

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LEGISLATIVE RECORD**

OF THE

**Seventieth Legislature**

OF THE

**STATE OF MAINE.**

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**1901.**

**HOUSE.**

Friday, March 8th.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Wight of Hallowell.

(Mr. Libby of Poland in the Chair).

Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

Message was received from the Senate informing the House that in the absence of the President, Hon. George G. Weeks of Somerset had been elected President pro tem.

An act to incorporate the Cumberland Trust Company was read twice and assigned for tomorrow morning.

An act to amend Paragraph 8, Section 6, Chapter 6 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by the Public Laws of 1895, relating to poll taxes.

In the House, that body voted to adhere. The bill comes from the Senate, that body voting to insist, and asking for a committee of conference.

On motion of Mr. Carleton of Winthrop, the vote was reconsidered whereby the House voted to adhere, and on further motion by the same gentleman, the House concurred with the Senate in the appointment of a committee of conference.

The Speaker subsequently appointed on the committee of conference Messrs. Carleton of Winthrop, Walls of Vinalhaven, and Brackett of Phillips.

An act in relation to supplying the municipal courts in the county of York with dockets and blanks.

This bill comes from the Senate amended by Senate amendment A. The House reconsidered its vote whereby the bill was passed to be engrossed, Senate amendment A was adopted and the bill was then passed to be engrossed as amended in concurrence.

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

**JUDICIARY.**

Mr. Mr. Weymouth of Biddeford—Bill an act to amend Sections 3 and 4 of Chapter 132 of the Revised Statutes relating to penalties for larceny and breaches of the peace.

**LEGAL AFFAIRS.**

Mr. Mr. White of East Machias—Bill an act to authorize East Machias to aid general hospital in Washington county.

By Mr. Ballard of Fryeburg—Bill an act relating to the use of bicycles in towns.

**EDUCATION.**

By Mr. Bodwell of Hallowell—Bill an act to amend Chapter 143 of the Revised Statutes relating to the Maine Industrial Schools for Girls.

**INLAND FISHERIES AND GAME.**

By Mr. Harvey of Atkinson—Bill an act relating to ice fishing in Boyd lake in the county of Piscataquis.

**BANKS AND BANKING.**

By Mr. Eaton of Calais—Bill an act to incorporate the Calais Trust Co.

**TAXATION.**

By Mr. Farnsworth of Pembroke—Petition of A. G. Hooper and 11 others of East Holden in favor of an increased tax on corporations of the State.

By the same gentleman—Petition of E. E. Caldwell and 36 others of Canton, for same.

**MAINE STATE PRISON.**

Resolve in favor of Kenneth W. Sutherland, chairman of the committee on Maine State prison.

Mr. Sutherland of Biddeford, presented resolve in favor of K. W. Sutherland, chairman of the committee on State prison.

On motion of Mr. Bennett of Hollis, the rules were suspended, the resolve received its second reading and was passed to be engrossed.

**ORDERS.**

On motion of Mr. Chas. of Portland, Ordered, the Senate concurring, that the clerks of the several committees be directed to notify all newspapers to furnish, on or before March 15, an itemized account of their charges for the publication of legislative notices, and that the clerks of the several committees be instructed to audit all of said accounts before the close of the session.

On motion of Mr. Parkhurst of Bangor,

Ordered, That on and after March 14, the House hold two sessions daily, unless otherwise ordered. The afternoon session to commence at 3 o'clock.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.**

Mr. Webb, from the committee on the judiciary, on bill, an act to amend

Chapter 87 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by Chapter 218 of the Public Laws of 1893, Chapter 133 of the Public Laws of 1895, and Chapter 120 of the Public Laws of 1899, relating to the limitations against executors and administrators, reported that same be referred to the next Legislature.

Same gentleman from same committee, reported same on bill, an act to amend Section 40 of Chapter 64 of the Revised Statutes, relating to executors and administrators.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported ought not to pass on bill, an act relating to inn holders and victualers.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on bill, an act authorizing cities to appropriate money for watering public streets and to assess abutters therefor."

Mr. Powers of same committee, reported same on bill, an act to amend Chapter 27, of the Revised Statutes, relating to inholders and victualers.

Mr. Allan, from the committee on legal affairs, reported ought not to pass on bill, an act to supply the town of Waldoboro with pure water.

