall the sentence: "The world will little note nor long remember what we say here." When Lincoln made that prediction, he was wrong with respect to himself but I think he was right with respect to this House.

I certainly hope that we can make substantial progress on this bill, today.

**The SPEAKER:** The item under discussion is "Board and Care of Neglected Children."

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Liberty, Mr. Cole.

**Mr. COLE:** Mr. Speaker, this sum is to provide for the care and maintenance of orphans and other children who have been placed under the custody of the State by the courts. There are 2500 children and you will note in your comparative budget sheet that we have recommended the same amount as the present budget.

**The SPEAKER:** If there is no further discussion, the Clerk may read the next item.

**The CLERK (reading):** "Aid to Public and Private Hospitals . . . 750,000 750,000".

**The SPEAKER:** The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bangor, Mr. Finnegan.

**Mr. FINNEGAN:** Mr. Speaker, this caption of "Aid to Public and Private Hospitals" is an absolute misnomer; it is not aid to public and private hospitals. This type of welfare is administered under the Bureau of Health; "Regulations for

Procedures Governing the Administration of Hospital Aid in Accordance with the Public Laws of 1943, Chapter 283."

Now, in clarifying this, I am speaking solely to attempt to get these facts before you because I know there is confusion in the minds of a lot of people as to just what this aid constitutes. Under the title of "Aid to Private and Public Hospitals", it would indicate that the State was giving some direct aid to public and private hospitals. I repeat, such is not the case.

Here is a general statement of the matter as it is set up by the Health and Welfare Department. "The law establishing the hospital aid appropriation is progressive and helpful legislation, making it possible to prevent pauperization by assisting hospitals to give necessary treatment to residents of the State, who are managing to support themselves and their families but cannot meet the added burden of hospital bills without assistance. In no sense is it to be considered that the State endeavors to pay for the full care from these funds."

Now the eligibility: "Patients must have a settlement in the State or have lived in Maine for one year immediately prior to making application. Individuals or families who are recipients of Aid to the Blind, Aid to Dependent Children, Old Age Assistance, special legislative pensions and World War assistance are eligible to receive hospital aid regardless of the receipt of any general relief."

In March, 1949, this was amended: "Individuals or families who are recipients of Aid to the Blind, Aid to Dependent Children, and Old Age Assistance and those veterans and their dependents described in Section 10 of Chapter 82 of the Revised Statutes are eligible to receive hospital aid regardless of the receipt of any general relief." Apparently, this was meant to include the veterans and their dependents who were not previously mentioned.

Now, in order to qualify for this, you must have a hospital that meets with State requirements. "Chronic and incurable cases where long periods of treatment are necessary will not be accepted. All cases must

be hospitalized for medical or surgical care; boarding and nursing care are not eligible. The Department of Health and Welfare reserves the right to discontinue payment on accepted cases after thirty days treatment when due notice of discontinuance has been sent to the hospital." "Towns or cities should receive the whole bill for hospitalization if the patient is receiving general relief. In no instance"—now, this is important—"in no instance shall the amount paid by a patient be figured as the difference in the amount which may be received from hospital aid and cost of care. Cost of care is based on the official statement of the bill made out by the hospital for the hospitalization for which application was made. In no instance will hospital aid pay a hospital a per diem payment in an amount greater than the hospital's ward rate, or per diem hospital care, whichever of these two is the lower. The maximum that a hospital can receive is the ward rate." Now, this is all from the official regulations set up by the Welfare Department under which it operates.

Now, in working this out on this appropriation—now, I am not retreating; I go along with this report of \$750,000; this is not a retreat from that position—this is simply an explanation of what happens when this amount of money is withdrawn. The Governor recommended one million dollars; that is the only thing I find in the budget with which I am in complete concurrence.

The way this has worked out: in the year 1949 all the hospitals in the State—they are listed here; you can have a copy of them; they are available—I am going to speak presently on the one hospital I know the most about, and that is the Eastern Maine General Hospital in Bangor, Maine. I have been a trustee of that hospital for more than thirty years and we felt it necessary to take steps to prevent bankruptcy rather than go on with the program that we have been going on with. I simply mention that in 1948 and 1949, after contributing \$54,000 from endowment funds, we had a net loss of \$48,000 one year and \$52,000 the other. That is \$100,000 in excess of our endowment and all of it can be

attributed to these state aid cases.

