

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Record  
OF THE  
**Eighty-Fifth Legislature**

OF THE  
STATE OF MAINE

1931

KENNEBEC JOURNAL COMPANY  
AUGUSTA, MAINE

**HOUSE**

Monday, March 30, 1931.

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

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Wood of Augusta.

Journal of the previous session read and approved.

Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

From the Senate: Final reports of the committee on

Claims

Gubernatorial Message

Public Utilities

Comes from the Senate read and accepted.

In the House, read and accepted in concurrence.

From the Senate: Majority report of the committee on Judiciary reporting ought not to pass on bill an act relating to registration of motor vehicles (S. P. 35) (L. D. 8).

Report was signed by the following members: Messrs. Weeks of Somerset, Murchie of Washington, Aldrich of Sagadahoc—of the Senate. McCart of Eastport, Authier of Sanford, Burkett of Portland, Farris of Augusta, Snow of Bluehill, Varney of Berwick—of the House.

Minority report of same committee reporting ought to pass on same bill.

Report was signed by the following member: Mr. Tompkins of Houlton—of the House.

Comes from the Senate, the majority report read and accepted.

In the House, on motion by Mr. Tompkins of Houlton, tabled pending acceptance of either report.

From the Senate: Bill an act relating to fees for registration of trailers (S. P. 527) (L. D. 846), which was passed to be enacted in the House March 24th and passed to be engrossed in concurrence March 19th.

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

In the House, Senate Amendment A and B read, and that body voted

to reconsider its action whereby this bill was passed to be enacted; and further voted to reconsider its action whereby this bill was passed to be engrossed. Senate Amendments A and B adopted in concurrence, and the bill as so amended was passed to be engrossed in concurrence.

(At this point Franz U. Burkett of Portland assumed the Chair, amid the applause of the House)

From the Senate: Bill an act relating to the charter of the city of Waterville (H. P. 1430), which was passed to be engrossed in the House March 27th.

Comes from the Senate the majority report of the committee, ought not to pass, accepted in non-concurrence.

In the House:

Mr. BERRY of Waterville: Mr. Speaker, there were two bills introduced to amend the charter of the city of Waterville. Majority report ought not to pass and minority report ought to pass of the committee on Legal Affairs. The House passed them last Friday, but the Senate in the afternoon rejected them, and they are back in here again in non-concurrence. In talking over with members of the committee, I find they were opposed to submitting two charters. I am, therefore, asking the House to insist on this charter which we are now acting on and ask for a committee of conference. I now yield the floor to the Representative from Waterville, Mr. Picher.

Mr. PICHER: Mr. Speaker, Mr. Berry and myself are in accord on this bill, and, if his motion prevails, I will move with reference to the next bill that we concur with the Senate in its indefinite postponement.

The SPEAKER pro tem: Is it the pleasure of the House that the House insist on its former action and ask for a committee of conference?

The motion prevailed.

The SPEAKER pro tem: The Chair will announce the committee of conference later in the session.

From the Senate: Bill an act relating to the charter of the city of

Waterville (H. P. 837) (L. D. 319) which was passed to be engrossed in the House March 27th.

Comes from the Senate the majority report of the committee ought not to pass accepted in non-concurrence.

In the House, on motion by Mr. Picher of Waterville, that body voted to recede and concur.

From the Senate: Bill an act to authorize the construction of a wharf in Long Lake at Naples (H. P. 1264) (L. D. 805) which was passed to be engrossed in the House March 19th.

Comes from the Senate with Senate Amendment A offered and withdrawn. Senate Amendment B read and adopted and the bill as so amended passed to be engrossed in non-concurrence.

In the House, Senate Amendment B read. On motion by Mr. Robie of Westbrook that body voted to reconsider its action whereby this bill was passed to be engrossed; and on further motion by the same gentleman Senate Amendment B was adopted in concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Tompkins of Bridgewater, tabled pending passage to be engrossed, as amended in concurrence.

From the Senate: Bill an act increasing the salary of the judge of the Rockland Municipal Court (S. P. 575) (L. D. 913) which was indefinitely postponed in the House March 25 in non-concurrence.

Comes from the Senate that body voting to adhere to its former action whereby the bill was passed to be engrossed.

In the House, on motion by Mr. McLoon of Rockland, that body voted to recede and concur. On further motion by the same gentleman the bill received its two several readings, and under suspension of the rules its third reading, and was passed to be engrossed in concurrence.

