MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

Seventy-First Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1903.

SENATE.

Wednesday, February 18, 1903. Senate met according to adjournment, and was called to order by the President.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Struthers of Gardiner.

Journal of the previous session read and approved.

Papers from the House disposed of in concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Staples of Cumberland, Bill, An Act to provide for the better protection of motormen and conductors of electric cars, which came from the House was tabled for printing, pending reference in concurrence.

Read and Assigned.

An Act to incorporate the Gardiner Water District. On motion by Mr. Manley of Kennebec, this bill took its second reading, under suspension of the rules, and was passed to be engrossed.

An Act to amend the charter of the city of Portland.

An Act to amend Chapter 346 of the Private and Special Laws of 1897, entitled "An Act to amend the charter of the city of Westbrook."

An Act to amend Chapter 97, Section 3, of the Revised Statutes, relating to bastard children and their maintenance.

An Act for the better protection of railroad signals.

An Act to amend Chapter 271 of the Private and Special Laws of 1901, relating to the Lincoln Electric Railway Company.

An Act to amend Chapter 236 of the Public Laws of 1893 relating to the taking of lands or other property by railroads.

An Act to authorize the Augusta, Winthrop & Gardiner Railway to supply electricity in the towns of Winthrop and Manchester.

An Act to extend the charter of the South Portland Trust and Banking Company.

An Act to amend the charter of the Trust Sauford Company. House amendment A to substitute the word 'extend' for the word "amend" in the title to the foregoing Act was adopted by the Senate in concurrence, and the bill as amended, was read and signed.

An Act for the better protection of shell fish within the town of Georgetown.

The several petitions of J. F. Brown and 24 others of Yarmouth, J. Y. Stanton and 15 others of Lewiston and Auburn, and Clarence E. Sawyer others for close time on rabbits, came from the House, that branch insisting upon its reference to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game, and asking for a committee of conference.

Mr. MANLEY of Kennebec: President: On Friday last I think Т moved to refer those petitions the Committee on Federal Relations, and the Senator from Somerset moved to amend referring them to the Committee on Public Charities and State Beneficiaries. made in a pleasant remarks were and playful manner. I now move that the Senate recede and concur with the House. The motion prevailed; the several petitions were referred to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game, in concurrence.

The following communications were received from the Secretary of State:

Augusta, Feb. 18, 1903.

To the President of the Senate and House.

I have the honor to herewith transmit the annual report of the Military and Naval Orphan Asylum.

Very respectfully. Your obedient servant. (Signed) BYRON BOYD. Secretary of State.

which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Augusta, Feb. 18, 1903. To the President of the Senate

Speaker of the House: I have the honor to transmit herewith reports of the Maine Insane Hos-

pital and the Eastern Maine Insane Hospital.

Very respectfully, Your obedient servant, (Signed) BYRON BOYD, Secretary of State.

which was referred to the Committee on Public Charities and State Beneficiaries.

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

Judiciary.

By Mr. Burns of Cumberland: Bill, An Act to provide for the preservation of town records of births, marriages and deaths previous to the year 1892.

By Mr. Wing of Androscoggin: Bill, An Act to amend the charter of the city of Auburn and to provide for a street sewer and permanent improvement department.

By Mr. Rankin of York: Bill, An Act to incorporate the Unitarian church, library and reading room of York Harbor.

Legal Affairs.

By Mr. Morse of Waldo: Petition of Obed B. Fuller and 48 others of Searsmont and Appleton praying for a law prohibiting throwing sawdust and other refuse into St. Georges Stream.

Interior Waters.

By Mr. Guernsey of Piscataquis: Bill, An Act to authorize Edward J. Mayo and his assigns to maintain a wharf in Sebec Lake.

Public Charities and State Beneficiaries.

By Mr. Burns of Cumberland: Resolve providing for repairs on the tomb of Gov. Enoch Lincoln.

Reports of Committees.

Mr. Gardner, for the committee on taxation, on Bill, An Act to tax deposits in savings banks above five hundred dollars, reported same ought not to pass. Report accepted.

Mr. Clark, for the committee on legal affairs, on Bill, An Act to amend the charter of the Dirigo Gas Light and Heating Company, reported same ought not to pass. Report accepted.

The same senator, for the same committee, on Bill, An Act to incorporate the Lily Water Company, reported same ought to pass. Report accepted. Bill tabled for printing under the joint rules.