For the year 1949 to 1950, we hospitalized 14,259 state aid days. The total cost of that hospitalization was \$176,383. We received from the State \$65,854, a net loss per day of \$7.79, well over \$100,000. In the matter of the Portland hospital, their costs are much higher than ours. They hospitalized 20,786 patients at a total cost of \$320,935, on which they received from the State \$95,576. They lost \$10.84 a day on the 20,000 cases. That is a subject to consider.

Now, this appropriation is arranged in this way. You pass this bill for whatever amount you pass it. If it is a million dollars, it will be allocated \$250,000 a quarter. The state aid patient days which they assume will be allocated to the different hospitals at a rate that this amount of money will provide. At the present time, it is \$4.60. The ward rates in our hospital are \$7.00 per day and I think the Portland hospital is \$9.00 per day, and there may be some little, small hospitals—they are not in this very much—they may have a slightly lesser ward rate but I think most of them are higher. Seven days at \$10.00 a day is our minimum cost which this bill provides will not be recognized or repaid.

Now, this grant to the hospitals is made in this fashion: The eligibility of these cases must be determined; they must be accepted by the Commissioner of Health. The bill is rendered and the award is made, this grant you get, on the basis of funds available. Our cost of \$12.60 per day is being met with \$4.60 state aid.

There is another feature to this I would like you to consider. If, in any of these quarters, any of these periods, some epidemic or some disaster should overtake the State and this hospital aid to dependent people who require hospitalization should be doubled, the rate would be halved. I will say that that is an extreme case but I just bring it out to illustrate that this is not a fixed rate. It all depends on the amount of money available under the appropriation. Now, so much for the hospital under this thing. I think it has been fairly well stated and very well

regulated as to what the hospitals can do.

In addition to this aid, this assessment, which the hospitals assume, is almost driving some of these hospitals into bankruptcy and would certainly have driven our hospital into bankruptcy if the full amount of the hospitalization was required. Speaking for the Eastern Maine General Hospital, which is typical and of which I have the most knowledge, we have an active staff of sixty physicians and surgeons and various specialists in medical service. Now, those services are absolutely free to the recipient of this aid. They must be ward cases. If they are able to provide a room or a physician for themselves, they are not eligible. These doctors serve these patients, as I said before, without one penny of remuneration. If they should attempt to charge any remuneration, they would immediately be removed from the staff. It is fundamental that they do that. I say in my period of more than thirty years as a trustee of these hospitals, that is an item that has never even casually been mentioned. So, failing to appropriate the money for these people, you are denying them that professional service.

I would like to mention some of them but it would be unfair to the great number of them who contribute so generously of their time and their talents and who work with the same interest and the same efficiency, giving of their technical knowledge and skill as they would to a patient in a \$12.00 room, paying the bills. I mean, there are no two standards of hospitalization. When these people go to the hospital wards, there is no tag on them, whether they are paying or whether they are not paying. They are patients and they receive the utmost. I checked this matter with Mr. Curran, Sunday. I am sorry that I did not have time to get this in better shape but he has given me a list of thirty-four applications that he received the previous week. So I asked him to just give me a memorandum of them so you would know the type that hospital aid is going to; the type of people and who they are.

Now, here is one week selected as typical without any attempt to rig up a favorable week or an unfavorable week; it is a typical week. He received 34 applications, 3 of these people were over 81 years of age; 11, from 65 to 80 years of age; 8, from 21 to 65 years of age and 12, from 6 months to 18 years of age.

Of the 14 over 65 years of age, all receive Old Age Assistance. Of the 20 remaining, 5 receive Aid to Dependent Children. This means that 19 out of the 34 are now supported by Public Funds at the State level.

Of the 15 not receiving public support, 2 have applied for assistance from the Town Welfare and have been denied such assistance.

Of the 13 remaining, the following facts are presented:

1. Family of 6, income of \$35 per week, patient is child for surgery.
2. Family of 9, income of \$48 per week, patient is wage earner for surgery.
3. Family of 5, income of \$30 per week, patient is child, mother is a wage earner, no ADC, mother's whereabouts unknown.
4. Family of 5, wage earner, unemployed; wage earner patient.
5. Family of 6, income of \$35 per week, patient is child with pneumonia.
6. Patient is single man, unemployed.
7. Family of 5, income \$30 per week, patient is wife, pregnancy with complications, family lives in a camp.
8. Patient is single domestic worker, female, salary of \$15 per week.
9. Patient is single male, aged 30, earns \$30 per week.
10. Family of 4, income of \$38.50 per week, previous illness in family, patient owes hospital for other accounts.
11. Family of 14, income of \$60 per week.
12. Patient is domestic worker, salary is \$12 per week.