Mr. Putnam, from same committee, reported same on bill, an act to amend Chapter 132 of the Public Laws of 1899, relating to the desecration, mutilation or improper use of the flag of the United States, or of this State.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on bill, an act to amend Section 8 of Chapter 24 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by Chapter 326 of the Public Laws of 1897, relating to soldiers and sailors.

Mr. Gammon, from the committee on military affairs, reported ought not to pass on resolve in favor of Frances E. Johnson of Phippsburg.

Mr. Moulton, from the committee on State lands and State roads, reported ought not to pass on resolve in favor of certain settlers in the Madawaska territory.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on resolve in favor of a road from the town line of Van Buren and extending to the town of Madawaska, along the shore of Long lake.

Mr. Daigle, from the committee on ways and bridges, on petition of G. B. Kennison and others, that the tolls charged for crossing the Wiscasset bridge be reduced or abolished, reported that the petition be referred to the next Legislature.

Mr. Carson, from same committee, reported ought not to pass on resolve in favor of putting cover on bridge across the Mattawamkeag river in the town of Bancroft.

Mr. Cushman, from the committee on inland fisheries and game, on petition of E. F. Staples and others, for open time on deer in Waldo county, reported that same be referred to the Waldo county delegation.

Mr. Brackett, from same committee, on petition of John C. McAllister and others, that Brackett brook, in the town of Detroit, be closed to fishing for a term of five years, reported that the same be referred to the commissioners of inland fisheries and game, as the subject matter of the petition properly comes under their jurisdiction, by general law.

Mr. Cushman, from said committee, reported leave to withdraw on petition of C. C. Chapman and others for close time on Green lake.

Mr. Jackson, from same committee, reported same on petition of H. F. Ingraham and others that permission be granted marketmen and provision dealers to sell during the open season all kinds of wild game lawfully killed, without any restrictions.

Mr. Noyes, from same committee, reported same on remonstrance of G. E. Thompson and others against any change in the law relating to woodcock.

Mr. Wilson, from same committee, reported same on petition of G. E. Morse and others for repeal of law requiring a license fee to hunt and trap bears in unincorporated places.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on remonstrance of H. A. Gray and others against any change in the law in regard to duck shooting.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on petition of G. M. Leach and others for repeal of law for

protection of deer in Cumberland, York and Sagadahoc counties.

Same gentleman from same committee, reported ought not to pass on bill an act to incorporate the Round Lake Fish Company.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported legislation inexpedient on 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.

Mr. Brackett, from same committee, reported ought not to pass on bill an act entitled an act to amend Section 29 of Chapter 42 of the Public Laws of 1899, by inserting after the word "State" in the fourth line the words "except bears," so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

Mr. Little, from same committee, reported same on bill an act regulating the carrying of firearms into the wild lands of the State during close season.

Mr. Thompson, from the committee on shore fisheries, on petition of Sewall E. Peters and others for an act to prohibit the catching of alewives by set nets in the Bagaduce river and stream, reported that same be referred to the next Legislature.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported ought not to pass on bill an act to amend Chapter 15, Laws of 1895, relating to herring fisheries in Machias bay.

Mr. Hinckley, from the committee on Indian affairs, reported leave to withdraw on petition of Mitchell Attian and others for appropriations for police, engine and watch house; also for exemption from guide license fee.

Mr. McNamara, from the joint select committee on salaries, reported legislation inexpedient on communication from superintendent of public schools transmitting itemized account of the expenses of that department for the year 1900.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on communication from C. E. Atwood, inspector of jails and workshops, transmitting account of expenses incurred in the performance of that office.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on communication from superintendent of public buildings relative to the collection and disbursement of all fees, money received, collected, charged and uncollected during the past year.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on communication from land agent transmitting report of amount of salary received and fees for certified copies furnished.

Report of same committee, reporting same on communication from commissioner of industrial and labor statistics, relative to fees of said office.

Report of said committee, reporting same on communication of adjutant general relative to fees of said office.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reporting same on communication from E. C. Farrington, clerk board of railroad commissioners of Maine, relative to salary and fees of that office.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on communication from William C. Marshall, State assessor, relative to expenses incurred as State assessor for the year 1900.

Report of same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on communication from Otis Hayford, State assessor, relative to expenses incurred as member of said board for the year 1900.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on communication from George Pottle, State assessor, relative to expenses as member of said board for the year 1900.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on communication from State treasurer relative to fees collected and money received by treasury department, and the expenditures by the State for contingent expenses of said office for the year 1900.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on communication from insurance commissioner relative to fees collected and amount paid the State treasurer by said office, for the year ending December 31, 1900. Also on account of all bills paid from the appropriation for the expenses of insurance commissioners and from the appropriation for investigation of fires.

