

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

Seventy-Ninth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1919

AUGUSTA
KENNEBEC JOURNAL PRINT
1919

HOUSE

Tuesday, February 18, 1919.

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

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Irving of Randolph.

Journal of previous session read and approved.

Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

From the Senate: An Act to amend Section 3 of Chapter 130 of the Revised Statutes, relating to the sale of milk.

In the House this was indefinitely postponed. It comes back from the Senate, that body non-concurring in the action of the House and recommending the bill to Committee on Agriculture.

Mr. STORM of Westmanland Plantation: Mr. Speaker, I move that we recede and concur.

Mr. BARNES of Houlton: Mr. Speaker, is the motion debatable?

The SPEAKER: The motion is debatable.

Mr. BARNES: Well, gentlemen, we have before us the milk bill which so far as the House is concerned was disposed of the other day—a bill that despite the Maine law and the Federal law, both of which say that the food is adulterated if any portions of the valuable constituents therein are taken out, a bill which despite those laws insists that it shall be proper in the State of Maine for a milk producer, or a middleman in the milk business, to take out a portion of the cream and still sell the milk as pure and unadulterated milk. Where does the demand come from? Can you believe that it is from the farmers? You buy milk with a good, fair percentage of cream in it, but after you pass this bill there will be no milk on the market except milk with 3.25 per cent. cream in it, for who would allow his cream to go out of the house in excess of the minimum requirements if he could keep that cream in the house and use it on the tea table, or make butter of it, or sell

it as cream? I attempted to make a motion to lay the matter upon the table until we could find out the enemies that are back of it. It was denied here stoutly, it was denied right on this spot within an hour after the debate the other day, that the Agricultural Department was back of this bill, and I was some criticized because I said that the gentleman said it was. I did not say so. I said, do not tell me that the Agricultural Department is back of it, for that I could not believe. Now today, just as a week ago, the thought that faces me is this: It is not for us here and now to provide that the people who buy one can of milk a day, or one quart of milk a day, shall have an inferior article of food. It has been the desire and intent of our fathers that the people who buy milk shall get cow's milk, unadulterated, unprepared, unrefined—cow's milk as it comes from the cow. The motion is to recede from our action of the other day and to concur with the Senate. I do not attempt to advise anyone, but I sincerely hope that a majority will vote no.

Mr. PHILLIPS of Bar Harbor: Mr. Speaker, speaking for the medical profession of Hancock county, and I have had the honor to be the president of their medical association for two years, I sincerely hope the bill will not go through. I am speaking for them as well as for myself. I know that the Hancock County Medical Association is opposed to it.

Mr. STORM of Westmanland Plantation: Mr. Speaker, as I understand this bill, we have not heard anything from the other side. I do not think anything comes in here that has not two sides to it. This bill was brought in from the Agricultural committee with a unanimous "ought to pass" report, and it seems to me that there must be some merit to the bill which justified that committee in making that report. If it did not have a fair hearing before the committee, it should have one now; and I hope that my motion will prevail.

Mr. ALDEN of Gorham: Mr. Speaker, two years ago this bill was up and it was killed in the same way.

In the committee six voted for it, and there was no more opposition to it than there has been now.

Mr. ALLAN of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the gentlemen of the House who are favoring this bill realize the position they may be placed in, under the United States law, if they should happen to ship any of this milk with the cream taken from it into Boston or anywhere across the line? It would not only be seizable as adulterated, under the United States law, but the parties themselves would be subject to a penalty, I think not exceeding five hundred dollars, and I think imprisonment besides, at the request of Uncle Sam, and it would be absolutely in violation of the United States law. This, of course, might not occur if it did not pass beyond the borders of Maine, but if it does there is a question in my mind whether some poor, innocent person who attempted to get it across the line into New Hampshire might not get into more trouble than he anticipated, and it might cost him more than all he would gain by taking the cream out of this milk. I simply make the inquiry, gentlemen, whether you have considered this phase of the matter. If you have not, before you pass the bill I think it might be well to look into it and see how you are going to come out.