This is just a typical week of applications.

Now, as I said first, this is not any grant to hospitals. Whatever aid is appropriated here is for those people. The record 1949-50 shows

that last year, in the Eastern Maine General Hospital, they attended 14,424 days on hospital aid. Of these, 767 days were from Aroostook County; 13 from Cumberland; 1,428 from Hancock; 8 from Kennebec; 20 from Knox, 10,039 from Penobscot; 448 from Piscataquis; 276 from Somerset; 730 from Waldo and 695 from Washington. Every day of service indicated above cost the hospital \$12.03. Of this amount, the state aid fund contributed an average of \$4.58 per day and another 37 cents per day was collected from the patient. There was no money available from any source to pay the balance, which means that the Eastern Maine General Hospital last year lost \$7.03 on each state aid day, and we had 14,030. The total for the State was 125,000 days. The average to the State was \$12.65 per day. The loss after State aid and patient recovery was \$7.14. So that the hospital, under this plan, which was set up by the State and operates under the Health Department, is contributing just short of a million dollars from badly needed funds. That is an impact they can not stand and survive.

I am taking a little more time, perhaps, than I should but I think you are entitled to know the facts and to remove that misnomer that this money is state aid to hospitals. It is just state aid to hospitals on their way to bankruptcy. That is what it will amount to if it continues.

Now, keep in mind that if we got the maximum we are entitled to receive, the ward rate, in our case, will be only sixty per cent of the cost, forty per cent would still be borne by the patient. Now, we have endowment funds that were set up to take care of the people who are unable to pay their full share of hospital bills. I don't think it was ever intended by the people who donated this money for this purpose that it should be meant to include state aid people. I believe that we have come to a pretty low state where the state has to muscle in on the little endowment funds that should be used for these purposes.

So again, I just want to repeat that I am not retreating from my position of going along with the recommendation of \$750,000 but I am giving the facts to you. Now, if

you think that the type of people who are receiving this aid should continue to receive it, the only way they can hope to keep this along is for the hospitals to at least receive some portion of the ward rate. At the present time they are receiving one-third of it so the money runs out very fast sometimes. So the policy that we have assumed at the Eastern Maine General Hospital is to reserve our state aid funds, whatever they may be, for emergency cases only. That is the only way that we can survive.

As I said before, I am not retreating from the recommendation to the hospitals but I am placing the facts squarely before you. The budget recommendation of the Governor certainly will find plenty of use. There will be no chiselers and there will be no fellow-travelers on this road because these are people who come to the hospital, desperately sick, desperately in need of aid and, whether the State appropriates anything or not, we will still take our share of it, even though they don't appropriate a penny. Again, my remarks here are in clarification of this misnomer rather than in regard to exceeding the Governor's recommendation.

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

Mr. JACOBS: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I have no statistics before me to read to you but I am speaking as a member of the Appropriations Committee when this item was brought before us for consideration.

For ten years I have been a member of the Appropriations Committee and have listened sympathetically to the announcements of these hospitals coming before us and saying that they are going into bankruptcy if we do not do thus and so. For ten long years, five terms, this has come before our committee and we have been sympathetic, having in mind who pays these bills, the taxpayers of the State of Maine. I am not here to defend the hospitals any more than I would defend any other business. I believe when we raised the appropriation from \$578,000 two years ago and compromised on \$750,000 for these hospitals. I think we have gone far enough at this time, bear-

ing in mind that these bills are paid by the taxpayers.

I am sympathetic with these hospitals. There is no question but what the gentleman from Bangor, Mr. Finnegan, has told you the exact truth of the situation, but they go on and on every year just the same and we increase our appropriation. This is aid to the hospitals, in my opinion, and I think we have gone quite a distance from two years ago, from \$578,000 to \$750,000. That is the unanimous choice or opinion of the Appropriations Committee. We are not all agreed on everything that was presented here in this budget but we gave and took as we went along and I believe this \$750,000 goes quite a ways to help these hospitals pay their bills. Nothing has been said about those who have rooms in these hospitals; it is just the ward patients. Almost every time, in my opinion, and I have gathered from experience on the Appropriations Committee during the years, the room patients have been charged more in proportion than those in the wards to balance the budget, to balance the accounts, so to speak. I can't understand really when they have four or five operations a day in these hospitals and every patient is charged \$15 for use of the table they operate upon and all the other things that go with it, they have to pay, and yet, these hospitals receive fifty, sixty or seventy-five dollars a day, day after day, and nothing has been said about this. That goes as income to the hospitals. They are probably in desperate straits, ladies and gentlemen, but I believe the taxpayers of Maine who contribute this money should be considered in this matter and I believe that \$750,000 is a fair price for the State of Maine to pay for aid to hospitals.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Limestone, Mr. Burgess.

