

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Acts and Resolves

As Passed by the

Seventy-Ninth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

AT THE

SPECIAL SESSION

November 4-8, 1919

Supplementary to the Acts and Resolves of the Regular Session.

Published by the Secretary of State, in accordance with the Resolves of the Legislature approved June 28, 1820, March 18, 1840, and March 16, 1842.

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MESSAGES

GOVERNOR MILLIKEN'S ADDRESS AT THE CONVENING OF THE SEVENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE IN SPECIAL SESSION (November 4, 1919)

Gentlemen of the Seventy-ninth Legislature:

You have been summoned to consider various important public questions which seem to require legislative action. These subjects are submitted without prejudice to any other matters which may appear to you to merit your attention at this special session.

Vacancy in the Sixth Councilor District

It is my sad duty to announce to you the death of Hon. Norman H. Fay, member of the Executive Council from the Sixth Councilor District. His genuine worth and many lovable qualities won the respect and affection of all whose privilege it was to be associated with him. His ripe business judgment and conscientious devotion to the interests of the people made him an exceptionally valuable public servant. It is your duty to elect a successor for the balance of the term.

Federal Equal Suffrage Amendment

The secretary of state will transmit to you the official notification that Congress of the United States has proposed for ratification by the Legislatures of the several states an amendment to the Federal Constitution granting equal suffrage to women.

The Supreme Judicial Court of Maine in a recent advisory opinion relative to a referendum on the so-called prohibitory amendment stated with admirable clearness and force that a Federal Constitutional amendment proposed by Congress for ratification by the State Legislature cannot be submitted to referendum vote of the people of the State.

Nor is there any serious reason for such a vote in the case of the suffrage amendment. The referendum is a very important and valuable safeguard against possible invasion of the rights of the people by unwise acts of a Legislature. But it is difficult to imagine how the granting of suffrage to women can be in any sense an invasion of anybody's rights. It is true that some conservative women shrink from the responsibility of suffrage,

but in the event of the adoption of the amendment, no compulsion will be exercised upon them. They will not be required to vote unless they wish to do so.

On the other hand, many women do desire the privilege of suffrage; many others are willing to accept the responsibility, if it is placed upon them. With equal suffrage a fact in the progressive nations of the Old World, and in many states of the Union, with special sessions of State Legislatures being called for the ratification of this amendment, with ratification accomplished in eighteen of the more progressive and populous states of the Union and denied in only three of the states that have thus voted, every remaining State Legislature ought promptly to act upon the proposed Federal amendment so that, if the verdict of the requisite thirty-six states be favorable, those women who are willing to exercise the right of suffrage may do so in 1920.

It is not a question how many women are now asking the right of suffrage. Many who are now reluctant or opposed will, when the time comes, accept the responsibility cheerfully. Public opinion is fast coming to the point of according equal suffrage to women as a matter of right. If only one woman in Maine wants to vote, she ought to have the chance.

The suggestion that your action should await the referendum on the presidential suffrage act passed at your regular session seems to me to be unsound. Such a vote could only be advisory, and even if it had been possible to conduct a special election before this time and get a full expression of the popular will regarding the presidential suffrage, this advice would still be of doubtful value as to the Federal amendment. It is well known that the cleavage of opinion is not the same upon the two questions. Some who favor presidential suffrage oppose full suffrage, and some who advocate full suffrage reject presidential suffrage as a makeshift. Neither is the division line identical between the advocates and opponents of Federal and of State suffrage.

No general spontaneous popular protest against the presidential suffrage act has been apparent. The fact that a group of active canvassers secured ten thousand signatures to a referendum petition on presidential suffrage should not be allowed to delay your ratification of the Federal amendment.

Bond Issue for Roads and Bridges

The overwhelming vote by which the people endorsed the constitutional amendment authorizing further bonded indebtedness for the construction of roads and bridges shows plainly their desire that the further necessary steps to make the money available be taken without undue delay. Three standing committees of the legislature at a recent informal conference drafted bills which will make available the necessary funds for the con-

struction between now and the legislative session in 1921. I commend these bills to your favorable consideration.

