

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Record

OF THE

Eightieth Legislature

OF THE

State of Maine

1921

AUGUSTA
KENNEBEC JOURNAL PRINT
1921

HOUSE

Thursday, Feb. 24, 1921.

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

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Winslade of Gardiner.

Journal of previous session read and approved.

Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

From the Senate: Ordered, the Senate concurring, that the joint committee on Insane Hospitals investigate the escape of Peter Valis from the State Hospital of the Insane at Augusta on July 22nd, 1920, and report their findings to the House. This was read and passed in the House February 10.

Comes from the Senate indefinitely postponed in non-concurrence.

In the House, on motion by Mr. Case of Lubec the House voted to recede from its former action and concur with the Senate in the indefinite postponement of the order.

From the Senate: Report of the committee on Judiciary reporting "ought not to pass" on bill "An Act to amend Section 17 of Chapter 12 of the Revised Statutes as amended by Chapter 299 of the Public Laws of 1917, relating to the recording of deeds.

Comes from the Senate, report read and accepted.

In the House read and accepted in concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Wing of Auburn, the House voted to reconsider its action whereby it just accepted the report of the committee on Judiciary "ought not to pass" on Senate Document 35; and on further motion by the same gentleman the papers were recommitted to the committee on Judiciary.

From the Senate: Report of the committee on Judiciary reporting "ought to pass" on bill "An Act relating to the transcribing of deeds

and other instruments conveying real estate in Knox county, the records whereof are in other counties."

Comes from the Senate, report read and accepted and the bill passed to be engrossed.

In the House the report was read and accepted in concurrence, and on motion by Mr. Elmore of Camden, the rules were suspended and the bill had its two several readings and tomorrow assigned for its third reading.

From the Senate: Bill "An Act establishing a game sanctuary in Range 3, east of the Kennebec River, in the city of Augusta, and county of Kennebec." This was passed to be engrossed in the House February 18.

Comes from the Senate, Senate amendment A adopted and passed to be engrossed as amended by Senate amendment A.

On motion by Mr. Barney of Chelsea, the House voted to reconsider its action whereby the bill was passed to be engrossed.

On motion by the same gentleman, it was voted to concur with the Senate in the acceptance of Senate amendment A, and the bill was passed to be engrossed as amended by Senate amendment A.

From the Senate: Report of the committee on Sea and Shore Fisheries on bill "An Act to better protect the lobster industry within two miles from the shore of Monhegan Island, between the first day of June and the 25th day of November of each year," reporting "ought to pass."

Comes from the Senate report read and accepted, and the bill indefinitely postponed.

In the House the report was read and accepted in concurrence, and on motion by Mr. Baker of Steuben, the bill was indefinitely postponed in concurrence.

From the Senate: "Bill "An Act to repeal acts incorporating the town of Concord," which was passed to be engrossed in the House February 15.

Comes from the Senate re-com-

mitted to the committee on towns in non-concurrence.

In the House, on motion by Mr. Gipson of Bingham it was voted that the action on the House whereby this bill was passed to be engrossed be reconsidered; and on further motion by the same gentleman, the bill was re-committed to the committee on towns in concurrence.

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

By Mr. Peabody of Richmond: Remonstrance of Willis H. Ferguson and 20 others of Lyman and Hollis against the "Barwise Sunday Bill."

By the same gentleman: Remonstrance of Wm. T. Boyd and 20 others of Georgetown against the same.

By Mr. Owen of Milo. Remonstrance of H. B. Pringle and 39 others against the same:

By Mr. Varney of Windham. Remonstrance of Mrs. Elizabeth L. Scribner and 37 others of Bolster's Mills against the same.

Were read and ordered placed on file.

Agriculture

By Mr. Dodge of Portland: Bill "An Act to repeal the act creating the office of Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner and to transfer the duties of said office to the Commissioner of Agriculture."

By Mr. Peabody of Richmond: Bill "An act to amend Chapter 218 of the Public Laws of 1917, providing for the establishment of a Bureau of Markets."

Appropriations and Financial Affairs and Judiciary

By Mr. Cram of Portland: Resolution of Conklin Class, Portland, Maine, in favor of act to create State Medical School.

Judiciary

By Mr. Wing of Auburn: Remonstrance of R. B. Stackpole and 3 others; W. P. Breneman and 33 others; Grace E. Lyon and 29 others; Jennie O. Slocum and 4 others; D. W. Weber and 17 others; Robert J. Anderson

and 19 others; Geo. J. Wallingford and 20 others; M. Winans and 13 others; W. H. Bowen and 27 others; W. P. Atwood and 20 others; Lester N. Woods and 23 others; Wm. J. Crawshal and 26 others; Edith A. Smith and 14 others; C. G. Ross and 13 others; H. B. Libby and 25 others; E. M. Stevens and 30 others; Bertha L. Bailey and 10 others; John E. Guptill and 8 others; A. B. Corson and 34 others; E. D. Greenleaf and 8 others; Weston B. Haskell and 4 others; Dr. C. E. Williams and 15 others; Edith Cook and 11 others; Clara E. Fuller and 33 others; John W. Wood and 19 others; Dr. W. B. Beckler and 13 others against any change in the present charter of the city of Auburn.

By Mr. Murchie of Calais: Bill "An act to amend Section 65 of Chapter 126 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by Chapter 221 of the Public Laws of 1917, relative to the designation of persons appointed to enforce the laws relative to the prevention of cruelty to animals."