#### Orders

On motion by Mr. Sterling of Caratunk, it was

Ordered that the Messenger of the House reserve until 7.45 tonight the seats of the members for their

own use during the mock hearing this evening.

#### Report of Committee

Majority report of the Committee on Pensions reporting ought not to pass on bill an act to provide for a system of non-contributory old age pensions (H. P. No. 999) (L. D. No. 345).

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. FARNSWORTH of Aroostook

SMALL of Waldo

WEYMOUTH of Penobscot

—of the Senate

MORSE of Oakland

KENT of Benton

RICHARDSON of South

Portland

BURKETT of Union

WARD of Limestone

HAWKES of Richmond

—of the House

Minority report of same Committee reporting ought to pass on the same bill.

Report was signed by the following member:

Mr. EDWARDS of Bethel

—of the House

On motion by Mr. Morse of Oakland, the majority report, ought not to pass, was accepted.

Mr. MORSE of Oakland: Mr. Speaker, I move the acceptance of the majority report, ought not to pass.

On motion by Mr. Edwards of Bethel, tabled pending acceptance of either report, and specially assigned for Wednesday, April 1.

#### First Reading of Printed Bills and Resolves

(H. P. No. 1418) (L. D. No. 1028)

An act providing for the disposition of moneys collected from the tax on gasoline purchased for aeronautical purposes.

(H. P. No. 1421) (L. D. No. 1029)

An act with reference to the State Highway Police.

(H. P. No. 1422) (L. D. No. 1034)

An act relating to fishing in certain inland waters.

(H. P. No. 1424) L. D. No. 1030)

An act to extend the time for the display and use of motor vehicle license tags.

(H. P. No. 1425) (L. D. No. 1031)

An act to extend the jurisdiction of Municipal Court in certain cases.

(H. P. No. 1432) (L. D. No. 1032) An act amending the banking law.

(H. P. No. 1435) (L. D. No. 1033) An act relating to the control of the State Department of Health over plumbing.

(Tabled by Mr. Plouff of Dexter pending second reading).

(H. P. No. 468) (L. D. No. 1035) Resolve in favor of the State Military and Naval Children's Home.

(H. P. No. 1461) (L. D. No. 1036) Resolve providing pensions for certain soldiers and dependents of soldiers.

(H. P. No. 1417) (L. D. No. 1037) Resolve creating a Recess Committee to study the needs and requirements of aviation and its development.

(H. P. No. 1419) (L. D. No. 1038) Resolve authorizing Commissioner of Fish and Game to settle damages with Charles Huff, of Topsfield.

(H. P. No. 1423) (L. D. No. 1039) Resolve for screening certain lakes and ponds in the State.

H. P. No. 1426) (L. D. No. 1040) Resolve appropriating money for the completion of the Statue of General Howard.

(H. P. No. 1427) (L. D. No. 1041) Resolve in favor of the town of Plymouth.

(H. P. 1428) (L. D. 1042) Resolve in favor of the town of Durham:

(H. P. 1433) (L. D. 1043) Resolve to reimburse the town of Shirley for support of the family of Angus A. Green.

(H. P. 1434) (L. D. 1044) Resolve in favor of the city of Eastport for the care of William Price.

(Tabled by Mr. Carleton of Portland pending assignment for second reading.)

#### Passed To Be Engrossed

S. P. 82, L. D. 94: An act relative to the stamping of beaver skins.

S. P. 83, L. D. 95: An act relative to trapping licenses.

Mr. Snow of Bluehill offered House Amendment A and moved its adoption, as follows:

House Amendment A to S. P. 83, L. D. 95.

Amend said document by inserting after the word "animals" in

the third line thereof the words "except rabbits."

Thereupon House Amendment A was adopted, and the bill as amended had its third reading and was passed to be engrossed.

(S. P. 270) (L. D. 983) An act relating to military and naval reservists.

(S. P. 271) (L. D. 984) An act to clarify the payment of military accounts.

(S. P. 307) (L. D. 987) An act to create a Game Sanctuary in the town of Hope, Knox county, to be known as the Gribble Game Preserve.

(S. P. 355) (L. D. 378) An act relating to taking of land by State Highway Commission.

(S. P. 589) (L. D. 989) An act to protect cod and other ground fish in waters off the coast of Lincoln and Sagadahoc Counties.

(S. P. 593) (L. D. 990) An act relative to the powers of the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Game.

(Tabled by Mr. Friend of Skowhegan pending third reading).

