JOINT ORDER

EIGHTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

Senate Document **No. 155**

In Senate, Feb. 12, 1929.

Tabled by Senator Murchie of Washington pending passage and 500 copies ordered printed.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Murchie of Washington.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINE

JOINT ORDER Relative to Investigation into Economic Phases of Subject of Export of Hydro-electric Power.

Whereas the State of Maine for a period of approximately twenty years has pursued the policy of retaining within its territoral limits the hydro-electric energy produced by water powers within its borders, and

Whereas this policy has been challenged on economic grounds by parties interested in the ownership of water powers and water power sites within the State, and

Whereas a proper settlement of the problem of a desirable water power policy should be predicated solely upon the ques-

tion of what policy is for the best interests of a majority of our own people

Ordered, the House concurring, that the committee to which has been referred Senate Document No. 44 and other bills and orders dealing with the subject matter of the export of hydro-electric energy is hereby requested and directed to conduct such an investigation into the economic phases of the problem of power export as in the opinion of said committee and its members may be necessary to advise this legislature, at the time of making its report on said bills or orders or any one of them upon the following matters:

(1) The price of industrial power as sold by public utility corporations in Maine, in New Hampshire and in Massachusetts.

(2) The trend of such prices in said states during a period of not less than the last three years.

(3) The probable cost of construction of a power transmission line from the probable terminus in Maine to the probable terminus in Massachusetts with a designation of those probable termini.

(4) The probable cost of operation of such a line including capital charges and transmission losses.

(5) The relative cost of power developed in Maine delivered to points in Maine, in New Hampshire and in Massachusetts.

(6) The probable effect of the construction and opera-

tion of such a line upon the price of industrial power in Maine, in New Hampshire and in Massachusetts.

(7) The present ratio of steam installation to hydro installation of the major utilities in Maine, in New Hampshire and in Massachusetts.

(8) The desirable ratio of such installations, having regard to the nature of the loads of the several utilities.

(9) The present freight costs for goods being manufactured in substantial quantities in Maine, in New Hampshire and in Massachusetts with a comparison of the same between state and state.

(10) The trend of freight costs during a period of not less than the last three years with information if any is available of prospective changes.

(11) The proportion of power costs and freight costs in the present major industries in said states, exclusive of such of those industries as depend upon raw materials available in large quantities in the state of manufacture.

(12) The relative worth to the owners of powers and power sites in Maine of such powers or sites used, first, in manufacture and, second, for the production of hydro-electric energy for sale.

(13) The minimum amount of power export necessary to make the construction and operation of a transmission line to Massachusetts commercially feasible.

(14) The class or kind of power, as now in use in New Hampshire and in Massachusetts, which power exported

from Maine will probably replace and, if more than one class or kind, the proportion or amount of the several classes, that is, prime, secondary and relay.

(15) The desirability, from a capital standpoint, having regard to power cost, to freight cost, and to other items, of the location of industry in Maine under present conditions and after the construction of a line capable of transmitting electric energy in large amounts to New Hampshire and to Massachusetts.