The same senator, for the same committee, on Bill, An Act additional and amendatory to Chapter 376 of the Private and Special Laws of 1889 as amended by Chapter 479 of the Private and Special Laws of 1901 to enable the

Maine Lake Ice Company to increase its capital stock, reported same ought to pass. Report accepted. Bill tabled for printing under the joint rules.

Mr. Bryant, for the committee on appropriations and financial affairs, on Resolve in favor of Bernhard Pol of Bangor to reimburse him for taxes paid through error, reported same ought to pass. Report accepted. Resolve tabled for printing under the joint rules.

Mr. Morrison, for the committee on salaries, on Bill, An Act establishing the salary of the county attorney for the county of Kennebec, reported same ought to pass. Report accepted. Bill referred to the committee on appropriations and financial affairs.

Passed to be Engrossed.

An Act concerning Attorneys at Law. An Act to legalize the doings of the Crosbyville Chapel at Bangor, Maine.

An Act in relation to the election of the members of the school committee of the city of Portland.

Resolve providing for the compensation of steamboat inspectors for the years 1900, 1901 and 1902.

An Act to enlarge the powers of the railroad commissioners over street railroads.

An Act to change the name of the town of St. Agatha, in the county of Aroostook, to Cleveland.

An Act to incorporate the town of Castle Hill, in the county of Aroostook.

An Act to amend Section 14 of Chapter 51 of the Revised Statutes relating to the width of the location of railroads.

An Act to extend the charter of the Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

An Act to incorporate the Kineo Trust Company.

Resolve for the purpose of operating fish hatcheries and feeding stations for fish and for the protection of fish.

Resolve in favor of Matthias Cullnan of Belfast.

Resolve for the purchase of the Maine State Year Book and Legislative Manual for the year of 1903 and 1904.

An Act to authorize the county of Piscataquis to negotiate a loan for temporary purposes.

Resolve in favor of Allagash road.

An Act to repeal Sections 34, 35, 36 37 and 38 of Chapter 26 of the Revised Statutes relating to inquests in cases of suspected incendiarism.

Resolve in favor of the State Reform School.

An Act to incorporate the Gardiner Water District.

Resolve for the purpose of operating fish hatcheries and feeding stations for fish and for the protection of fish.

Passed to be Enacted.

An Act to establish the salary of the county treasurer of the county of York.

An Act to legalize the doings of St. Francis Plantation in the county of Aroostook.

An Act to authorize the town of Monson to remove the bodies of deceased persons.

An Act to amend Section 30 of Chapter 450 of the Private and Special Laws of 1893 incorporating the city of Eastport.

An Act to amend the charter of the Home for Aged Men in Portland.

An Act to amend Section 35 of Chapter 124 of the Revised Statutes as amended by Chapter 25 of the Public Laws of 1891, relating to transportation of animals.

An Act to authorize the Norway and Paris Street Railroad to purchase or lease the property and franchises of the Oxford Light Company.

An Act to increase the corporate powers of the Newport Light and Power Company.

An Act to amend Chapter 52 of the Public Laws of 1895, relating to the salary of the register of probate for the county of Penobscot.

An Act to amend Section 57 of Chapter 38 of the Revised Statutes of Maine, relating to the weight of a bushel of beans.

An Act to authorize the State land agent to convey to the Fish River Railroad Company rights of way over public lots owned by the State.

An Act relating to the width of the location of the Fish River Railroad.

An Act to authorize the Bangor & Aroostook Railroad Company to extend yard tracks across a way in Houtton.

An Act to legalize the doings of the Rumford Falls & Rangeley Lake Railroad Company.

An Act to grant additional powers to the Portland & Brunswick Street Railway.

An Act to legalize the doings of the Portland & Rumford Falls Railway.

An Act to extend the franchises of the Wiscasset, Waterville & Farmington Railroad Company.

An Act to amend and extend the charter of the Waldo Street Railroad Company.

An Act to incorporate the Swan's Island Telephone and Telegraph Company.

An Act to extend the charter of the Cumberland Trust Company.

An Act to extend the charter of the Camden Trust Company.

An Act to incorporate the Pepperill Trust Company.

An Act to extend the powers of the Katahdin Pulp and Paper Company.

An Act to extend the charter of the Mattanawcook Manufacturing Company.

An Act authorizing and empowering the Springer Lumber Company to erect and maintain piers and booms in the Mattawamkeag river.