Legal Affairs

By Mr. Hunton of Oakland: Bill "An act in relation to clerk hire in county offices." (500 copies ordered printed).

By the same gentleman: Bill "An act granting to county commissioners authority to regulate clerk hire in county offices." (500 copies ordered printed).

Legal Affairs and Labor

By Mr. Cram of Portland: Remonstrance of Portland Chamber of Commerce against House Document No. 23 relative to hours of employment of women and minors.

State School for Boys, State School for Girls and State Reformatories

By Mr. Hinckley of So. Portland: Bill, "An Act to amend Section 20 of Chapter 144 of the Revised Statutes as amended by Chapter 130 of the Public Laws of 1917 and Chapter 232 of the Public Laws of 1917 relating to the age of commitment to the State School for Girls."

By the same gentleman: Bill "An Act to amend Section 3 of Chapter 144 of the Revised Statutes as amended by Chapter 245 of the Public Laws of 1919, relating to the age of

commitment to the State School for Boys."

The SPEAKER: The Chair presents at this time, out of order, the following communication:

"To the Clerk of the House of Representatives of the Eightieth Legislature of the State of Maine:

Pursuant to the joint order of the Senate and House of Representatives of the Eightieth Legislature, I have the honor to herewith transmit a list of the Legislative Counsel and Legislative Agents registered in the office of the Secretary of State in accordance with Chapter 100 of the Public Laws of 1919. This list comprises all such counsel and agents who have registered from February 14, 1921 to February 22, 1921, both dates inclusive.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) FRANK W. BALL.

Secretary of State."

On motion by Mr. Buzzell of Belfast, it was voted that the subjoined list become a part of the record as submitted.

List of Legislative Agents

GEORGE C. EAMES, of Bangor, employed as Legislative Agent by Christian Sciences Churches and Societies of Maine. Purpose of employment is "To represent the Church in all matters affecting its interests." Date when employed is given as "Regular employment." Date when employment ceases is given as "Indefinite." Notification of employment filed February 15, 1921.

RAYMOND FELLOWS, of Bangor, employed as Legislative Counsel and Legislative Agent by Manzie I. Rogers of Bangor. The purpose of employment is "To attend public hearing on resolve in favor of Manzie I. Rogers and promote its passage." Date when employed, Feb. 15, 1921. Employment ceases at end of session or until final disposition of resolve referred to. Notification of employment filed February 15, 1921.

THOMAS LEIGH, of Augusta, and OSCAR H. DUNBAR, of Machias, employed as Legislative Counsel and Legislative Agents by the Town of

Jonesport. Purpose of employment is "To oppose an act to divide the town of Jonesport and incorporate the town of Reals." Date when employed, Feb. 15th, 1921. Employment ceases when subject matter is finally disposed of. Notification of employment filed February 16, 1921.

GEORGE F. NOYES, of Portland, employed as Legislative Counsel by The Emery-Waterhouse Company, Portland. Purpose of employment is "To appear before committee of Claims in favor of Resolve in favor of The Emery-Waterhouse Company for Material Furnished the State School for Girls at Hallowell. Date of employment, Feb. 15, 1921. Employment ceases when subject matter is finally disposed of. Notification of employment filed February 16, 1921.

J. H. MONTGOMERY, of Camden, employed as Legislative Counsel by Citizens of Owl's Head, So. Thomaston, Maine. Purpose of employment is "Division of Town of So. Thomaston and incorporation of Town of Owl's Head." Employed February 16, 1921. Employment ceases February 28, 1921. Notification of employment filed February 16, 1921.

DAVID E MOULTON, of Portland, employed as Legislative Counsel by Cumberland Center Water Company. Purpose of Employment is "Appearance before Legislative committee." Employed February 16, 1921. Employment ceases same date. Notification of employment filed February 16, 1921.

CYRUS N. BLANCHARD, of Wilton, employed as Legislative Counsel and Legislative Agent by Oquossoc Light and Power Company of Rangeley. Purpose of employment is "To act as counsel for said corporation in relation to the passage of an act relating to said corporation." Employed February 16, 1921. Employment ceases at end of Legislative session. Notification of employment filed February 17, 1921.

EBEN WINTHROP FREEMAN, of Portland, employed as Legislative Counsel and Legislative Agent by Pennamaquan Power Company of

Eastport. The purpose of employment is "To act as counsel for said corporation in relation to the passage of an act relating to said corporation." Employed February 17, 1921. Employment ceases at end of legislative session. Notification of employment filed February 17, 1921.

WILLIAM M. TRIPP, of Wells, employed as Legislative Counsel and Legislative Agent by certain citizens and taxpayers of the Town of Wells in said State, represented by a duly chosen committee of which he is chairman. The purpose of employment is "Concerning passage of a bill An Act to Amend Section Three and Section Five of Chapter 203 of the Private Laws of 1913, entitled, 'An Act to Incorporate the Ogunquit Village Corporation.'" Employed February 7, 1921. Employment ceases upon action by Legislature upon said bill. Notification of employment filed February 17, 1921.

RAYMOND FELLOWS, of Bangor, employed as Legislative Counsel and Legislative Agent by Harry F. Ross of Bangor. Purpose of employment is "To appear in interest of Harry F. Ross before committee to which is referred bill to establish Katahdin Park, so-called, and to look after interests of said Ross until matter is disposed of." Employed February 16, 1921. Employment ceases at end of session or until matter above referred to is finally disposed of. Notification of employment filed February 17, 1921.