(H. P. 652) An act to authorize Sherman S. Greenleaf to practice veterinary surgery, medicine, and dentistry.

(Tabled by Mr. Hussey of Augusta pending third reading).

(H. P. 1035) (L. D. 567) An act providing for the completion of the vital records of the State.

(H. P. 1299) (L. D. 997) An act relative to ice fishing for pickerel.

(H. P. 1404) (L. D. 998) An act requiring civil service examinations for all wardens and hatchery employees in permanent service with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Game.

(H. P. 1405) (L. D. 999) An act relating to the Gray Game Preserve.

(H. P. 1406) (L. D. 1000) An act relating to the hunting of water fowl or any other wild bird in Back Bay, so-called, in Portland.

(H. P. 1407) (L. D. 1001) An act authorizing and empowering the town of Islesboro to raise money to provide and maintain transportation facilities by boat for passengers and freight.

(H. P. 1408) (L. D. 1002) An act authorizing towns to license public dance halls.

(H. P. 1411) (L. D. 1003) An act

relating to the construction of State aid highways.

(H. P. 1413) (L. D. 1016) An act relating to subordinate officers of the House of Representatives.

(H. P. 1414) (L. D. 1017) An act relating to catching of smelts in fresh water streams.

(H. P. 1415) (L. D. 1018) An act to regulate salmon fishing on the Penobscot river.

(S. P. 158) (L. D. 985) Resolve in favor of the town of Jonesport.

(S. P. 189) (L. D. 991) Resolve in favor of the Bangor State Hospital.

(S. P. 557) (L. D. 857) Resolve in favor of the State Library.

(S. P. 591) (L. D. 993) Resolve relating to rights of the States in the nomination and election of United States Senators.

(S. P. 594) (L. D. 988) Resolve in favor of the town of Washburn.

(H. P. 470) (L. D. 1004) Resolve in favor of C. A. Boynton.

(H. P. 805) (L. D. 1019) Resolve appropriating money to remodel, rebuild and repair the fish ways in the St. Croix River in Calais, county of Washington.

(H. P. 1076) (L. D. 1020) Resolve in favor of the town of Hampden for a fishway.

(H. P. 1409) (L. D. 1005) Resolve for the purpose of grading and constructing a sidewalk on State Street in front of the State House grounds.

(H. P. 1410) (L. D. 1006) Resolve in favor of the town of Arrowsic.

#### Passed to Be Enacted

(S. P. 117) (L. D. 115) An act relating to increases in the capital stock of railroad corporations.

(S. P. 222) (L. D. 923) An act to provide for the appointment of a Recorder for the Municipal Court of Dexter.

(S. P. 415) (L. D. 523) An act to regulate the preparation and distribution of petitions for the people's veto and direct initiative as authorized by Article Thirty-one of the Constitution.

(S. P. 483) (L. D. 644) An act relating to the fees of State humane agents.

(S. P. 514) (L. D. 907) An act relating to clerk hire in County offices.

(S. P. 534) (L. D. 834) An act to amend Section 118, Chapter 29 of the Revised Statutes.

(S. P. 556) (L. D. 855) An act to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act.

Mrs. MOREY of Lewiston: Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of personal privilege.

The SPEAKER pro tem: The lady may state her question.

Mrs. MOREY: I think that some of the men would like to smoke, and I move that the rules be suspended and that they be allowed to do so. (Applause)

A viva voce vote being had,

A division was had,

Sixty-nine voting in the affirmative and four in the negative, the motion prevailed.

#### Passed to Be Enacted—Continued

(S. P. 562) (L. D. 905) An act to establish rules and regulations governing compressed air work.

(S. P. 563) (L. D. 900) An act to provide uniform jurisdiction for Municipal Courts.

(S. P. 564) (L. D. 914) An act to enable the County of Franklin to raise money by taxation for the promoting of the health of the citizens of said county.

(S. P. 571) (L. D. 910) An act relating to returns made by lobster fishermen.

(S. P. 572) (L. D. 916) An act with reference to changes in the capital of corporations.

(S. P. 573) (L. D. 915) An act with reference to changes in the authorized capital of corporations.

(S. P. 574) (L. D. 922) An act relating to the taxation of unauthorized insurance companies.

(S. P. 578) (L. D. 909) An act relative to the reconstruction of pole and wire lines upon and along State and State aid highways.

(S. P. 582) (L. D. 949) An act to regulate expenditures in connection with matters of legislation submitted to the people under the provisions of Article Thirty-one of the Constitution providing for the initiative and referendum.

