

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Record

OF THE

Eighty-Second Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1925

KENNEBEC JOURNAL COMPANY
AUGUSTA, MAINE

HOUSE

Thursday, March 12, 1925.

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

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Brown of Augusta.

Journal of the previous session read and approved.

Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

From the Senate: Petition of Ministers' Association of Bangor and vicinity in favor of the Barwise Secretarian Bill (S. P. 482)

Comes from the Senate referred to the committee on education.

In the House, on motion by Mr. Wing of Auburn, the petition was placed on file in non-concurrence, inasmuch as this bill has been reported out.

From the Senate: Bill an act to provide for the approval by the Commissioner of Education of Text-books used in Private Schools. (S. P. No. 462) (S. D. No. 177).

Comes from the Senate referred to the Committee on Education.

In the House, on motion by Mr. Holmes of Lewiston, tabled pending reference in concurrence.

From the Senate: Report of the committee on salaries and fees reporting ought not to pass on bill an act to amend Section 6 of Chapter 117 of the Revised Statutes as amended by Section 1, Chapter 192 of the Public Laws of 1921, relating to salaries of Superior Court Justices. (S. P. 83).

Comes from the Senate, report read and accepted.

In the House, on motion by Mr. Hale of Portland, tabled pending acceptance of the report in concurrence.

From the Senate: Majority report of the Committee on Education reporting ought to pass on resolve proposing an amendment to the Constitution prohibiting the use of Public Funds for Sectarian Schools (S. P. No. 10) (S. Doc. No. 9)

Report was signed by the following:

Messrs.	ALLEN of Sanford
	BARWISE of Penobscot
	SPEIRS of Cumberland
	—of the Senate
Mr.	DUDLEY of Woodstock
Mrs.	ALLEN of Hampden
Messrs.	EUSTIS of Strong
	PIERCE of Sanford
	CROCKETT of Hollis
	—of the House

Minority report of same committee reporting ought not to pass on same bill.

Report was signed by the following:

Mr. HALL of Waterville
—of the House

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

In the House, on motion by Mr. Dudley of Woodstock, both reports tabled pending acceptance of either report and especially assigned for Tuesday next.

Senate Bills in First Reading

S. P. No. 186: Resolve, Providing for the Purchase of the Book to be issued by the Maine State Bar Association in Commemoration of the Adoption of the Constitutions of the United States and of Maine.

S. P. No. 226: An act to permit ice fishing in Bauneg Beg pond, so-called, in Sanford and in North Berwick, in the county of York.

S. P. No. 114: An Act to amend section 31 of chapter 7 of the Revised Statutes of 1916, relating to elections and permitting the use of ballot boxes with devices for registering and endorsing ballots deposited therein.

S. P. 157: An Act relating to allowance for clerks in the Register of Deeds of Cumberland County.

S. P. No. 180: An Act providing for and fixing the salaries of the probation officer and assistant probation officer for the county of Cumberland.

S. P. No. 55: An Act to change name of the Maine School for Feeble-Minded.

S. P. No. 57: Resolve in favor of the Maine School for Feeble-Minded for Maintenance for the fiscal years 1926 and 1927.

S. P. No. 452: An act to create a Game Sanctuary in Knox County, to be known as the Knox County Game Preserve.

S. P. No. 387: Resolve, in favor of

the Bangor State Hospital for maintenance and other purposes.

S. P. No. 388: Resolve, in favor of the Augusta State Hospital for maintenance for the Fiscal Years 1926 and 1927.

S. P. No. 416: An Act to Amend Chapter 140 of the Private and Special Laws of 1921, relating to the Farmington Municipal Court.

S. P. No. 417. An Act to amend Section 48 of Chapter 24 of the Revised Statutes relating to the powers and liabilities of plantations.

S. P. No. 418. An Act to amend Chapter 39 of the Private and Special Laws of 1915, to fix the salary of the Judge and Recorder of the Sanford Municipal Court.

S. P. No. 453. An Act to amend the law relating to the salary of the Librarian of the Maine State Library.

S. P. No. 419. Resolve in favor of Lester D. Eaton, Warden of the State Prison.

From the Senate: Report of the committee on Public Utilities reporting ought to pass on bill, An Act relating to the Portland Gas Light Company (S. P. 95) (S. D. 43).

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

In the House, on motion by Mr. Gilmour of Westbrook, tabled pending acceptance of the report in concurrence.

From the Senate: Report of the committee on Salaries and Fees reporting ought to pass on bill, An Act to amend Section 3, Chapter 325 of the Private and Special Laws of 1897, relating to the Municipal Court of Waterville (S. P. 96) (S. D. 164).

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

In the House, on motion by Mr. Cyr of Waterville, tabled pending acceptance of the report in concurrence.

From the Senate. Order for an investigation of the condition of labor in the textile industry by the committee on Labor (H. D. 253) which was passed as amended by House Amendment A in the House March 5th.

Comes from the Senate referred to the committees on Labor and Legal Affairs jointly in non-concurrence.

In the House:

Mr. WING of Auburn: Mr. Speaker, I yield the floor to Mr. Holmes of Lewiston.

Mr. HOLMES of Lewiston: Mr. Speaker, I move that the House recede from its former action and concur with the Senate in referring the order to the joint committees on Labor and Legal Affairs. This I do for the purpose of expediting the business of the Legislature.

The motion prevailed.

Mr. WING: Mr. Speaker, I rise to a point of order. We passed this order in the House.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman is correct. The House passed this order.

Mr. WING: I move we re-consider the vote just passed.

The motion prevailed.

Mr. WING: I now move that we recede and concur with the Senate in its action on this order.

The SPEAKER: The motion to recede and concur with the Senate will correct our Record.

Mr. WING: I now move that we re-consider the vote whereby we gave this order a passage.

The SPEAKER: The motion to recede will take care of that matter. Is it the pleasure of the House to recede and concur with the Senate in the reference of this order to the joint committees on Labor and Legal Affairs?