WILLIAM B. SKELTON, of Lewiston, employed as Legislative Counsel and Legislative Agent by Clark Power Company of Biddeford. Purpose of employment is "Representation in all legislative matters affecting this company." Date when employed is given as "Part of regular, continuing employment." Date when employment ceases is given as "Indefinite." Notification of employment filed February 17, 1921.

WESTON M. HILTON, of Damariscotta, employed as Legislative Counsel and Legislative Agent by A. Williams and Company of South Bristol. Purpose of employment is "For secur-

ing reimbursement for A. Williams and Company for loss sustained in the construction of a highway, in the towns of Edmund in Washington County, and Nobleboro in Lincoln County." Employed February 19, 1921. Employment ceases when the case is terminated. Notification of employment filed February 17, 1921.

JASPER H. HONE, of Presque Isle, employed as Legislative Counsel and Legislative Agent by certain moving picture exhibitors. The purpose of employment is "To oppose in its present form Senate Bill No. 52." Employed February 15, 1921. Date when employment ceases is given as "Indefinite." Notification of employment filed February 17, 1921.

COOK, HUTCHINSON & PIERCE, of Fidelity Building, Portland, employed as Legislative Counsel and Legislative Agents by The Ashland Company of Ashland. Purpose of employment is "To secure the introduction, present before committee, and endeavor to have enacted an act entitled 'An Act Authorizing the Ashland Company to Construct and Maintain Booms and Piers in the Aroostook River below its Dam in the town of Ashland.'" Employed February 4, 1921. Employment ceases on final signature of the above act. Notification of employment filed February 18, 1921.

EDWIN STONE, of Biddeford, EDWARD W. WHEELER, of Brunswick, NORMAN L. BASSETT, of Augusta, as Legislative Committee of the Maine Savings Bank Association, have been employed as Legislative Counsel and Legislative Agents by Maine Savings Banks Association, W. T. Goodale, Saco, president and A. F. Drummond, Waterville, Secretary. The purpose of employment is "to act as legislative counsel and legislative agents in all matters before the Legislature affecting the Maine Savings Banks" Employed January, 1921. Notification of employment filed February 19, 1921.

HERBERT E. LOCKE, of Augusta, employed as Legislative Counsel and Legislative Agents by The Ashland Company, of Ashland, Maine.

The purpose of employment is concerning water storage on Aroostook River." Employed February 18, 1921. Employment is during the session of the Legislature. Notification of employment filed Feb. 21, 1921.

JOHN P. DEERING, of Saco, employed as Legislative Counsel and Agent by York County Fisherman's Association. Wilbur Goldwaith, President, Biddeford Pool. Purpose of employment is "To Promote or Oppose Legislative Actions, as the case may be in regard to Legislation affecting interests of the members of the York County Fishermen's Association." Date when employed is given as "one year ago." Date when employment ceases is given as "on this particular employment when the Legislature adjourns." Notification of employment filed February 21, 1921.

WALTER M. SANBORN, of Augusta, employed as Legislative Counsel by Maine Undertakers' Association. The purpose of employment is to "Appear in explanation of proposed legislation and drawing act." The date of employment is given as "Regular Counsel—above purpose, February 8, 1921." No date is given as to when employment ceases. Notification of employment filed February 21, 1921.

M. A. JOHNSON, of Rockland, employed as Legislative Counsel by the Knox Academy of Arts and Sciences, Rockland. The purpose of employment is to secure aid from the State. Employed February, 1921. Employment ceases "presumably at end of this session." Notification filed February 22, 1921.

WALTER A. COWAN, of Hallowell, employed as Legislative Counsel by the Economy Printing and Manufacturing Company of Hallowell. The purpose of employment is "To appear before a committee in behalf of a Resolve in favor of the Economy Printing and Manufacturing Company for losses on State Printing for the years 1919 and 1920." Employed February 21, 1921. Employment ceases when said Resolve has had its final hearing. Notification of employment filed February 22, 1921.

Orders

On motion by Mr. Snipe of Bath, it was

Ordered, that the use of the hall of the House of Representatives be granted to the joint committees on Public Health and Salaries and Fees for the afternoon of Tuesday, March 8.

Reports of Committees

Mr. Small from the committee on Interior Waters reported "Ought to pass" on bill "An Act to amend Chapter 13 of the Private and Special Laws of 1915, entitled 'An Act to incorporate the Mopang Dam and Improvement Company.'"

The report was read and accepted, and the bill ordered printed under the joint rules.

Mr. Hodgkins from the committee on Public Utilities reported the same on bill "An Act to aid the town of Lisbon to supply the inhabitants of said town with pure water."

Mr. ROUNDS of Portland: Mr. Speaker, is that the milk bill?

The SPEAKER: The title is "An Act to aid the town of Lisbon to supply the inhabitants of said town with pure water."

Mr. ROUNDS: I just wanted to know if that was the milk bill. (Laughter)

The SPEAKER: The bill may be found on the Clerk's desk and a close analysis will determine just the percentage.

Report was read and accepted.

On motion by Mr. Gerrish of Lisbon, the rules were suspended, and the bill was given its three several readings and passed to be engrossed.

Mr. Forbes from the committee on Public Utilities reported "ought to pass" on bill "An Act to enable the city of Lewiston to sell water to the town of Lisbon."

Report was read and accepted.