The SPEAKER: Is the House ready for the question? The question is the motion of the gentleman from Westmanland Plantation, Mr. Storm, that the House recede from its former action of indefinite postponement and concur with the Senate in recommitting the bill to the committee on agriculture. All those who are in favor of the motion will say aye, those opposed no.

A viva voce vote being taken, the motion to recommit the bill to the committee on agriculture failed of passage.

Senate Bills in First Reading

Senate 41: An Act to authorize the county of Androscoggin to enlarge and repair the county buildings at Auburn in said county and erect a new building, and to enlarge and construct safety vaults.

Senate 71: An Act to amend Section

27 of Chapter 84 of the Revised Statutes, relating to examination of applicants for admission to the bar.

Senate 72: An Act to amend Sections 2, 3, 5 and 11 of Chapter 222, Public Laws of 1917, entitled An Act to provide for mothers with dependent children.

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 to amend Section 3 of Chapter 130 of the Revised Statutes to insure the purity of milk sold as food.

By Mr. Bean of Minot: An Act requiring that creameries, condensed milk factories and certain other dealers in dairy products be licensed and give bond before transacting business. (500 copies ordered printed.)

Education

By Mr. Clifford of Reed Plantation: Petition of L. R. Bennett and 14 others, citizens of Reed Plantation, in favor of reimbursing the plantation for the interest from the wild land school fund.

By Mr. Cochrane of Monmouth: Petition of H. S. Bent and 19 others urging the amendment of the school law so that contracts for school supplies will be approved by the superintending school committee or board of selectmen before the town is liable for payment.

Inland Fisheries and Game

By Mr. Sweatt of Andover: An Act to amend Section 55 of Chapter 33 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by Chapters 219 and 244 of the Public Laws of 1917, relating to the protection of game birds.

(500 copies ordered printed.)

Judiciary

By Mr. Barnes of Houlton: An Act to amend Section 1 of Chapter 96 of the Revised Statutes, relating to the recording of chattel mortgages.

(500 copies ordered printed.)

By Mr. Pike of Eastport: An Act to create the Maine Penal Institution Commission.

By Mr. Barnes of Houlton: An

Act to amend Section 7 of Chapter 303 of the Public Laws of 1907, changing the conditions under which loans may be granted by the Farm Lands Loan Commissioner.

(500 copies ordered printed.)

Legal Affairs

By Mr. Austin of Milford: An Act to regulate the business and practice of horseshoeing; providing for the issuance of licenses; providing for the appointment of examiners and defining their duties; defining certain misdemeanors and providing penalties therefor.

(500 copies ordered printed.)

By Mr. Lanpher of Sebec: An Act to amend Section 48 of Chapter 6 of the Revised Statutes, relating to the enrollment of voters at political caucuses.

(Tabled by Mr. Allan of Portland and 500 copies ordered printed.)

By Mr. Cowan of Winterport: An Act to amend Section 2 of Chapter 5 of the Revised Statutes, relating to qualifications of voters.

(500 copies ordered printed.)

By the same gentleman: Resolve proposing an amendment to Section 1 of Article II of the Constitution of the State of Maine, providing for the continuation 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 has been established, for a period of three months after his removal therefrom to another town or plantation within this State.

(500 copies ordered printed.)

Public Health

By Mr. Wilson of Presque Isle: Petition of J. W. Beckwith and 49 others, citizens of the town of Presque Isle, in favor of act prohibiting the manufacture and sale of cigarettes.

By Mr. Porter of Mapleton: Petition of E. M. Turner and 22 others, citizens of the town of Mapleton, in favor of same.

By the same gentleman: Petition of W. B. Waddell and ten others, citizens of the town of Mapleton, in favor of same.

Salaries and Fees

By Mr. Washburn of Perry: An Act to amend Section 15 of Chapter 9 of the Revised Statutes, to provide for additional assistance for the Board of State Assessors.

Ways and Bridges

By Mr. Barnes of Houlton: An Act to amend the law relative to placing of speed limit signs on highways.