The Granville Bill

The so-called Granville bill which provides for special aid to town roads not now included in the state road or state aid program was referred to this special session for consideration. This bill embodies a valuable suggestion which may well be worked out in the near future in order that state aid program as referred to roads may increase along with the rapid increase in the state and federal aid construction program. I urge you to bear in mind however that during 1920 a great strain will be put upon the organization of our Highway Department. The amount of new construction proposed for that one year is several times greater than has been undertaken in one year before. At the best we shall find serious difficulty in securing the necessary men and material to complete the federal aid roads for which funds will be available. In these circumstances it seems to me unwise to attempt in the year 1920 the amount of additional detail and supervision which a proper organization of the plan suggested in the Granville bill would certainly involve.

Peaks Island Water Supply

There can be no doubt that insufficient or uncertain water supply for a community as large as the summer colony at Peaks Island constitutes a grave public emergency. After a careful investigation by the Public Utilities Commission I am convinced that further legislative authority is probably necessary to assure the people of Peaks Island an adequate supply of pure water for domestic purposes. I therefore urge you to take such action as may seem appropriate after a study of the facts which will be presented to the proper joint standing committee.

Bonus for Service Men

Maine yields to no other state in the desire to show appreciation of the courage and devotion of the soldiers, sailors and marines who served in the war with Germany. Almost alone among the states, we have made a generous provision for the dependents of service men. This aid has been granted to nearly seven thousand families in about 350 different cities and towns and in some cases has amounted to more than a thousand dollars for a single family. Under the new law which you wisely passed at the regular session aid will be continued as long as the necessity exists in the case of the dependent relatives of soldiers, sailors and marines killed in the service.

Considerable sentiment is apparent among our people for further recognition of service men by payment of a cash bonus. Five states have so

far taken such action. In each instance the money has been raised by some form of borrowing and is to be refunded later by some form of special or increased regular taxation. Such action is not possible under the constitution of Maine. Without an amendment to the constitution we could only raise the necessary funds by direct taxation and the money could not be paid until it is actually received, not sooner than Jan. 1, 1921. For a bonus of \$100 to each service man nearly \$3,000,000 would be required. This would mean a poll tax of \$15 or a property tax of more than five mills or a combination of the two, all to be collected during the year 1920.

Conference among those interested has developed the opinion that it is unwise to propose so large a tax burden in one year. A committee of the American Legion has therefore framed a resolve for a constitutional amendment and a bill providing the machinery for making the money available if the resolve is adopted by the people. The constitutional amendment provides for an extension of our debt limit to allow the issuance of \$3,000,000 of bonds for the purpose of providing bonuses for service men. It is proposed that the vote be taken at the regular election in 1920. If the amendment is adopted the money can be made available probably sooner than by any other possible method and this plan has the further merit of allowing the people to express themselves upon the question at the polls. I recommend the passage of the resolve and accompanying act.

Armistice Day Holiday

There is a widespread sentiment among our people for some appropriate observance of the anniversary of the armistice which ended hostilities between the Allies and the Imperial German Government. Because of the fact that you were to meet in session this week I have thought it wise to defer making any proclamation upon the subject until you should have had the opportunity to express yourselves. I recommend that you take such action as may seem to you advisable for fitting observance of Tuesday, Nov. 11th, as Armistice day.

Income Tax Constitutional Amendments

The great inequality in our present taxation system is the condition under which a large amount of intangible property, probably more than the two hundred millions, escapes state and municipal taxation altogether. Party platforms have habitually though more or less vaguely declared for the correction of this injustice which lays an unequal share of the taxation burden upon real estate and other tangible property. A recent amendment to the state constitution made possible one method of correcting this state of things, the method of a special flat rate on such property. The trend of thought at present is however distinctly towards the other of the two

methods available, namely, a state income tax. At the regular session you directed a special joint committee to investigate this subject and propose legislation at the next regular session. The members of this committee after conference and study of the subject have advised me informally that they expect to recommend to the next legislature some form of income tax law. I assume that such a law would contain a provision for the return of a considerable share of the revenue collected to the cities and towns from which the taxes are paid. It would thus be a readjustment of the burden of taxation resulting in the partial relief of tangible property and in the long run would tend to decrease the property tax rate in the cities and towns.

I am advised that such legislation will require a further amendment to the constitution. The details can be worked out of course by the next legislature after the committee's recommendations have been fully considered but I suggest that in view of the evident necessity of a constitutional amendment in order to make any form of income tax possible, you refer the subject to the people to be voted on in September, 1920, in order that, if the action of the people is favorable the committee's recommendations may be considered at the regular session in 1921.