Report of same committee, reporting same on communication from secretary of State relative to fees collected and turned into the State treasury for the year 1900.

Report of same committee, reporting same on communication from attorney general relative to fees or money received or collected, or charged or uncollected by said office for the year 1900.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on communication from Joseph B. Peaks, chairman of the board of railway commissioners of Maine, relative to fees or moneys received or collected, or charged or uncollected by said officer for the year 1900.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on communication from A. G. Young, secretary of State Board of Health, relative to fees received and expenditures made during the year 1900.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on communication from bank examiner relative to all fees or money received, or collected, or charged and uncollected by said department during the official year ending Dec. 1. Also a statement of all charges, expenditures and disbursements made on account of the State for the year ending Dec. 31, 1900.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on communication from L. T. Carleton, chairman commissioners on inland fisheries and game, relative to fees received or collected, or charged and uncollected by said department for the year 1900. Also on account of all expenditures on account of said office.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on communication from State liquor commissioner relative to receipts and expenditures of that office for the year 1900.

The reports were accepted.

Mr. Cushman, from the committee on inland fisheries and game, reported ought to pass in new draft under same title, bill, an act allowing the propagation of beaver in the waters of Enchanted stream, Somerset county.

Pending acceptance, the report was

tabled, on motion of Mr. Carleton of Winthrop.

Mr. Little, from the committee on inland fisheries and game, reported ought not to pass on resolve in favor of an appropriation for the purpose of scientific inquiry and research respecting the propagation of fish.

Pending acceptance the report was tabled, on motion of Mr. Adams of La-grange.

Mr. Harris, from the committee on the judiciary, reported ought to pass in new draft under same title, bill, an act to incorporate the Bristol Electric Light and Power Co.

Same gentleman from same committee, reported ought to pass on bill, an act to amend Section 17 of Chapter 17 of the Revised Statutes relating to stationary engines.

Mr. Parkhurst, from same committee, reported same on bill, an act to authorize the Linn Woolen Co. to make, generate, sell, distribute and supply gas and electricity.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on bill, an act to amend Chapter 195 of the Private Laws of 1887, entitled an act to amend an act incorporating the city of Waterville.

Mr. Allan, from the committee on legal affairs, reported ought to pass in new draft under same title bill, an act to extend the charter of the Waldoboro Water and Electric Light and Power Co.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported ought to pass on bill, an act to authorize George H. Hunt to erect and maintain a wharf into the tide waters of the St. Croix river in the town of Robbinston, county of Washington.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on bill, an act to amend Section 23 of Chapter 137 of the Public Laws of 1887, entitled an act to abolish imprisonment for debt, except in cases of fraud.

Mr. Allen, from same committee, reported ought to pass in new draft under same title bill, an act to allow larger lots to be taken for school purposes and to shorten the time allowed owners thereof for repeal.

Mr. Fellows, from same committee, on bill, an act to repeal Section 3 of Chapter 55, of the Public Laws of 1891, relating to the incorporation of churches, reported ought to pass in new draft bill, an act to amend Chapter 55 of the Public laws of 1891, relating to the incorporation of churches.

Mr. Putnam, from same committee, reported ought to pass in new draft under same title, bill, an act to incorporate the Ashland Light and Water Co.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported ought to pass on bill, an act amendatory of Chapter 507 of the Private and Special Laws of 1889, entitled an act to establish the Dover municipal court.

Mr. Knowlton, from the committee on mercantile affairs and insurance, reported ought to pass in new draft under same title, bill, an act to regulate junk and second hand stores.

Mr. Weymouth, from the committee on banks and banking, reported ought to pass in new draft under the same title bill, an act to incorporate the Camden Trust Co.

Mr. Lawrence, from the committee on interior waters, reported ought to pass on bill, an act to extend the charter of the St. Croix Water Power Co.

Mr. Eaton, from the committee on State lands and State roads, on resolve directing the land agent to release the State's interest in township 5, R. 8, west of east line of State, reported ought to pass in new draft resolve relating to township 5, range 8, west of the east line of the State in the county of Penobscot.

Mr. Wilson, from the committee on inland fisheries and game, reported ought to pass on bill, an act to amend Section 1 of Chapter 191 of the Private and Special laws of 1899, relating to the taking of salmon in the Penobscot river, above the water works dam at Bangor.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on bill, an act to prohibit the killing of deer in the town of Swan's Island in Hancock county.