Orders

Mr. LANPHER of Sebec: Mr. Speaker, I ask the permission of the House to introduce a resolve directing the manner of engrossing the acts and resolves of this Legislature, and that the same be received under suspension of the rules, and without reference to a committee be given its several readings at this time. That the House may know the provisions of this resolve, I ask permission to read it.

A Resolve Directing the Manner of Engrossing the Acts and Resolves and for the Preservation of the Same

Whereas, the method of engrossing the acts and resolves enacted by the Legislature of Maine which has been employed from 1867 up to and including the 78th Legislature, is most cumbersome and unnecessarily expensive, and,

Whereas, the typewriter, a machine by which printing can be done not only with celerity and accuracy at a great saving of time and money has been so perfected that it is possible to engross all acts and resolves enacted by the Legislature by means of said typewriter and,

Whereas, this method would perfect a saving to the State of Maine of an amount roughly estimated at five thousand dollars during every session of the Legislature, and,

Whereas, the Secretary of State has purchased for this purpose nine standard typewriters, equipped with a special faced type and has made all the necessary arrangements to perform this very important work of engrossing by the use of said typewriters, and after making a careful study of the methods employed by other states where the volume of

work is much greater than in the State of Maine, is confident that the use of typewriters for this work in this State is not only possible but feasible, and

Whereas, the passage of this resolve constitutes an emergency which is immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, now therefore, be it resolved:

Section 1. That from and after the passage of this resolve, all acts and resolves passed to be engrossed in both branches of the Legislature in lieu of being engrossed by printing as directed in a resolve approved February tenth, eighteen hundred and sixty six, shall be engrossed by printing in a fair and conspicuous type, or by means of a typewriter or typewriting machine. If such original engrossed acts or resolves are becoming eligible, the Secretary of State shall cause parchment or parchment paper copies thereof, similar to the originals, to be engrossed and shall attest them. Such attested copies shall have the same force and effect as the originals.

The action of the Secretary of State in engrossing by means of a typewriter the acts and resolves already passed to be enacted by the present Legislature is hereby approved.

Section 2. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this act shall take effect when approved.

The House thereupon voted to suspend the rules and receive the foregoing resolve at the present time.

Mr. LANPHER of Sebec: Mr. Speaker, we had the pleasure last Thursday of listening to a very brilliant address of the subject of engrossing bills by the gentleman from Augusta (Mr. Mather), and I think it is only fair that the other side of this matter should be presented; and, while I cannot hope to equal his eloquence, I wish in my simple language to tell why I think that the method of engrossing bills by typewriter is the inevitable and logical means of engrossing bills in this day.

The gentleman divided his address into three parts—economy, efficiency and expediency. I accept the classifi-

cation. First, from the standpoint of economy: When the time came for the convening of this Legislature the secretary of State's department, in whose hands by law the matter of engrossing bills rests, began to cast about to make a contract for the engrossing of bills at this session. This has been done for several years by the Kennebec Journal, and they have been printed. The State department was unable this year, as they thought, to make a satisfactory contract with the Kennebec Journal, and so they looked about for some other means—some other method—of engrossing these bills. It was found that in the state of Massachusetts they had been using the typewriting system in engrossing acts and resolves for several years; so, after studying the question and considering it, the secretary of State adopted this method of engrossing bills with the consent and approval of the Governor and Council, of course. Nine typewriters were purchased, operators were hired, and the State Department is now in position to do this work and do it quickly and well in every respect.

Now from the standpoint of economy only, how much will the State save by doing this work by typewriters? Take the printing of these bills two years ago. It cost to engross the acts and resolves of this Legislature two years ago approximately eight thousand dollars, with fifty dollars additional for binding; and to show you something of the expenses involved in engrossing these bills by printing, I have a list here of each bill, each act, passed by the last Legislature, with the cost of printing each separate act. It cost to engross the act providing for uniform bills of lading, \$78.20; for the uniform warehouse act, \$85.00; for one of the appropriation bills, \$185.00, and for another, \$102.00. It cost to engross the military law, \$401.20. It cost to engross the resolve providing for a new city charter for the city of Auburn, \$98.60; for the fish and game law, \$224.40; for the negotiable instruments law, \$260.10, and that represented fifty-one pages that had to be done over because the printer made a mistake, and the State had to pay for the extra time—had to pay double the fifty-one pages of that

negotiable instruments law; and, of course, the State has to furnish the stock for doing this printing.