On motion by Mr. McIlheron of Lewiston, the rules were suspended and the bill had its three several readings and was passed to be engrossed.

Mr. Fagan from the Portland Delegation reported "Ought not to

pass" on Bill "An Act fixing the term of office of the Treasurer and Collector of the city of Portland."

Mr. Rounds from the same Delegation reported the same on Bill "An Act to repeal the limitation on medical inspection in public schools" (affecting the city of Portland only).

Mr. Dodge from the same Delegation reported the same on Bill "An Act to amend the law relating to electrical appliances for the city of Portland."

Reports were read and accepted and sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Fagan for the same delegation reported "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to appointment of Chief of Police of the city of Portland."

Mr. Rounds from the same Delegation reported the same on Bill "An Act to authorize the city of Portland to pay a pension to Henrietta M. Miller."

The reports were read and accepted and the bills ordered printed under the Joint Rules.

First Reading of Printed Bills and Resolves

House 165: "An Act to amend sub-paragraph (a) of Paragraph 2 of Section 7 of Chapter 188 of the Public Laws of 1917, relating to the duties of superintendents of schools."

House 172: "An Act to incorporate the Cumberland Center Water Company and to authorize that company to take over the properties of the Cumberland Water Company."

House 171: Resolve to reimburse the town of Dixfield for money paid for sheep killed by bears.

Passed to Be Engrossed

Senate 64: An Act amendatory to Section 7, Chapter 117 of the Revised Statutes relating to the compensation of Judges upon retirement.

Senate 66: An Act to validate the incorporation of Libby, McNeill and Libby and to amend its corporate purposes.

Senate 67: An Act to amend Section 2 and Section 8 of Chapter 55

of the Private and Special Laws of 1903, entitled 'An Act to incorporate the Squirrel Island Village Corporation.'

House 24: An Act amending Section 172 of Chapter 16 of the Revised Statutes, relating to Teachers' Pensions and giving full pension to teachers retiring prior to Sept. 30, 1913.

House 52: An Act to amend Section 5 of Chapter 64 of the Revised Statutes, relating to prevention of marriages of persons having syphilis.

Mr. BRAGDON of Perham: Mr. Speaker, I think that most of us here can understand the seriousness of the situation that this bill is intended to remedy. Some of us have a strong feeling that the bill in its present form will not accomplish its purpose, and for the purpose of making a workable bill of it, I move that it be laid on the table.

The motion prevailed.

House 129: An Act to amend Section 67 of Chapter 142 of the Revised Statutes, relative to inmates escaping from the Reformatory for Women.

House 163: Resolve appropriating money for further public instruction in Forestry.

House 164: Resolve appropriating money for continuance of white pine blister rust control.

Resolve in favor of J. Wilbur Day, of Wesley, county of Washington, for reimbursement for cattle killed by bears.

(Tabled by Mr. Hinckley of South Portland, pending third reading.)

House 167: Resolve in favor of the town of Boothbay Harbor for military aid furnished the wife and minor children of Herbert H. Thurston.

House 168: Resolve reimbursing the town of Oakland for money expended on account of mothers with dependent children.

House 169: Resolve in favor of Wilson J. Holway, of the Forks Plantation, Somersset county, Maine, for bobcat bounty.

Passed to Be Enacted

An Act additional to and amendatory of Chapter 7 of the Revised Statutes, relating to Elections.

(Tabled by Mr. Cole of Eliot, pending passage to be enacted).

An Act to ratify, confirm and make Valid the Doings of the Old Folks Home, in Bath, and the Home for Aged Couples and Old Men, in Consolidating the Homes for the Aged Maintained by them severally.

An Act creating the West Paris Village Corporation.

An Act to amend Chapter 65 of the Private and Special Laws of 1919, entitled '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.' "

An Act to Extend the Charter of the Lincoln County Street Railway.

An Act to Make Legal and Valid the Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Crawford, in the County of Washington, Held March 29, 1920.

The SPEAKER: This bill being an emergency measure a two-thirds vote of the entire membership of the House is necessary. Those who are in favor of the passage of this bill will rise and stand until counted, and the monitors will return the count.

A division being had,

One hundred and nineteen voting in favor and none against, the bill was passed to be enacted.

Orders of the Day

The SPEAKER: Under orders of the day, the Chair would suggest that it is perhaps best to take up these matters specially assigned at this time, and presents the order relative to expenditures of certain departments, tabled pending its passage on February 23, by Mr. Rounds of Portland.

Mr. ROUNDS: Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House: This order was put in by me early in the session and was tabled by me February 23rd, and re-assigned for today. I want to

say this, that my constituents have been asking about Charities and Corrections a good deal. They say that it is costing an immense amount of money to dispense a small amount of charity. Therefore, I would like to read the cost in 1920, less credits of the State of Maine:

Salaries and clerk hire	\$21,544.40
General Office expenses	15,544.83
Aid of mothers with dependent children	54,085.51
Board and care of neglected children	\$104,395.50
Less amount received from cities and towns	19,802.86

Making the State's part \$84,592.64

The following bills chargeable to 1920 account have not been paid:

General office expenses	\$ 313.82
Aid of mothers with dependent children	10,593.58
Board and care of neglected children	12,560.63