(H. P. 84) (L. D. 57) An act relating to helping teachers.

(H. P. 89) (L. D. 61) An act establishing a Game Preserve on Gero Island, in Chesuncook Plantation, county of Piscataquis.

(H. P. 96) (L. D. 67) An act relative to advance baiting of deer.

(H. P. 98) (L. D. 69) An act prohibiting the use of any bird or animal, protected by law, as a bait for trapping.

(H. P. 184) (L. D. 134) An act relating to special fish and game privileges for permanent employees

and soldiers of the National Soldiers' Home.

(H. P. 777) (L. D. 323) An act regulating the transportation of poultry.

(H. P. 798) (L. D. 325) An act providing for a State Game Farm.

(H. P. 828) (L. D. 927) An act amending the charter of the city of Belfast.

(H. P. 860) (L. D. 928) An act amending an act to incorporate the Bethel Water Company.

(H. P. 972) (L. D. 463) An act relating to payments to county law libraries.

(H. P. 975) (L. D. 496) An act relating to support of persons committed to State hospitals.

(H. P. 987) (L. D. 508) An act relating to the licensing of recreational camps, tourist homes and similar places.

(H. P. 1005) (L. D. 929) An act relative to The Portland Seamen's Friend Society.

(H. P. 1088) (L. D. 662) An act to provide for the appointment of a Commission on Revision of the Inheritance and Estate Tax Law.

(H. P. 1303) (L. D. 864) An act to incorporate the Lubec Cemetery Corporation.

(H. P. 1362) (L. D. 888) An act to provide a town council and manager form of government for the town of Presque Isle, in the county of Aroostook.

(H. P. 1363) (L. D. 906) An act relating to the packing and grading of apples.

(H. P. 1364) (L. D. 930) An act relating to damages by dogs and wild animals.

(H. P. 1367) (L. D. 931) An act relative to the minimum age for fishing.

(H. P. 1368) (L. D. 932) An act relating to the transfer of trust funds of corporations, trustees, unincorporated bodies and associations, and extending the provisions thereof.

(H. P. 1369) (L. D. 933) An act relating to the employment of minors.

(H. P. 1370) (L. D. 934) An act to amend the charter of the Gray Water District.

(H. P. 1371) (L. D. 935) An act relating to penalty for aiding escape of inmates from State hospitals or Pownal State school.

(H. P. 1375) (L. D. 939) An act providing for registration of two and one-half ton trucks.

(H. P. 1376) (L. D. 925) An act in relation to the tax on gasoline.

(H. P. 1377) (L. D. 959) An act regulating the buying, selling and transporting of clams.

(H. P. 1378) (L. D. 960) An act relating to the shipping and transporting of clams beyond the limits of the State during closed time.

(H. P. 1379) (L. D. 961) An act to close certain clam flats to digging.

(H. P. 1380) (L. D. 962) An act regulating the taking and sale of clams in the town of Scarborough.

(H. P. 1383) (L. D. 943) An act with references to registration fees for motor trucks.

(H. P. 1384) (L. D. 944) An act relating to attorneys at law.

(H. P. 1385) (L. D. 945) An act relating to commitment of patients to State hospitals for temporary observation.

(H. P. 1388) (L. D. 963) An act relating to transportation of paroled prisoners.

(H. P. 1389) (L. D. 964) An act relating to game birds.

(H. P. 1390) (L. D. 965) An act relating to disclosure proceedings.

(H. P. 1392) (L. D. 967) An act relating to Superintendents of Schools.

#### Finally Passed

(S. P. 61) (L. D. 908) Resolve in favor of the town of New Sharon.

(S. P. 154) (L. D. 886) Resolve in favor of State Reformatory for Men.

(S. P. 294) (L. D. 924) Resolve in favor of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws and of the Commissioners from Maine for the promotion of uniformity of legislation in the United States.

(S. P. 325) (L. D. 809) Resolve for the purchase of one hundred copies of the "History of the Town of Cushing."

(S. P. 565) (L. D. 921) Resolve in favor of Herbert A. Webster.

(S. P. 566) (L. D. 920) Resolve appropriating money to pay the claim of Parker W. Lovett Estate against the State of Maine.

(S. P. 567) (L. D. 919) Resolve appropriating money to pay the claim of Leon A. Higgins against the State of Maine.

(S. P. 568) (L. D. 918) Resolve appropriating money to pay the claim of Arthur Joseph Carter and

Dora W. Carter against the State of Maine.