Now what is the estimated expense this year? As I said, the secretary of State has employed at the present time nine operators, and he estimates that the whole expense for typists during this session will not exceed one thousand dollars, and the cost of the typewriting machines will be less than one thousand dollars. Binders have been purchased for this work at a cost of \$12.50, which will be all that will be necessary. So the entire expense of engrossing the acts and resolves of this Legislature by typewriter will be less than \$2000. That shows a clear saving, to put it conservatively, of \$5000, and probably \$6000. Now \$5000 or \$6000 is not a great sum for the State of Maine, but when that amount can be saved to the State without any deterioration or letting down in efficiency or the quality of the work done, it is surely worth while. Why, \$5000 will pay the salary of the Governor of this State; it would pay the salary of one of the justices of our Supreme Court; it would pay the salary of two of our heads of departments; it would help repair two or three of our pieces of road that need repairing; it would pay the salaries of 15 of us as members of this Legislature. Now at a time when we are all seeking to economize and keep the appropriations and expenditures of this State down, is it not worth while, when it can be done without any loss to the State in quality of work to do it in this way and save that amount when the educational institutions and the hospitals need extra money for building and extension—is it not worth while to save this amount for the State? So much for economy.

Now how about the efficiency of this method? I have in my hands a sample of one of the bills that has been engrossed in the Secretary of State's office this year on a typewriter—a splendid piece of work, clear and permanent. Now is it a permanent record? The gentleman suggested that it is not, that it is easily erased, easily changed. Now, gentle-

men, if that is not a permanent record, then none of the records of our State departments, none of the records of real estate transfers in our land offices are permanent, because they are all done now by typewriter, or nearly all, and it is considered permanent—considered as the natural way of making permanent records. I have here a sample of a bill engrossed in Massachusetts by the use of a typewriter, done on a common Underwood typewriter like ours, and the state of Massachusetts has had that system in force since 1910; and, by the way, the state of Massachusetts has never considered it a proper thing to submit its acts and resolves to a public printer for engrossing, and up to 1910 they used the old method of writing them out in longhand. In 1910 they changed, not to print but to typewriting, as a natural method of engrossing when the longhand system was given up. Typewriting can be done under the personal supervision and direction of the proper officers without being taken out of the State House into any public printing office whatever. I am told that at least on one occasion a bill was lost in the public printing office here in this city, and only after a long search was it found down in the inside of somebody's desk, down in the printing office. That simply shows that this is a personal matter. The law makes it the duty of the Secretary of State to supervise and direct this work, and he should have it in his power to have it all done in his office under his eye, and that is something that typewriting does. So, I claim, in that respect at least, it is much more efficient than the method of doing it by public print.

The gentleman who spoke last Thursday intimated that there might be long delays by this method at the end of the session when other bills were coming up to be printed. Now I am informed that these long bills passed at the last session of the Legislature and in years before, like the Military Law and the Negotiable Instruments Law, were printed before they were passed to be engrossed;

simply the State took a chance on them that there would be no changes necessary, and they were all printed ahead of time before they were passed to be engrossed. Of course, if there had been any changes necessary, if those bills had had to be printed over, the State would have had to pay for it. I understand the printer took no risk of that. For instance, if that Military Law, costing over four hundred dollars to print, had had to be done over, the State would have had to pay double for it. Under this system of typewriting, if a mistake occurs, it is a very simple matter to take out a sheet where the mistake is, put it on the typewriter and have it done over. This could be done in ten minutes, whereas it would take three or four hours in a public printing office to correct such a mistake, and there would be practically no extra expense to the State whatever. It was also intimated that only one typist could work on a bill at the same time, that is, that the same operator must continue on a long bill like the Military Law until it was finished. I am informed that the gentleman is mistaken about that, that a bill can be divided and one sheet go to one operator and one to another, just as they do in printing offices, dividing it among five, ten or fifteen printer's devils that the gentleman said were necessary. The same thing can be done with the typists. It is simply a matter of counting the lines. It can easily be done and is being planned to be done under our present system in the Secretary of State's office.