Making a total of the State's appropriations \$199,195.21

Out of that there should be taken over \$37,000, the expense of dispensing this charity, and my people at home are asking why it is costing so much. That is one reason for this order, and another is whether we want a board of Charities and Corrections, or whether we want this charity dispensed in some other way. A few years ago this department was created with a small sum of money. It has grown now very large. You know by the budget what they are asking for this year. They are asking for a considerably larger sum than they expended in 1920. Now it is time to curtail and see whether we can lop off some of this extravagance, and it looks to me as though it was now time to start. Now I want to recite one case and only one at the present time, and that is the case of a man who is getting seventy five dollars a month in Portland whose three children are put out. The State is paying three dollars for every child,

three dollars for their board and clothing, though the city is only paying two dollars and nothing for board. Now the State of Maine is paying for all these neglected children, large sums of money; and the towns, though I do not mean that they are doing it wilfully, are sending these children away where they can care for them cheaper and making the State pay the difference. I think that there should be a law for that man, who gets seventy-five dollars a month and who last summer, I know of my own knowledge, was getting over one hundred dollars a month, and still not supporting his family. He has been under probation because he was in Boston with a married woman, and they caught him there, brought him back and had him under probation until last December. Now he has agreed to pay something, but I will guarantee that, if they do not get hold of the money first, nobody in the State Board of Charities will get a cent of it. I think it is time for us to do something in this respect.

It is true this thing has gone on, and I have only cited one case. These cases are occurring all over this State, and I think it is time to find out where these different cases are and whether we should have this thing go on indefinitely, or try and stop it at the present time.

I want to say again as to the highway department, which this includes, which department have got a number of contracts under the cost-plus system. Is there any gentleman in this House who would have a contract made out under the cost-plus system? They have gone farther, and I will cite one instance in either Hancock county or Waldo, I will not say which—

Mr. BUZZELL of Belfast: It was Waldo.

Mr. ROUNDS: All right, if the gentleman from Belfast (Mr. Buzzell) wants to make it Waldo, we will have it Waldo. It was where an Italian built two miles of road for ten thousand dollars, hauled his gravel farther than it had to be hauled by the highway department, and this highway department, with all its knowledge and skill, drove that Italian to throw

a steam roller into the hole that he dug and it tipped over. He says, "Me, me no wanta do it again; me tip her over again." But the engineer says, "Tip her in again" or "send her in again," and it tipped over the second time; we take the contract away from you and we make money for you. That is what the highway department does. For seventeen hundred feet of road it cost them five thousand dollars and they made that poor Italian practically a bankrupt and made him pay for every cent which they had put in. Still they would be willing to give him other contracts afterward because they said he knew how to build roads; but it cost him this amount of money for them to find out how he built roads.

I will not dwell on this any longer. I can see by standing up that garage up here on Capitol street, and if I am not saying what is right I would like to be corrected, that the gentleman who signed the order for them to go ahead and build such a building as that thought he was building a small garage for the seven thousand dollar automobile that the highway commissioners and the engineer are riding around in.

The SPEAKER: Would the gentleman from Portland (Mr. Rounds) make a motion? Discussion is not in order until a motion has been made. I understand that you move that the order be indefinitely postponed?

Mr. ROUNDS: It has been moved that it be indefinitely postponed, has it not?

The SPEAKER: The Chair has not heard any motion. The Chair has been patiently waiting for the gentleman from Portland (Mr. Rounds) to make a motion.

Mr. ROUNDS: I move that the bill be substituted for the report.

The SPEAKER: That is to say, that the order be given passage.

Mr. ROUNDS: Yes, sir.

The SPEAKER: Discussion is in order.

Mr. ROUNDS: I have only got a few more words to say on this. You have all got letters from our citizens of this State telling you what to do; and I want to say here that Bill 59, which has been put in here, and I have dis-

cussed it before—I could not see that it was anything but a salary bill, although it is sent to our committee now after being in the health committee. It includes an increase of salaries of \$14,020. There is a lot of health in that for those officers around Augusta and other places. I suppose it would be health for them because it's a nice place to live in the summer and they can have their automobiles, and have them stored at the expense of the State in this pretty garage costing almost three hundred thousand dollars. I think that they ought to have more. Why, when I came down here to Augusta at the special session with some of my friends, when we got here, we could hardly get on to the State House grounds because there were so many automobiles around here belonging to the highway and different departments, and they ought to have garages enough for this purpose; but it seems to me that \$250,000 to \$300,000 is a large price for the State to pay. I will not say anything more about the health bill until after it gets out of our committee, and perhaps I may not have to say anything then. (Laughter).

The SPEAKER: You hear the motion of the gentleman from Portland that this order be given passage.

Mr. BUZZELL: Mr. Speaker, it is somewhat difficult to argue against one of these running fires, especially when delivered with such force as it has been in coming from the gentleman from Portland (Mr. Rounds). We have considered this order, and it is one of those orders that we have considered by day and by night, and I assume that this House after full consideration will vote to indefinitely postpone this order, and accordingly I make that motion; but, Mr. Speaker, I want to say in addition to that that there are remedies for this thing that my colleague complains of. I do not remember exactly the child incident, but I told him that he might say that the horrible example existed in Waldo.

If a father or a mother fail to take care of their children, we have a law in this State which reads something like this: "Whoever deserts his or her minor child shall be

taken care of thus and so." The board of Charities and Corrections of this State are not supposed to take care of those things, as I understand it, but my colleague from Portland (Mr. Rounds) or any other gentleman in this House from any part of this State who knows of such an incident as that can make complaint and the court will deal with the particular incident.