An Act to amend Chapter 64 of the Private and Special Laws of 1899 as amended by Chapter 472 of the Private and Special Laws of 1901, relating to the Wilson Stream Dam Company.

An Act amendatory of Chapter 279 of the Private and Special Laws of 1901, entitled "An Act to incorporate the Mattagammon Manufacturing Company."

An Act to amend Chapter 145 of the Private and Special Laws of 1895, entitled "An Act to incorporate the Winn Water and Power Company."

An Act to ratify certain doings of the Eliot Bridge Company.

An Act to amend Section 84 of Chapter 6 of the Revised Statutes relating to county roads and bridges in unincorporated townships.

An Act to amend Chapter 25 of the Private and Special Laws of 1899 relating to taking of eels in Bagaduce river, bay and tributaries.

An Act to incorporate the Squirrel Island Village Corporation.

An Act to incorporate the International Trust and Banking Company.

An Act to incorporate the Pittsfield Trust Company.

An Act to amend the charter of the Augusta, Winthrop & Gardiner Railwav.

An Act to grant additional powers to the Waterville & Oakland Street Railway.

Resolve for a special epidemic emergency fund.

Resolve in favor of the Children's Aid Society in Maine.

Resolve in favor of the Temporary Home for Women and Children Portland.

An Act in relation to the salaries of the justices of the Supreme Judicial

An Act to amend the charter of the Rockland, Thomaston and Camden Street Railway.

An Act to amend an act entitled "An Act to ratify the mortgage of the Fish River Railroad.

On motion by Br. Goodwin of Somerset, Bill, An Act to amend Section 10 of Chapter 19 of the Revised Statutes relating to the law of the road, was laid on the table.

Orders of the Day.

Special assignment, majority and minority reports of the committee on legal affairs, on Bill, An Act to enable women paying taxes to vote in muniipal elections. The pending question being upon the acceptance of the minority report, ought not to pass.

Mr. STAPLES of Knox: Mr. President, and fellow senators: In anproaching this question, I do so after mature deliberation and much consid-We are living in an age of eration. improvement. I believe the women of this country, the women of the world from the beginning of time down to the present day have been of such a character as to warrant them fully equal rights with the male. I do not know as I would have attempted to have spoken upon this subject, had I not in my mind the memory of my mother to whom I am indebted today for what little of good there may be in me. I cannot forget her many prayers. T cannot forget her good advice. I cannot forget the many weary hours, the days and nights, that she has given to me; and what, Mr. President, is true in her case is true of every mother, or a

the great heroism that woman has displayed from the earliest times down to the present, I stand appalled to think that the male inhabitants of this country who are indebted today for grand institutions that they enjoy, for the good society that we have in glorious New England, to the women of this country, should deny them equal rights. The heroism that the women of this country displayed from 1861 to 1865, in a measure made it possible to perpetuate this government and permit the old flag to continue to wave over us. It is to them that we are indebted in a great measure that not a star was plucked from the national galaxy. The heroism that was displayed upon the field and in the hospital; and at home. when the father, the husband, the son had gone forth to do battle that the government might be perpetuated, the heroism that they displayed, the bravery, equaled that of Grace Darling, surpassed that of Florence Nightingale and was equal in humility to Mary who is spoken of in the Sacred Scriptures.

History is replete with the heroism of women. Woman is more adapted to heroism and faithfulness than man. I can never read, without admiration that legend in ancient history of Gertrude whose husband was put upon the rack to remain there in torture until he died. The faithful wife stood by him during the vigils of that long night, and when the next day came spoke to him words of encouragement, knowing that he never could come from the rack alive, but pointing to that higher O! my friends, after she life. stayed there all night, until the had risen in the morning, he turned his head for the last time, and said: "Gertrude, this is faithfulness until death" and died. What heroism was there, what faithfulness until death! Truly That is only one instance, Mr. said! President, that I might cite away down the line of time, where the faithfulness and heroism of woman has been grand and sublime. I need not go into ancient history. I may go to the fireside upon every New England hill and down in every New England valley, and find the faithfulness, watchfulness grand devotion that the mother has for the child. It is true that it is woman majority of them. When I think of who first gives the best instruction to

the child. It is true that it is woman that cares for the child; and I tell you that when you find one mother that gives any wrong advice to a child, you will find millions that give him good advice. You and I, every man in this Senate, every man, I go so far as to say, in New England, is indebted more to the mother for grand counsel, than he is to the father. you think, for a moment, that as to such women, who nurse us from boyhood to manhood, who, in the silent watches of the night pray that we may be honorable men, abounding in honor and integrity, do you have any fear of putting the ballot in such women's hands? I have not. We need not.