Mr. BURGESS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to present, at this time, House Amendment to the item now under discussion and ask that after the amendment is read, I may offer a brief explanation.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Limestone, Mr. Burgess, offers



House Amendment "F" to Aid to Public and Private Hospitals.

The Clerk will read the amendment.

The CLERK (reading):

HOUSE AMENDMENT "F" to S. P. 495, L. D. 1196, Bill "An Act to Appropriate Monies for the Expenditures of State Government and for Other Purposes for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1952, and June 30, 1953."

Amend said Bill by striking out under that part of said Bill which relates to "HEALTH AND WELFARE, DEPARTMENT OF" the following:

"Aid to Public and

Private Hospitals 750,000 750,000" and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Aid to Public and Private

Hospitals 1,000,000 1,000,000'

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Limestone, Mr. Burgess.

Mr. BURGESS: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I would like to pay a tribute to those members who have so well served us on the Appropriations Committee. Having attended several sessions of the Maine Legislature, I am fully aware of their problems and there is no tribute too high that can be paid those members who have consistently been the watchdogs of the taxpayers' pocketbooks.

However, in this instance, I feel that special consideration should be given to the hospitals of Maine and to those patients who qualify under the law which provides for emergency hospital aid. I am sure that everyone in this House will agree when I state that you do not often hear me asking for additional appropriations. I would very much prefer that a great many items which the House has increased be decreased because it would cause a great deal less conflict and problems throughout the State than would be caused if this one were increased.

It is my honest, candid opinion that inflation is the problem, the real problem, which affects the hospitals as well as a great many other institutions and services throughout the State. We must admit that in our own businesses, it is impossible to operate on the

same dollars that we operated years ago. It is impossible for the hospitals of Maine to keep their costs down to where they were ten years ago. Due to the location of hospitals in various towns and cities throughout the State, the losses created in the hospitals through their services and lack of collections and particularly collections under this particular item, it becomes necessary for those people in those respective communities which try to maintain hospitals to assist by property taxation in an amount which will fulfill or help the hospitals, assist them, in breaking even in their current year.

Not all hospitals have endowment funds. Take the case of the Eastern Maine General Hospital. It is located in a large city in the State of Maine. It has on its staff doctors of special skills. Therefore, in my neck of the woods, it becomes necessary that we send certain patients to that hospital and they are eligible under the law for hospital aid. Is there any reason under the sun why the people in the immediate area of Bangor, through taxation or however they do it, should stand the full cost of the loss created in that hospital? I could name you innumerable hospitals that are in the same situation.

Now, I believe that it has, to a very small extent, become the practice that cities and towns throughout the State appropriate—which they can legally do—money by property taxation as gift funds, which they are doing. To make my point clear in that respect, the town in which I live appropriates a gift fund and names in that gift certain hospitals. At the end of the year we reimburse them for the loss in the way of a gift. Legal or illegal, I care not. We see no reason why a hospital, wherever it is located, should assume losses created by patients from our community. Now, the towns have reached the limit, in my opinion, that they can go by assessing additional property taxes. Due to a great many reasons, some of which I have stated, particularly the fact that your counties throughout the State of Maine have just thrown back on the cities and

towns an additional \$600,000 in property tax and we have not yet decreased any item of property tax or provided any vehicle or method by which the local property tax may be reduced, I believe that we should face this issue for its full value and at its full value and adopt the amendment and put back in the Appropriations Bill the figure which our good Governor in his wisdom and after thorough study suggested as the fair compromise.

Therefore, I move the adoption of the amendment.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Limestone, Mr. Burgess, moves the adoption of House Amendment "F".

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ellsworth, Mr. Dunham.