(S. P. 569) (L. D. 917) Resolve appropriating money to pay the claim of Hannah F. Carter against the State of Maine.

(H. P. 628) (L. D. 879) Resolve to preserve the early vital records of the city of Westbrook.

(H. P. 1026) (L. D. 536) Resolve in favor of Harry C. Aldrich.

(H. P. 1266) (L. D. 886) Resolve for the purchase of "Bibliography of Maine Imprints."

#### (Emergency Measure)

S. P. 560, L. D. 887: An act providing that the Governor may suspend open season for hunting and fishing in time of drought.

The SPEAKER: This being an emergency measure, it is necessary that it have the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the entire membership of this body. All those in favor of the passage of the bill to be enacted will rise and stand until counted, and the monitors have returned the count.

A division being had,

One hundred and thirteen voting in the affirmative and none in the negative, the bill was passed to be enacted.

#### (Emergency Measure)

H. P. 1412: An act to authorize the town of Madawaska to issue water-works bonds.

The SPEAKER: This being an emergency measure, it is necessary that it have the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the entire membership of this body. All those in favor of the passage of the bill to be enacted will rise and stand until counted, and the monitors have returned the count.

A division being had,

One hundred and fourteen voting in the affirmative and none in the negative, the bill was passed to be enacted.

Papers from the Senate, out of order

Ordered, the House concurring, that the Governor be requested to return to the Senate Legislative Document 233, an act relating to taxation of shares of stock of trust and banking companies.

Comes from the Senate, read and passed.

In the House, read and passed in concurrence.

Ordered, the House, concurring, that the Governor be requested to return to the Senate House Paper 209, L. D. 119, bill an act relating to identification of criminals.

Comes from the Senate, read and passed.

In the House, read and passed in concurrence.

#### Orders of the Day

Mr. CARLETON of Portland: Mr. Speaker, a little while ago I laid on the table Document 1044, and I wish the members would read this over between now and tomorrow. I would like to speak on it tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tem: The gentleman wishes you to read the document to which he has called your attention.

On motion by Mr. Wright of Bath, it was voted to take from the table the 18th unassigned matter, House report ought not to pass of the committee on Inland Fisheries and Game on bill an act relating to foxes in Cumberland, Knox, Lincoln, Sagadahoc and York counties, H. P. 740, L. D. 261, tabled by that gentleman March 27, pending acceptance of the report; and on further motion by the same gentleman the report was accepted.

The SPEAKER pro tem: The Chair now lays before the House the first matter today tabled and assigned, being House report ought not to pass of the committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs on resolve in favor of a memorial to the Maine Volunteers Signal Corps, H. P. 76, L. D. 55, tabled by Mr. Smith of Bangor, March 25, pending acceptance of the report; and the Chair recognizes that gentleman:

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I move you that we substitute the resolve for the ought not to pass report of the committee, and that it be given its first reading in order that it may be amended.

The motion prevailed, and under suspension of the rules the resolve had its first reading.

Mr. Smith then offered House Amendment A and moved its adoption as follows:

Amend said resolve by striking out the words "five thousand" and substituting in place thereof, the words "one thousand".



Thereupon the amendment was adopted; and on further motion by the same gentlemen the resolve as so amended had its second reading under suspension of the rules, and was passed to be engrossed.

On motion by Mr. Tompkins of Houlton, it was voted to take from the table the third unassigned matter, House report ought not to pass of the committee on Judiciary on bill an act relating to taxation of corporate franchises, H. P. 957, L. D. 448, tabled by Mr. Burkett of Portland, March 23, pending acceptance of the report; and on further motion by the same gentleman the bill and report were re-committed to the committee on Judiciary.

On motion by Mr. Sterling of Caratunk, it was voted to take from the table the 25th unassigned matter, House report ought to pass in new draft of the committee on Ways and Bridges on bill an act relating to the removal of snow from highways, H. P. 1041, L. D. 572, new draft, H. P. 1429, tabled March 27 by that gentleman, pending acceptance of the report; and on further motion by the same gentleman the report was accepted and the new draft ordered printed.

On motion by Mr. McLoon of Rockland, it was voted to take from the table the fourth unassigned matter, Senate report ought to pass of the committee on Sea and Shore Fisheries on bill an act to legalize terms held by the Sea and Shore Fisheries Commission since the expiration of terms for which they were appointed, of one or more of them and to make valid any findings that they may render as a result of same, S. P. 427, L. D. 533, tabled by that gentleman March 24, pending acceptance of the report in concurrence; and on further motion by the same gentleman the report was accepted in concurrence, the rules were suspended and the bill had its two several readings and tomorrow assigned.