Now as to the matter of expediency: The gentleman said that the idea of engrossing bills on a typewriter is an offense against the solemnity and dignity of our legislative acts—an offense against the traditions and history of Maine. Gentlemen, when the great commonwealth of Massachusetts, under similar circumstances has absolutely no fear of any travesty of her legislative acts, Massachusetts whose history and traditions were the history and traditions of Maine for two hun-

dred years, need we have any fear of that? And, after all, is not the typewriting machine—a nice, clean, new instrument, operated by a competent and efficient young lady,—just as solemn and dignified an instrument as a grimy, stinking public press in a printing office, operated by a printer's devil?

Now the gentleman raised the question of legality. He quoted to us the act of 1867, saying that this engrossing should be done by printing, and also the Revised Statutes, saying that it should be done under the direction of the Secretary of State. Now the question arises, is typewriting printing. There are some decisions that say that typewriting is not printing, but nearly, if not all, of these decisions are old ones made before the typewriter was a perfected instrument as it is today, and before the typewriter was capable of printing, of doing the work that it can do and is doing today. There are decisions also that typewriting is printing, and we have the opinion of the attorney-general of this State on this question, who says that typewriting in this sense is printing. Now that settled the question right there; but this is an important and serious matter. We do not want to take any chances, even the remotest, that the acts of this Legislature might be invalidated; that there might be any question of that thing happening. Therefore, I am asking you to receive this resolve, and that it have passage without reference to a committee. You will all readily see, gentlemen, that this is a matter that needs to be settled immediately. It is a question that we cannot have any delay over. The session is already running into what is usually the middle of the legislative session, and this matter ought to be settled now. It is something that you have all had time to think over and something that we all know about. It is something that can be decided now, and ought to be, and so I am presenting this resolve, and I move, Mr. Speaker, that it be given a passage without reference to a committee under suspen-

sion of the rules, and that it have its two several readings at this time.

Mr. MAHER of Augusta: Mr. Speaker, would it be proper at this time to just say a word? I have no particular pride of opinion in this matter. I simply suggested to the House certain things that occurred to me in connection with what seemed to me an unwarranted departure, both in and out of this body. I have been somewhat criticized along different lines. As I understand, in the first place the attitude was that it was entirely a matter of discretion—that it was entirely within the purview, province and power of the particular department created by this Legislature—the creature of this Legislature—the department that is so very solicitous in consulting the will of this Legislature prior to January one every two years, but which after that seems to lose its interest and by some strange process immediately becomes superior to the creating body. Now, then, on the first proposition I understood it was claimed there was not any law at all. Well, upon that point I am convinced that there was some law. Then, I understood it was claimed that that law did not apply because use typewriting was printing. I did not know that that was to be adverted to this morning, but it seems now that whatever little doubt remained in the departmental mind as to whether or not typewriting was printing, was absolutely removed by the solemn opinion of the chief law adviser of the State. It seems that the attorney general, as he properly should, as he rightly should in view of the preamble to this resolve—it seems that the attorney general rendered a solemn opinion as to the intent of it, namely, that typewriting was printing. I have great deference for the attorney general; I have great respect for his opinion; I have great admiration for him personally. I regret that his quasi client, the department, which was so very confident of its position at the outset that there was not any law, and which was so very fixed in its opinion that this law warranted typewriting as printing, that after its views were confirmed by the solemn judgment and advice of the chief law officer of this State, was still in doubt. It then submits the most unique proposition that