Mr. DUNHAM: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I find myself, for once, in complete agreement with the gentleman from Bangor, Mr. Finnegan, and I do hope, while I am in his camp at the moment, that later on I may find him in my camp when it comes to raising money.

As I understand it, we pay, at the present time, around \$4.60 per patient for state patients. I still maintain that we, in this State, should meet our responsibilities and by meeting our responsibilities—I mean this—that somewhere along the line we are going to find means by which to meet our responsibilities. There is a point above which I won't go on this thing but as I understood from the gentleman from Bangor, (Mr. Finnegan) if we raise this million dollars which is recommended by the Governor, we will be paying somewhere around sixty per cent of the cost. If that is true, I am very pleased to go into his camp.

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

Mr. ROUNDY: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I rise to support in such way as I can and with such strength as I may have the amendment of the gentleman from Limestone, Mr. Burgess.

Thinking back on my experience in the Legislature two years ago, I think there was nothing concerning which I have felt so much shame as the reduction we made, when we

were in the process of making reductions, in cutting out a proposed item of several hundred thousand dollars for this very purpose. I have thought about it very much, and it comes home not only to such thinking as I am able to do but to my conscience, that if there is anything to which we need to give special attention and provide the largest possible amount for, it is in this item. I think it comes down to this: As to whether or not we want to ask the hospitals to pay the bills that properly belong to the State for the patients that the State is caring for under the arrangement of our laws.

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

Mr. CENTER: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: As a member of the staff of two Portland hospitals, I rise to support this amendment.

I think the hospitals of the State of Maine are doing a grand job, but they are facing a financial crisis. They are being required at the present time to bear an unjust load for the care of the indigent patients.

As has been pointed out, the average cost of care in our Maine hospitals is something in excess of eleven dollars per day. The State is reimbursing the hospitals for their cases \$4.60 a day.

I think that you are all familiar with a pamphlet which was widely distributed throughout the State last fall and in which it was pointed out that the hospitals in 1949-50 suffered a deficit of \$885,366.24. I believe that, in consideration of these figures and facts, the Governor, in preparing his budget estimate, was very conservative.

If, as I believe we all agree, the State has a responsibility in the care of dependent children, the aged and those others in financial distress when they are well, then I am sure that they have an even greater responsibility to them when they are ill. To be seriously sick is a problem for any of us, but to be seriously sick and not have the means to provide reasonable treatment and care is a tragedy. I have faith that this House will place the responsibility directly on the shoulders of the citizens of the State of

Maine where it most certainly belongs. I hope that this amendment will be adopted.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Limestone, Mr. Burgess.

Mr. BURGESS: Mr. Speaker, I ask when the vote is taken it be taken by a division.

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is on the motion of the gentleman from Limestone, Mr. Burgess, for adoption of House Amendment "F" to item "Aid to Public and Private Hospitals". Is the House ready for the question?

The gentleman from Limestone, Mr. Burgess, has requested that when the vote is taken it be taken by a division.

All those in favor of the adoption of House Amendment "F" will please rise and remain standing until the monitors have made and returned the count.

A division of the House was had.

The SPEAKER: One hundred and thirteen having voted in the affirmative and fifteen in the negative, the motion prevails and House Amendment "F" is adopted.

The SPEAKER: The Clerk will proceed.

The CLERK (Reading):

"Passamaquoddy		
Indians *	72,915	\$73,279"
"Penobscot		
Indians	49,153	49,153

\*The appropriations for Indian Tribes are in lieu of all other incomes, and receipts from Trust Funds shall be credited to the General Fund."

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Liberty, Mr. Cole.

Mr. COLE: Mr. Speaker, the increase in Passamaquoddy Indians, amounting to \$6000 each year, provides for fuel requirements of the tribes.

The SPEAKER: Is there any further discussion on the item? The Clerk may proceed.

The CLERK (Reading):

"Support of State		
Paupers . . . .	\$600,000	\$600,000"

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

Mr. CHASE: Mr. Speaker, this item was amended in the Senate

to raise it to one million dollars. For the purpose of offering an amendment which would change the amount to \$800,000 a year, I move that Senate Amendment "M" be indefinitely postponed.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase, moves that Senate Amendment "M" be indefinitely postponed.

The Clerk will read Senate Amendment "M".

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

SENATE AMENDMENT "M" to S. P. 495, L. D. 1196, Bill "An Act to Appropriate Monies for the Expenditures of State Government and for Other Purposes for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1952, and June 30, 1953."