Woman has been the first in everything. It is woman who first hushes the feeble wail of infancy. It is woman, in the majority of cases, that weeps at the tomb over the brow of has age. It is always woman who been foremost in all grand deeds ofcharity. Whenever the question of education arises you will find the mother always speaking of the profits and benefits of education to her children. How many a mother works hard all night that she may send her little ones to the halls of learning—for what? That they may become citizens-that society may be benefitted by the tuition and the education given them. I cannot forget these things, Mr. President. I cannot forget having been associated in the school business all my life. I know something of the difference of the father's ideas and the mother's. The mother spends hours and hours of hard labor that the child may attend school; and she has never said one thing in deterioration of the great question of education. It is education that frames the common mind-that makes menthat makes women. Woman has been foremost always in the great cause of education. Their voices have been lifted up in favor of all great moral reforms of the American people. Show me a cause that appeals to the moral sentiments of man and you will find woman excelling him in speaking and in leading moral sentiment. It is woman, in all of these great principles, today; and by their grand achievements and noble examples we expect to keep New England in the ranks as long as time shall last.

Mr. President, We must not for get that we are all born free and equal. We must not forget that in our country towns, and I apprehend in your cities you object to giving the ballot to the intelligent and educated woman of this country and of this State in municipal affairs. Why, let me say to you,-and I blush to say it, but I say it boldly,-that in the good old State of Maine, even without thel influence of women, that there at least one-tenth of the voters of the State of Maine who are debauched by selling their votes. Do you think Mr. President, that onetenth of the women of Maine would be? It is a great issue. What shall be done by the people of the State of Maine,-by the voters of Maine, selling their votes,-that heritage which every honorable man deems his greatest heritage and legacy. No matter how poor a man may be,-no matter what his condition in life,-there is one legacy more precious,--more valuable than silver or gold, and that is the manhood of a voter; and when he debauches that manhood, and sells his birth-right for a mess of potage, that man ought not to vote; but still you say the woman shall not go to the municipal elections with her grand, purifying influence upon the masses there assembled,-and you say they shall not have a right to deposit their ballot. I say to you that there is something that has got to be done in the State of Maine,-and not only in the State of Maine, but in New England against the right of suffrage being debauched as it is today. I know something about it. It is a serious question that confronts the American people today,-the right to deposit your ballot untrammelled. I can imagine the woman of this country going to our town meetings. Many of you who live in the cities do not appreciate what the town meeting is. We have hundreds of voters coming there, and they are not always of the quiet kind. I would like to see the educated woman of State of Maine,-of course there are abandoned women, as well as abanthat is making New England what it is doned men,-let me say to you that to one adandoned woman there are ten

abandoned men; and I apprehend that when you find an abandoned woman she can trace her abandonment to a man, and not to herself,--I will risk it in my town. I will risk it in this city that every woman who goes to the polls will purify the atmosphere, and make men more sedate, sober and gentle. Put, you say, does she understand about this thing? How many men that go to your town meetings, understand? You and I know that a few leaders dominate the affairs in town meetings; and that a majority of the voters, or a great many of them cannot read or write. They have voted away your money and my money. Why, they say, not but a few of the women are tax-payers. Let me say to you if you will look at the statistics there are millions of dollars of property owned by the women of the State of Maine who pay taxes. A woman pays say \$200 or \$300 in taxes; and you say she shall not have the right to say how that money shall be expended. Is it fair? Is it just? Is it equitable between man and woman? I say not. I was opposed to putting any conditions in the bill. believe they should all have a right to vote. To educate, to refine, to lift up should be the slogan of all good-minded women in this country. I have no fear, Mr. President, that if you give to them the right to say, but what they will, examine the questions that come before the meeting as well as the majority of men.