High Cost of Living

Even a cursory study of the conditions contributing to the present high cost of living makes it clear that no complete remedy is possible by rhetoric or by acts of legislatures. In the main the situation is the result of the operation of economic laws that are as inexorable as the law of gravitation. World-wide inflation and consequent cheapening of currency, world shortage of some of the necessities of life, industrial unrest and idleness restricting production, and an unprecedented saturnalia of extravagance in expenditure; these are the chief basic causes, all of them evidently beyond the reach of legislation. Nothing but the return of the old-fashioned virtues of industry and frugality will solve the problem. We must produce more than we consume, save part of what we earn, be willing to rely for the reward of service upon the worth of the service itself, and not upon artificial combinations or restraints before we can greatly reduce the high cost of living.

But state and national governments have a proper function to perform in this connection. That function is to restrain unfair or unreasonable practices in the distribution of the necessities of life which tend to widen the gap between the price which the producer receives and the price that the consumer pays. At my request the attorney general has made a careful study of the subject and has reported to me that we have no effective laws in Maine for dealing with such practices if they should be found to exist.

After conference with the attorney general of the United States and with the attorney generals of many states and examination of existing and proposed laws upon the subject, including the federal law just passed, he has prepared two acts which I think furnish a suitable working basis for legislation such as the people rightly expect of you. It is not the intention of such laws to interfere with the proper and reasonable management of any business, nor to undertake any price-fixing or other attempted interference with the economic laws which govern trade and markets. I heartily concur however with the suggestion of the attorney general of the United States that each state ought to have a reasonable and proper law restraining unfair and unjust practices in the distributing of the necessities of life.

(Signed) CARL E. MILLIKEN,

Governor.

**SPECIAL MESSAGE OF GOV. MILLIKEN TO THE MEMBERS
OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AT THE SPECIAL
SESSION OF THE SEVENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE**

(Nov. 7, 1919)

In response to orders passed by the Maine House of Representatives, during the special session of the 79th Legislature which convened on November 4, 1919, Governor Carl E. Milliken on the afternoon of Friday, November 7, appeared before the House and said:

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives of the Seventy-ninth Legislature:

“State of Maine.

“In House of Representatives, November 4, 1919.

“Ordered, that the Governor be requested to file with the Clerk of the House an itemized statement of expenditures for 1917, 1918 and 1919, which have been made from or charged to either the contingent fund of the Governor and Council or the State contingent fund,” with the usual endorsements showing passage. Also “Ordered, that the Governor be requested to file with the Clerk of the House an itemized statement of expense already incurred in connection with rebuilding, repairing, altering and furnishing the former residence of Hon. James G. Blaine, and also statement of cost of the adjoining property purchased or to be purchased by the State, together with a detailed estimate of future expenses of this kind; also an estimate of the expense of maintenance of same for 1920.”

I take these orders up together, and state in the first place that I am filing now with the Clerk the detailed figures, and I have sought this opportunity to come in person in order that I may explain the figures to some extent and summarize them for your convenience.

I want you to consider first the State Contingent Fund. From the fact that I find in talking with members a very general lack of understanding as to what that fund means, at the risk of going over a matter that some of you are familiar with, I want to take a few minutes to explain it, briefly but I hope clearly.

In the first place let us understand that the State Contingent Fund is nothing more nor less than the working balance from year to year. It represents the excess, if there be any excess, of revenue over appropriations. It is what a business concern would call the profit and loss account or the surplus,—nothing more nor less than that.

Now there are two ways by which income gets into the State Contingent Fund. Under the law a balance of a legislative appropriation which has not been expended on December 31st of the year for which it was appropriated may be lapsed by order of the Governor and Council into the State Contingent Fund. That is the first source of income. In practice that action is taken when in the judgment of the Governor and Council the need of expenditure under that particular appropriation is finished. For example, the appropriation of a certain amount has been made for the construction of a building. The building is all constructed and completed in the year, all bills paid so far as anybody knows, and the balance remains. Very likely the Governor and Council would lapse that balance, as we call it, into the Contingent Fund on December 31.