has ever been advanced, I will submit, to any Legislature in the State of Maine. It submits a resolve to do away with a non-existing and non-applicable law which an humble and feeble member, respecting the traditions and erstwhile dignity of the legislative branch, had the temerity to call attention to. It suggests the destruction of a law which has been the law of the State since 1866 in that express form, preceded by a similar law since Maine became a State in 1820. It seeks to destroy and remove that law, and substitute this innovation, this experiment, this novelty, and by evasion—now there is no getting around it, it is plain, simple evasion. What it is asking this Legislature to do now is to confirm and become partners in the same policy of evasion of existing laws that has been the history of this matter of to date, because it is asking you to trifle with the Constitution of the State of Maine. The judicial decision of this State, the Lemaire case over in Lewiston, decided within a year or two, is an absolute decision upon the point that this Legislature is the judge of necessity, the judge of public exigency, and the judge of emergency. You are the judge of whether or not you shall evade the Constitution of this State as expressed in a recently adopted amendment, familiarly and properly known as the direct initiative and referendum law of Maine. That constitutional provision says, that "No act or joint resolution of the Legislature, except such orders or resolutions as pertain solely to facilitating the performance of the business of the Legislature, of either branch, or of any committee of officer thereof, etc., shall take effect until ninety days after the recess of the Legislature passing it, unless in case of emergency, (which with the facts constituting the emergency shall be expressed in the preamble of the act), the Legislature shall, by a vote of two-thirds of all members elected to each house, otherwise direct. An emergency bill shall include only such measures as are immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health or safety."

Gentlemen, forfend the day when the Maine Legislature has reached the stage where the problematical saving of five thousand dollars by a department that is disregarding the law as it now exists is of prime importance for the peace of the State. If the peace of Maine is at stake in this problematical, experimental, uncertain and unassured saving of five thousand dollars then adopt this emergency legislation and set up a precedent. If the peace of Maine is not at stake, is it the health, and if it is not the health of Maine, is it its safety? Now gentlemen, let us not be absurd. The laws mean something, and I apprehend that the constitution even yet obtains. Now you are the judges, and yours is the responsibility, and it is not a matter in which I have the slightest pride of opinion; but I have argued with eminent and distinguished attorneys, men who are able and of standing in their divers bars, I have argued that it is not meet that this Legislature should surrender its legislative prerogative, and that it should indulge in the fiction that an emergency exists so as to pass this measure.

With reference to the merits of the matter, the gentleman cites Massachusetts. If he holds that bill up, he will show you that Massachusetts, where I had the pleasure of living and where I cast my first vote, has a distinctive type, and further that Massachusetts, whose example he seeks to have us emulate, down to 1910 stuck to the old method of engrossing all acts and resolves in longhand. Maine improved on Massachusetts and set her an example half a century ago. The absolute controlling example of Massachusetts in the matter fails in that the sessions of her legislature are annual, with quite as many acts and resolves annually as we have in our biennial session. They proceed quite leisurely, and you are all familiar with the fact that the papers along the latter part of June or first of July are always discussing when they are going to prorogue that legislature. They go along in a leisurely and dignified way up there,

do not worry about getting through the first day of April. Gentlemen, there is no emergency here, and I submit that the methods which have obtained for half a century should not be abdicated without some investigation upon the legislative side.

Mr. LANPHER: Mr. Speaker, I wish to say one or two words more. As far as the comparison between Maine and Massachusetts is concerned, both bills are typewritten, with special typed Underwood machines. The only difference is that Massachusetts has a written type and we have a printed type. One is just as durable as the other, only ours is more easily read, if anybody should ever want to read one.

As I understand the attitude of the Department of State, of the secretary of State, in this matter, he is not trying to assume any position of autocracy or bureaucracy, but he simply wants this Legislature to say what shall be done in this matter, to put the stamp of its approval on this method of engrossing bills, or the stamp of its disapproval. He authorizes me to say that if the Legislature shall not pass this resolve, there will be no need of putting in an order, even in spite of the decision of the attorney general; that he will have it printed. He wants to do it, wants to carry out the will of the Legislature in this respect.

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is the motion of the gentleman from Sebec, Mr. Lanpher, that the rules be suspended, and that this resolve receive its two several readings at the present time and be passed to be engrossed. All those who are in favor of the motion will rise and stand until counted, and the monitors will take the count.

A division being had, 62 voting in the affirmative and 41 in the negative, the vote failed of the required two-thirds necessary to suspend the rules and introduce the resolve out of order.