Mr. Thompson, from the committee on shore fisheries, on petition, reported bill, an act for the protection of sal-

mon, alewives and smelts in Pleasant river, Washington county.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported ought to pass on bill an act to repeal Chapter 131, Laws of 1853, relating to herring fisheries in the town of Jonesport.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on bill an act to amend Section 48 of Chapter 285 of the Public Laws of 1897 relating to sea and shore fisheries.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on bill an act to amend Section 35 of Chapter 285 of the Public Laws of 1897 entitled an act to revive and consolidate the Public Laws relating to sea and shore fisheries, as amended by Chapter 92 of the Public Laws of 1899.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on bill an act to amend Section 1 of Chapter 34 of the Private and Special Laws of 1878, relating to the protection and propagation of eels in the Damariscotta river and pond.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on bill an act to amend Section 2 of Chapter 84 of the Private and Special Laws of 1895, relating to the taking of smelts in the bays, harbors and coves in the town of Surry.

Same gentleman, from same committee, on bill an act in relation to the appointment of special fish wardens, reported ought to pass in new draft bill an act authorizing the employment of deputy fish wardens by the commissioner of sea and shore fisheries, and by the commissioners of inland fisheries and game.

Mr. Hinckley, from the committee on Indian affairs, on bill an act to regulate membership and the rights of membership in the Penobscot tribe of Indians, reported ought to pass in new draft bill an act to regulate membership and rights of membership in the Penobscot tribe of Indians.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported ought to pass on resolve in favor of the Passamaquoddy tribe of Indians for rebuilding church at Pleasant Point, in the town of Perry.

Mr. Farnsworth, from the committee on University of Maine, reported

ought to pass on resolve in favor legislative committee and members of Senate and House authorized to visit University of Maine.

Mr. Smith, from the joint select committee on Maine State Year Book, reported ought to pass on resolve for the purchase of the Maine State Year Book and Legislative Manual for the years 1901 and 1902.

The reports were accepted and bills and resolves ordered printed under joint rules.

#### READ AND ASSIGNED.

Bill an act relating to compensation of county commissioners of Franklin county.

Bill an act to creat a lien for driving logs or lumber under contract with the owner or any other person.

Bill an act to legalize certain days as school holidays.

Bill an act to amend Section 29 of Chapter 92 of the Revised Statutes in relation to mills and mill dams.

Bill an act to amend Chapter 168 of the Private and Special Laws of Maine for the year 1875, entitled an act for supplying the city of Bangor with water.

Bill an act to regulate winter fishing and to close the tributaries to certain lakes and ponds in Somerset, Penobscot and Washington counties.

Bill an act to incorporate the Scarborough Water Company.

Bill an act to incorporate the Pistol Stream Dam Company.

Bill an act to amend Sections 28 and 35 of Chapter 11 of the Revised Statutes, relating to the Free High school year.

Bill an act relating to the taxation of telegraph and telephone companies.

Bill an act to amend Section 3 of Chapter 216 of the Public Laws of 1893 relating to the conveyance of scholars.

Bill an act to incorporate the Sanford Trust Company.

Was tabled pending first reading on motion of Mr. Dudley of Augusta.

Resolve in favor of Sigmund Newhouse.

Resolve in favor of the town of Brooklin.

Resolve in favor of summer training schools for teachers and the distribution of educational documents.

#### PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED.

An act to establish a municipal court in the town of Pittsfield.

An act to establish a municipal court in the town of Fairfield.

An act to amend and extend the charter of the Buckfield Water Company.

An act to amend Chapter 495 of the Private and Special Laws of 1893, entitled an act to prevent the destruction of fish in the eastern Penobscot river in the town of Orland.

An act to establish a salary for the sheriff of Kennebec county.

An act to regulate the taking of deer in Androscoggin county.

An act to amend Section 55 of Chapter 3 of the Revised Statutes, relating to the taking of land for public parks and squares.

An act to amend an act to incorporate the city of Augusta.

An act to legalize the doings of the town of Leeds.

An act additional to Chapter 23 of the Revised Statutes relating to bowling alleys.

Resolve in favor of the town of Ashland.

Resolve in favor of the town of Edmunds.

An act to authorize the Machias Lumber Company to acquire by purchase all the rights and property of the proprietors of the Machias boom, and to confirm all purchases of said rights and property already acquired by said Machias Lumber Company.

