

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

Seventieth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1901.

HOUSE.

Friday, Jan. 11.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Gibson of Augusta.

Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

Resolve providing for repeal of the fifth amendment of the Constitution of the State prohibiting the manufacture of intoxicating liquors and forbidding their sale except for medicinal and mechanical purposes.

This resolve comes from the Senate referred to the committee on legal affairs.

On motion by Mr. Kelley of Lewiston, the House non-concurred, and on further motion by the same gentleman, the resolve was referred to the committee on temperance.

The following Senate order was received:

Ordered, that a joint select committee of three on the part of the Senate with such as the House may join be empowered to receive proposals from the publishers of the Maine State Year book for furnishing the State with a sufficient number of copies for the years 1901 and 1902.

The Speaker joined on the part of the House, Messrs. Smith of Waterboro, Loud of Plymouth, Merritt of Columbia, Laliberte of Ft. Kent, Allen of Portland, Somes of Eden, and Hix of Rockland.

The House order that all committees cause all legislative hearings notices to be printed in the following daily papers—Kennebec Journal, Lewiston Journal, Portland Daily Argus, Press, Advertiser and Express and the Bangor Daily News and Commercial, comes from the Senate amended by Senate amendment A, that all committees cause all legislative hearing notices of a public nature to be printed in all the daily papers published in the State, it being understood that the various committees have discretionary powers to place hearing notices in any of the Maine papers.

On motion by Mr. Beal of Bangor, the House concurred with the Senate in the adoption of the amendment.

The following petitions, bills, etc., were presented and referred:

JUDICIARY.

By Mr. Gilman of Turner—Petition of J. F. Quimby and 603 others for granting to the women of Maine the full right of suffrage.

By Mr. Somes of Eden—Petition of Flora Pineo and C. B. Rodick for authority to build bridge at Bar Harbor.

Also bill, an act to authorize the building of a bridge at Bar Harbor.

By Mr. Libbey of South Berwick—An act additional to Chapter 64 of the Revised Statutes, relating to executors and administrators.

LEGAL AFFAIRS.

By Mr. Weymouth of Biddeford—An act to amend Section 54 of Chapter 80 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by Chapter 328 of the Public Laws of 1897, relating to constables.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS.

By Mr. Page of Skowhegan—Petition of B. F. Eaton and 13 others of Skowhegan, in favor of an appropriation in aid of the Temporary Home for Women and Children at Portland.

By Mr. Dudley of Augusta—Resolve in favor of the Augusta City Hospital.

EDUCATION.

By Mr. Skidmore of Liberty—Resolve in favor of Freedom academy.

By Mr. Gardner of Patten—Resolve in favor of Patten academy.

By Mr. Dobson of Pittsfield—Resolve in favor of the Maine Central Institute.

By Mr. Tufts of Kingfield—Resolve in favor of the town of Kingfield.

RAILROADS, TELEGRAPHS AND EXPRESSES.

By Mr. Fellows of Bucksport—Bill, an act to regulate the moving of buildings over and across railroad tracks.

BANKS AND BANKING.

By Mr. Andrews of Rockport—Petition of H. L. Alden and others relating to negotiable instruments.

INTERIOR WATERS.

By Mr. Shaw of Bath—Bill, an act to incorporate the Little Churchill Stream Dam Co.

STATE LANDS AND STATE ROADS.

By Mr. Gardner of Patten—Resolve in favor of repairing road between Patten and Grand Lake.

WAYS AND BRIDGES.

By Mr. Cushman of Sherman—Bill, an act to amend Chapter 18 of the Re-

vised Statutes of 1883, as amended by Chapter 329 of the Public Laws of 1897 and by Chapter 22 of the Public Laws of 1899.

INLAND FISHERIES AND GAME.

By Mr. White of Naples—Petition relating to repeal of act for the protection of deer in Cumberland, York and Sagadahoc counties.