Now this Italian of whom the gentleman speaks—and if there is anyone that I grieve for it is for a person in distress, whether that distress be from financial causes or otherwise—as I understand it, this Italian has had his day in court—

Mr. ROUNDS: He ought to have something.

Mr. BUZZELL: I think he should if he deserves it, and if he does not, I hope the members of this committee will consider his case as presented, and I am sure that he will be dealt with according to the principles of equity in the case. It strikes me that there should be a halt in the introduction of so many of these orders. Just stop and think of this order. It has been several days since this order was first introduced here, an order which provides that the information shall be given in a certain way of the expenditures of the Highway Department, and health board of the State of Maine, the board of Charities and Corrections, etc., and that there will be a commission appointed with power and authority to summon witnesses and punish for contempt. Gentlemen, that is against the spirit of this Legislature at this time. They say in one breath they don't want to appoint any more commissions and then in the next breath they ask for the appointment of a commission, and I hope the order will be indefinitely postponed.

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is on the motion of the gentleman from Belfast, Mr. Buzzell, to indefinitely postpone this order.

A viva voce vote being taken,
The motion prevailed.

The SPEAKER: The Chair presents for the consideration of the House, the report of the committee on Public Utilities on Bill, An Act regulating the licensing of telephone poles, tabled pending the acceptance of the report of the committee, on motion by Mr. Rounds of Portland.

Mr. ROUNDS: Mr. Speaker and gentlemen of the House, I have an amendment which I would like to offer. I would like to have this report accepted so that I can have an amendment put onto the bill.

The SPEAKER: The Chair would suggest the legislative parliamentary situation. It is, if the gentleman from Portland, (Mr. Rounds), will note, a report that the bill ought not to pass so I assume he does not wish at this time to make a motion to accept the report of the committee.

Mr. ROUNDS: No, Mr. Speaker, I do not. This matter has been knocked around the House so much during this session that I had forgotten the exact situation.

The SPEAKER: So that the Chair understands the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Rounds, now moves to substitute the bill for the report?

Mr. ROUNDS: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. KIMBALL of Hampden: Mr. Speaker, if it is in order I will move that the report be accepted.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Hampden, Mr. Kimball, moves that the report be accepted; the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Rounds, moves that the bill be substituted for the report. Discussion of the matter is in order. The gentleman from Portland, Mr. Rounds, will continue.

Mr. ROUNDS: Mr. Speaker, this bill was put in by me; it is not a joking matter at all in our city; it is a matter that affects the farming part of our State, and I want to say that I have all due respect for the farmers of our State all through the agricultural sections of our State where they can get down in front of a good fire in the fireplace and get up to the telephone and talk with all the neighbors all night. I have heard of

one instance where there were 54 on one line and they have all the entertainment they want during the winter evenings. The situation is a good deal different with us in Portland. If we have a one, two or a three party line, we kick our heads off because we want the line all the time in our own homes, and we pay for it. We do not pay twelve dollars a year as they do on some of the farmers' lines, but we pay something like sixty dollars a year. However, I want to say that I had an amendment which I thought of adding to this bill that would help out the farmers' lines so that they would not be so hard hit as we were in the city and that they would not have any such financial difficulty and they could stay at home and talk with all their neighbors and not be obliged to pay very much extra for it.

Now it seems that some of the lines have small incomes, some only have a few thousand dollars on their line as the whole income. Now I can show you where they were only asking twenty cents a pole, or about four dollars a mile, and that the Maine Central Railroad company charges forty cents a pole yearly for the poles to be on their line, and the vice president and general manager told me they would like to have more of them at that rate. Now I can point out one line of a little less than one mile where they are paying over one thousand dollars a mile of insurance and for just two overhead wires; and still we don't want the wires overhead, we want them all to be put underground; we don't want them placed along so that when we walk along the streets at night—although the Central Maine Power Company has said that we shouldn't be out nights, but when we are out nights, we do not want those wires to drop down, but we want them underneath the ground so that we can walk in safety, and we can save a good deal of money by having them in that way.

I know of one firm during the year 1909 when he had the wires put underground, that saved \$37.50 on their insurance premium in each year, and

that is only one firm. I claim it is time that we did something along this line. The New England Telephone and Telegraph Company has a letter that they have been sending around, and I don't suppose the farmers' lines, but all the old lines, and a great many of the people of the State have been asked to subscribe to an eight percent issue of stock and in that way become a partner in this telephone business. In the course of this letter which has been sent out it states that the average cost to a subscriber without toll calls is about \$36.00 per year; the dividends on five shares amount to \$40 and five shares will cost at the present time about \$500, and then it adds that in this way you will be able to pay your telephone bill out of your dividends.

Now, gentlemen, that is all right, but the fellow that don't want to buy this stock should have a chance so that he can walk the streets during the hours of day or night without being exposed to death by these wires. But I won't dwell longer on this matter; I don't suppose they thought it was a joke. I have here a few verses which have been sent to me from down in the eastern part of the State, and I want to take the opportunity at this time to read them.

There's a little town that I know of
Where the people stay at home
And get as much of gossip
As those who like to roam.
In this town lived Deacon White—
Widower, and so 'tarnal good
He'd never say plain "Yes" or "No"—
Wouldn't be misunderstood.
When someone called him on the 'phone
And asked him 'bout a cow
He'd think awhile before he spoke,
Then say "I can't think just now,
But if you'll 'phone tomorrow night
I'll tell just what I'll do—
Or, perhaps you'll call me up again
In about a week or two."
One night his 'phone rang twenty-three.

