

# 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**

Tuesday, January 27, 1953.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Prayer by the Rev. Ernest B. Johnson of Hallowell.

Journal of Thursday, January 22, 1953.

**Referred to Committees  
House Papers**

"Resolve Providing for State Pension for Everett B. Crabbe, of Mars Hill." (H. P. 124)

"Resolve Providing for State Pension for Ruth Flewellyn, of Bridgewater." (H. P. 125)

"Resolve Providing for an Increase in State Pension for Harold H. Weymouth, of St. Albans." (H. P. 126)

"Resolve Providing for State Pension for Harry E. Cobb, of Harmony." (H. P. 127)

"Resolve Providing for State Pension for Clyde Spaulding, of Hartland." (H. P. 128)

"Resolve Providing for State Pension for Leland J. Small of Lewiston." (H. P. 129)

"Resolve Providing for State Pension for Sadie Crush, of Wilton." (H. P. 130)

"Resolve Providing for State Pension for Nettie Johnson, of Brownfield." (H. P. 131)

"Resolve Providing for State Pension for Elmer McKenney, of Lowell." (H. P. 132)

"Resolve Providing for an Increase in State Pension for John Upham of Thomaston." (H. P. 133)

Which were severally referred to the Committee on Welfare in concurrence.

"Resolve in Favor of the Town of Waterford." (H. P. 92)

Which was referred to the Committee on Highways in concurrence.

**Senate Papers**

Mr. Parker of Piscataquis presented "Resolve in Favor of Addition to Animal Science Building at University of Maine." (S. P. 67)

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Mr. Collins of Aroostook presented Bill "An Act Relating to Members of Executive Council and Manner of Selection." (S. P. 68)

Mr. Parker of Piscataquis presented Bill "An Act Relating to Dogs Attacking Domestic Animals or Fowl." (S. P. 69)

Mr. Dennett of York presented Bill "An Act to Facilitate Voting by Members of the Armed Forces of the United States." (S. P. 70)

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

Sent down for concurrence.

The same Senator presented Bill "An act Amending the Charter of the Kittery Electric Light Company." (S. P. 71)

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Mr. Dunham of Hancock presented Bill "An Act to Amend the Exemption in the Sales and Use Tax Law Respecting Hospitals." (S. P. 72)

Mr. Sinclair of Somerset presented Bill "An Act to Prevent Multiple Sales or Use Taxes." (S. P. 73)

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Mr. Jamieson of Aroostook presented Bill "An Act Relating to Salary of Commissioners of Aroostook County." (S. P. 74)

Which was referred to the Committee on Towns and Counties, and the same ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

**Orders of the Day**

Mr. TABB of Kennebec was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate.

Mr. TABB: Mr. President and members of the Senate, referring to the Fourth Report of the Legislative Research Committee, Page Eleven, I should like to read the last paragraph on that page of the Report:

"The foregoing recommendations in some instances reflect the views of a majority of the Committee. It is understood that members holding

other views are free to differ herein or hereafter from the majority opinion, and to add to this report an expression of their own views or a record of their dissent from particular recommendations."

I am one of those who did not go along with the full text of this report of the Research Committee. At this time I will not make any statement as to why I differ with the report and instead of putting in a minority report I thought possibly, with the advice of the Committee, that this was the best way to do it. However, there will be in your possession, I hope—and I hope you will do better than the Research Committee has done in getting the Dow Report—we didn't get ours until the 30th day of December—and you can see there wasn't much time—and I hope we will get that report before this session expires. If you don't do any better than we did we will probably have to come back in special session.

I hope you will not digest the whole of this report until after you read what the Professor has to say about it and then make your conclusions, and at that time I will state my views as to why I am not in accord with the report of the Research Committee on county government.

Mr. Weeks of Cumberland was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate.

Mr. WEEKS: Mr. President and members of the Senate, during the last two weeks, I believe, I have received communications from weekly newspapers or publications and they have urged me to do something because notices of hearings which are published in the daily papers should also be advertised in the weekly papers. As a result of those communications I said I would bring it to the attention of the various committee chairmen and in the meantime I have talked with the Clerk of the House and the Secretary of the Senate regarding the matter.

Of course the statute merely calls for publication in the state paper and then it is distributed in other papers where the subject matter may be of particular interest but the weekly papers are not receiving any of these notices. As I under-

stand it, it is just a question of mechanics and obviously if the chairman of a committee publishes notice on Thursday or Friday of a hearing to be held the following Tuesday or Wednesday and the paper itself is not published until Wednesday, it does not serve the necessary function.

The only thought of the editors of these weekly publications was that possibly the chairmen could set their hearings a week or two in advance and thereby use some of the weeklies in publishing these notices. I call this to your attention for your consideration, and the chairmen could do it I suppose by planning ahead, a little further than I do, and possibly some of the rest of us do. Thank you.

Mr. HASKELL of Penobscot: Mr. President and members of the Senate, I think the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Weeks has presented the case of the weekly newspapers very fairly. My interest in it is this. As a member of the Committee on Reference of Bills, the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Weeks mentioned the problem to me early in the session. We were not able to send them to the weeklies because the committee chairmen generally do not give the lists to the State Printer until Thursday and it is useless to try to get them into the weekly newspapers.

It happens that the Eastport Sentinel in its leading editorial about the legislature took us to task on this. I called the distinguished editor of that newspaper, Mr. Gerald White to explain that the legislature did not have those hearing lists and he readily agreed that it would be useless to give them to the weekly papers unless the committee chairmen—and I think to have it done in an orderly way it must be all the chairman—thought they could schedule public hearings two weeks in advance. I would do nothing to prevent the weekly newspapers from having those lists, but I believe that at this stage of the session, at least, if we attempt to schedule two weeks ahead, we will be having bills left out of public hearings that normally would be left in.

For instance, if by Thursday of this week you must make up your

listings for the week after next, probably you will receive bills next week that could logically go into the list for the following week. As a practical thing, I doubt that every chairman could accomplish what needs to be accomplished to give these lists to the weeklies.

I am not arguing against the thought that it would be nice to have the hearings published in the weeklies but it will be difficult to get the committee chairmen to get their lists in by Thursday. To do it two weeks in advance seems to me rather difficult. We do not want to offend the weeklies by saying that it cannot be done and I thought I satisfied the gentleman from Eastport by telling him that we do try to keep these up to date. He saw

the mechanics of the thing but it had never been explained to him before. I would be first to join in an effort to get them in, two weeks in advance if it can be done, but until there is unanimity I do believe there would be all manner of confusion. We all ought to agree to the two weeks in advance or stay where we are. If we could all do it, we can make everybody happy.

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The PRESIDENT: The Senate is proceeding under Orders of the Day.

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On motion by Mr. Jamieson of Aroostook

Adjourned until tomorrow morning at ten o'clock.