By Mr. Sturgis of Standish—Bill, an act to amend Section 1 of Chapter 8 of the Public Laws of 1899 relating to the better protection of deer in the counties of Cumberland, Sagadahoc and York.

TOWNS.

By Mr. Dillingham of St. Albans—Petition of Elijah N. King and seven others of Wellington, to be set off from said Wellington and incorporated with the town of Cambridge.

Also petition of L. B. Whitney and 64 others of the town of Cambridge, for annexation of town of Wellington to Cambridge.

CLAIMS.

By Mr. Dunn of Orono—Petition of Daniel H. Lambert of Orono, for reimbursement for expenses incurred in 1899 while contesting the election of Marion F. Taylor to the 69th Legislature.

ORDERS.

By Mr. Thornton of Ashland,

Ordered, That the State assessors be required to furnish the committee on ways and bridges such information relating to bridges as may be requested by said committee.

By Mr. Bodwell of Hallowell,

Ordered, That the use of this hall be given to the committee on taxation for the purpose of hearings on Thursday evenings of each week until otherwise ordered.

Mr. Haskell of Windham, presented the following order:

Ordered, That the trustees of the Maine Insane Hospital be requested to furnish the House of Representatives an itemized account of all the sums paid in the construction of the Eastern Maine Hospital, what for and to whom said sums were paid.

MR. POWERS of Fort Fairfield: Before that order is passed I would like to explain to the House what is the fact, known to a large number of the

members, that the Eastern Maine Insane Hospital has been turned over to the trustees of the Insane Hospital only last week, and that all the expenditures on the hospital have been made by the building committee of the Council under authority of the Governor. I presume the trustees can obtain this information which is desired and furnish it, but it seems to me that it would be better if an order is to be made, to call directly upon the department which has expended the money. I therefore move to amend the order by striking out the words, "trustees of the Maine Insane Hospital," and substituting "the Governor and Council."

Mr. HASKELL: I accept the amendment.

The order then received a passage as amended.

By Mr. Putnam of Houlton,

Ordered, That the use of the hall of the House of Representatives be granted to the committee on elections for Wednesday, the 16th, at 2.30 o'clock.

By Mr. Chase of Portland,

Ordered, The Senate concurring, that when the House adjourns it be to meet on Tuesday, Jan. 15, at 10.30 o'clock, in the forenoon.

This order subsequently came from the Senate amended so as to read, "that when the Senate and House adjourn."

The House receded and concurred with the Senate in the adoption of the amendment, and the order then received a passage as amended.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Messrs. Chase, Parkhurst and Manley, from the committee on rules and business of the House, ask leave to report the accompanying order and that it ought to pass:

Ordered, That the rules of the House be amended by striking out all of rule 46 and substituting the following: All petitions, memorials and other papers, addressed to the House, and all bills and resolves to be introduced in the House, shall be endorsed with the name of the person presenting them, with the subject matter of the same, together with the name of the committee to which the person presenting them desires the same to be referred,

and shall be placed by the members presenting them in a box placed for that purpose in front of the clerk's desk. All such petitions, memorials, papers, bills and resolves which are deposited in said box before 5 o'clock in the afternoon of each day shall be removed therefrom by the clerk and shall be introduced and referred in the House on the following day, at which time they shall be presented to the House by the Speaker or such other person as the Speaker may request, and referred to the proper committees unless the House shall otherwise order.

Also by striking out rule 48 and substituting the following: All resolves appropriating money or land shall have their second reading on such day subsequent to that of their first reading as the House may assign.

Mr. CHASE of Portland: It would perhaps be well for me to explain, in behalf of the committee, very briefly, the purpose of the proposed amendment and the object that is desired to be obtained. As the House will observe, there are two amendments proposed. One has reference solely to the introduction of matters to the House, and the other has reference to the time of the second reading of resolves appropriating money.