He said: "Well, that is strange—
That number isn't on this line—
Unless it is the grange.
I'll listen in and hear who talks—
Then I'll know who's twenty-three."
And he listened there an hour or so
And was as happy as could be.
And then the wires began to buzz
And the deacon got a fright,
For all the widows on the line
Were butting in that night.
It seems a widow on the line
Had called up Widow Ray

And was telling her that Deacon White
Proposed to her that day.
Widow Ray said: "That can't be true,
For he wants to marry me.
Why, he was here this very day
And I sat upon his knee."
Just then another voice broke in—
The voice of Hetty Lee—
"I don't believe a word you've said,
For he's proposed to me.
And we'll be married this coming June,
So don't you interfere;
And he made a promise to me today
That we should live right here."
And still another voice broke in:
"You lie, your lie, you lie,
The deacon's got to marry Sal
Or, by gum, he'll die."
The deacon dropped the 'phone just
then
And he grew so weak he fell;
But soon got up on his feet
And he's running now like (Hail
Columbia).
Now if there's been no 'phone in town
There'd been so such sad plight,
And none would know who lost a heart
To the Trifling Deacon White.

Now, Mr. Speaker, there are other things beside this which come into this matter. I will not go into the matter farther.

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is on the motion of the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Rounds, to substitute the bill for the report. All those in favor of this motion will say aye; those opposed, no.

A viva voce vote being taken,
The motion was lost.

The SPEAKER: The question now recurs to the motion by the gentleman from Hampden, Mr. Kimball, that the report be accepted.

A viva voce vote being taken,
The motion was agreed to.

The SPEAKER: The Chair presents for the consideration of the House, House Amendment "A" to Bill, An Act relating to poll tax, House Doc. No. 51, tabled pending the adoption of the amendment on motion by Mr. Story of Washburn.

Mr. CRAM of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that there is a mistake in the number given to this measure on the calendar, and instead of No. 51 it should be No. 61.

The SPEAKER: The measure will be found in House Doc. No. 61.

Mr. STORY of Washburn: Mr. Speaker and gentlemen, this is an amendment that places the poll tax

rate back where it was in the first place, optional with the towns. The sole purpose of this bill in the first place was to make a uniform poll tax, uniform all over the State. This bill has been before the committee and has been examined into by the committee. Notices have been sent to the officers of towns all over the State, and they have voted unanimously for a uniform poll tax. Papers were sent out to all the towns in the State and there were 450 replies advocating a uniform poll tax. The Grange, at its meeting in December, representing 17,000 taxpayers, voted unanimously for a uniform poll tax of \$5.00. We do not think we are imposing any hardship upon any town or city in this State in asking for a uniform poll tax of \$5.00, and I hope that this measure will pass without the amendment.

The question being on the adoption of House Amendment "A,"

Mr. HINCKLEY of South Portland: Mr. Speaker and gentlemen, I think the time has come for the Legislature of this State to take decided action in this matter. I do not think the matter should be left to the cities and towns, because we all know if it comes down to that question in many of our cities and towns political influences will prevail.

The SPEAKER: If the gentleman from South Portland, Mr. Hinckley, will pardon the Chair, there are many members of the House who would like to hear the discussion, and I think the gentleman from South Portland cannot be heard in the rear of the room.

Mr. HINCKLEY: Many, as we know, who hold political offices in the different cities and towns of this State, if it is a question of the city or town raising the poll tax, will sidestep, but this Legislature can impose a uniform tax of \$5.00 or any other amount which it may designate for the poll tax. We all recognize the fact that the average person who by frugality has saved enough money to build a little house is today taxed and taxed and taxed to the limit; and I contend, Mr. Speaker, that this Legislature without fear or favor should say to the man who has not accumulated any property, that he, under

these times, when taxes are increasing, should bear a larger share than he is bearing at the present time, and I say to you, Mr. Speaker and gentlemen, that if there is any man in the State of Maine who is not ready with all the privileges and opportunities that come to him to pay a poll tax of \$5.00 per year, the sooner the State of Maine gets rid of him, the better for the State of Maine. (Applause)

Mr. CLARKE of Stonington: Mr. Speaker and gentlemen of the House, my immediate concern in connection with this matter is that perhaps we have not given that careful thought which should be given to it, and that perhaps at this particular time we do not fully appreciate the importance of the matter as touching the question of taxation in this State. I am not so much concerned at this particular time in the amount of the poll tax that we are to assess and collect in our several cities and towns, as I am in the question of the uniform poll tax law. I have felt for a considerable time that we should have a uniform poll tax law in this State, and I am assuming at the present time that the conditions which exist in my own town obtain throughout the other towns of the State, and that under the present system or under the operations of the present law with the sliding poll tax, where one town may have a poll tax of \$1.00 which is the minimum, and another town a poll tax of \$2.00, and another with \$3.00, which is the maximum. The transient poll tax-payer who comes to town in mid-winter or early spring is in the habit of paying his poll tax back home where it should be assessed and collected. Their habit as far as the collection of the poll taxes are concerned, has been to pay in the town in which they find themselves on the first day of April, in the town in which they may happen to hang their hat, and I feel that it will work no great injustice to the poll taxpayer. The large percentage of poll taxpayers are single men, and they can afford to pay \$5.00 just as well as they can pay \$3.00. If they pay only the amount of \$3.00, the extra \$2.00 is

spent for some other matter, which does not of course work any great hardship in their particular case, because the amount of the tax is determined for the year, the full year, the full amount to be assessed, and that is divided by the valuation of the town. The rights of no one class of persons have been contravened; it is for the benefit of all the municipalities, and especially for the benefit of those who are paying a property tax. I hope that the amendment will not be adopted.