On motion by Mr. Allen of Sanford, it was voted to take from the table the ninth unassigned matter bill an act to exempt certain live stock from taxation, H. P. 1113, L. D. 690, tabled by that gentleman, March 25, pending first reading.

Mr. ALLEN: Mr. Speaker, a few days ago I tabled this bill. Mr. Boody offered an amendment and asked to have the first reading. I tabled it at that time. I would now like to hear the amendment read and I will yield the floor to the gentleman from Windham, Mr. Boody.

On motion by Mr. Boody, the bill had its two several readings.

Mr. BOODY: Mr. Speaker, I offer House Amendment A and move its adoption as follows:

Said bill is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof a new section to read as follows:

"Sec. 2. Effective date of this act. This act shall not take effect until April 1, 1933."

Mr. BOODY of Windham: Mr. Speaker and members of the House: When the 85th Legislature convened there was no Legislature in existence for years that had the opportunities presented to them to give the relief which this State is looking forward to: The condition of over-taxation, the condition of equalization of living conditions; but not one measure, in my judgment, has yet been offered to come to the aid of the common people of the State of Maine.

I believe in equalization of taxation; I believe that every piece of property personal and real should bear its just burden of taxation according to its ability to pay, and not the income that it brings.

Today in the State of Maine, after 111 years of existence, and particularly in the last forty years we have seen a great change of conditions in Maine. In those days your cities and your rural sections were in an equal condition, business interests of both the rural community and the city were the same, but today you see a very different condition. You have seen the growth of your cities, but today there is stagnation in your rural sections. You have seen the depopulation of your rural sections, going down 25 and 50 per cent. Today, in Maine, in the last twenty years, 60,000 farms, and 21,000 totally abandoned. Two-thirds of all the farms in existence today are either abandoned or non-producing. Ninety-seven farm buildings out of every hundred that are burned today are never rebuilt. Ninety-five per cent. of all the farms that you see that are occupied by those who are on them never would

be occupied if they had not descended to them. Eighty-three per cent of the best boys and girls in America, in the State of Maine today, leave the locality where they were born because there is no employment for them. They are coming today in competition in the cities with boys and girls of the cities, and this is stagnating your whole country, and still not one word or effort made in their behalf. How long can this condition exist? How long can you pay taxes on that which does not give results?

Today the state of Maine has thirty-nine millions of indebtedness authorized. In four years from today you will have an indebtedness of \$50,000,000, which means \$2,000,000 annually of interest to be paid. Who is to pay it? Can the poverty which we have brought about exist and pay it? Can it come from the products of your farms and from the laboring people? Can we put the great burden on poverty? We never can. I want to warn the members of this House that today you are walking against a stone wall and you have soon got to stop and wonder what you have been doing. You cannot place the great burdens of poverty upon the common people and strangle them so they are unable to produce and lose their purchasing power. You see what exists today. You see the value of your farms. You see the retailer, the wholesaler, the investment value of your factories, your bonds, and your stocks, depreciated, and stagnation and non-productiveness. Why is this? Because the purchasing power of the common people has been so stricken that they have less, therefore all suffer.

This measure that I introduced is humanitarian. It is right and just that all properties should bear the burden of taxation according to their power to pay. It matters not to me whether you pass this or not. I want to tell you that this is taking effect April 1, 1933. That will give the next Legislature the power to pass upon it. This measure must be enacted or the people of Maine will perish financially, and the poverty and the wealth will be depleted in value. Thank you. (Applause).

The SPEAKER pro tem: The question before the House is on the

motion of the gentleman from Windham, Mr. Boody, that House Amendment A be adopted. Is the House ready for the question? All those in favor of House Amendment A will say aye; those opposed no.

A viva voce vote being doubted,

A division of the House was had, Seventy-four having voted in the affirmative and none in the negative, House Amendment A was adopted.

Mr. ALLEN: Mr. Speaker, I wish to make the motion that the bill and the amendment be indefinitely postponed, and I wish to say at this time just a few words, and I am not going to try to answer the gentleman from Windham (Mr. Boody).

This bill is for the exemption of certain live-stock, up to 300 head of cattle. This is bill No. 1113, Legislative Document 690. I wish the members of the House would look this over.

