

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

SENATE.

No. 243

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE to appropriate \$500 to screen Snow pond, or Messalonskee lake, so called, in the county of Kennebec.

Resolved, That the sum of five hundred dollars be and is
2 hereby appropriated for the purpose of screening Snow
3 pond, or Messalonskee lake, so called, in the county of Ken-
4 nebec, to be expended under the direction of the commis-
5 sioners of inland fisheries and game, when the balance neces-
6 sary to erect said screen, as found by the commissioners,
7 shall have been raised by the citizens of the county of Ken-
8 nebec, and paid into the treasurer of state for this purpose,
9 to aid in erecting this screen.

Provided, further, that this appropriation shall not be
11 available until the town of Oakland shall, in legal town meet-

12 ing, and having an article in the warrant for said town meet-
13 ing for that purpose, by vote of record, voted to assume all
14 liability for the keeping of said screen at all times free from
15 sticks, leaves and all debris, so that the same will not become
16 clogged and prevent the free running of the water through
17 the same.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

Messalonskee lake is the lower of what is known as Belgrade chain of lakes, which consist of East, North, Great, Ellis, McGrath, Long and Messalonskee, comprising seventy-five square miles of area. These lakes are principally fed by springs, consequently the water is pure and well adapted to the propagation of trout and bass. Thousands of small frye, namely, trout and bass, have been put in these lakes by the fish commission of Maine, and the department of fisheries of the United States Government. These small fish were placed in the lakes some twenty years ago and during the last fishing season it was not uncommon that an eight or ten pound trout was taken.

On the shores of these ponds are numerous cottages, hotels and summer resorts, and it would be a conservative statement to say that last season there were at least five thousand transient people occupying the summer places referred to. The principal attraction being the fishing. This is, of course, a source of great profit to the people about these lakes, as guiding and the entertainment of summer visitors has become quite an industry.

It is a well known fact that the large fish are escaping, as several have been caught at the foot of the falls below Messalonskee lake. In order that this may be prevented, it is asked that a screen be put at the outlet of Messalonskee lake, that fishing in these lakes may continue to be attractive.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, March 12, 1907.

Reported by Mr. RICE from Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game,
and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

F. G. FARRINGTON, *Secretary*.