The motion prevailed.

From the Senate: Bill, An Act relating to salary of the Judge of the Municipal Court of Portland (H. P. No. 71) (H. D. No. 80) which was passed to be enacted in the House February 18th and passed to be engrossed February 11th.

Comes from the Senate passed to be engrossed as amended by Senate Amendment A in non-concurrence.

In the House, on motion by Mr. Stone of Bridgton, the bill was tabled and especially assigned for Wednesday next.

The following remonstrances and petitions were received and, upon recommendation of the committee on Reference of Bills, were referred to the following committees:

Inland Fisheries and Game

By Mr. Leland of Sangerville: Petition of L. A. Flint and others in favor of the one deer law (H. P. 1165).

By the same gentleman: Petition of A. L. Gilman and others in favor of same (H. P. 1166).

Judiciary

By Mr. Cummings of Portland: Remonstrance of Arthur W. Hight and 119 others of Portland against repeal in such manner of the direct Primary Law (H. P. 1155).

By Mr. Roberts of Bar Harbor: Remonstrance of Charles F. Paine and others of Bar Harbor against same (H. P. 1156).

By Mr. Wing of Auburn: Remonstrance of T. E. Ham and 20 others of Auburn and Lisbon against same (H. P. 1157).

Legal Affairs

By Mr. Lessard of Lewiston: Remonstrance of Edward Turgeon and 64 others against bill relating to Finance Commission for the City of Lewiston (H. P. 1158).

By the same gentleman: Remonstrance of Charles Martel and 72 others against same (H. P. 1159).

By the same gentleman: Remonstrance of A. F. Vermette and 53 others against same. (H. P. 1160).

By the same gentleman: Remonstrance of Frank Landry and 48 others against same (H. P. 1161).

By the same gentleman: Remonstrance of Louis Malo and 53 others against same (H. P. 1162).

By the same gentleman: Remonstrance of Joseph Morin and 53 others of Lewiston against same (H. P. 1163).

By the same gentleman: Remonstrance of Albert D. Morneau and 54 others of Lewiston against same (H. P. 1164).

Orders

Mr. Roy of Lewiston presented the following order:

The attention of the Legislature having been called to the fact that there is no piano in the Blaine Mansion, and that the furnishings of this home are incomplete without such an instrument:

It is ordered, the Senate concurring, that the committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs be authorized to purchase a piano for the Blaine Mansion, and that the expense of the same be charged to the fund appropriated by the 81st Legislature for the expenses of the 82nd Legislature..

The SPEAKER: The House hears the order. What is the pleasure of the House?

On motion by Mr. Wing of Auburn, the order received passage.

Reports of Committees

Mr. Hammond from the committee on Taxation reported ought not to pass on bill An Act relating to Certain Exemptions (H. P. No. 730) (H. Doc. No. 175).

(Tabled by Mr. Boody of Windham pending acceptance of the report.)

Mr. Leland from same committee reported same on Resolve proposing an amendment to Section 8, Article IX of the Constitution of the State of Maine, providing that no tax on incomes and on inheritances shall be levied (H. P. No. 29) (H. Doc. No. 11).

(Tabled by Mr. Spear of Portland pending acceptance of the report.)

Mr. Morse from the committee on Pensions reported ought to pass on Resolve in favor of Emily F. Grotton of Washington, for State Pension (H. P. No. 622).

Report read and accepted and the bill ordered printed under the joint rules.

Mr. Stone from the committee on Inland Fisheries and Game on bill An Act to permit the hunting of rabbits or wild hares during the month of March, in addition to the open season now provided by law (H. P. No. 376), together with remonstrance (H. P. No. 843), reported same in a new draft (H. P. No. 1167) under title of An Act to regulate the hunting of rabbits or wild hares and that it ought to pass.

Mr. Bump from same Committee on bill An Act relating to the trapping of fur-bearing animals (H. P. No. 377), reported same in a new draft (H. P. No. 1168) under same title and that it ought to pass.

Mr. Frost from same Committee on bill An Act relating to the taking of fish from Birch Harbor Pond in Winter Harbor, Hancock County (H. P. No. 487), together with petition (H. P. No. 488) reported same in a new draft (H. P. No. 1170) under same title and that it ought to pass.

Mr. Morse from the Committee on Pensions on Resolve in favor of Mary Louise Rowe of Exeter for State Pension (H. P. No. 628), reported same in a new draft (H. P. No. 1169) under same title and that it ought to pass.

Reports read and accepted and the new drafts ordered printed under the Joint Rules.

First Reading of Printed Bills and Resolves

H. P. No. 198: An Act relating to

fishing in Sunday River, in Oxford County.

H. P. No. 400: An Act to incorporate Cornelia Warren Community Association.

H. P. No. 558: An Act relating to the taking of clams in Steuben.

H. P. No. 629: An Act to extend the charter granted to the Salisbury Cove Water Company, for the taking of water from Lake Wood, and furnishing water to the village of Salisbury Cove, for two years.

H. P. No. 800: An Act relating to the taking of smelts from Cobscook River, Cobscook Bay, Orange River, Denny's River, and their tributaries.

H. P. No. 1069: An Act relating to the salary of the Clerk of Courts of Knox County.

H. P. No. 1076: An Act to ratify and make legal the acts and doings of the Katahdin Electric Company of Patten, Maine.

(Tabled by Mr. Wing of Auburn pending assignment for third reading).