Amend said Bill by striking out under the part of said Bill which relates to "Health and Welfare, Department of" the following:

"Support of State  
Paupers . . . . 600,000 600,000"  
and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Support of State  
Paupers 1,000,000 1,000,000'

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Freeport, Mr. Patterson.

Mr. PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: The Appropriations Bill, as it came from the Senate to the House, provides for one million dollars per year for the State poor. The Appropriations Bill, as it was reported out by the committee, provided for \$600,000 per year. The State spent \$986,000 for State poor for the financial year ending June 30, 1950. From July 1, 1950, to February 28, 1951, that is during the current year so far, the State has expended \$739,651. In other words, expenditures last year and this year no doubt will run one million dollars per year. No one knows just how much will be expended for the State poor, but it is the Department's best estimate, and the Governor's approval in his budget, that one million dollars will be necessary for this program. Certainly if the Aid to Dependent Children program is decreased by the amount suggested by the Appropriations Committee, then even one million dollars will not take care of

the State poor. Regardless of the amount that will be appropriated, the State can only pay out that which it has, and will, of course stop payments to towns when the appropriation is exhausted. This will mean that towns will be required to come to the next Legislature and put in claims in order to get reimbursed for the State poor. There is no question at all in my mind but what you will have more come in with requests for the State poor than you had before.

I believe we should put on this \$200,000, as amended by the Senate, to make it one million dollars. I cannot see any other way how we can do that. I know that the Town of Freeport spent over \$700 just for one, out of the Town of Freeport.

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is on the motion of the gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase, that Senate Amendment "M" be indefinitely postponed.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Limestone, Mr. Burgess.

Mr. BURGESS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question through the Chair of the gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman may state his question.

Mr. BURGESS: Mr. Chase, are we to assume that the amendment under filing number of 121 is the amendment that you propose to offer should we indefinitely postpone Senate Amendment "M".

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Limestone, Mr. Burgess, asks a question through the Chair of the gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase. The gentleman may answer if he chooses.

Mr. CHASE: Mr. Speaker, the gentleman is correct. It is filing number 121, which is an amendment which raises the bill.

Now I am on my feet, I might say that I do not like to be put in the position of seeming to be opposed to State paupers or any of these charity cases, but I deem it to be my duty at least to give this House an opportunity to vote on amendments which will keep this bill within what I regard as practicable grounds.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Limestone, Mr. Burgess.

Mr. BURGESS: Mr. Speaker, out of necessity I must rise in opposition to the motion to indefinitely postpone. I can see no point in taking for granted that the State can care for its poor during the next two fiscal years for less money than it has expended in the last two. I can see no point in appropriating less money for the care of State paupers than it is a known fact it will cost. It will only amount to a flock of claims in the next Legislature to be heard and to be paid at a later date. Towns and cities throughout the State now are furnishing the money month by month and serving the poor of the State and being reimbursed the following month. Some towns have as much as ten or fifteen or twenty thousand dollars of their money invested all the time in the care of the poor. Therefore, I do not believe this House could consider at this time appropriating a lesser amount than is absolutely known to be the cost. Therefore I rise in opposition, and hope that the motion to indefinitely postpone Senate Amendment "M" will not prevail.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ellsworth, Mr. Dunham.

Mr. DUNHAM: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: Consistency, thou art a virtue! I rise in opposition to the motion of the gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase. I know that the towns and the cities of this State cannot take on any more burdens than they have at the present time. I think of my own town, or city, with four thousand inhabitants, which has a poor account of \$25,000. \$13,000 of that is for supplemental aid to old age assistance; \$10,000 of that is direct aid to the poor; \$2,000 goes towards veterans. I do not want to throw anything more back onto them to wait for two years more to come into the next Legislature, put in their claims, and to get their money. I see no reason why, if we know that something is going to cost us a million dollars, we should here vote to raise eight hundred thousand dollars. Let's raise what we know it is going to cost us. Let's go along with the Governor's recommendation. Thank you.

