

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LEGISLATIVE RECORD**

**OF THE**

*Ninety-Sixth Legislature*

**OF THE**

**STATE OF MAINE**

**1953**

**DAILY KENNEBEC JOURNAL  
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

**SENATE**

Thursday, January 15, 1953

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Prayer by the Reverend Robert Brackley of Hallowell.

Journal of yesterday read and approved.

**Order****(Out of Order)**

On motion by Mr. Haskell of Penobscot, out of order and under suspension of the rules, it was

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they adjourn to meet on Tuesday, January 20, 1953 at 4:30 o'clock in the afternoon. (S. P. 38)

On further motion by the same Senator, sent forthwith to the House.

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

**Order****(Out of Order)**

On motion by Mr. Collins of Aroostook, out of order and under suspension of the rules, it was

ORDERED, the House concurring, that except as specifically provided for by the laws of the state, any and all expenses of this session of the 96th Legislature to be charged to State Account No. 2500, the Legislative Expense account, shall be subject to prior approval of the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs.

In the exercise of this responsibility, the Committee may grant to the officers of the Senate and House such authority as the Committee may wish, but in no case shall this delegated authority apply to payroll expenditures, and all legislative expenses shall bear Committee approval prior to the submission to the Controller for payment. (S. P. 39)

On further motion by the same Senator, sent forthwith to the House.

Subsequently the foregoing order was returned from the House, hav-

ing been read and passed in concurrence.

**From The House  
Joint Order**

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that the Joint Committee on Highways be authorized and directed to receive directly from Senators and Members of the House requests for allocation from the usual one hundred and fifty-thousand dollar annual appropriation for maintenance and repair of roads and bridges; and be it further

ORDERED, that the Joint Committee on Highways be authorized and directed to hold such hearings upon requests so filed as it shall deem necessary and desirable; and be it further

ORDERED, that the Committee on Highways is hereby authorized to report a Consolidated Resolve for the Maintenance and Repair of Roads and Bridges for the purpose of allocating such amounts as may be set up in the act making an allocation from the General Highway Fund. (H. P. 21)

Comes from the House, read and passed.

In the Senate, read and passed in concurrence.

**Referred to Committees**

"Resolve for the Maintenance and Repair of Roads and Bridges." (H. P. 1) (L. D. 1)

Which was referred to the Committee on Highways in concurrence.

"Resolve Providing for State Pension for Fred B. Lee, of Medway." (H. P. 19)

Which was referred to the Committee on Welfare in concurrence.

Mr. Chapman of Cumberland presented bill "An Act Relating to Additional Powers to Portland University." (S. P. 30)

Mr. CHAPMAN of Cumberland: Mr. President I fully realize as the sponsor of this bill, that the language of it provides a tangible and proper basis for reference to the Committee on Education as was suggested by the Committee on Reference of Bills. However, the bill really refers to the Portland University Law School with prospective

activities in the field of accountancy and therefore the subject matter to my mind more particularly pertains to Legal Affairs.

I might say that historically the predecessor of this bill in two biennia was before one of the legal committees and this bill was designed to clarify previous legislation. Therefore, in view of this background I move that the bill be referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs.

Thereupon, on motion by Mr. Haskell of Penobscot, the bill was laid upon the table pending motion by the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Chapman to refer to the Committee on Legal Affairs.

Mr. Chapman of Cumberland presented "Resolve Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Changing the Tenure of Office of the Governor to Four-Year Terms." (S. P. 31)

Mr. Chase of Cumberland presented Bill "An Act Relating to the Number of Registered Voters in Election Returns." (S. P. 32)

The same Senator presented Bill "An Act Relating to Party Enrollments in Primary Election Returns." (S. P. 33)

Which were severally referred to the Committee on Judiciary, and the same ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Mr. Reid of Kennebec presented Bill "An Act Relating to Definition of 'Base Period' Under Employment Security Law." (S. P. 34)

Which was referred to the Committee on Labor and the same ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Mr. Chapman of Cumberland presented "Resolve Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Providing for Annual Sessions of the Legislature." (S. P. 35)

Which was referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs and the same ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Mr. Chase of Cumberland presented Bill "An Act to Secure Uniformity of Assessment of Forest Lands for Purposes of Taxation." (S. P. 36)

The same Senator presented "Resolve Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Authorize the Legislature to Establish Classifications of Property for Uniform Assessment for Taxation." (S. P. 37)

Which were severally referred to the Committee on Taxation and the same ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

### Order

On motion by Mr. Littlefield of York, it was

ORDERED that the Forestry Department be granted the use of the Senate Chamber for a meeting on Friday and Saturday, February 13 and 14, if the Chamber is not required for legislative use.