H. P. No. 1077: An Act relating to conveyances not effectual against others unless recorded.

H. P. No. 1078: An Act relating to police regulations at stations.

H. P. No. 1079: An Act prohibiting the building of smelt traps in the waters of Harrington River in Washington County.

H. P. No. 121: Resolve for Teacher's Pension for Etta M. Patten.

H. P. No. 627: Resolve providing for a State Pension for Granville Baker of Hampden.

H. P. No. 1073: Resolve in favor of Ann M. Hilts of Newburg, for State Pension.

H. P. No. 1074: Resolve in favor of Zebedee Cushman of Kennebunk for an increase of Pension.

H. P. No. 1075: Resolve providing for an increase of State Pension for Helen B. Hobart of Farmington.

Out of Order

Additional papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

From the Senate: Report of the committee on Salaries and Fees on bill an act to change the salary of the Superintendent of the State School for Boys (S. P. 97) (S. D. 155) reporting that the same ought to pass.

Comes from the Senate, report read and accepted, and the bill passed to be engrossed as amended by Senate Amendment A.

In the House, report accepted in

concurrence, and the bill received its two several readings, Senate Amendment A was adopted in concurrence, and tomorrow assigned for the third reading of the bill as amended.

From the Senate: Resolve appropriating money for the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station for the purchase of additional land at Digmoor Farm, H. P. 183, H. D. 199, which was passed to be engrossed in the House on February 25th.

Comes from the Senate, re-committed to the committee on Agriculture in non-concurrence.

In the House, on motion by Mr. Leland of Sangerville, that body voted to recede and concur with the Senate in the re-commitment of this resolve to the committee on Agriculture.

Orders of the Day

The SPEAKER: The Chair presents an act relating to the giving of checks where the maker has insufficient funds, S. P. 93, S. D. 41, tabled by Mr. Frost of Berwick, March 11, pending third reading.

Mr. FROST of Berwick: Mr. Speaker, I move that this bill be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. DWINAL of Camden: Mr. Speaker, as a member of the committee on Legal Affairs that reported this bill, I will explain the reason for the amendment. Under our present statute it is an offense to issue a check or draft with intent to defraud, knowing that you had not sufficient funds in the bank or depository to meet it when presented.

The second section provides that the fact that the bank refuses to pay that check shall constitute prima facie evidence that you did issue the check with intent to defraud, and that you did know that you had not sufficient funds there to meet it when presented. This amendment would change that statute to this extent, that the refusal of the bank to pay the check because of insufficient funds should constitute such prima facie evidence, and also an additional change that the refusal of the bank to pay the check because of insufficient funds shall constitute such evidence provided that the maker received something for the check when he gave it.

The reason for the amendment arose from abuses of this statute which have been practiced somewhat in the last two years within the State. Advantage has been taken of

the fact that any refusal of the bank to pay the check should constitute prima facie evidence to defraud. If a man stops a check for any good reason, the payee of that check had frequently come back at him under this criminal statute, and either obliged him to go into the criminal courts to defend himself or else pay the check. This has generally resulted in his paying the check in order to avoid that criminal prosecution, which amounts practically to extortion. That part of this new bill is intended to prevent that abuse.

The other amendment was intended to meet another abuse that has crept in during the past two years, which is this: that frequently when pressed for funds, and also when urged and pursued by creditors, debtors have been induced to give check when they had not these funds in order to avoid trouble with their creditor at the time; and this has been done when the creditor knew that the drawer of the check had not the funds, and with the intent to pursue him under this statute after getting possession of the check; so that this amendment was put in to prevent that abuse. Both of these abuses have been found to have crept into our practice within the last two years, and it is to prevent these two abuses, and not to weaken the law, that this bill was introduced.

The SPEAKER: The question is on the motion of the gentleman from Berwick, Mr. Frost, that this bill be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. HOLMES of Lewiston: Mr. Speaker, I wish to support the motion of the gentleman from Berwick, Mr. Frost. The theory that lies behind all criminal law is that a criminal offense is an offense against the State but not against an individual—not against the citizen—and it seems to me that it would be a great mistake for a Legislature to recognize in the faintest degree a responsibility of one who commits a crime to the offended party except insofar as the offended party has a civil action for the civil wrong done to him. The theory of our law—and it has always been the theory—is that when one commits a crime, either under the common law or a crime created by statute, he offends the majesty of the State, he offends the public. He has done something contrary to the welfare of all the people. Now it seems to me that in this

bill as drafted the theory there is plain that a man may commit a crime against a person, to wit—

At this point a communication was received from the Senate, through its Secretary, proposing a joint convention of both branches of the Legislature forthwith in the hall of the House for the purpose of listening to an address by Brigadier General Lord, the Director of the Budget of the United States.

The House voted to concur in the proposition for a joint convention of the two branches of the Legislature, and the Clerk of the House was charged by the Speaker with the duty of informing the Senate that the House so concurred.

Subsequently the Clerk reported that he had performed the duty assigned him.

Mr. HOLMES continuing: Mr. Speaker, I will be very brief because I know now that we have our attention upon the coming treat. I was saying that it appears to me from what light I have that there has crept into this bill the false and dangerous theory that a man may commit a crime against an individual and that the individual may forgive the crime, and, if he forgives the crime, then the crime disappears and there is no crime against the majesty of the State. I think that we should guard against this. I think that the purpose in mind by the proponents of this bill was doubtless most sincere and most commendable, but I think that it is loosely and dangerously drafted legislation and that a later Legislature would be obliged to repeal it. We should never permit one who has been offended and suffered a civil wrong to eliminate the State from its proper right of punishment by making restitution within five days. Either a crime is committed or it is not committed in law.

On motion by Mr. Hamilton of Caribou, this bill was re-tabled pending third reading and especially assigned for Wednesday next.

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

In Convention

The President of the Senate in the Chair.

On motion by Senator Walker of Knox it was,

Ordered, that a committee be appointed to wait upon Brigadier-Gen-

eral Herbert M. Lord, Director of the Budget of the United States, and inform him that the two branches of the Legislature are in convention assembled in the hall of the House of Representatives, and to extend to him an invitation to attend the convention and present such communication as he may be pleased to make.

Also ordered, that the same committee wait upon Honorable Ralph O. Brewster, Governor, and extend to him an invitation to attend the convention.