An act to extend the charter of the Maine Electric Light and Power Company.

(The Speaker here resumed the chair).

#### PASSED TO BE ENACTED.

An act to incorporate the Sandy Stream Dam and Improvement Co. (Tabled on motion of Mr. Morin of Embden.)

An act relating to prisoners in the county of Sagadahoc.

An act to amend the charter of the Portsmouth, Kittery and York Street Railway.

An act imposing a franchise tax upon sleeping and palace cars.

An act to amend Chapter 96 of the Public Laws of 1895, relating to col-



lateral inheritance tax. (Tabled on motion of Mr. Weymouth of Belgrade.)

An act to continue in force Chapter 276 of the Private and Special Laws of 1895, entitled an act to incorporate the Van Buren Trust and Banking Co., as amended by Chapter 131 of the Private and Special Laws of 1899.

An act to close the tributaries of Upper and Lower Stone ponds in the town of Stoneham.

#### ORDERS OF THE DAY.

On motion of Mr. McDougall of Boothbay, bill to prohibit killing duck and other water fowl was taken from the table.

Mr. McDougall offered an amendment to amendment A, also to exempt the bays and rivers and sea coast of Lincoln county.

The amendment was adopted and the bill was then read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Burrill of Ellsworth, the bill was laid upon the table pending its third reading and assigned for Wednesday of next week.

On motion of Mr. Thompson of Bristol, bill, an act to prohibit dumping of fish offal in waters of Mooseabec Reach, was taken from the table.

Mr. Thompson moved to amend by striking out Section 3, "this act shall take effect when passed."

The amendment was adopted, the bill was read a second time and assigned for tomorrow morning.

On motion of Mr. Chase of Portland, bill, an act to amend the charter of the city of Portland, was taken from the table.

Mr. Chase moved to amend by striking out all after the enacting clause and substituting another bill, and further moved that pending the adoption of the amendment it lie on the table for printing.

On motion of Mr. Weymouth of Biddeford, the report of the committee on legal affairs, on bill relating to amendment of Section 2, Chapter 91, of the Revised Statutes, relating to fees of town and city clerks for recording mortgages, was taken from the table and on further motion by the same gentleman it was re-committed to the committee on legal affairs.

On motion of Mr. Parkhurst of Ban-

gor, bill, an act relating to trust and banking companies, was taken from the table.

The bill was then read twice and assigned for tomorrow morning.

On motion of Mr. Carleton of Winthrop, resolve in favor of Edward Bolin was taken from the table.

The resolve was then read a second time and was passed to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr. Davis of Waterville, bill fixing amount of allowance for clerk hire in the office of the adjutant general, was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gentleman, it was again tabled and assigned for Thursday of next week.

The unfinished business for today was resolve in favor of the University of Maine for central steam heating and power plant.

On motion of Mr. Chase of Portland, the resolve was laid upon the table and specially assigned for 11 o'clock on Wednesday of next week.

On motion of Mr. Plummer of Portland, resolve in favor of bridge across the Kennebec river at Bingham, was taken from the table, and on further motion by the same gentleman, it was specially assigned for Thursday of next week.

On motion of Mr. Skidmore of Liberty, bill relating to fishing for black bass in waters of the State was taken from the table.

Mr. SKIDMORE: Mr. Speaker, this bill relating to fishing for bass is one in which the people of our county are particularly interested, and they are particularly interested that it shall not have a passage. I had it tabled for the purpose of communicating with them in relation to it, and I sent the bill to every portion of the county and I found the same report prevalent everywhere, that "we do not want the bill in the county of Waldo." I consulted with many members of this House and found that the same opinions prevailed in nearly every section of the State. Some years ago we were desirous of stocking St. Georges lake in the town of Liberty, one of the most beautiful bodies of water in the whole State of Maine, or anywhere else for that matter. It has from 12 to 15 miles of shore and not an inch of mud the

