

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Record

OF THE

Seventy-Seventh Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1915

HOUSE

Wednesday, Jan. 6, 1915.

In convention of members-elect of the House of Representatives of the 77th Legislature.

This being the day designated by the Constitution of the State for the meeting of the 77th Legislature, the members-elect of the House of Representatives assembled in the hall of the House of Representatives at 10 o'clock A. M., and were called to order by William R. Roix, the clerk of the last House.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Boothby of Augusta.

A communication was received from the secretary of State transmitting a certified roll of the representatives-elect of the 77th Legislature.

A call of the roll by the clerk revealed the presence of a quorum, 145 members-elect answering to their names.

On motion by Mr. Connors, Messrs. Connor of Bangor, Sanborn of South Portland, Pierce of Houlton, Ricker of Castine, McCarty of Lewiston, Morse of Rumford and Perkins of Augusta, were appointed a committee to wait upon the Governor and inform him of the presence of a quorum of the members-elect of the House of Representatives in the hall of the House of Representatives, and request his attendance to administer the oath required by the Constitution to enable them to enter upon the discharge of their official duties.

Subsequently Mr. Connors reported that the committee had discharged the duty assigned it, and that His Excellency, the Governor, was pleased to say that with his Council he would forthwith attend upon the convention for the purpose indicated in the message.

The report of the committee was accepted.

Thereupon the Governor, accompanied by his Council, came in and administered and the members-elect subscribed the oaths necessary to qualify them to enter upon the discharge of their official duties.

The Governor and Council then withdrew.

In House of Representatives

On motion by Mr. Connellan, Messrs.

Connellan of Portland, Robinson of Bangor, Maxwell of Boothbay Harbor, Currier of Camden, Waterhouse of Kennebunk, Thombs of Lincoln and Washburn of Perry were appointed a committee to receive, sort and count votes for Speaker.

Having attended to the duties assigned it, Mr. Connellan from the committee reported 149 votes cast; that B. H. Lawrence had five votes; that Leon F. Higgins had 68 votes, and that Herbert W. Trafton had 76 votes.

The report was accepted.

Herbert W. Trafton was thereupon declared elected Speaker of the House for the present session, and was conducted to the chair by Mr. Higgins.

Mr. HIGGINS: Gentlemen of the House, it gives me great pleasure to present to you the honored member of this House from Fort Fairfield whom we have just elected as our Speaker for the present session. (Applause)

The SPEAKER: Gentlemen of the House of Representatives, I thank you most sincerely for the distinguished honor you have just conferred upon me in choosing me to be the presiding officer of this body. I recognize the fact that this is one of the highest honors which this House can confer upon any man; I recognize also the fact that this position carries with it grave responsibilities and arduous duties. I shall ask you, gentlemen, to assist me in the performance of those duties. I shall be obliged to ask for your indulgence many times during our session here this winter. I have no doubt but I will make many mistakes, but I can only say that it will be my endeavor in presiding over the deliberations of this body to act fairly and to recognize the rights of every man here. We are come together, gentlemen, as representatives of the good old State of Maine, and while party organization is necessary in conducting the affairs of this State, and while we were elected here to this body perhaps as Democrats or as Republicans or as Progressives, now, gentlemen, having taken the solemn oath of office which we have just taken this morning, we are not Democrats, we are not Republicans, we are not Progressives, we are representatives of

the good old State of Maine, and it is our duty to act and to do such things as shall most redound to the honor and glory of our State.

Gentlemen, again I thank you and again I ask your indulgence in conducting the affairs of this office; the Chair now awaits your pleasure. (Applause)

A message was received from the Senate through Mr Durgin of Piscataquis, informing the House that the Senate had been duly organized by the choice of Hon. Ira G. Hersey of Aroostook, as President, William E. Lawry of Augusta as secretary and L. Ernest Thornton of Houlton as assistant secretary.

On motion by Mr. Clifford, Messrs. Clifford of Lewiston, Drapeau of Brunswick, Wilkins of Jay, Hill of Corinth, Greenlaw of Presque Isle, Besse of Clinton and Wise of Guilford were appointed a committee to receive, sort and count votes for Clerk of the House for the present session.

Having attended to the duty assigned it, Mr. Clifford from the committee reported 151 votes cast; necessary for a choice 76; N. P. Gould had five votes; William R. Roix had 69 votes and Chandler C. Harvey had 77 votes.

