

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Record

OF THE

SPECIAL SESSION

OF THE

Eighty-Fifth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1932

KENNEBEC JOURNAL COMPANY
AUGUSTA, MAINE

HOUSE

Friday, April 1, 1932.

This being the day designated in the proclamation of the Governor for the meeting of the Eighty-fifth Legislature in extra session, the members of the House of Representatives assembled in their hall at ten o'clock a. m., and were called to order by the Speaker.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Wood of Augusta.

THE SPEAKER: The Chair feels, in common with every member, that it is a very gracious dispensation of Providence that permits us to come together again intact—nearly so—as the Eighty-fifth Legislature. In glancing about the rows before me some faces are missing. Due respect, I trust, will be paid to them later in the session.

The Eighty-fifth Legislature, in its regular session, established a reputation for the careful and conscientious carrying out of its duties with expedition and with a measure of economy in appropriations which left a substantial balance to carry over into the two succeeding years. We are met especially today for the purpose of being an economy session, and in the carrying out of that purpose I trust the cooperation of all the members will be given, not only to the careful consideration of the matters brought before us, but ever bearing in mind, first, economy of money, second, expedition in our proceedings and economy of time.

Again expressing my own very deep gladness at the opportunity to meet with you men again, and you ladies, and without further remarks because I wish to be one who will help economize in the expedition of business, we will proceed to the business of the session. (Applause)

The following proclamation was then read by the Clerk:

STATE OF MAINE

A PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, a recent decision of the Supreme Judicial Court of the State of Maine has given such construction to one of the tax laws of the State as to cause uncertainty in the administration of the law and a prospective loss of revenue that ap-

pears seriously to affect the appropriations for highway purposes, it appears advisable and necessary that the Legislature should assemble in order to consider and clarify the terms of this law;

I, THEREFORE, by virtue of the power vested in the Executive, convene the Legislature of this State, hereby requiring the Senators and Representatives to assemble in their respective chambers at the Capitol, in Augusta, on Friday, the first day of April, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, in order to receive such communication as may then be made to them, and to consult and determine on such measures as in their judgment will best promote the welfare of the State.

Given at the office of the Governor and sealed with the Great Seal of the State of Maine, this sixteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and thirty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and fifty-sixth.

WM. TUDOR GARDINER,
Governor of Maine.

By the Governor:

EDGAR C. SMITH,
Secretary of State.

A true copy:

Attest:

(Signed) EDGAR C. SMITH,
Secretary of State.

On motion by Mr. Rounds of Portland it was voted that the proclamation be placed on file.

The Clerk thereupon called the roll of the House.

One hundred and thirty-seven members answering to their names, a quorum was declared to be present.

During the roll call a message was transmitted from the Senate, through its Secretary, informing the House that a quorum was present in their Chamber and that body was ready for the consideration of such business as may come before it.

On motion by Mr. Blaisdell of Franklin it was voted that the Clerk of the House be directed to convey a message to the Senate informing that body that a quorum of the House is present and that the House is ready to proceed with the transaction of such business as may come before it.

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

On motion by Mr. Allen of Sanford it was voted that a committee of seven be appointed to wait upon the Governor and inform him that the Legislature is in session ready to receive any communication he may be pleased to offer.

Thereupon the Chair appointed as such committee Representatives Allen of Sanford, Burkett of Portland, Farris of Augusta, Scates of Westbrook, Morey of Lewiston, Burkett of Union and Sargent of Brewer.

Subsequently the committee reported, through its chairman, that it had attended to its duty.

RECESS

Mr. Burkett of Portland presented the following order and moved its passage:

ORDERED, The Senate concurring, that all bills and resolves introduced in this session except

(1) An Act relating to the Gasoline Tax

(2) A Resolve ratifying the amendment to the Federal Constitution regarding "Lame Duck Sessions" so-called

(3) An Act relating to expenses of Primary Elections

(4) Such Resolves as may be necessary to defray the expenses of this special session; be referred to the Eighty-sixth Legislature.

Mr. PERHAM of Paris: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate thoroughly that if we pass this order we simply say that we are to take up these matters that are referred to in this order. This morning, Mr. Speaker, as you made the opening speech, that word "economy" was stressed. In fact I think you gave a fine address to open this meeting at this time of year. I believe, however, that there is more than one economy measure to be presented here, and I would like to state now that I am opposed to the passage of this order. I will tell you frankly my reason, and, if I am out of turn, or if I am wrong, I will accept it on the vote. I wish to present at the proper time an order reducing the salaries and wages of every employee of the State of Maine receiving over one thousand dollars,

cutting each of them ten per cent. Mr. Speaker, I should like to say at this time that I am opposed to this order.

Mr. ROUNDS of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I had a resolve to put in here, but I want to say now that it has been taken care of by the man at the other end of the corridor. He has agreed to transfer the pension for mothers' aid so that it will be taken care of. Therefore, I have no resolve to put in. The hospitals in Portland are not asking for anything; Portland is taking care of her own and is taking care of quite a lot of the State. I can say as Chairman of the Poor Department of Portland that for the first two months of this year the expenditure was \$3100, the most of it is not for Portland poor but those out of the city. I think the Governor has been very generous with us in taking care of the mothers' aid.