Thereupon, the chairman of the convention appointed as members of that committee on the part of the Senate, Senators Walker of Knox, Morrison of Franklin, Smith of Somerset; on the part of the House, Representative Piper of Jackman, Frost of Belfast, Roberts of Bar Harbor, Nichols of Portland, Thissell of Norridgewock, Martin of Augusta and Leighton of Dennysville.

Subsequently Senator Walker for the committee, reported that he had delivered the message with which he was charged and that General Lord and his Excellency, Governor Brewster, will attend forthwith.

The report was accepted.

General Lord, Governor Brewster and suite then entered the hall of the House of Representatives, amid applause, the members of the convention rising.

The CHAIRMAN of the Convention (President Buzzell): Members of this joint convention, ladies and gentlemen of the State of Maine in attendance: Maine has been honored many times and in more ways than one. Indeed we point with pride, every one of us, to our great agricultural advantages. We point with much pride to our industrial achievements, and now we are saying quite a little about our recreational opportunities; and while we say that our agricultural crops are unsurpassed by almost any section of this country, there is one crop that I say we fail to speak of as often as we should, and that is the splendid crop of men and women that the State of Maine has produced. (Applause.) The State of Maine has produced twenty-four governors for other states of the union; and with us today we have one of that great crop of men and women, who has taught his name to the United States of America, as the successor, and the worthy successor, of our great vice-president of these United States of ours. He is the

Director of the Budget; and in other words he is the gentleman who looks after the housekeeping expenses of our nation. It now gives me great pleasure to introduce to you a Rockland boy, a product of Knox County in this State, of whom we are indeed justly proud; it gives me great pleasure to introduce to you the Honorable Herbert M. Lord of Rockland. (Prolonged applause, the members rising.)

Address by Brigadier General Herbert M. Lord, Director of the Budget of the United States

Mr. President, members of the Maine Legislature and guests: It is a peculiar pleasure, as well as a great honor, to be granted this audience by the Legislature of my native State. For more than thirty years my duties have called me to other states and other countries, but affection for the State of my birth has waxed rather than waned with the passing of the years, and with each recurring season I find a stronger desire and a more compelling demand to re-visit the scenes of my boyhood and early manhood.

How surpassingly wonderful is this love for one's homeland that calls to one over rivers and mountains, over continents and oceans, and calls with an insistence that will not be denied! And no matter how rich or how poor, no matter how proud or how humble the wanderer from his native land may be, he turns with affectionate retrospection to that far-off spot that he calls Home. He may have come from a country that was not kind to him, he may have come from a land that brought him little in the way of opportunity and creature comforts, but back there is the home of his boyhood, the scenes of his earliest endeavors and earliest successes and failures; back there, perhaps, are a father and mother and sister and brother, and the friends of his youth, and no matter what its condition, it is his native land. And if those aliens from such inhospitable shores, those wanderers from lands of trouble and deprivation, hold in continuing affectionate remembrance the place of their birth, what can measure the wealth of devotion which we owe to this great country of ours with its manifold blessings? And what can measure the depth of devotion and love which we owe to this, our own dear State, with its surpassing beauty, with its creditable past and promising future? Maine

has had many eulogists but has never needed an apologist. She no longer stands alone in the proud isolation of her prohibitory law. Maine blazed the way for the Nation. I am proud of Maine, in her springtime, when the ducks fly north, when the mud lies deep, when the tang of the pregnant earth is in the air and the trailing arbutus hides its modest, fragrant beauty beneath the melting snowbank. I am proud of Maine, when her cool summer breezes tempt the city dweller from the heated pavements into the glorious outdoor of the most wonderful State of the most wonderful country the world possesses. I am proud of Maine in her autumn days, when the landscape is glorious and gorgeous in nature's most vivid colors, painted in patterns that would defy the genius of a Raphael. I am proud of Maine, in her winter, when rivulet, brook, river and lake are bound in fetters of ice, when her rugged coast trembles beneath the onslaught of the mighty ocean and when hamlet and village and town and city lie buried beneath the pure mantle of the drifting snow. Maine's stern bleak winter plays its important part in the production of Maine's sturdy dependable, hardy citizenry, the product of the State that today is the most American of all the states of the Union. May she live forever! May she ever be prosperous! May she ever continue law abiding and God fearing! May she maintain that high standard of Americanism that has characterized her entire history! God bless the Commonwealth of Maine! (Prolonged applause.)

Now Mr. President and Your Excellency, that I have re-stated my faith in, my devotion to, and my affection for the State of my birth, I will proceed with the discussion of my subject, "The Nation's Business," which has to do not only with the State of Maine, but with all the other great states of the Union, and which has to do with the business administration of a New England President, product of the same conditions of hardy living and rugged climate that have contributed to the Maine product of sturdy manhood and womanhood. (Applause.)

With your permission, Mr. President, I will resolve this meeting of the Maine Legislature into a meeting of the shareholders and stockholders of the greatest business or-

ganization in the world, that great organization that does business under the firm name of the United States of America. You all have an interest in some property, some industry, some business, but there is no interest of yours which is so important as your interest and your share in this great Republic.

I propose to discuss with you today what has been accomplished under the National Budget System, and I expect to hold your interest, because what the President of the United States is able to accomplish in the way of retrenchment through the Bureau of the Budget, will determine in large measure what your Federal taxes will be in the years immediately facing us, will determine whether a Nation relieved from a great burden of taxation will enter upon a new and widening area of happiness and prosperity or whether a loyal and deserving people, facing continuing extraordinary demands upon their substance and the products of their toil, demands that cripple initiative and endanger prosperity—shall be forced to toil and hope against hope for a prosperity and relief long deferred.

We went into the World War with a gross debt of one and one-quarter billions of dollars and we came out of the World War on November 11, 1918, with a debt of nineteen and one-half billions of dollars, which, on August 31st, 1919—in less than a year—had increased to twenty-six and one-half billions. We came out of the World War with a swollen expense account and a habit of thinking and spending in billions, and unfortunately this extravagant habit of thinking and spending was not confined to the Federal government but characterized the operations of states and counties and municipalities and towns; yes, and characterized the operations of businesses and homes and individuals.