The second source of revenue to the Contingent Fund is the provision of the statute that appropriations in a given year automatically lapse into the Contingent Fund on June 30th of the following year, unless work is already under way or in some way the appropriation is in process of expenditure. In those circumstances the appropriation may sometimes be held beyond June 30. Have I made it clear, then, that the Contingent Fund is the working balance, the surplus, if there is any, of income over outgo and that it goes into the Contingent Fund in those two ways?

Money comes out of the State Contingent Fund on the order of the Governor and Council in three ways.

First, it comes out for bills against appropriations the year before which did not come in until after the appropriation was lapsed or for which the appropriation was insufficient. For example, when we began business here in January, 1917, a large project of construction was under way at the Maine State Prison, the appropriation having been made for use during 1916. The project was not completed. It turned out that a large amount beyond the total of the appropriation was needed to finish that job. That amount was furnished under the Contingent Fund law by order of the Governor and Council in addition to that 1916 appropriation.

The second method by which money comes out of the Contingent Fund by order of the Governor and Council is by additions made to appropria-

tions that have proved insufficient or funds set up to perform work that the Legislature has authorized but for which no appropriation is made. May I illustrate briefly? For example: A state institution for which the Legislature has made a given appropriation finds near the close of the year that its appropriation for maintenance is insufficient. Application is made to the Governor and Council,—and the Governor and Council in those instances are acting in the place of the Legislature, just as the directors act in place of the stockholders of the corporation when the stockholders are not in session. If that application is approved by the Governor and Council an amount is appropriated or transferred, as we call it, from the State Contingent Fund and added to that appropriation.

Or it may be that the Legislature has authorized a piece of work and has made no appropriation. To come to your own session last winter for example the Centennial celebration proposition is of that kind. You authorized observance of the Centennial of the State in 1920 and elected a committee to do that work. You made no appropriation. That created an obligation upon the State to do a certain piece of work and the funds for that purpose would have to be provided out of the Contingent Fund by order of the Governor and Council. You took the same kind of action in regard to the Bath Ferry. You authorized the Governor and Council to acquire that property, to make such expenditures as might be necessary to furnish adequate ferry service. You made no appropriation for that purpose, the understanding being that the Governor and Council would have to take the necessary funds from the Contingent Fund. That is the second way by which money goes out from the Contingent Fund on order of the Governor and Council,—by appropriation, acting in place of the Legislature either to add to an insufficient appropriation that you have made or to provide for a project for which you made no appropriation but which you authorized.

The third case is the case of emergency. The so-called Contingent Fund law authorizes the Governor and Council to spend money from the Contingent Fund in a real case of emergency, if the emergency in the opinion of the Governor and Council is fairly shown to exist. May I illustrate that briefly? In 1917 it appeared that the boilers of the heating plant of the Maine State Prison had been condemned by inspectors; they were unsafe and unusable. It was necessary of course that the institution should be heated during the coming winter. The Governor and Council in that situation decided that an emergency existed and set aside out of the Contingent Fund the necessary money to put in the new boilers.

Now I have made so much preliminary explanation in order to make clear the figures, the summaries of which I am going to give you now for

the three years. Bear in mind that the detailed figures are here and will be on file with the Clerk. These are the totals:

Balance in the Contingent Fund on January 1, 1917, when we began business was	\$106,614 68
There came into that fund during the year 1917 sixty items lapsed from various appropriations amounting to	412,534 91
There went out from the Contingent Fund by transfer to various appropriations, some of them of the year before, and some of them of the current year as I have indicated,	215,009 09
Leaving the balance of the Contingent Fund on January 1, 1918,	304,140 50

Now I may say that for the year 1917 these figures which I am filing with the Clerk in accordance with your request are printed in the State Auditor's report and have been circulated for some time and are available in that form. What I am filing is the printed pages, taken out of his report.

In 1918 there were 81 items lapsed for the year into the Contingent Fund, unexpended appropriation balances, amounting to	\$352,761 95
There were 312 items transferred out of the Contingent Fund, to various appropriations, amounting to	331,405 72
The balance on January 1, 1919, was	325,496 73

For the year 1918 also the figures of which I am giving you the summary, that is the detailed figures, which I am filing with the Clerk, are a part of the printed report of the Auditor which has been published and circulated.

From January 1 to November 1, 1919, 161 items have been lapsed into the Contingent Fund, amounting to	\$150,687 51
190 items in all have been transferred from the Contingent Fund, amounting to	164,417 41

In that total is included all of the expenditure for the Blaine Mansion, because the Blaine Mansion proposition is one of the kind of projects to which I just referred, which the Legislature authorized but for which no definite appropriation was made.