Women to vote! Why! Some of my brothers say they have not the capacity. Let me refer you to the great problems of life. Is there a business man in the State of Maine who finding his business perplexing him,-who is put to his wit's end as to what course to pursue, that he does not go to his wife and lay the matter before her? In my experience, nine time out of ten, she solves the problem for him. Ah! You little know how many times women have moulded the financial affairs of men. They are moulding them today. I could cite instance after instance where the woman of the household is the financial agent of the Why? Because she is more family. capable of managing the financial afthe household. Why, in fairs of

Heaven's name, hasn't she a right to go to the polls and vote how the money she pays out in taxes shall be expended? I admire the woman of the State of Maine. I guess I might be universal, and say,-of everywhere; but the woman of today is one thing,-the woman of the future is not to be a doll, a bauble or a plaything. The woman of the future is to be a woman willing to take up the great responsibilities of life. The weman of the future is not only content to dress in satins: but content if she she is solved in the emergency, great problems of life. Many and many a woman, when the husband has passed to the great Beyond, over the river, has taken up the trend of life and shown by her capacity and intelligence that she is able to solve the great problems of life. Thousands, yes, millions of instances of that kind might be cited. I say, women are just as capable as men. They know just as much as men—are just as capable of taking hold of the intricate problems of life as men, and they have demonstrated it in every city of this union and in the whole world from the beginning of time down to the present day. The woman of the future must be a woman willing to take hold of the great respon-sibilities of life. Woman's sphere is all right at the present time-we admire their devotion-we admire the sphere in which they now tread. But I would like to see a higher and loftier sphere for the wo-men of the good old State of Maine.

We have, in history, recorded the great learning of Harriet Beecher Stowe. We have that grand old woman, Mary Livermore, who has for a series of years gone from one end of this country to the other speaking and pleading for the uplifting of the women of this country. I have no fear that if Mrs. Livermore lived in the State of Maine today and was given the right of the ballot, that your rights would be jeopardized. Don't you think that grand old woman would look after interests-financial or moral-no matter what, of the country just as well as a man would? Would you have any matter what, or the as a man would? Would you as a man would? Women have as a man would would doubt of that? Women have told me that some of them do not want the right of suffrage. They do not want it, because they have never exercised it. They do not want it because they have a false idea of true womanhood. True womanhout and the suffrage lane but idea of true womanhood. True womanhood is not to grace the parlor alone, but it is to take hold of the great problems of life. I know that it is fashionable for women to think that if they take hold of any business operation that they won't be thought to be acting-to make use of an expression—very toney. Let me say that that is a wrong idea. I do not care how well a woman dresses-I do not care if she wears silks and satins at the polls.

All I ask of her is to exercise that judgment and discretion which I know she has, and all would be well.

It is coming—you need not doubt it.
Way back in 1856, when the great cry
was between slavery and its abolishment,
Wendell Phillips and William Lloyd Garrison, whose memory will go down through the ages, were the first men who agitated it. They had a small following at that time. But it went on, until by their efforts the shackles were stricken from the wrists of three million slaves, and a great thing had been achieved for the benefit of mankind. So it is with the question of female suffrage. Some are not prepared for this ordeal, but, as sure as the sun shines in the heavens, just so long as mankind or a few of them have long as manking or a few of them have the rights of the people at heart, just so long will some of you cry out for equal right. I hope you will have plenty of the male sex to help you carry on this grand work. But don's forget it. Get upon the band-wagon while it is going; for you ladies, if there are here who do not want the ballot—if you think it is going to unsex you—if you think it is not popular—if you do not think it is toney—why, then, get upon the band-wagon, because you get upon the band-wagon, because you have got to sooner or later. You have got to get there. It is coming—coming fast. Several states in this union have it—in the old mother state of Massachusetts they vote in school matters. It is the women, not the men, who have been foremost in school matters here in the State of Maine. They are foremost in all great matters that uplift mankind. If great matters that upper manking. 11 there is a woman here that don't want to vote, I beg of her to study this question—set rid of those false ideas, because it is coming, coming, coming.

The 15th amendment to the constitution of the United States gave the ballot to three millions of negroes in the South; and down here in Maine, where we boast of our intelligence and fairness, we deny woman the ballot. I, for one, am will-ing they should have the ballot because I believe in universal suffrage; and when you give the negro the ballot, I appreyou give the negro the ballot, I apprehend that these stylish women who think it is awful for them to vote, should have the right to vote in municipal affairs in the State of Maine. I am a great believer the future of this country. There is in the future of this country. There is no country upon the face of God's earth today so great as America; and she has been made great by the women of the country. If she is to remain the foremost nation of the earth, you must give woman the ballot. The safety of this country depends upon the intelligence and virtue of the women of this country. Why should not you women have the same rights as men? One lady upon my left says: "We do not want it." You do not want it because you do not understand it. and you do not appreciate it. I think I know the lady and that she would make a very active politician, and I should hate know the lady and that she would make a very active politician, and I should hate Bryant, Buck, Burns, Clark, Dudley, to run against her. I am glad, Mr. President, that there is no politics in this. I of Cumberland, Staples of Knox—12.