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

Mr. JALBERT: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: First I would like to discuss very briefly the remarks of the gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase, a while ago when he first took up the bill. If I understood correctly, he said that if we are to go along with the Governor's Budget or the Senate money bill—that is what confused me—the Senate money bill or the Governor's Budget—because the Appropriations Committee reported \$4,005,000 over what we have for funds, and the Governor's recommendation was \$7,007,000, and the bill, with the Senate amendment, came in to us with a tag of \$9,368,000 over what we have for revenue. In the past week we increased Education by \$341,000, and a few moments ago the hospitals by \$250,000, which brings us up to \$9,959,000 less the \$50,000 from the Maine Development Commission, which makes \$9,909,000, plus, as he mentioned, some \$800,000 in resolves of a recurring nature, which brings us pretty near to \$11,000. It is also my opinion that, with all these other resolves that are coming in, some worthy, some that might be cut, as he stated, some that might be eliminated, it might well be that that amount would be another million dollars per year, which would bring us then, in my opinion, to \$12,000,000 up and over the revenues that we have for the biennium. If we go out of the property tax field—and I sincerely hope that we do not—that means another \$11,000,000, so that we will very easily find ourselves \$23,000,000 in the red.

As far as this particular account is concerned, I am very happy to go along with Mr. Chase's splendid motion, in that we were told this was where we could cut. We know that the towns want to take care of some of this program as far as the local level is concerned. Or are we going to label ourselves as going out of the property tax field and spending all this money and letting the State pay the freight? Are we going to label ourselves as the Number one Welfare State of the country?

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

Mr. WOODWORTH: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I rise in support of the motion of the gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase.

Such experience as I have had in town affairs was gained principally in the worst years of the depression. At that time it seemed to me, and I believe it to be true, that when a person receives help through the town office, whether he be a local pauper, a State pauper, or somebody who has his settlement in another town, he immediately joins a club which consists of all three classes. If you are going to properly dispense aid to the poor, you have to treat them all alike.

What has happened to this poor problem in recent years, in my opinion, is due chiefly to the fact that we now have a great deal of federal aid, assistance to the aged, assistance to dependent children and other classes. In regard to these classes, the towns now have very little to say. The State practically tells them: "You must give them this; you must give them that," and nobody ever protests. If we ever expect to accomplish any reduction in public aid, that reduction will come only when town officials finally decide that they do not have to obey the directions of the State Department of Health and Welfare.

As regards State paupers, so long as they are residents of a certain town, the officials of that town can tell them exactly how much aid they shall receive and the State Department of Health and Welfare has nothing whatever to say about it. If the State Department does not like it, they can take those people out of that town, and I think that in many cases it would be a good thing for the town if they did.

I am aware that in some towns there may be considerable distinction between their own paupers and paupers of other towns and State paupers. Their own, they sit on rather hard; the others, they let them get away because the money is coming back.

I believe that a cut in this appropriation would be a highly de-

sirable thing, and possibly if the towns are afraid that they may have some of that burden thrown back upon them, they may take more interest in the cases and cut those individual grants down where they belong or tell the State to take them out of town. If they do that and the State is confronted with the actual problem of taking care of them themselves, they may do a great deal better.

I hope that the motion of the gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase, to indefinitely postpone Senate Amendment "M," will prevail.

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

Mr. DELAHANTY: Mr. Speaker, several times this morning and many times in past days since we have been discussing the budget, we have heard the phrase "Meet our responsibilities" brandished about. I think we have been doing more than meeting our responsibilities here; we have been attempting to meet the responsibilities of the cities and towns. I feel that they should assume their responsibilities. For that reason, I would support the motion of the gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase. I think that this committee has done a commendable job in making this recommendation to us. If I follow the sentiment of that committee, I understand that they made this recommendation feeling that the responsibility for State paupers, the support of them, should be assumed more by the cities and towns, because they feel that at that level economy can be practiced. If that is what we are looking for, then let's send it back to the cities and towns.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Clinton, Mr. Keene.

Mr. KEENE: Mr. Speaker, I ask that when the vote is taken it be taken by a division.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Limestone, Mr. Burgess.

Mr. BURGESS: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I ask your forgiveness for rising a second time on this measure, but, lest there be any confusion, this is not and can never be a responsibility of the

communities. The poor who have no settlement in my town or in your town are the responsibility of the State under the statute, and there is no way to avoid it. So if you think that by voting for the motion of the gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase, or adopting the committee's report, that you are saving one nickel, you are not: you are simply delaying the payment by the State of Maine until the next session of the Legislature.

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

Mr. DELAHANTY: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I think I pointed out rather clearly in my statement that what we are doing when we let the cities and towns take this over is practicing economy, in that they can more justifiably and with closer scrutiny take care of this support of State paupers.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Calais, Mr. Hall.

