

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

## Seventy-Ninth Legislature

OF THE

## STATE OF MAINE

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1919

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**HOUSE**

Friday, February 14, 1919.

The House met according to adjournment and was called to order by the Speaker.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Wood of Augusta.

Journal of previous session read and approved.

Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

**Senate Bills in First Reading**

Senate 70: An Act to establish a Superior court in the county of Penobscot.

Tabled by Mr. Reed of Bangor, pending second reading.

By unanimous consent the rules were suspended and the following Senate order was received out of order:

Ordered, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they adjourn to meet Tuesday, Feb. 18, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon.

The order received a passage in concurrence.

From the Senate: Report of committee on appropriations and financial affairs on resolve in aid of the People's Ferry Company that the same be referred to the committee on ways and bridges.

On motion by Mr. Washburn of Perry, the vote was re-considered whereby the report of the committee on appropriations and financial affairs on resolve in aid of the People's Ferry Company was referred to the committee on ways and bridges; and on further motion by the same gentleman the report was tabled pending acceptance.

The following bills, resolves and petitions were presented and, upon recommendation of the committee on reference of bills were referred to the following committees:

**Agriculture**

By Mr. Barnes of Houlton: An Act amending Section 41, Chapter 36, of the Revised Statutes, relative

to the Department of Agriculture, providing for the collection and examination of samples of feeding stuffs, fertilizers, insecticides, seeds, foods and drugs.

**Education**

By Mr. Macomber of Jay: Petition of Lester S. Libby and 18 others, urging the amendment of the school law, so that all contracts for school supplies shall be approved by the superintending school committee, and also by the board of selectmen before the town is liable for payment.

**Judiciary**

By Mr. Brann of Lewiston: An Act to prohibit discrimination against persons seeking employment. (500 copies ordered printed.)

**Mercantile Affairs and Insurance**

By Mr. Thomas of South Portland: An Act to amend Section 122 of Chapter 53 of the Revised Statutes of Maine, relating to life insurance agents and brokers. (500 copies ordered printed.)

**Public Health**

By Mr. Hussey of Blaine: Petition of J. W. Williams and 76 others, citizens of the towns of Mars Hill and Blaine, in favor of act to prohibit the manufacture and sale of cigarettes.

By the same gentleman: Petition of J. R. Irvine and 56 others, citizens of the towns of Mars Hill and Blaine, in favor of same.

**Salaries and Fees**

By Mr. Mitchell of Kittery: An Act to amend Section 43 of Chapter 117 of the Revised Statutes, increasing the salary of the register of deeds of York county.

By the same gentleman: An Act to amend Section 45 of Chapter 117 of the Revised Statutes, increasing the amount for clerk hire in the Registry of Deeds of York county.

**Sea and Shore Fisheries**

By Mr. Perkins of Boothbay Harbor: Petition of W. E. Sawyer and 28 others of Boothbay Harbor for the repeal of the lobster license law, and remonstrance against the passage of any law licensing fishing and fishermen.

### Orders

On motion by Mr. Garcelon of Auburn it was

Ordered, the Senate concurring, that for the remainder of the session the index to the Senate and House documents be prepared under the direction of the State librarian.

### Reports of Committees

Mr. Gilmour from the committee on interior waters reported ought not to pass on bill An Act to improve Wesserunsett stream.

Same gentleman from same committee reported same on bill An Act to provide for a commission to be known as the People's Rights and Water Power Commission of the State of Maine.

Mr. Lanpher from the committee on legal affairs reported same on bill An Act to amend Section 82 of Chapter 115 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by Chapter 136 of the Public Laws of 1917, relating to support of debtors in jail.

(On motion by Mr. Allan of Portland, tabled pending acceptance of report.)

Mr. Mason from same committee reported same on bill An Act to amend Section 21 of Chapter 240 of Private and Special Laws of 1913, relative to clerk hire for Lincoln municipal court.

Same gentleman from same committee reported same on bill An Act to amend Section 47 of Chapter 96 of the Revised Statutes by providing a lien for sealers.

Mr. Cole from the committee on sea and shore fisheries reported same on bill An Act to authorize Leonard G. Emery to erect a fish weir in tide waters of Johnson's Cove in the city of Eastport.

Mr. Clifford from the committee on claims, on Resolve to reimburse the city of Bangor for money paid to soldiers' dependents, reported that the same be referred to the committee on military affairs.

Reports were read and accepted and sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Clifford from the committee on claims reported ought to pass on Resolve in favor of Jacob Astle.

Mr. Perkins from same committee, on Resolve in favor of the town of Eagle Lake to reimburse said town for a part

of the excessive expenses incurred in the influenza and smallpox epidemics, reported same in a new draft, under same title, and that it ought to pass.

Mr. Gilmour from the committee on interior waters reported ought to pass on Resolve in favor of lighting the Narrows between Upper and Lower Richardson lakes.

Same gentleman from same committee on bill An Act to incorporate the Wesserunsett Stream Dam and Improvement Company, reported same in a new draft, under same title, and that it ought to pass.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported ought to pass on Resolve in aid of navigation on Sebec lake in Piscataquis county.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on bill, An Act authorizing the Passadumkeag Lumber Co. to erect piers and booms in Penobscot river at Passadumkeag.

Same gentleman, from same committee, reported same on bill, An Act to change the name of Whetstone pond in Abbot and Blanchard, in the county of Piscataquis, to Sylvan lake.

Mr. Hussey, from the committee on legal affairs, reported same on bill, An Act to amend Chapter 349 of the Private and Special Laws of 1864, entitled An Act to incorporate the officers and members of Monument Lodge.