The balance in the State Contingent Fund on November 1, 1919, therefore, was	\$311,766 83
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In this connection, let me call your attention to an error which perhaps was a natural one in the remarks made the other day in connection with

this order. I hold in my hand the Kennebec Journal of November 6, which is the only available form in which the official record so far—stenographic record—has been published. These are part of the remarks reported as having been uttered by the gentleman who presented the order on November 5, as follows: "On the first day of last January the State Auditor reported \$325,496.73 in the State Contingent Fund, and in June by reason of lapsed appropriations that fund was increased \$150,687.51, making a total last June of \$476,184.24." You will notice that those figures are the same as those I have just given you. Those were taken from the books of the Auditor and are correct. The statement goes on: "Since that time there has been expended of the \$476,000, \$349,000; and I say to you, gentlemen, that when the Legislature had to deny many worthy appropriations for educational and other purposes—I remember the resolve in favor of the town of Porter, vetoed by the Governor, passed by this House. Many things we had to deny and were worthy of our consideration and worthy of an appropriation, and yet since last June \$349,000 out of \$476,000 of the Contingent Fund has been expended."

The error which perhaps is a natural one consisted of the balance on hand which I have just given you which at that time was \$349,023.50 for the amount which had been expended. At the time the figures were taken from the books the correct balance was \$349,023.50, and the amount that had been taken out up to that time since the first of January was \$127,160.74. Some items that belonged before November 1, have since been paid, making the balance now \$311,766.83.

Let me say that I would be glad to have anybody ask me any questions at any time as I go along. What I am trying to do is to make these figures plain to you so that you can understand them.

I ought to mention one point further before I leave the State Contingent Fund, and that is this, that the vouchers for all sums of money that go out from the State Contingent Fund are on file in the Auditor's office; but they are not on file in the precise items always in which the appropriations from the State Contingent Fund are made. Let me see if I can make that clear. In case the appropriations from the State Contingent Fund were for a definite object, a bill which had been designated in a previous year for instance, then the item showing the payment of the bill would correspond exactly to the transfer which shows on the record of the Governor and Council. We would have transferred \$1,000 for example to meet a bill of \$1,000 which had developed out of the previous year; just as sometimes a man in handling his bank account will make a deposit of \$1,000 to meet a bill of \$1,000 which he pays the same day. But it more often happens that the appropriation from the State Contingent Fund, like the appropriations that the Legislature makes, cannot be divided into the items of the final outgo. For example, it is just like a case of a man

who deposits various items in his bank account and then checks out the items on the other hand; deposits \$1,000 now, \$1,000 tomorrow, and in the meantime is paying out on the other hand the various bills for which he may draw checks. So in the case of the State Contingent Fund, if the Governor and Council add to the appropriation of an institution \$1,000, \$3,000, \$4,000, whatever the amount may be, the vouchers are on file when that is expended. The action of the Governor and Council does not give the institution, or any individual the money immediately. It makes the money available just as your appropriation made it available in the case of the appropriation made for maintenance of the institution in the first place; and as fast as that money is paid out on proper vouchers furnished by the institution or its employees, then the vouchers are kept in the Auditor's office and on file.

Now coming to the Contingent Fund of the Governor and Council, for which an appropriation of \$10,000 a year is made: The items are filed here just as in the case of the State Contingent Fund. In this case the items show in the Auditor's office but the vouchers are not on file in the office of the Auditor. The Contingent Fund of the Governor and Council from the beginning, as a matter of custom, and from 1907 as a matter of law, has been subject to the provision that the vouchers should not be made a matter of public record and should not be filed in the office of the Auditor. What the reason for that has been, I do not know, unless it is a fact that some of these expenditures out of this Contingent Fund are always confidential in their nature, particularly those relating to the detection of crime. Those vouchers, therefore, are not on file in the Auditor's office, and are not matters of public record; but I am saying to you frankly that any member of the Legislature who is interested may come to our office where they are on file, and the messenger of the Governor and Council who makes out those requisitions, who manifests those items, will be very glad to explain any item to any member in such detail as the member may wish.

I come now to the consideration of the third item in these orders, namely, the expenditures for the Blaine Mansion, and I cannot approach the subject properly without starting from the beginning and reciting the authority under which we are proceeding in that matter and the reasons which led up to the action which you took last winter.

