

Legislative Record

OF THE

Eighty-First Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1923

KENNEBEC JOURNAL COMPANY AUGUSTA, MAINE

HOUSE

Tuesday, January 16, 1923.

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

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Lowe of Augusta.

Journal of previous session read and approved.

From the Senate: Ordered, the House concurring, that the Secretary of State be directed to furnish clerks of committees with postage stamps and such other necessities for the transaction of their business as such committees shall order.

In the Senate read and passed.

In the House read and passed in concurrence.

Messages and Documents from the Heads of Departments STATE OF MAINE

Department of the Attorney General Augusta, January 12, 1923.

To the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

Dear Sir:

Replying to the joint order, requesting me to transmit in writing to you an opinion on the following question:

"What fees, if any, aside from those provided in Chapter 145, Section 49 of the Revised Statutes, in addition to their salaries, are the Judges of Probate in Maine entitled to by law for their own personal benefit and use?"

I wish to say that the question may be fully answered by reference to Chapter 117, Section 38, of the Revised Statutes, which reads as follows: "and the fees to which they are entitled by law, except the fee provided in Section 49 of Chapter 145, shall be taxed and collected and paid over by the Registers of Probate to the County Treasurers for the use of their counties."

> Respectfully submitted, RANSFORD W. SHAW, Attorney-General.

Attorney-General.

The House voted that the report be placed on file.

Orders

Mr. BAKER of Steuben: Mr. Speaker. I wish to present an order, and before presenting the same I wish to say just a few words in explanation of it.

For many years it has been the custom for the various Legislatures, meeting here in this House, to procure pictures of our Congressmen and of our Governor to hang in the rotunda and in the corridors of this building. These pictures are at once a pleasure, a delight and an inspiration to us all. The same custom has prevailed in the Senate, and in the President's room, you will find on the wall pictures of Presidents of former Senates. It is my privilege to introduce this order, and, if passed, we may have in our Speaker's room here pictures of former Speakers, and of our present Speaker, I trust, later to hang on the walls of that room.

Many men who have served us well as Speakers here have not gone out of our State, have not become Governors, have not even become Presidents of the Senate. So, I read you this order, and move its passage:

Ordered, that the Clerk of the House procure the pictures of all the Speakers of the House of Representatives of the Maine Legislatures, that they may be hung in the Speaker's office.

The order received passage.

Orders of the Day

On motion by Mr. Phillips of Orrington, it was voted to take from the table, the Cole report and the accompanying message of the Governor; and on further motion by the same gentleman, they were ordered placed on file.

The SPEAKER: Under orders of the day, the Chair will appoint the monitors for the session, as follows: The gentleman from York, Mr. Moody in the first, the gentleman from Kittery, Mr. Boulter in the second, the gentleman from Bar Harbor, Mr. Brown in the third, and the gentleman from Chesterville, Mr. Thomas in the fourth.

Message from the Governor

A message was received from the Governor, conveyed by the Messenger, as follows: "STATE OF MAINE Office of the Governor Augusta, January 16, 1923.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

In accordance with the provision of our Statutes, I am handing you herewith the report of the budget committee of 1922. This report was brought to my office from the printer on Thursday morning last, January 11th. a few moments after the adjournment of the Senate and House. I appreciate the fact that this report should have been transmitted to you before it was made public. As is customary in such cases, for the convenience of the newspapers, I sent advance copies to them several marked 'Hold for release Tuesday P. M., January 16th, 1923.' I did this so that the newspapers might not be hurried and might have time to set up their type in advance. This is the only instance in my long experience when a report of this sort, given in advance to the newspapers, was published before the time specified.

I desire you to know the circumstances, so you may clearly understand that, as chairman of the budget committee, I did not violate the proprieties, which were that the report, being addressed to the Eighty-first Legislature. should not have been made public until after it had been formally presented to the Senate and House.

Respectfully submitted, PERCIVAL P. BAXTER, Governor of Maine."

On motion by Mr. Phillips of Orrington, it was voted that the budget report be referred to the committee on appropriations and financial affairs; and on further motion by the same gentleman, it was voted that the accompanying message be placed on file.

Mr. ROUNDS of Portland: Mr. Speaker, does not the law require that it shall be laid on our desks for so long a time?

The SPEAKER: The Chair is not cognizant of any such law.

Mr. ROUNDS: In five days?

The SPEAKER: The Chair is speaking entirely from memory, but is of the impression that the law provides that the budget shall be in the hands of the Legislature five days after it convenes. The Chair remembers nothing relative to its being upon the desks.

On motion by Mr. Boulter of Kittery,

Adjourned until ten o'clock tomorrow morning.