Mr. HALL: Mr. Speaker, there has been brought up here several times the matter of having these come in before the Claims Committee. I take from my desk a list of the claims that we have had this year before the Claims Committee. I have not had time to add them up.

So far, in running through, I have got about two-thirds of the way through, and I have some twenty-five claims so far listed here from towns and cities on State pauper aid that have come before the Claims Committee this year. Just running over the figures—I am not going to give the towns that they came from—I find \$1500, \$541, \$637, \$1,173, \$250, \$207, \$160, \$7000, \$403, \$1,648, \$60, \$96, \$1003, \$309, \$896, \$9,957, \$50, \$306, \$400, \$2760, \$320, \$847, \$1100, \$707, \$476, \$360, \$1004. As I say, I have not got through the list yet.

So in indefinitely postponing the Senate amendment, as I see it, the only thing we are going to do is load down the Claims Committee another year with even more of these than we have here now.

Now some of them, I will say, are on cases where the towns failed to get their bills in soon enough to

the State. A greater part of them are on cases where there was no town settlement. The Claims Committee is obligated to pay them, so that there is going to be really no escape from the State eventually having to pay this bill. These bills have been paid out by the town officials, and I believe in paying them out that they certainly looked them over and gave them as careful scrutiny as they could.

To my mind, in view of these figures and others which I did not get a chance to take from my list of claims, it would seem that in cutting down on this appropriation, or cutting it back, we would be doing nothing more than giving the towns a chance to tie up their money for two years and giving the Claims Committee a chance to sit for several unnecessary hours next year in listening to these claims and then having to pay them.

The SPEAKER: Is the House ready for the question?

The question before the House is on the motion of the gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase, that Senate Amendment "M" to "Support of State Paupers" be indefinitely postponed. A division vote has been requested.

All those in favor of the motion of the gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase, will please rise and remain standing until the monitors have made and returned the count.

A division of the House was had.

The SPEAKER: Sixty-one having voted in the affirmative and seventy-three in the negative, the motion to indefinitely postpone Senate Amendment "M" does not prevail.

The question before the House is on the adoption of Senate Amendment "M".

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Portland, Mr. Fuller.

Mr. FULLER: Mr. Speaker, I move that we recede and concur with the Senate.

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is on the adoption of Senate Amendment "M". Does the gentleman move that we adopt Senate Amendment "M"?

Mr. FULLER: Mr. Speaker, I move that we adopt Senate Amendment "M".

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from South Portland, Mr. Fuller, moves that the House adopt Senate Amendment "M".

All those in favor will say aye; those opposed no.

A viva voce vote being taken, the motion prevailed and Senate Amendment "M" was adopted in concurrence.

The SPEAKER: The Clerk will proceed with the next item.

The CLERK (reading):  
"Old Age Assistance - Benefits  
\$3,215, 325      \$3,411.825"

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

Mr. CHASE: Mr. Speaker, I am still trying to get back \$250,000 a year. I am in uncomfortable territory to move in, but I offer an amendment which would reduce the recommendation for this item by the amount of \$250,000.

There has been considerable enlargement of social security recently; we upped the appropriation of A.D.C. and have taken care of State paupers and the hospitals, and this looks like the last substantial item. This amount can be recovered by tightening up on the financial responsibility formula, and in view of the fact that the appropriation is increasing over two years ago, I believe an attempt should be made to reduce it. For this purpose, I offer this amendment which has not been reproduced.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Cape Elizabeth offers House Amendment "T" to item "Old Age Assistance Benefits" and moves its adoption. The Clerk will read the amendment.

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

HOUSE AMENDMENT "T" to S. P. 495, L. D. 1196, Bill "An Act to Appropriate Monies for the Expenditures of State Government and for Other Purposes for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1952, and June 30, 1953."

Amend said Bill by striking out from the paragraph entitled "HEALTH AND WELFARE, DEPARTMENT OF" the line "Old

Age Assistance-Benefits 3,215,325  
3,411,825” and inserting in place  
thereof the line ‘Old Age Assistance  
-Benefits 2,965,325 3,161,825’

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

Mr. CHASE: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that I am advised that a substantial number of members of the House have an engage-

ment for a meeting at 12:30, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Chase, moves that the House do now adjourn. Is this the pleasure of the House?

The motion prevailed, and the House

Adjourned until 10:00 o'clock tomorrow morning.