On the 21st day of January I sent to the Legislature the following message:

"Immediately upon the organization of the Committee of Public Safety in March, 1917, Walker Blaine Beale, telephoning from his college dormitory, placed at the disposition of the committee the house which had been the home of his distinguished grandfather. He did this without reserve, and with all the ardor of his high spirit. His heart, if not his home, had

ever been in Maine, and he gave this expression of the love he bore her, and of the obligation imposed by birth, by the blood that Maine had honored, and which by illustrious service had honored Maine.

“He was not to live to see the full execution of his filial and patriotic purpose by the uses to which this house was dedicated, and to which, though the committee no longer exists, it continues to be dedicated in his memory by his mother.

“From it the food production of the State was stimulated—a valuable adjunct to the navy was created, unique among the States—our people aroused and united as never before in unselfish effort. And in the appalling epidemic which swept the State, it was from here that the emergency committee directed the fight against it, and heroic messengers of mercy were sent forth to our stricken communities.

“Today, it is the repository of the faithful records of the Exemption Boards—the records of those who served and who were ready to serve, alike with the records of the few who failed in this great test of men.

“This benefaction to the State was the least gift the author of it was to give to the great cause in which his whole heart was enlisted. He volunteered, he died in action. No nobler eulogy can any man have than this!

“There have been many heroes in this war, and heroines too, far from the battle line. But in the words of that great American whom a nation has just been called upon to mourn, ‘The torches whose flame was brightest were borne by the gallant men at the front, and by the gallant women whose husbands and lovers, whose sons and brothers, were at the front.’

“On the roll of eternal honor of those who will never come back, no name shall rank another!

“For all made equal sacrifice. Among them there is in our hearts no room for invidious comparison, nor can there be in theirs. Recruited from college, factory and from farm, they lived over there as they left us here; in affectionate comradeship, the grandest democratic army the world has ever seen!

“Not, therefore, to him alone, but to all youth, whose exemplar he was, by virtue of his manly and endearing qualities, do I refer, when I call your attention for appropriate action to the memory of Walker Blaine Beale, in the name of all those who fell—in the name of our sorrowing womanhood, whose sorrows can never equal the pride and joy those sorrows give them the right to feel.”

On the 11th of March I sent to the Legislature the message of which I will read a part, the part that I shall read being only the letter which Mrs. Beale sent to me, and which reads as follows:

“I deliver to you for the State with this letter the deed in trust of my father’s home in memory of my son, Walker Blaine Beale.

"There are two things which I desire to provide for but which I did not think necessary to incorporate in the deed because this letter will be sufficient.

"I would like the privilege of placing in the near future, at my own expense, in an appropriate place in the front hall a bronze tablet with this inscription:

"This house and the land on which it stands was the home of James G. Blaine and was given to the State of Maine in the name of his grandson, Walker Blaine Beale, First Lieutenant 310th Infantry, 78th Division, who was born here March 22, 1896, and who fell in France in the St. Mihiel Drive, September 18th, 1918.

"*'Laetus sorte mea.'*"

Chapter 119 of the laws of 1919, approved April 1, 1919, reads in part as follows:

"Resolved, that the State accepts in trust the deed from Harriet Blaine Beale of the home of her father, Honorable James G. Blaine, in memory of and in the name of her son, Lieutenant Walker Blaine Beale, who fell fighting in France on the eighteenth day of September, nineteen hundred and eighteen, and pledges its honor faithfully to fulfill the trust and to carry out with scrupulous care the directions and desires set forth in the deed and in the letter which accompanied it.

"That the State hereby records its deep appreciation and its enduring gratitude for this gift which, in the complete satisfaction of a present need of the State, has a large and readily measured value, and also has even a greater value in those unseen and eternal things which make it priceless. For it will always speak to us of the heart of woman with its generosity, pure and tender sentiment and love of home; of the ever widening and abiding influence of a man of winning personality, persuasive speech, profound thought, broad grasp and prophetic vision; of the burning zeal of youth, its quick response to noble family tradition and that flaming patriotism which offers and gives the 'last full measure of devotion.'"