This came from the Committee on Taxation with a unanimous report ought not to pass. I allowed this bill to have its first and second readings and the amendment carried, for the reason that I wanted to find out just what the amendment called for. All this amendment does is to refer this bill to the next legislature. That is all it is. It puts it down to 1933. Now if we are going to carry this bill through why not carry it through now? Why wait until 1933 for the next Legislature to throw it one side? This bill, as I said before, was unanimously reported by the Committee on Taxation ought not to pass, and the only interest I have in this matter is to reflect to you the mind of the committee when they reported on this bill.

The amount of live stock now exempt by law in the State of Maine is \$2,220,931. We thought that was quite enough for the live stock of this State to be exempt from taxation.

Now the gentleman from Windham (Mr. Boody) says that we have some—I don't know how many million dollars' worth of bonds—there are really \$23,000,000, but I guess he got a little more than that. We wanted to know how we are going to pay those bonds. We will never pay them if we exempt all cattle and all other live stock

in the State of Maine from taxation. I have not any great interest in this bill except it came to my committee, had a full hearing, and was thoroughly threshed out, and we reported it in here ought not to pass. Now you people can do with it as you wish. I move that it be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. HATHAWAY of Milo: Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Taxation Committee, I would like to say just a word. I am the last person in this Legislature to want to oppress the poor. I am from a farming community and I believe in protecting the farmer, but up in my section if a man owns thirty-five sheep, ten swine, three hundred and fifty fowl and fifteen cattle and three horses, beside all mules and horses under sixteen months old and cattle under eighteen months old, and live stock under two years old, he is considered quite a prosperous farmer; he is not considered poor.

Now up in our country towns the taxes are assessed and someone has got to pay those taxes. I do not want to oppress the poor, but it seems to me the farmer with the amount of stock that I have enumerated, that is enumerated in the bill, besides the young stock, is not poor. It seems to me he should be able to pay his tax.

Mr. BOODY: Mr. Speaker, I wish to reply to the gentleman from Sanford, Mr. Allen. He states the large amount of live stock that is relieved from taxation annually. It is quite an item. But this is set forward to 1933, that the Legislature, if they see fit, at the next session, may provide for that set-up in the different methods of income for the State, and that will perhaps come up tomorrow again, the matter of income.

It is not a question of making men rich in the rural sections by exempting them, but it is a question of equalization, that they may pay on an equal basis. When you exempt the farmers and the poor people who have heavy burdens to pay because their income is not equal to their outgo, that circulation of money that they are relieved from in the State of Maine is worth far more than all the taxes you will ever get from them. The circulation of the medium of trade going to the retailer, the whole-

saler, the jobber, and lastly to the man who has investments, mortgages, bonds, and stocks, makes him far wealthier than he was before. That is the source from which we work,—it is the low rung of the ladder—and not the one at the top, taking the cream. When you relieve the common people and leave the sources of money in circulation in their pockets, that is the source from which wealth springs, and not the poverty and stagnation which you bring upon them by taxation. No man can purchase with nothing in his pocket. But that circulation, no matter how small, starts up the channels of business and put your State and Nation into a prosperous condition. That is the trouble with us today. The men of business, in their selfishness, have taken such a great overhead that there is no purchasing power left afterward, therefore the whole thing stagnates, and unless you can relieve those at the bottom, everything will stagnate.

The SPEAKER pro tem: The question before the House is on the motion of the gentleman from Sanford, Mr. Allen, that the bill be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. MacPHERSON of Easton: Mr. Speaker, I would like to rise to second the motion of the gentleman from Sanford, Mr. Allen, to indefinitely postpone. I have had eleven years' experience in assessing taxes in my own community, and I believe a law like that would be an injustice to another community, for the simple reason that you have so much money to raise in a community, and if you do not have a valuation, your rate has got to go up, and if you exempt live stock by that bill, you would have a very high rate. Besides, there might be a farmer who would have three horses and would pay absolutely nothing on them, although he might be a truckman or something of that nature. From the taxation standpoint, I feel that law should not have passage.

Mr. Boody was given permission to speak a third time.

Mr. BOODY: The situation, Mr. Speaker, as my friend has said, is that when you exempt your live stock, the tax must be laid somewhere else; there is no question about that. Now the question involved is from what source can relief be had that will equalize the

tax? That is what I hope to do in the next few days of discussion. The question is what can you do to equalize the burden and bring back to the towns and cities what they have lost and what the people have to bear.