It was necessary in the interest of the welfare of this great country that there be an example of retrenchment, and I propose to show you that the Federal Government has set that example. We faced after the war a season of unrest. Many urgent problems clamored for solution and one of the chief of these was the rising cost of Government. On the one hand we had acquired a greatly expanded public service. On the other, we faced the necessity for immediate national economy. It was

imperative that we curb at once the rising cost of Government in its peacetime activities. It was a task that had to be taken in hand at once. Fortunately, Congress at this juncture gave the country a budget system that recognized the President of the United States as the head of this great business and held him accountable for its proper conduct. It gave him an agency—the Bureau of the Budget—which he could utilize in imposing control over estimates and for prosecuting a campaign of retrenchment in expenditures. At the head of the Bureau of the Budget was a Director who should be the President's Business Executive, his financial representative, his eyes and ears in matters that cover the expenditures of the Federal Government. Prior to this time the affairs of this country had been handled in the most casual manner imaginable. We took from you people, the tax payers, what we thought we wanted and we spent what we thought we needed to spend. The idea of leveling the two, of striking a balance so that our expenditures should not run away from our receipts, seems to have never been given serious thought.

Any other business in the world would have been in the bankrupt courts years ago; but fortunately we were singularly blessed with riches, our resources the greatest in the world, our tax rates among the lowest; and if you point to increases in taxes here and there—and mostly in indirect taxes taxes at that—still they attracted little attention as long as we had such an overflowing bounty with which to replenish the treasury as fast as it was depleted and as long as our tax demands were as modest as they were fifteen and ten and eight years ago.

And then the World War, and you all know what happened to taxes. In a span of years less than the number of fingers on one hand our featherweight tax burden tremendously increased and this great country for the first time in two generations, at least, faced the urgent need of doing something and doing it quickly toward shrinking the cost of government. Today the entire financial program of the country is based on the sane and simple resolution that we cannot spend what we have not got and keep out of debt. In the interest of the taxpayer we must confine our expenditures to the smallest amount sufficient

to carry on the operation of this great government of ours and in the interest of economy we must not spend a cent more than that amount, but must spend wisely and well and in accord with the scientific system of distribution that has been worked out.

Today the first policy of this government is the policy of a balanced budget, of expenditures well within its receipts, and the director of the bureau of the budget stands today with the president of the United States in his determination to cut down government expenditures, reduce taxes and lower the public debt and at the same time keep a balanced budget.

President Harding, almost with the birth of the budget, expressed the hope that during his administration annual expenditures of the federal government, exclusive of what was applied to the reduction of the debt, might be brought down within three billions of dollars. President Harding affirmed that objective to the director of the bureau of the budget who, having served for many years in the United States army, regarded the orders of his superior as admitting of no question and as constituting an imperative mandate that must be reflected in actual performance.

As a result, the past three years have been years of earnest striving on the part of the Budget Director to achieve what many considered to be impossible; the bringing of our annual federal expenditures, exclusive of debt reduction, within three billions of dollars. Sleeping and waking that objective has been continuously in his thought. Mirrored in the sky, reflected in the raindrops, rising above the noise of the thoroughfare, whispering in moments of solitude, demanding attention amid the cares of office, clamoring for hearing in the seclusion of the home, encroaching upon the silent watches of the night, it has been an imperious and insistent demand; and as the months have dragged their weary lengths along, and as the end of each recurring year drew near, he could sympathize with the colored woman at the grave of her husband who had led a sinful and riotous life and who, as the tears coursed down her cheeks and moistened the freshly turned earth, sobbed, "I hopes you is where I 'spects you aint." (Laughter.) And so, hoping against hope, we have looked forward thinking that possibly with the end of each year we would find ourselves where we expected we

would not be—within the president's three billion dollar limitation. And while we have not yet attained our objective, Mr. President, we have made real progress and we have approached tantalizingly near our goal.

Federal expenditure in 1921, which was the last pre-budget year—will you carry that definitely in your thought—1921 was the last pre-budget year, the last year without budget control—in 1921 we took your money—the taxpayers' money—and we spent it to the extent of \$5,115,927,689.30, and that was exclusive of what we applied to the reduction of the debt. In 1922—the first year of budget control—again excluding reduction of the debt, we took your money and we spent it to the extent of \$3,372,607,899.84.

Now while this was \$1,743,000,000 less than we spent in the preceding year, we were still \$372,000,000 wide of our objective. In 1923 we tried again, and that year we spent \$3,294,627,529.16. Again, my hearers, a notable reduction in expenditure below the preceding year, but still \$294,000,000 short of our mark. But, "hope ever springs eternal in the human breast," and in 1924 we tried again, and that was the last full year. That ended with June 30th last, and that year we spent your money to the extent of \$3,048,677,965.34—an extraordinary reduction in expenditure below the preceding year and within \$48,000,000 of our objective.

Knowing in the last week in June that we were getting pretty close to the mark, and knowing that in three years we had reduced Federal expenditure two billions of dollars, and in three years we had absolutely cut the ordinary expenses of government in two, with what I considered justifiable pride I stated our accomplishment to a certain member of Congress and listened almost breathlessly for his expected enthusiastic commendation; and he quietly said, "That is very good." Then I thought of the story of the school boy to whom the teacher gave this problem: "How much are two times thirteen?" And the boy said, "Twenty six." The teacher, said "Very good," and the boy replied, "Hell, it's perfect." (Laughter and applause).