Chapter 141, approved April 2, 1919, reads as follows:

"Resolved: That the Governor and Council be, and hereby are, authorized and instructed to make such alterations, improvements and repairs of the residence of the late James G. Blaine, recently given to the State by Mrs. Harriet Blaine Beale, as may appear to the Governor and Council to be needed, and to furnish the house suitably, for the purpose of an executive mansion for the Governor of the State while in office, and to acquire by purchase such contiguous property as may be desirable for said purpose, and that the same be paid for out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated."

I have read that to furnish the background which will remind you of the significant fact about this whole project, namely, that this Blaine Mansion is not in the first instance a residence for the Governor. You directed the Governor and Council to prepare it for that purpose, but it is in the first instance a memorial to Mr. Blaine and to his grandson, Walker Blaine Beale.

I have filed with you the statement of the costs to date, and the details are as follows:

Wages	\$18,159 12
Equipment	22,327 04
The following items comprise the purchase of the five different pieces of property:	
Delbert W. Adams,	9,000 00
This is the so-called Homan lot on State Street north of the Blaine Mansion.	
Elizabeth N. Wheeler,	1,500 00
This is the vacant lot on the corner of Grove and Capitol Streets.	
John H. Ellis, Jr.,	2,600 00
This is the next house on Grove Street going north.	
L. Frances Morse, Mrs. Louise Lyon and L. Frances Morse as guardian for Bertha Morse,	3,800 00
That is the so-called Morse house, the second on Grove Street.	
Henry T. Clark,	4,900 00
Recording deeds,	5 54
	<hr/>
	\$62,291 70

You have asked for an estimate of the additional cost to complete the construction and repair of the house. After careful consideration and consultation with the contractor, we believe that an outside estimate of the additional cost of the completion of the house itself will be \$25,000.

You have asked me for an estimate of the cost of furnishing. That is a proposition so elastic that we feel it impossible to give you an exact estimate. The furnishings so far contracted for will amount to somewhere between three thousand and five thousand dollars. The amount paid for furnishings, would, of course, be much larger than that if you leave us to continue as we have planned; but the proposition is entirely elastic and we should be guided of course by any suggestions you may care to make.

You have asked me for the maintenance cost for the next year, and the

answer to that is that the Governor and Council have given no consideration to that question and have made no plan for it, because it is not included in the authority of the Legislature under which we are operating. We have assumed that the occupant of that house from time to time, whoever he might be, would live in the residence part of the house, and maintain his family there at his own expense. I call your attention to the fact that not only is the house representing a dual character—in that it is a memorial and also a residence for the Governors—but that it is also, as we have planned it, partly growing out of that fact, dual in its character, in that it provides for sufficient accommodation for the family of the Governor and also for the public rooms, including the study of the late James G. Blaine and other rooms suitable for State use. We have assumed that the expense of maintenance of the public rooms would be provided for in the discretion of the Legislature from time to time.

Now, gentlemen, for the purpose of furnishing the foregoing information a formal filing of the facts mentioned with the Clerk of the House would have been sufficient. So far as the inquiry relates to expenditures up to date the information was already available and open to the public. Nothing was necessary but the clerical labor of copying and compiling it.

From the language of the orders, however, it is possible to infer suspicion of improper or unlawful expenditure of public funds. It is that suggestion, if it was intended by the proponent of the order or any group that he may represent, that I am here in person to resent.

Prior to my first term of office, it was the custom for the Governor unless he happened to live in Augusta, to come here very seldom except for Council meetings which occurred usually only once a month. Bills can be paid by the State only on the warrant of the Governor and Council, and, therefore, under that system could be paid only once a month. Necessary expenditures between Council meetings were met by advances in the form of checks to treasurers of State institutions to be by them deposited and in turn used to pay bills in advance of the formal warrant of the Governor and Council authorizing their payment. Employees were paid only once a month except for irregular advances in anticipation of pay day. This system had no sanction in law and had been adopted because of the infrequent Council meetings and the almost constant absence of the Governor from Augusta.

In accordance with the promise made in the campaign I moved my family to Augusta before the beginning of my term of office and have since been here on the job except when the business of the State took me elsewhere. I have had no vacation out of touch with the office except three days in 1917. My family have spent the summers at the seashore and I have been here in Augusta except for infrequent week-ends. My business interests are still in Island Falls. I have been there five times

in three years and then only to stay over a train or over night when public business required me to go into Aroostook county.