With reference to the first amendment the object to be obtained is simply this—to facilitate the business of the House and to render the orderly arrangement and introduction of matters to the House more easy. As all the old members well known, and doubtless as those who are serving their first term have observed by this time, under rule 46 of the House all matters, petitions, memorials, bills and resolves are introduced during the morning hour in the regular order. Practically everything is thrown upon the clerk's desk. A little later in the session, when matters are coming in more rapidly than now, there is likely to be each morning anywhere from 20 to 40 or 50 matters on the clerk's desk to be introduced. The clerk has no time to classify these according to the committees to which they are to be referred so that necessarily they must be presented in somewhat of a confused manner, that is, he is not able to classify and divide them into commit-

tees so as to save time in their presentation. Now it is proposed that the members having matters to introduce, bills, petitions, resolves or anything of that kind, shall simply deposit them in the box which is already there in front of the clerk's desk at any time before 5 o'clock. For instance, all matters that are deposited there before 5 o'clock today, will be taken from the box by the clerk and classified according to the committees to which reference is desired; and introduced and presented on the following morning. It is simply for the facilitation of business in the House. At present we have plenty of time, but later, after the committees have got to work and reports are coming in here and the first, second and third reading of bills is in order, our morning session will necessarily be long, and everything that can be done to facilitate the business should be done.

Now as to the second amendment. As you will know the present rules of the House with regard to the second reading of resolves appropriating money, which is rule 48 of the rules of the House, provide that all resolves appropriating money or lands shall have their second reading on Wednesday of the week following that of their first reading. Now let me say at the outset the committee do not intend to suggest by this proposed amendment, nor do they deem it wise, to hasten in any way the second reading of resolves appropriating money. But the rule works in actual practice in this way: When a resolve appropriating money at any time this present week takes its first reading, it must go over until Wednesday of next week, for its second reading. Of course you will observe that resolves which take their first reading in the early part of the week, for instance Monday, would have 10 days between their first and second reading, and all resolves taking their first reading, this morning, would only have from now until next Wednesday—about half the time. What is the result? Later in the session when the work is well advanced and the committees have reported these various resolves, we find on the calendar of the House for their second and final reading on Wednesday morning, anywhere from 10 to 30 re-

solves, perhaps more sometimes, resolves which are in order for their second reading or their final reading and passage by the House. Among all these are matters upon which more or less debate occurs, and the first one is taken up and perhaps an hour may be spent debating that first resolve. The result is that there is not time to properly consider on that Wednesday, all these resolves which are in order. In other words, it is too much in one day, and very many resolves are rushed through the latter part of the morning session on Wednesday without proper consideration and without the House duly understanding and properly understanding the measure. This amendment is for the purpose of distributing the second reading of these resolves appropriating money through the days of the week, and for no other purpose whatever, so when a resolve takes its first reading, any day that the House pleases may be assigned for the second reading, but it must be a day subsequent to that of the first reading. I trust I have made myself clear. The object of the amendment is simply to distribute these matters through the different days of the week so they may be more fairly and carefully considered, and it is for no other purpose.

The question being on the acceptance of the report of the committee, the report was accepted, and the order then received a passage as amended.

Mr. PLUMMER of Portland: I would like to inquire if it is the intention for this box to be open to the public or to inspection by members of the House at any time prior to the morning when the bills or petitions are to be introduced?

The SPEAKER: I do not so understand it. It is under the control of the clerk absolutely.

Mr. PLUMMER: I did not suppose they would be permitted to do so, but I wished to make the inquiry.

The SPEAKER: As the Chair understands it the box is to be locked and under the control of the clerk.

READ AND ASSIGNED.

Resolve in favor of the Eastern Maine Hospital for the Insane.

On motion by Mr. Parkhurst of Bangor, this resolve was assigned for

Wednesday of next week for its second reading.

Petition presented by Mr. Hix of Rockland, relating to negotiable instruments, referred in the House to the committee on banks and banking, comes from the Senate referred in non-concurrence to the committee on the judiciary.

On motion by Mr. Hix, the House receded and concurred with the Senate in its reference.

On motion of Mr. White of East Machias,

Adjourned.