Mr. DODGE of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I agree heartily with the remarks of the gentleman from Stonington (Mr. Clarke). This is a matter of considerable importance to the citizens of the State of Maine. It does not seem to me that the members of this House have had the opportunity to give this matter the careful consideration that it deserves, and in order that such an opportunity may be given I will move that the matter be tabled and be specially assigned.

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is on the motion of the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Dodge, that this matter be tabled.

A viva voce vote being taken,

The motion was lost.

Mr. CARROLL of Norway: Mr. Speaker and gentlemen of the House, this ought not to be a matter for discussion. This is a matter which if it comes to the Legislature of the State of Maine should be decided by the Legislature, and not be left optional to the towns and cities of this State. If we are going to legislate on this matter, let us legislate for a uniform poll tax for the State of Maine, and let us not make it a plan to leave to the towns and cities of our State what their tax rate will be. Either throw it out and leave it to the towns and cities for their decision, or decide it here in this Legislature. Now let us have a uniform tax rate for the State of Maine.

The SPEAKER: Is the House ready for the question? All those in favor of the adoption of House Amendment

“A” will say yes; those opposed will say no.

A viva voce vote being taken,

The motion was lost, and the amendment was not adopted.

The question then being on the acceptance of the report, the report was accepted.

Mr. ROUNDS of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the gentleman from South Portland (Mr. Hinckley) one question if he will answer it. How much poll tax is on the books of South Portland at the present time that is not collected for the last ten years?

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Portland, Mr. Rounds, presents one of his requests for information. If the gentleman from South Portland, Mr. Hinckley, cares to reply through the Chair, the Chair will convey the information to the gentleman from Portland.

Mr. HINCKLEY: In order to give the information desired by the gentleman from Portland (Mr. Rounds), I should refer the gentleman to the collector and treasurer of the city of South Portland.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Portland, Mr. Rounds, did not, perhaps, get the reply.

Mr. ROUNDS: Mr. Speaker, I got the reply.

The SPEAKER: Does the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Rounds, have any motion to make?

Mr. ROUNDS: Mr. Speaker, I move that the bill lay upon the table at the present time.

The SPEAKER: The question is on the assignment of this bill for its third reading and the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Rounds, now moves that the matter be laid upon the table.

A viva voce vote being taken,

The motion was lost.

The bill was then assigned for tomorrow morning for its third reading.

The SPEAKER: The Chair presents for the consideration of the

House, Mill, An Act to authorize the American Realty Company to construct dam across the St. John River, House Doc. No. 14, tabled pending its passage to be enacted, on motion by Mr. Buzzell of Belfast.

Mr. BUZZELL of Belfast: Mr. Speaker, I move that we take this bill from the table, and yield to the gentleman from Fairfield, Mr. Weeks.

Mr. Weeks then moved that the vote be reconsidered whereby this bill was passed to be engrossed under a suspension of the rules.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Weeks then offered House Amendment "A" to amend by adding Section 4 "The State of Maine reserves the right to acquire by proper legislation and through such agencies as it may establish for the purpose the whole or any portion of the rights and franchises hereby granted and the whole or any portion of the structures erected by authority of this act upon payment of just compensation to the owners thereof, but such just compensation shall not include the value of the franchises granted by this act."

The question being on the adoption of House Amendment "A",

The amendment was adopted.

On further motion by Mr. Weeks, the bill as amended was then passed to be engrossed.

The SPEAKER: The Chair presents for the consideration of the House, Bill, An Act for the improvement of sanitary conditions in school building toilets, Senate Doc. No. 31, tabled pending commitment to committee on bills in third reading on motion by Mr. Forbes of Paris.

Mr. Forbes then offered House Amendment "A" to amend Section 1 by striking out after the word "shall" in the second line the words "annually appropriate such amounts in addition to other amounts for school purposes,

as will," and inserting in place thereof the words "from their regular appropriations for school purposes or from special appropriations for the purposes of this act."

Mr. FORBES of Paris: Mr. Speaker, I will say that the purpose of this amendment is merely to simplify the machinery for carrying it into effect. Under the terms of the bill as it now stands, it might be necessary for towns to make each year appropriations for the purposes named in the bill; this amendment puts it in the power of the towns to dispense as they see fit with that form of machinery and not causing an additional article in their warrant for opening an additional account, another town account. That is the whole purpose of the amendment, and it has been submitted to the head of the school department and has received the approval of that authority.

Mr. CASE of Lubec: Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the gentleman from Jonesboro, Mr. Varney, who presented this bill, I move that the amendment be laid upon the table, pending its adoption.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. HINCKLEY of South Portland: Mr. Speaker, may I call attention to an error appearing on the calendar, in regard to reports A and B of the committeon judiciary on bill, An Act relating to the appointment of clerks of the Supreme Judicial Court, appearing on the calendar as assigned for today, whereas it should appear as being assigned for Wednesday of next week.

The SPEAKER: The Chair will state that the clerk has corrected the error as far as the figures in the calendar are concerned.

On motion by Mr. Harriman of Prospect,

Adjourned until tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.