The report was accepted, and Chandler C. Harvey was declared duly elected Clerk of the House for the present session.

On motion by Mr. Goodwin, Messrs. Goodwin of Mexico, Gerrish of Greenville, Tate of Topsham, Libby of Merrill, Fay of Dexter, Beal of Cornville and Ames of Stockton Springs were appointed a committee to receive, sort and count votes for assistant clerk.

Mr. Higgins of Brewer: Mr. Speaker, the hour is getting late and I am going to make a suggestion to the effect that we will withdraw our candidate for the position of assistant clerk of this House, and if it is agreeable to the House, I would suggest that one vote be cast by the chairman of the committee for the gentleman representing the dominant party, provided our friends, the Progressives,

will withdraw their candidate. This is done in the interest of saving time.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Goodwin of Mexico thereupon cast a vote in favor of Fortunat Belleau who was declared elected assistant clerk for the present session.

On motion by Mr. Greenleaf of Portland, their gentleman was charged with a message to the Governor notifying him of the organization of the House by the election of a speaker, clerk and assistant clerk.

Mr. Greenleaf subsequently reported that he had discharged the duty assigned him.

The report was accepted.

On motion by Mr. Gallagher of Bangor, that gentleman was charged with a message to the Senate informing that body of the organization of the House by the election of a speaker, clerk and assistant clerk.

Mr. Gallagher subsequently reported that he had discharged the duty assigned him.

The report was accepted.

On motion by Mr. Plummer of Lisbon, that gentleman was charged with the duty of conducting the clerk and assistant clerk to the Governor to receive and subscribe the oaths necessary to qualify them to enter upon the discharge of their official duties.

Mr. Plummer subsequently reported that he had performed the duty assigned him.

The report was accepted.

The clerk and assistant clerk then assumed charge of their respective positions.

A communication was received from the Senate through its secretary proposing a joint convention of the two branches of the Legislature at two o'clock P. M. in the hall of the House of Representatives for the purpose of electing a Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Attorney General, Commissioner of Agriculture and seven Executive Councillors.

On motion by Mr. Thombs of Lincoln, the House voted to concur in the resolution for a joint convention.

On motion by Mr. Ricker of Castine, the Clerk of the House was charged with a message to the Senate signifying the concurrence of the House in the proposition for a joint convention.

The Clerk of the House subsequently reported that he had discharged the duty assigned him.

From the Senate: Ordered, the House concurring, that the return of votes for Governor given to the several cities, towns and plantations of the State for the political years 1915 and 1916 be referred to a joint select committee of seven on the part of the Senate with such as the House may join.

The order received a passage in concurrence.

From the Senate: Ordered, the House concurring, that the joint rules and orders of the years 1913 and 1914 be the joint rules and orders of the Legislature.

The order received a passage in concurrence.

From the Senate: Ordered, the House concurring, that a joint committee on reference of bills, resolves, orders and petitions be appointed consisting of one on the part of the Senate and two in the part of the House, with the President of the Senate and the speaker of the House members ex-officio, whose duty it shall be to refer to the proper committees all bills, resolves, orders and petitions offered in either House.

The order received a passage in concurrence.

From the Senate: Communication from the Secretary of State transmitting the return of votes given in the several cities, towns and plantations in this State for Governor on the 14th of September last.

On motion this communication was referred to the committee on guber-

natorial vote in concurrence with the Senate.

Mr. Fossett of Portland introduced the following order:

Ordered, that James M. Rogers of Wilton be messenger; Frank A. Leonard of Lisbon be assistant messenger; A. E. Muldoon, postmaster; P. H. Fitzgerald of Augusta, mail-carrier; Julius P. Potter of Passadumkeag, first folder; F. K. Jack of Bowdoinham, assistant folder; Neil S. Gray of Warren doorkeeper, and that the Speaker appoint two pages and a document clerk.

Mr. Higgins of Brewer offered an amendment to the order by substituting the following: That Patrick Hayes be Messenger; C. B. Scribner, assistant messenger; James L. Bresnahan be postmaster; Thomas Rollins be mail-carrier; that C. H. Ashford be doorkeeper; Joseph H. Dixon folder and Stephen Purinton be assistant folder.

The question being on the adoption of the amendment,

A viva voce vote being taken, the amendment was lost.