Your Excellency, no one outside of the Federal Service can have any adequate comprehension of the amount of toil and trouble and travail and effort and hope and discouragement and encouragement and

sacrifice that are involved in that extraordinary cut of two billions of dollars in Federal expenditure. It merited something more than a perfunctory, "Very good." It is very difficult for any of us to get anything like an adequate idea of what a billion dollars really means, and herein lies the trouble. We speak today as casually of billions as we spoke of millions before the World War. We talk in billions because we think in billions.

In the endeavor to give you something of an idea of what this two billions of dollars cut in Federal spending means, let me translate it into other terms. It equals half the gold coin and half the gold bullion in this country today. It equals all the deposits made by all the depositors of this country—by twelve and a half million depositors—in all the savings institutions of this country for a period of twenty months. It equals the value of all motor trucks and automobiles and motorcycles produced in this country in 1922. It exceeds the amount paid in dividends by all the railroads of this country for a period of five years. It is more than twice the value of our cotton crop in 1922, and nearly two and a half times the value of our wheat crop in 1922. It was worth the saving.

Now what is the problem this year—and we are still on the trail of that three billion dollar limitation? Estimated expenditures for the current year carried in the budget recently passed by Congress show that the forty three departments and establishments of the Government have stated that to carry on their operations this year it will be necessary for them to spend \$3,062,277,407. Now, that is \$62,000,000 too much; but lest we forget, bear this in mind, that in that \$3,062,277,407 is an important item of \$120,000,000 required for payments under the World War Adjusted Compensation Act. With that out of the picture our \$3,000,000,000 would have been attained this year in a walk. As it is, we must save some way, somehow, this year \$62,000,000 to carry out the President's request.

Now to accomplish that we have organized in Washington a "Two per cent Campaign." If all the Government agencies will modify their operating programs this year by two per cent, we will eliminate that \$62,000,-

000 that stands between us and victory, and we are looking here, there and everywhere to see what can be done to prevail upon the people in the Federal Service, in the interest of this drive for retrenchment to get our expenditures within three billion dollars. It means sacrifice but there is no real economy without sacrifice. I have a meeting of the Federal Representatives who are located in Augusta, this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, to consider with them how they can help us in our effort for retrenchment. I have a telegram here in which the Navy Department states that in this campaign they will guarantee to reduce their expenditure by \$6,600,000 with the prospect of \$2,000,000 further reduction. That is more than their two per cent. I have another telegram—the first that I received—from the Postmaster of a little town down in South Carolina, which says: "Count me in your two per cent campaign." And from all our far flung spending agencies the world over we are getting returns that they will help us out in this campaign.

Now, how about our national debt? This is your business. I am one of the hired help coming here to give you something of an accounting of my stewardship, and this is the greatest business with which you are connected, the business of the United States, and you know precious little about it. The gross public debt reached its peak on August 31, 1919, and then it towered to the extraordinary height of \$26,594,267,878.45. On June 30th, last, at the end of three budget years, it stood at \$21,250,812,989.49—a reduction of \$3,095,632,771.20 in the three budget years, and that, too, in the face of tax reduction in the acts of November 3rd, 1921, and June 2nd, 1924, and in the face of a fall in revenue. We have reduced your public debt by more than three billions of dollars and that was accomplished by savings in expenditures all along the line.

While public expenditures, taxes and indebtedness of other governing agencies in this country have been mounting higher and higher in the most alarming way the Federal Government, by reducing its expenditures, while reducing its taxes and reducing its public debt, has set an example that may be followed with profit by the states and the counties and the cities and towns of this country; yes, and by business and homes and individuals.

In 1921—the last pre-Budget year—

the Federal expenditure constituted sixty per cent of the cost of government of this country, while forty per cent was chargeable to the lesser governing agencies. Today we have more than reversed those positions, and the Federal Government, by reducing expenditures, by introducing better methods of doing business, by preaching and practicing economy, today makes an assessment of only thirty-three and a third per cent on the public purse, while sixty-six and two-thirds per cent is chargeable against the states and the counties and the towns and the cities of this country.

Now I am not stating this with any thought of bragging. Like the rooster in the story, my only hope is to be helpful. This rooster, wandering from his home pen, discovered an ostrich egg. He had visions of gorgeous omelets, of splendid fries, and unlimited scrambles, and with infinite pains he rolled this gigantic egg back to the home pen, and calling his faithful flock together and pointing to the big egg he said, "This is not intended as any reflection upon you; it is merely to show you what can be done. (Laughter and Applause.)"

And in pointing to what the Federal Government has been able to accomplish along lines of retrenchment, no reflection is intended upon your State Government, or any other State Government, or any Municipal or Town Government. It is merely to show what a united, common effort in a patriotic purpose can accomplish under the leadership of a courageous Chief Executive.

If the program as carried in the 1926 budget is carried out without change, we will close this year with a balanced budget and a surplus of \$67,884,489.00. Whatever modifications we are able to make in our spending program under this three billion dollar campaign, will, of course, serve to increase that surplus. Whatever additional expenditures are thrown on to the program by recent legislation of Congress, such as the Postal Service Bill and the increased pay of members of Congress, and such other extraordinary additions or burdens upon the Treasury, will serve to reduce that amount.

President Coolidge stated to the Federal Business Organization that he expected this year,—or that our aim this year—should be a surplus of not less than \$108,000,000.00. I make no rash promises but under

the drive we are having I am hoping we will end the year with a surplus of more than \$108,000,000.00. President Coolidge, in making that statement, had in mind, as we in the Federal Service should always have in mind, the relief of the taxpayer. Back of this continual cutting of Federal estimate, back of this three million dollar campaign, back of the demand for a balanced budget, back of the urgent, pressing demand and appeal for drastic economy, is the unalterable intention of the President of the United States to cut taxes down—not in the interest of business alone, but in the interest of the rank and file of the people of the country.