entire distance, and its water is as pure as crystal and is perfectly transparent to the depth of 60 feet. We were desirous of stocking this lake with landlocked salmon, and in order that we might act intelligently we had a member of the fish commission come to our town and look the pond over; and we thought with his experience he would be better able to inform us if the pond was adapted to those fish. He informed us that it was not, but that he would permit us to catch some black bass during close time and place them in that pond, which some of the citizens of the town did, and they have that pond stocked with black bass. Several years afterwards, we succeeded, through the fish commissioners of the United States, in having some land-locked salmon placed in the lake, and, in eight years, notwithstanding it has been stocked with black bass, a fish has been taken from that lake 3 feet in length and weighing  $17\frac{1}{4}$  pounds, and many more of various sizes have been taken at different times since and we believe that this was conclusive evidence that the fish and game commissioner of the State of Maine did not know everything in relation to the fish and game of our State. And, consequently, taking these facts into consideration and admitting that if there is one pond or stream or river in the State where they wish to have these fish, we are willing they should, but for Waldo county and that section of the State, I do not believe you can find a person who is in favor of this bill, not only in relation to the time, but in relation to the length of the fish that are caught; and, therefore, I move that this bill be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. CARLETON of Winthrop: Mr. Speaker, I am surprised at the motion for the indefinite postponement of this bill. I have had more or less conferences with members of the House from various parts of the State in relation to it, and I supposed that it was understood generally that the bill was to be amended and such portions of the State stricken as the members desired. Now, speaking not for the State and not upon the question of the value of this particular fish to the

State, I want to speak for Kennebec county. In Kennebec county we want that bill, and it was particularly on account of the very large number of people who petitioned for it that the committee reported it. They thought that what was good for Kennebec county in that respect was equally valuable for the rest of the State; but neither the committee nor does anyone in favor of the bill desire to impose any conditions upon any other county that they do not desire in relation to this matter. I know that it has been somewhat of a popular fad to decry black bass by those who have not, as I believe, investigated the subject or sufficiently informed themselves upon the value of this particular fish. We have no fish in the county of Kennebec that is so valuable to us or brings so much revenue into our county by people who come here to fish, and who have established their cottages around the shores of our lakes, as the black bass. It is a summer fish. It is caught when no other fish can be caught except the perch, and we have found that it was absolutely necessary to preserve our interests in this respect that some protection be had upon the black bass in this county. And I want to say further that while the fish commissioners, present or past, lay no claim to any especial knowledge—we never have claimed as the gentleman has said, that we know it all—yet it is a fact becoming more and more appreciated by the people of this State, that the black bass is a very valuable fish. You may take the grand and beautiful lake of Cobbosseecontee in this county, where, 10 years ago, there was not a cottage around its shores, and the same of Lake Maranocook, the same of that called the Belgrade system of lakes, where, within 10 years, there has been built upon the shores of those lakes property and cottages of the value of hundreds of thousands of dollars. A fine hotel was built in Belgrade, last years, at a cost of more than \$20,000. We have in Winthrop taxable property upon the tax books of more than \$50,000 in these summer cottages, and those people who have been attracted to these places by our superior fishing

privileges and the grandeur and beauty of those lakes. They have been attracted there primarily because of the grand facilities for black bass fishing. The Belgrade industry has been built up entirely, I may say, on account of the black bass fishing in that chain of lakes. And this is becoming more and more apparent to the people of this State every year that those fish, much maligned, are great advantage to our people.

Now, I hope, gentlemen of the House, that you will not indefinitely postpone this bill. If members from other counties do not want it applied to their counties, we do want it to apply to Kennebec. The committee on inland fisheries and game had a very long petition from the leading men of Sabbattus asking that that law be applied to Sabbattus pond particularly. We hope that you will give us what we want in Kennebec county, at least, and Sabbattus pond; and that the bill may be amended so that we shall have what we wish, at least in Kennebec county.

Mr. THOMPSON of China: Mr. Speaker, I presume the gentleman from Winthrop did not take into consideration the fact that we have a beautiful lake in the town of China, Kennebec county, that we have many summer visitors, and that cottages are

being built around that lake, and that we think, unfortunately, in years past, some fish-commissioners stocked that lake with black bass. We have not learned to appreciate their value compared with other fish that were already in the lake, and that have since been placed in the lake. I am not a professional fisherman, but occasionally I go with a friend on the lake fishing. We certainly feel that there are enough laws regulating the size and kinds of fish we are permitted to catch and the time when we can catch them, and we like, in the summer, to go out free to fish without a yard stick to measure every fish and an expert to tell us what kind of a fish it is and just what time of day or of the year we can take those fish. I am certain that this law, if passed, would not be agreeable to the people of the town of China and around this lake; it would not be beneficial in the long run to the interests of the towns and summer visitors around that lake; and if an amendment is proposed applying to certain lakes I hope it will be so framed that it will not include the town of China.

The question being on the indefinite postponement of the bill,

The motion was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Beal of Bangor,  
Adjourned.