The question being on the adoption of the order offered by the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Fossett,

Mr. Connellan of Portland offered an amendment to the order by substituting the name "H. N. Rogers" for that of "James M. Rogers."

The amendment was adopted.

The order as amended then received a passage.

On motion by Mr. Higgins of Brewer, the House voted to take a recess until 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Afternoon Session

The joint order on return of votes for Governor given in the several cities, towns and plantations of the State for the political years of 1915 and 1916 came from the Senate with a committee of seven named in that branch.

The Speaker appointed as members of the committee on the part of the House Messrs. Greenleaf of Portland, Russell of Alfred, Webb of Cherryfield, Perham of

Woodstock, Woodman of Auburn, Ricker of Castine and Picher of Waterville.

Mr. McCurdy of Lubec presented the petition of Fortunat R. Michaud of Van Buren against Levite V. Thibodeau of Van Buren holding a seat in this House, requesting that the same be referred to the committee on elections.

On motion by Mr. Ricker of Castine the petition was tabled pending its reference to a committee.

On motion by Mr. Connors of Bangor,

Ordered, That the clerk be directed to invite the clergymen of Augusta, Hallowell and Gardiner to officiate as chaplains of the House during the present session.

On motion by Mr. McCarty of Lewiston, Ordered, That the rules and orders of the last House of Representatives be adopted for the government of this House until otherwise ordered.

On motion by Mr. Thombs of Lincoln,

Ordered, That the clerk of the House furnish a catalog containing the names of members alphabetically arranged, with the residence, postoffice address, boarding place, occupation, politics and number of seat of each, with a diagram of the House, and that the usual number of copies be printed and distributed.

On motion by Mr. Perkins of Augusta, Ordered, That the secretary of State be directed to deliver to the clerk of the House one copy of the Holy Bible, one copy of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, one copy of the Standard Dictionary, one copy of Lippincott's Pronouncing Gazetteer and one copy of Cushing's manual.

On motion by Mr. Higgins of Brewer,

Ordered, That the clerk of the House be authorized to procure a typewriter and procure the services of a stenographer during the present session of the Legislature.

On motion by Mr. Sanborn of South Portland,

Ordered, That A. H. Whitman of Portland be appointed official reporter of the House for the present session with compensation at the same amount as paid at the last regular session; and that Cecil Clay of Portland be appointed as-

sistant reporter of the House for the present session.

On motion by Mr. Goodwin of Mexico,

Ordered, That the clerk of the House be directed to furnish each member and officer of the House with one copy each of three daily papers printed in this State, such as each member and officer may select.

On motion of Mr. Washburn of Perry,

Ordered, That the secretary of State be directed to furnish each member and officer of the House with postage stamps to the same amount furnished the members and officers of the 76th Legislature.

On motion by Mr. Gallagher of Bangor,

Ordered, That the official reporter of the House be authorized to procure the services of a typewriter operator during the present session for the preparation and completion of the Legislative Record.

At this point the Senate came in and a joint convention was formed.

In Convention

The President of the Senate assumed the chair.

The CHAIRMAN of the convention:

This convention is made up of a membership of both branches of the Legislature, and the Chair thinks it is wise at the present time that a roll call should be had of the members of both branches to know who are present and whether there is anyone upon the floor of this House who ought not to be here. Unless there is objection, the Chair will order a roll call.

A call of the roll showed that the following were present:

PRESENT—Albert, Sen. Allen of Kennebec, Allen of Machias, Sen. Ames of Washington, Ames of Stockton Springs, Averill, Ballard, Sen. Bartlett, Beal, Benn, Bernier, Besse, Blake of New Gloucester, Blake of Oakland, Bonney, Bourque, Sen. Boynton, Bradbury, Bragdon, Brann, Brawn, Brown of Auburn, Brown of New Sharon, Sen. Burleigh, Bussey, Sen. Butler, Campbell, Carson, Chadbourne, Chamberlin, Chaplain, Sen. Chatto, Sen. Clark, Clement Clifford, Cobb, Coffin, Sen. Colby, Colcord, Sen. Cole, Sen. Conant, Connellan, Connors, Corliss, Currier, Daigle, Danforth, Davis, Descoteaux, Dilling, Douglass, Drapeau, Drummond, Sen. Dunton, Durgain, Sen. Durgin, Dutton, Edwards, Ellis, Sen. Emery, Erskine, Evans, Fay, Sen. Flaherty, Ford, Fossett, Sen. Fulton, Galla-