The SPEAKER: Does the gentleman from Sebec, Mr. Lanpher, have any further motion?

Mr. PIKE of Eastport: Mr. Speak-

er, I call for the yeas and nays upon the question.

The SPEAKER: The vote has already been declared. The Chair will state that the yeas and nays might have been called before the declaration of the vote, but not after.

On motion by Mr. Lanpher of Sebec the resolve was tabled until tomorrow morning.

On motion of Mr. Austin of Milford, it was

Ordered that 500 additional copies of House Document No. 17 be printed for the use of the members of the Legislature.

Reports of Committees

Mr. Washburn from the committee on agriculture reported ought not to pass on Resolve reimbursing George H. Bean for the loss of a cow.

Mr. Garcelon from the committee on legal affairs reported same on bill An Act relating to county commissioners.

Mr. Lanpher from same committee reported same on bill An Act to amend Chapter 248 of the Private and Special Laws of 1883, entitled An Act to incorporate the town of Old Orchard.

Mr. Mason from same committee reported same on bill An Act to provide for the freeing of Eliot toll bridge and authorizing York county to maintain that part lying within said county.

Mr. Cunningham from the committee on taxation reported same on bill An Act to amend Section 28, Chapter 10 of the Revised Statutes of Maine, relative to the rate of taxation of sailing vessels and barges.

Mr. Ricker from the committee on taxation on Order directing the committee on taxation to inquire into the expediency of the enactment of an income tax law, similar to the laws of Massachusetts and Wisconsin, and report by bill or otherwise, reported legislation inexpedient.

Same gentleman from same committee reported ought not to pass on bill An Act to impose a tax upon the income received from certain forms of intangible property and from trades and professions.

Mr. Brann from the committee on towns reported same on bill An Act

to establish and maintain signboards at the intersection of town lines with highways.

Reports read and accepted and sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Nelson from same committee reported same on bill An Act to incorporate the West Benton Village Corporation.

(On motion by Mr. Plummer of Benton the bill was recommitted to the committee on towns, pending acceptance of the report.)

Mr. Conary from the committee on judiciary on bill An Act to create the Belfast Water District, reported that the same be printed and recommitted to the committee on judiciary.

(Mr. Barnes assumes the chair.)

Mr. Washburn from the committee on agriculture reported ought to pass on Resolve making an appropriation for cooperative agricultural work between the College of Agriculture of the University of Maine and the United States department of agriculture.

Mr. Grinnell from same committee reported same on Resolve making an appropriation for the control of contagious diseases among domestic animals.

Mr. Varney from the committee on education on bill An Act for the rating and standardization of rural schools, reported same in a new draft under title of An Act for the rating and standardization of schools, and that it ought to pass.

Same gentleman from same committee on bill An Act relating to the education of deaf and dumb children, 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 favor of the town of Washington.

Mr. Mason from the Committee on Legal Affairs, reported same on bill "An Act to amend Section 11 of Chapter 135 of the Private and Special Laws of 1917, entitled 'An Act to establish the Mount Desert Bridge District for the purpose of acquiring, freeing and reconstructing the Mount Desert Toll Bridge in the town of Trenton in Hancock county.'"

Same gentleman from same com-

mittee reported same on bill An Act to repeal Chapter 72 of the Private and Special Laws of the State of Maine, of 1915, relating to the care and maintenance of the Mount Desert Bridge in the town of Trenton.

Mr. Weatherbee, from same committee, reported same on bill An Act to legalize and make valid the proceedings of the town meeting of the town of West Gardiner, held on the 12th day of March, A. D. 1917.

Same gentleman from same committee, reported same on bill, An Act empowering the county commissioners of Penobscot county to sell surplus heat.

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

First Reading of Printed Bills and Resolves

House 152: 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.

House 153: An Act to extend the charter of the Salisbury Cove Water Company.

House 154: 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.

House 155: 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, relative to the support of debtors in jail.

House 156: 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.

House 157: An Act to change the name of Whetstone Pond, in Abbot and Blanchard, in the county of Piscataquis, to Sylvan Lake.