I have had associated with me on the Executive Council men of a grade of business judgment and capacity unsurpassed within my knowledge of the history of Maine. Instead of the monthly Council meetings we have met every week, have paid employees weekly, taken cash discounts on bills for materials and supplies and have insisted that all revenue come directly into the State Treasury and all bills be paid directly from the State Treasury. No institutions or departments are now carrying State funds on deposit except the Military Fund and the Forestry District which have that special authority by statute. Instead of the somewhat haphazard management of departments which prevailed heretofore we have had constant co-operation and consultation and the supervision by the Governor and Council is not formal or perfunctory but intimate and painstaking, extending to all the essential details of the work of the departments and institutions.

In the remodelling of the Blaine Mansion this sort of supervision has been exercised. It has been our purpose, fulfilling what we believed to be your intention, to make of it a building worthy of the double function of a memorial and a residence for the Chief Executive of the State. Such items as whether to lower the cellar floor or put the heating plant in a sunken pit; whether to use brass or galvanized iron pipe for the water supply; whether to use plate glass or ordinary window glass; whether to use wood or metal laths on the ceilings; whether to use gas or coal for heating the water; whether to cement the whole cellar floor or only that part in the walks and around the heater; whether to use concealed or open radiators in the public part of the house; whether to use plated or solid brass for the hardware; whether to use granite or wood in the construction of the new steps; whether to use the knob and tube system or the more expensive conduit system for the electric wiring—these and scores of similar problems have been discussed and decided as the work progressed. The constant purpose has been to have the work substantial and dignified, but to spend no money for extravagant or gaudy show. The cost of the completed building will necessarily be large. If it seems excessive to any of you, you may be interested to know that the economies which we have introduced in the printing of public reports and documents alone will probably save, in the four years of my two administrations, an amount sufficient to equal the entire cost of reconstruction and repairs of the Blaine Mansion.

The last three years have not been easy years. I claim no special credit for close attention to public duties; that has been my job. The general oversight of an annual expenditure of about nine million dollars is a fair

sized job for any man and the State from now on will expect any incumbent of this office to devote his time unreservedly to the task. Besides the emergency of war, other factors have complicated the situation. Violators of the law have been pursued relentlessly. I have been hounded and threatened to an extent even beyond the knowledge of my close associates by the unscrupulous gangs of booze sellers, gamblers and panders to vice whose slimy business has been interfered with and destroyed. Active politicians have resented my unwillingness to consider political influence ahead of merit and fitness in making appointments to public office.

But amid all the criticism and faultfinding of nearly three years, no one to my knowledge has insinuated that the public funds were not properly and lawfully expended to the last dollar. It is a matter of common knowledge around the State House that the opposing party in the last political campaign used expert accountants for several weeks in an endeavor to discover something that could offer a basis of criticism. They were cheerfully given every facility for securing information. Their subsequent reticence on the subject during the campaign was a fair indication they failed to find what they sought.

It has apparently been assumed in some quarters that a suspicion of this sort furnished the motive for the introduction of the two orders under consideration. It is for that reason that I could not restrict myself to a mere formal compliance with your request. I am here to say to you in person that no trivial expenditure even has been authorized during my terms of office except in accordance with the law as we understand it and with the purpose of advancing what we believed to be the welfare of the State. Any man who insinuates the contrary is either ignorantly or wilfully stating that which is untrue.

Thereupon His Excellency, the Governor, withdrew amid great applause and cheering, the members of the House rising.

On motion by Mr. Barnes of Houlton, the House by a viva voce vote voted that the report of the Governor in compliance with the two orders of this House, with the accompanying papers, estimates and accounts, be accepted, made a part of the record of the proceedings of this House and be filed with the Clerk.

Mr. Pike of Eastport: Mr. Speaker, I move that one thousand copies of the Governor's address with the papers submitted, be printed for the use of this Legislature.

Mr. Baxter of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I move to amend that order and have it read three thousand copies instead of one thousand. (Applause.)

Mr. Pike: I accept the amendment.

Thereupon the House voted to order the printing of three thousand copies of the Governor's message and the facts and figures accompanying it.

Number of Acts and Resolves Approved by the Governor

Executive Department.

To the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

A list of the acts and resolves passed during the special session of the 79th Legislature and approved by me, number 34 acts and 9 resolves is herewith transmitted. I have no further communication to make.

(Signed) CARL E. MILLIKEN,
Governor.