gher, Sen. Garcelon, Gerrish, Gilmour, Goldthwait, Gooding, Goodwin, Gould, Grant, Groaton, Greeley, Greenlaw, Greenleaf, Hanson of Saco, Hanson of Sanford, Haraden, Harper, Hart, Haskell, Sen. Hastings, Sen. Herrick, Sen. Hersey, Higgins, Hill, Hobbs, Hodgkins, Holt of Gouldsboro, Holt of Skowhegan, Jameson, Sen. Jillson, Jordan, Lawrence, Leader, Sen. Leary, Lewis, Libby, Littlefield, Lombard, Lord, Mansir, Maxwell, McCarty, McCorrison, McCurdy, McIntire, McKinley, McNally, Meader, Millett, Mitchell, Morrison, More, Sen. Moulton, Mulligan, Mullin, Sen. Murphy, Neilon, Newell, Nicholas, Noyes, O'Connell, Peabbles, Sen. Peacock, Perham, Perkins, Peterson, Picher, Pierce of Farmington, Pierce of Houlton, Plummer, Pollard, Sen. Price, Ranney, Ricker, Roberts, Robinson, Russell of Alfred, Russell of Lewiston, Ryder, St. Clair of Calais, St. Clair of Rockland, Sanborn, Sen. Scammon, Small, Smith, Snow, Sen. Swift, Tabbutt, Tate, Thibodeau of Ft. Kent, Thibodeau of Van Buren, Thombs, Sen. Thurston, Tobey, Towle, Trafton, Turner, Tuttle, Varney, Sen. Walker, Ward, Wasgatt, Washburn, Waterhouse, Watts, Webb, Welch, Sen. Weld, Wescott, Wheeler, Wilkins, Wilson, Wise, Woodman, Wyman—182.

Present, 182.

Absent, 0.

The CHAIRMAN of the convention: The Chair understands from the roll call that the entire membership of both houses are present.

On motion by Senator Hastings, Messrs. Hastings of Androscoggin, Higgins of Brewer, Weld of Penobscot, Sanborn of South Portland, Colcord of Portland, Ellis of Gardiner and Gould of Leeds were appointed a committee to receive, sort and count votes for secretary of State.

Chairman Hersey announced that he had paired with Speaker Trafton of the House

Having attended to the duties assigned it, Senator Hastings from the committee reported as follows:

Whole number of votes cast 180; necessary for a choice, 91; John E. Bunker had 89; Joseph E. Alexander had 87; Roland E. Clark had four.

The report was accepted.

The CHAIRMAN: The Chair declares by the report of the committee that there is no choice for secretary of State. The convention will again proceed to ballot.

Having attended to the duties assigned it, Senator Hastings from the committee reported as follows:

Whole number of votes cast 180; ne-

cessary for a choice, 91; John E. Bunker had 89; Joseph E. Alexander had 86; Roland E. Clark had five.

The report was accepted.

The CHAIRMAN: The Chair declares that there is no election. The convention will proceed to another ballot.

Having attended to the duties assigned it, Senator Hastings from the committee reported as follows:

Whole number of votes cast 179; necessary for a choice, 90; John E. Bunker had 88; Joseph E. Alexander had 86; Roland E. Clark had five.

The report was accepted.

The CHAIRMAN: The Chair declares that there is no election. The convention will again proceed to ballot.

Mr. McCARTY of Lewiston: Mr. Chairman, I move that the present method of balloting be changed, and that this convention adopt the method of using a ballot box into which the members shall deposit their ballots as their names are called on the roll.

The CHAIRMAN: The gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. McCarty, is not recognized for that purpose. The committee will attend to the duties of their office.

Having attended to the duties assigned it, Senator Hastings from the committee reported as follows:

Whole number of votes cast, 180; necessary for a choice, 91; John E. Bunker had 89; Joseph E. Alexander had 86; Roland E. Clark had five.

The report was accepted.

The CHAIRMAN: The Chair declares that there is no election at the present time.

Mr. Pierce from Houlton moved that the convention take a recess until 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon at the same place.

The motion was agreed to.

Thereupon the convention was dissolved and the Senate retired to the Senate chamber.

In the House

On motion by Mr. Higgins of Brewer,

Adjourned until tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.