### Orders of the Day

The Senator from Penobscot, Senator Haskell was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate.

Mr. HASKELL of Penobscot: Mr. President, it is only because of the hour that I would impose upon the Senate a matter that I am sure is not too important, but in prior sessions I know that all of the Senate members who have had the task of serving on either two or three committees in many cases have had hearings which conflict. This possibly could be avoided if early in the session the chairmen of the committees have a little meeting and maybe invite Mr. Russell, the superintendent of buildings to sit in with us, not with any idea of telling any committee chairman what day of the week he must have his hearings. Recognizing that the Committee on Judiciary and Appropriations Committee meet every day I feel that there might be merit, if the Committee Chairmen wish, that all of us get together some evening this week or after a session next week and express to one another our desires on hearing days. We might talk with Mr. Russell on the available spots so that most of the committees might sort of find a home for their hearings and work out a schedule as to their days that would best serve the convenience of the largest number.

If the committee chairmen feel there is merit in this suggestion,

I hope that someone will get up and say so and suggest when we might get together next week. It might just expedite things and be more convenient for all of us. So far as the House is concerned where the members have assignments on only one committee there would be no conflict there but there would be conflict in the Senate.

Hoping that someone will express an opinion, I thank the Senate for granting unanimous consent.

Mr. WIGHT of Penobscot: Mr. President, it seems as though that is a good idea for the chairmen to get together and I suggest that maybe we could have a meeting right after the session next Wednesday.

Mr. REID of Kennebec: Mr. President, I heartily agree with Senator Haskell. There is no time like the present so why don't we do it right now, after the session.

Mr. BROGGI of York: Mr. President, inasmuch as many committees have visitations to make and for instance, the Committee on Education is going to Farmington Normal School next Wednesday, I would think that Senator Reid's suggestion is excellent. The Committee on Education would not be available next Wednesday.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair does not understand that the Senator from Penobscot made a formal motion.

Mr. HASKELL: Mr. President, I will be very pleased to be corrected by the President if he does not agree with this procedure. It seems to me that the orderly motion might be to suggest that the Senate recess for a few minutes so that we may discuss the matter informally.

The PRESIDENT: Unless there be objection the Chair will be happy to entertain the motion that the Senate recess for approximately five minutes.

Thereupon, on motion by Mr. Wight of Penobscot, the Senate voted to recess.

#### After Recess

The Senate was called to order by the President.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair has been informed that due to the fact that the former Senator from Cumberland, Senator Allen, is no longer a member of this Senate, there is a vacancy on the Legislative Research Committee. The Chair appoints to fill that vacancy, the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Chase.

The Chair is further informed in connection with the same committee that due to the fact that the former Senator from Aroostook, Senator Brewer, is no longer a member of this Senate, a further vacancy exists and the Chair appoints to fill that vacancy the Senator from Aroostook, Senator Collins.

The Chair is further informed with respect to the Committee on Interstate Cooperation, that as former Senators Crosby, Ela and Sleeper are not members of the present Senate, three vacancies now exist on that committee and to fill those vacancies, the Chair will appoint, Senators Robbins of Aroostook, Weeks of Cumberland and Sinclair of Somerset.

The Chair is further informed that by reason of the fact that the former Senator from Franklin, Senator Crosby, is no longer a member of the Senate a vacancy exists in the membership of the Northeastern Forest Fire Compact and to fill that vacancy the Chair appoints the Senator from Oxford, Senator Carter.

On motion by Mr. Wight of Penobscot,

Adjourned until Tuesday next, January 20 at 4.30 o'clock in the afternoon.