Mr. BLAISDELL of Franklin: Mr. Speaker, I have in my hand the House and Senate Register, and I have been checking over the names of the Committee on Taxation, and, after looking them over, I find that a very large majority—most all—at least three—come from rural farming sections, and know what is required in order to raise taxes in their different communities, and know the attitude and relation of the farmer to his taxes. I feel that this House owes a duty to the Committee on Taxation, when they took the matter and listened to the evidence and threshed it out in executive session and reported to the House that this bill ought not to pass. I believe this House owes that Taxation Committee the duty to accept its report or have better reasons shown than you now have why this bill should be accepted. I agree with Mr. Allen that it ought to be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. JACK of Lisbon: Mr. Speaker, I think in order that the members may vote on this intelligently they should listen to the law as it reads when amended: It says "all mules and horses less than six months old, and neat cattle eighteen months old and under, and all sheep to the number of thirty-five and swine to the number of ten and domestic fowl to the number of three hundred, and all livestock less than two years old, and fifteen head over two years old, and three horses."

Now I have to differ with my brother Blaisdell as to being governed or influenced by the report of the Taxation committee. I have served on committees myself and I have not always been in the minority when I sometimes thought I should have been. I have gone with the majority, and, probably, should I return here I will again do so. It is very apparent that here is an industry that is suffering. It is very apparent that something should be done. A large number of states are figuring today to perfect a taxation system, and even here with us we are considering an old age pension, and that might apply to the farmer

if we tax him to the point where he cannot live. We will have to take care of him in some way or another. We are also considering an income tax. Now, certainly, there are millions of dollars in the State of Maine that are not being taxed. Everything the farmer has is right out in plain view. As a matter of fact if he has got a dog, be it male or female, that is taxed; but a man may have a hundred thousand dollars tied up in securities out of sight which in many instances are not taxed.

The proposition here, as I see it, is not very serious. I doubt if any individual town would lose much, but here is the opportunity to consider this proposition and let the next Legislature repeal it if it sees fit. I can see no reason why the farmer should not have relief. As a matter of fact I see where he must have relief. By virtue of the position which I hold I come in contact with the rural section more or less and I find roads running across the town, five or six miles perhaps, with practically every house abandoned. Now what has happened to Maine? Something has happened to Maine. Either we have not brains enough to perfect a tax system so that those who should pay and can pay will pay, or else we are neglecting an institution that Maine must have. If there is anything important to a State it is its rural population. That is where your backbone of decency, that is where your backbone of patriotism exists. When a man owns property he has a stake in his government, he is loyal to his flag. He has got something to fight for. Now you know this situation just as well as I know it, and I am not going to talk any further except to say that I am in favor of Mr. Boody's amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tem: The pending motion is the motion of the gentleman from Sanford, Mr. Allen, that this bill be indefinitely postponed. Is the House ready for the question? As many as are in favor of the motion of the gentleman from Sanford, Mr. Allen, will say aye; those opposed no.

A viva voce vote being doubted, A division of the House was had, Forty voting in the affirmative and 57 in the negative, the motion to indefinitely postpone failed of

passage, and tomorrow was assigned for the third reading of this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tem: The Chair appoints on the committee on the disagreeing action of the two branches on the matter of the Waterville charter, Legislative Document No. 319, Messrs, Berry of Waterville, Ficher of Waterville and Owen of Vassalboro.

The SPEAKER pro tem: The Chair appoints as a conference committee on the disagreeing action of the two branches on the bill for the taxing of advertising devices, Mrs. Day of Gorham, Messrs. Allen of Sanford and Tompkins of Houlton.

On motion by Mr. Daigle of Madawaska, it was voted to take from the table the 24th unassigned matter, Senate report, legislation inexpedient of the committee on State Sanatoriums on resolve in

favor of the Central Maine Sanatorium for maintenance, S. P. 233, L. D. 899, tabled by that gentleman March 27, pending acceptance of the report in concurrence; and on further motion by the same gentleman the report was accepted in concurrence.

Mr. BERRY of Waterville: Mr. Speaker, I understood the Chair to refer to Legislative Document 319 in its appointment of the committee of conference. It is House Paper 1430. There are two charter bills but the bill we want conference on is House Paper 1430.

The SPEAKER pro tem: The Chair intended to appoint the conference committee on House Paper 1430, and so corrects itself at this time.

On motion by Mr. Ashby of Fort Fairfield,

Adjourned until tomorrow morning.