As our President said in his inaugural, "It is not to save money, it is to save people." Back of all this the one object of the Bureau of the Budget, its one sole purpose, is reduction in taxation; and there is no other reason for economy in the Federal Service but reduction in taxation. Demands for larger appropriations for established projects, pressure for greater allowances for great works, appeals for funds for entry into new and enticing fields of Federal exploitation, objection to restriction of activities, protests against limitations, elimination and wiping out of operations and activities that offer a legitimate field for Federal retrenchment, must all come under the measuring stick of the necessity as compared with the great and admitted necessity of the taxpayer and those dependent upon him.

If the people in the Federal Service, whether they are stationed in Maine or in California, whether they be members of the Cabinet or charwomen in the Departments, people in the Federal Service who are not in hearty sympathy with the President and his program, who are not willing to sacrifice their pride of performance and their plans and purposes to the general welfare, who are not ready to march loyally with the President along the high road of economy, should enlist under another flag.

If I have an especial appeal to you today, it is an appeal for national thinking. One of the greatest sources of waste and inefficiency in the Federal Service was the entire lack of co-operation between bureaus and departments, and the habit

of thinking in terms of bureaus and departments rather than in terms of the United States. We are preaching night and day for the development of a national conscience. Not very long ago a very high official in the Federal Service recommended to the Director of the Bureau of the Budget a certain re-organization of certain department agencies. If it had been applied as recommended, while it would have aggrandized his own bureau, it would have seriously crippled other Government activities quite as important as his own. A Scotchman was very sick in a hospital, nigh unto death, and he told the surgeon in charge that he would like to hear a bag pipe play some of those sweet old Scotch airs, "The Bluebells of Scotland," "Scots wha hae wi' Wallace Bled," and so forth. The bag pipe was secured and the Scotchman got his Scottish airs and recovered—and the rest of the patients died. (Laughter.)

You see, the official to whom I have referred was thinking locally and not nationally. I have no doubt from what I know of him that he had no thought of injury to any other part of the Government, but he had lost sight of the general welfare. So I come to you today, and if I have a special appeal, it is an appeal for national thinking. You should give first place in your thoughts to the Federal Government, to the Nation as a whole, and not confine your interest and your concern to a restricted project or a limited area. If the operation of the Budget Law is ever seriously imperiled, it will be because the appeal of the Budget for a sane, impartial, consideration of national interests will be lost in the glamour of local interests for their own preference and preference. When you are asked to endorse this or that project, which means an appropriation from the federal treasury, or an appropriation from your state treasury, you should give it the same careful consideration as you would give it if it were to be financed out of your own pocket; and any other course is not fair and is not honorable.

There are today created and operated in this country hundreds of live organizations devoting their time to the project of getting funds out of the federal treasury. There is only one organization of which I know

that is created and operated for the purpose of protecting the federal treasury, and that is the Bureau of the Budget. Every measure that proposes a federal appropriation commands powerful support, and the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, in his defense of the treasury, encounters always able, organized opposition. At times he is almost overwhelmed with letters and telegrams and appeals from the people whose pocketbooks he is trying to protect, letters, personal appeals and telegrams demanding consideration for policies and projects which he, with his entire knowledge of the field, knows should not be approved. What are you doing as individuals to uphold the hands of the Budget Bureau in its effort to reduce expenditures so that we may further reduce taxes and reduce the public debt? We need your help all the time. We need your intelligent, your considerate help, and that at all times. The Bureau of the Budget is your agency, operated and created for the purpose of protecting your funds and relieving the demand upon your pocketbooks. If ever the Bureau of the Budget is thrown into the discard, if that time ever comes, through the efforts of people opposed to federal economy—and their name is Myriad—then when it is too late for anybody to come to the rescue, I hope someone will be there to tell you the story of a southern worker on the soil who pointed an accusing finger at the sun, blazing in unrivaled splendor overhead, and plaintively asked, "Where was you last January when I needed you so bad?"

Someone has said, your Excellency, that the Director of the Bureau of the Budget should have a backbone of steel and the hide of a rhinoceros. I have amended that and will say "Yes, and he should also have a heart of flint to resist the eloquent appeals of advocates for large appropriations for important national projects such as reforestation, rivers and harbors, good roads, reclamations, public buildings, research and the like. The Director of the Bureau of the Budget yields, in point of national pride and public spirit, to no man in the federal service or out of it. He has vision to see our hamlets and our villages and our towns and cities bound together by broad rivers of faultless highways over which ponderously rumble the trucks of commerce, and over which royally

roll the limousines of the rich and the flivvers of the more moderately circumstanced. He has vision to see the denuded slopes of our hills and mountains clothed again in the glorious majesty of wonderful forests. He has vision to see the public centers of our great communities adorned with public buildings. He has vision to see our rivers and our harbors bearing on their placid bosoms the commerce of this and other countries, pointing to the last word in river and harbor construction. He has vision to see every last arid bit of land converted into a smiling oasis of productive fertility. He has vision to see this wonderful country of ours, by the expenditure of federal dollars, transformed into an Utopia of public convenience and beauty. He has vision to see all this—and then someone hands him a treasury statement and he wakes up. All of these important projects must be provided for, but only to the extent that the condition of the treasury and the plight of the taxpayer will warrant.

When the present Director of the Budget entered upon his job he made this statement publicly that when the Director of the Bureau of the Budget became popular, he should be immediately dismissed. Later developments have amply proved the wisdom of that conclusion. The present director of the budget never was a candidate for the job. He was comman-deered for it, and, so far as he is concerned, anybody can have it any time they want it and think they can operate it any better than he can. He is independent and must be independent. He knows no master in the federal government but the President of the United States, whose policies he honestly and earnestly attempt to carry out. (Applause.) But the burden at times gets surpassingly heavy, and when, with his back to the wall, he fights your fight and not his own, and without any help from you, and when, with the odds heavily against him, he champions your cause and not his own, and without any help from you, he feels like saying, with John Addington Symonds: "Happy the man who has hodsman's work in some plain place in the world." Then he hears the call to service, he feels that he may help the burdened taxpayer, he feels back of him the strong, unwavering support of the president of the United States—and he carries on. (Prolonged applause, the audience rising.)