do not know whether this would be thirty to one or twenty-nine to one. I don't care. I believe in it. I am willing it should be known that the senator from Knox is in favor of municipal suffrage for women, and I will go on advocating it; and the time is not far off when you will come here—or if you do not somebody else will, and vote suffrage for women in the good old State of Maine. I believe in Maine. I believe in her institutions. I want to see them transmitted to my children unimpaired. I want to see the old flag remain. I want to see these grand institutions perpetuated, and to perpetuate them with the conglomeration of voters arising from the foreign population we have-the safety of those institutions depends upon giving women the right to vote. I tell you we can trust them. Let them go to the polls. Give them equal rights with men upon questions of municipal suffrage, and bye and bye the at-mosphere will be cleared away and you will find no such debauchery in your town meetings as you find today. Morality and purity will be lifted up. One woman said to me the other day: "Why, if they were all good women, I do not know but I should be in favor of the ballot." Suppose I should answer: "If they were all good men—" They are not all good men. I am sorry to say we shall always have abandoned women and abandoned men. I do not like the man who abrogates to the male sex all the virtues of this world; because, in woman there is implanted—in the breast of woman a more sensitive na-ture; and there is implanted in the breast of women a higher ideal than men ever possessed; and those ideals are what we want in forming this country today. I believe it was intended by the great Master of the Universe that woman should have equal rights with man in this hemisphere of the world. I believe in their potent influence coming down from the other world today and working upon the minds of men. I believe that divine influence will settle this question. Those grand women who have done their work in life's sphere, and passed over the river, have sent us messages from the other world spnere, and passed over the river, have sent us messages from the other world to benefit mankind. Let us give the ballot to women in the State of Maine; and if you do that, I know the majority of the men will rejoice. I have not any doubt men will rejoice. I have not any doubt the angels of Heaven will rejoice, and that Jove himself will lend an approving smile. (Prolonged applause).

The same senator requested that the vote when taken be by Yeas and Nays.

A Yea and Nay vote was thereupon ordered upon the pending question, viz.:

the acceptance of the minority report, ought not to pass.

Those voting Yea were Messrs. Burleigh, Currier, Gardner, Goodwin, Knowlton, Manley, Morrison, Philbrook, Flummer, Rankin, Stetson, Titcomb—12.

The President thereupon directed the secretary to call his name, and in response to such call voted Yea.

The President thereupon declared that 13 had voted to accept the minority report, in concurrence with the House, and 12 had voted not to accept said report, and that a majority having voted in favor of the acceptance of the report in concurrence, the report was accepted.

On motion by Mr. Gardner of Penobscot, the Senate adjourned to meet on Thursday, February 19, 1903, at 10 o'clock

HOUSE.

Wednesday, February 18, 1903. Prayer by Rev. Mr. Tandberg Gardiner.

Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

On motion of Mr. Allen of Sanford, the vote was reconsidered whereby the order relating to the University Maine received a passage, and on motion of Mr. Littlefield of Rockland, Senate amendment A was adopted. The order then received a passage as amended.

Bill, An Act to provide for the appointment of a commission to investigate the causes of floods and overflows of rivers and water courses, and water storage, and to make recommendations for preventing floods and the storage of water, etc.

This bill came from the Senate. referred in that body to the Committee on Interior Waters. On motion of Mr. Drew of Portland, it was tabled for printing pending its reference in con-

Senate Bills on First Reading.

Resolve in favor of Ebenezer O Gerry.

Resolve in favor of Mary C. Rankin. Resolve in relation to extra pay of Maine volunteers in the war with Spain.

An Act to amend Section 41 of Chapter 77 of the Revised Statutes relating to the Supreme Judicial Court.

An Act to incorporate the Mapleton and Presque Isle Railroad Company.

An Act amendatory to Chapter 507 of the Private and Special Laws of 1889, entitled, "An Act to establish the Dover Municipal Court," as amended Chapter 196 of the Private and Special Laws of 1899.

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

Judiciary.

By Mr. Newcomb of Eastport: Petition of Leo D. Lamond and 11 others for a municipal court in the city of Eastport.

Also: Petition of Irvine G. Mc-Larren and 17 others for same.

Also: Petition of George H. Kane and 46 others for same.