Mr. Lanpher from same committee reported same on bill, An Act to amend Section 82 of Chapter 115 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by Chapter 136 of the Laws of Maine for 1917, relating to support of debtors in jail.

Mr. Allan from the committee on public utilities, on bill, An Act to extend the provisions of Chapter 214 of the Private and Special Laws of 1915, as extended by Chapter 50 of the Private and Special Laws of 1917, authorizing the town of Lisbon to supply gas and electricity, reported same in a new draft, under same title, and that it ought to pass.

Mr. Cowan from same committee on bill, An Act to extend the charter of the Salisbury Cove Water Company, reported same in a new draft,

under same title, and that it ought to pass.

Mr. Mathews from same committee on bill, An Act to extend the charter of the Quebec Extension Railway Co., reported same in a new draft, under same title, and that it ought to pass.

Mr. Ricker from same committee on bill, An Act to extend the provisions of Chapter 155 of the Private and Special Laws of 1917, entitled An Act to authorize the town of Yarmouth to supply gas and electricity, and to amend the same, reported same in a new draft, under same title, and that it ought to pass.

Mr. Clason from the committee on ways and bridges, reported ought to pass on bill, An Act to extend the authority of the American Thread Co. to erect a bridge across Sebec river in the town of Milo.

Reports were read and accepted and bills and resolves ordered printed under joint rules.

**First Reading of Printed Bills and Resolves**

House 149: An Act to amend Section 21 of Chapter 7 of the Revised Statutes relating to the time of the opening and closing of polls at elections.

House 143: An Act to ratify, confirm and make valid the doings of the Congregational parish in Abbot village, and of the Abbot Village Congregational church, and authorizing them to unite. (New Draft.)

House 144: An Act to authorize the erection of a weir in the waters of Cobscook bay in the town of Lubec.

House 145: An Act to amend Chapter 372, Laws of Maine, 1905, entitled An Act for the protection of clams in parts of the county of Sagadahoc.

House 146: An Act regulating the taking of clams in the town of Swan's Island.

**Passed to Be Engrossed**

Senate 50: An Act to repeal an Act entitled an Act to incorporate the town of Grafton.

Senate 65: An Act to amend Section 4 of Chapter 48 of the Revised Statutes relating to municipal officers

maintaining standards of weights and measures.

Senate 55: An Act to amend Chapter 485 of the Private and Special Laws of 1901 as amended by Chapter 331 of the Private and Special Laws of 1909 relating to An Act to establish a municipal court in the town of Skowhegan.

Senate 60: An Act to repeal Section 16 of Chapter 37 of the Revised Statutes relating to the capacity of milk cans.

An Act to amend Section 32 of Chapter 33 of the Revised Statutes of 1916, relating to mill waste deposited in lakes and ponds.

(Tabled by Mr. Colcord of Searsport, pending third reading.)

Senate 64: An Act to amend Section 36 of Chapter 36 of the Revised Statutes relating to hearings in case of violations of the apple packing law.

House 131: An Act to amend Paragraph 1 of Section 57 of Chapter 16 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by Chapter 188 of the Public Laws of 1917, relating to the payment of State aid to superintendents of unions of towns.

House 137: Resolve, appropriating money for the erection of a fish-screen at the outlet of Sebago lake.

**Orders of the Day**

On motion by Mr. Allan of Portland it was voted to take from the table the report of the committee on legal affairs on bill, An Act to amend Section 82 of Chapter 115 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by Chapter 136 of the Public Laws of 1917, relating to support of debtors in jail.

Mr. ALLAN of Portland: I find this is a duplicate of another bill already passed, and I move that the report be accepted.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. COWAN of Winterport: Mr. Speaker, as the law now stands in this State, a citizen who changes his residence to another city or town in the State within three months next preceding an election is thereby disfranchised for the time being. This condition of affairs seems to affect clergymen, teachers and district superintendents of schools more than

any other class of people at the present time. The men of these callings are usually very desirous of registering their votes in the fall elections, and one particular characteristic which is peculiar to them—I won't say that it is peculiar to them—but just a characteristic of theirs—is that they are usually willing and anxious to get to the polls and vote without waiting for conveyance, and they are not always around inquiring if somebody is going to pay for their time which they have lost in performing their duty as citizens.

In response to a request for legislation to correct the disability imposed by law at the present time, Senate No. 8 was introduced. This bill was reported "ought not to pass" by the committee to which it was referred for the reason that it conflicted with Section one of Article 2 of the Constitution, and the report of the committee was accepted. It is now urged by persons who have been repeatedly disfranchised in the past by operation of the existing law, and who, from the character of their occupation, are likely to be disfranchised in times to come, that another attempt be made at this session to amend the law in this respect.

Rule 14 of the Joint Rules provides that when any measure shall be finally rejected, it shall not be revived except by re-consideration, and no matter shall be introduced during the

session unless three days' notice is given to the house of which the mover is a member.

Now it seems to me that it would not be proper procedure to try to revive that Senate Document No. 8, because there were other defects in it besides the great defect of its being unconstitutional; and in conformity to the requirements of the rule which I have quoted, I now give notice of my intention to introduce a bill and act to amend Section 2 of Chapter 5 of the Revised Statutes, relating to qualifications of voters, accompanying the same by a resolve proposing an amendment to Section one of Article 2 of the Constitution, providing for the continuing of the right of suffrage to a person otherwise qualified to vote for governor, senators and representatives in this State, in the town or plantation where his residence for suffrage purposes has been established, for a period of three months after his removal therefrom to another town or plantation within this State.

The SPEAKER: The Clerk will make record of this notice under the rules.

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On motion by Mr. Garcelon of Auburn,

Adjourned until Tuesday morning, Feb. 18, at ten o'clock in the forenoon.