House 158: An Act authorizing and empowering the Passadumkeag Lumber Company to erect and main-

tain booms and piers in the Penobscot river.

House 160: An Act to incorporate the Wesserunnett Stream Dam and Improvement Company.

House 161: An Act to extend the authority of the American Thread Company to erect a bridge across Sebec river in the town of Milo.

House 165: An Act to extend the charter of the Quebec Extension Railway Company.

House 159: Resolve in aid of navigation on Sebec lake in Piscataquis county.

House 162: Resolve in favor of lighting the Narrows between Upper and Lower Richardson lakes.

House 163: Resolve in favor of Jacob Astle.

House 164: 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.

Passed to Be Engrossed

(Speaker Farrington resumes the chair.)

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.

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 of the Private and Special Laws of 1905, entitled An Act for the protection of claims in parts of the county of Sagadahoc.

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

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.

(Tabled by Mr. Dutton of Bingham pending passage to be engrossed.)

Orders of the Day

Mr. BAXTER of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I wish to make a re-statement to the House and call its attention to House Document 134. At the hearing before the Judiciary commit-

tee on the water bills, Hon. E. C. Jordan of Portland, formerly a member of the Maine Water Storage Commission, appeared before the committee and made a statement which I think every member of this House should read. Mr. Jordan is a man of wide experience in hydro-electric matters, and I doubt if there is any man in the State of Maine more thoroughly versed in the water power situation than he. Mr. Jordan came down here at his own expense, doing what he thought was his duty as a private citizen, appeared before the committee and expressed his views; and respecting Mr. Jordan as I do, I knew that he would say something of real value to the committee. Having that in mind, I arranged with the official reporter of the House to be present at the hearing and to take down Mr. Jordan's remarks. Now the statement which he (Mr. Jordan) made outlines briefly the history of the water storage matter, and gives a very clear and accurate idea of the possibilities of the future. I feared that in the pressure of business and with all of the social activities of this week that this document, House 134, might be overlooked by the members, and that is my reason, Mr. Speaker, for rising here and bringing it to the attention of the members of the House. The water power question is one which we must soon face in this body, and the more information we receive on it, and the more evidence we can obtain such as Mr. Jordan gave us, the better qualified we will be to act upon this matter properly and sanely when it comes before us during the next few weeks.

The SPEAKER: We are still under Orders of the Day.

On motion by Mr. Washburn of Perry, the report of the committee on appropriations and financial affairs, on resolve in aid of The People's Ferry Co., reporting that same be referred to the Committee on Ways and Bridges, was taken from the table.

Mr. WASHBURN: I move that the House non-concur with the Sen-

ate in the acceptance of that report, and that the report be recommitted to the committee on appropriations and financial affairs.

The SPEAKER: The Chair will state that the report seems to have been accepted by the endorsement, although it thinks it is an error. The Chair thinks it was tabled pending acceptance. Is it the pleasure of the House to non-concur with the action of the Senate in accepting this report, and that the same be recommitted to the committee on appropriations and financial affairs?

Mr. ROUNDS of Portland: Will the gentleman (Mr. Washburn) state why he asks to have this recommitted?

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Perry (Mr. Washburn) may reply to the inquiry through the Chair.

Mr. WASHBURN: I would state, Mr. Speaker, that I do this at the request of the senator who is interested in the matter, with the understanding that it is not objectionable to the members of this House.

A viva voce vote being taken, the House voted to non-concur with the action of the Senate, and recommitted the report to the committee on appropriations and financial affairs.

On motion by Mr. Reed of Bangor, it was voted to take from the table Senate Document, No. 70, An Act to establish a Superior Court in the county of Penobscot; and on further motion by the same gentleman, the bill received its first and second reading and was assigned for its third reading tomorrow morning.

The SPEAKER: If there is no further business under orders of the day, the Chair wishes to suggest that at this period it is very easy to cumber the calendar with tabled matters, and it would suggest taking from the table as soon as possible the matters thereon.

On motion by Mr. Wilson of Portland,

Adjourned until tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.