At this point, General Lord, the governor and suite retired.

The purpose for which the convention was assembled having been accomplished, the joint convention was dissolved and the Senate retired to the Senate chamber, amid the applause of the House.

In the House

The Speaker in the chair.

The SPEAKER: The House is proceeding under orders of the day.

On motion by Mr. Nichols of Portland, it was voted to take from the table on act relating to fees for registration of automobile vehicles, S. P. 80, S. D. 36, tabled by that gentleman yesterday, pending passage to be enacted; and on further motion by the same gentleman, the House voted to reconsider its action whereby this bill was passed to be engrossed; and the same gentleman offered House Amendment C, as follows, and moved its adoption.

Amend said bill by striking out the word "regularly."

The amendment was adopted.

On motion by Mr. Littlefield of Kennebunk, the bill was tabled pending passage to be engrossed.

Mr. HAMILTON of Caribou: Mr. Speaker, I move that we take from the table Senate Document No. 41, bill, an act relating to the giving of checks where the maker has insufficient funds, tabled by me this morning.

The SPEAKER: This was especially assigned for Wednesday next.

On motion by Mr. Hamilton of Caribou the House voted to reconsider its action whereby this matter was especially assigned for Wednesday next; and on further motion by the same gentleman, it was voted to take the bill from the table and the gentleman from Caribou, Mr. Hamilton, yielded the floor to the gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Holmes.

Mr. Holmes: Mr. Speaker, I merely want to offer House Amendment A to Senate Document 41, and then I will move that it be re-tabled and assigned as the gentleman from Caribou wishes—Wednesday morning next.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Holmes, offers House Amendment A to Senate Document No. 41. Does the gentleman move its adoption?

Mr. HOLMES: No, Mr. Speaker, I wish that it be printed and the bill lie on the table and especially assigned for Wednesday next; and I

wish to state that my reason for this is that since the matter came up I have looked up the Statutes and the laws of 1917 and 1923, and I have found that the author of this measure in drafting the amendment to the section had incorporated a part of the old statute and put in a new part, and I was in error and did not know until I looked up the Statute that the part that I objected to at the time was already in the old law. I wish to acknowledge my error and to offer that amendment, and I move that the amendment be printed, and the whole matter tabled and especially assigned for Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Holmes, offers House Amendment A to Senate Document No. 41, and moves that 500 copies of the same be printed.

The motion prevailed.

On further motion by Mr. Holmes of Lewiston the bill and amendment were tabled and especially assigned for Wednesday next.

On motion by Mr. Holmes of Lewiston, it was voted to take from the table a bill from the Senate relating to Text Books to be approved by the State Commissioner of Education, the pending question being reference to a committee in concurrence; and on further motion by the same gentleman, the House voted to concur with the Senate in the reference of this bill to the committee on Education.

Mr. CUMMINGS of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I rise to a parliamentary inquiry. In regard to the order for the investigation of the Textile Industry of the State. The House adopted an amendment. Did the Senate reject that amendment?

The SPEAKER: The Chair understands that the amendment was adopted by the Senate, and the order as amended was then referred to the two joint committees.

Mr. CUMMINGS: Could that be done without an amendment by the Senate, as the amendment which we adopted specifically stated, and became a part of the bill, as to where it should go?

The SPEAKER: The Chair is in error. Neither the order nor the amendment bears any record that the amendment was adopted by the Senate. The Senate apparently re-

ferred the whole matter to the two committees.

Mr. CUMMINGS: I would inquire of the Chair if the Senate can so refer without amending the order or the amendment?

The SPEAKER: The Chair is not familiar with what the Senate may do or may not do, but is of the opinion that the Senate can so refer if it desires. The objection is that the subject matter of the order requires certain action.

Mr. CUMMINGS: I think so. The order itself states where it should go and it seems to me it requires an amendment, just as it requires an amendment for us to change the reference of a bill. I speak of this, Mr. Speaker, because I want to be sure that we are proceeding properly in this matter and that we may not find later that there is a defect in our procedure.

The SPEAKER: Is the gentleman satisfied with the reference to these two committees?

Mr. CUMMINGS: Mr. Speaker, the question to me is not a matter of reference; it is a question of parliamentary procedure and whether we are proceeding properly or not. I have no objection to the reference if the steps have been taken in a legal and parliamentary manner.

The SPEAKER: It appears to the Chair that the House has taken the proper action to refer this matter to those two committees. Has the gentleman any motion?

Mr. CUMMINGS: None.

On motion by Mr. Hamilton of Caribou, the House voted to reconsider its action whereby it referred this matter to the joint committees on labor and legal affairs.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Caribou has the floor. (Applause)

Mr. HAMILTON: I move that we adhere to our former action.

Mr. HOLMES of Lewiston: Mr. Speaker, I wish to offer a motion which has precedence. I move that we insist and ask for a committee of conference.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Holmes, moves that House insists upon its former action and asks for a committee of conference.

The motion prevailed.

On motion by Mr. Littlefield of Kennebunk it was voted to take from the table Senate Document No. 36, an act relating to fees for registration of vehicles tabled by that gentleman earlier in the session, pending passage to be engrossed; and on further motion by the same gentleman, the bill was passed to be engrossed as amended.

On motion by Mr. Smith of Bangor it was voted to take from the table H. P. 636, report of committee on salaries and fees, ought not to pass, on bill an act relating to salary of Judge and Recorder of the Bangor Municipal Court, tabled by that gentleman March 11, pending acceptance of the report; and on further motion by the same gentleman, the report, ought not to pass, was accepted.

The SPEAKER: As conferees on the part of the House in the matter of the order for the investigation of Textile Industry, the Chair appoints Representatives Holmes of Lewiston, Cummings of Portland and Hamilton of Caribou.

On motion by Mr. Deering of Denmark,

Adjourned until ten o'clock tomorrow morning.