Mr. LEONARD of Hampden: Mr. Speaker, I object to the passage of this order. We are assembled here according to the call, and as I would judge from the remarks of the Chair, to practice economy. I have a bill to present along lines similar to those mentioned by Mr. Perham. It is public and I would not undertake to introduce a bill of any private nature. It is a just bill and I would like to have the Legislature consider it at this time.

Mr. BURKETT of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I just want to make it plain that my order is not aimed at any particular bill. A similar order was passed at the last special session. If the members want to stay here and consider and discuss the matter of State salaries, or any other legislation, I am perfectly willing to stay as long as anybody. The question of salaries of State officials probably should be considered at some time. It seems to me, however, that a matter of so serious a nature should be referred to a committee, hearings held and the matter properly discussed. I believe in economy, and I believe that there are officials of this State who are receiving too much pay. Also I have no doubt that there are quite a number who are not getting adequate salaries. For one I should hesitate to vote for any bill to arbitrarily cut down the salaries of officials without an opportunity of hearings and a careful study of the matter because I should feel that it would work injustice to some em-

ployees of the State. I put the order in simply as a matter of routine; but if the members want to stay and discuss this or any other matter, I am perfectly willing to give my time.

Mr. SCATES of Westbrook: Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Hampden (Mr. Leonard) and the gentleman from Paris (Mr. Perham) have simply had in their minds what I have had in mind, and I have here a bill along the same lines; but there was a question in my mind whether I should present it or not. I will read this bill: "That the salaries of all State officials and State employees, receiving a salary in excess of fifteen hundred dollars per annum, be reduced ten per cent."

Now this Nation is in a serious condition. I have traveled over it frequently and considerably, but I am glad to say that Maine is in a better condition than any other State in the Union that I know of. There has been reductions of salaries in every corporation in this country and the chief executives of those corporations have taken their cut the same as the poor devil who works in the mill and that is right. Now the State of Maine has reduced the pay already of the men who work on the roads. They have reduced the amount of money that they will pay for trucks that work on the roads and those trucks have to pay for the privilege of running them. They have to pay in addition to that a four cent tax on their gasoline. Now we have got to take these reductions; it is coming. It has got to come before ever this Nation will be restored to any measure of prosperity. Why not let us begin now, and I think it will appeal to the judgment of every fair-minded man that if the man on the street who works for the State, and if the man who has a truck has had his price reduced, why should not the fellows higher up take their reduction?

Mr. LEONARD of Hampden: Mr. Speaker, at this time when so many good citizens of our State have not and cannot pay their taxes, I believe it is our duty to try in every way to reduce this burden. It seems to me right and just that the salaries of our public officials should be reduced. In framing this bill that I intended to put in I have tried to be fair and just. These officials will have four months in

which to adjust themselves inasmuch as the reduction would commence July 1st, the beginning of the State's fiscal year, and continue one year. The next Legislature can then deal with the conditions then existing.

Mr. HOBBS of Hope: Mr. Speaker, I would like to say a word as to salaries. We as citizens of Maine believe that salaries were very properly increased during the war and post-war period in keeping with the increased cost of living and the ability of the taxpayer to pay taxes. Likewise these public salaries should be reduced with the present limited ability of the people to pay taxes and the decreased cost of living. Much of our trouble today is that one half of this country is trying to live on a post-war inflated basis and the other half is living on a pre-war deflated basis. We are going to meet this depression when the people of this country to the last one of us, in a true spirit of patriotism and fairness to one another are ready and willing to accept this depression as national calamity and meet our share of the responsibility. If we, on the public payroll, insist upon receiving our post-war inflated salaries, then we are dodging our responsibility to meet our share of the burden. As the salary official dodges his share of the responsibility others must bear more than their share.

We know and believe that the salary official must depend in the future as in the past upon the tax paying public for his or her livelihood. To continue to maintain the present policy of high salaries in State and National Governments is not only wrong in principle, but is dangerous to the future existence of our Government itself, furthermore to continue such a policy is not deserving the confidence of our fellow citizens.

We believe that if we as citizens haven't the heart and courage to reduce salaries in State and Nation, we haven't the courage to be real citizens, and we further believe by adopting such a policy and accomplishing that end, we not only have rendered the citizens a service, but what is better still we have rendered a real service to the taxpayers and Nation as well.

Mr. Speaker, as a matter of fact, the salaried official knows nothing about depression. He is getting fat off of depression because he is get-

ting a salary that has been increased and he is living more cheaply; in other words he is prospering under depression.

The SPEAKER: If the gentleman will permit the Chair to make a suggestion. The Chair feels it is perfectly proper for any member who objects to the passage of the order to give the reason for his objection; but it would be inadvisable to permit the discussion to go so far as to become a defense of a bill which it is hoped to be able to introduce. The Chair does not wish to curtail discussion but simply is calling attention to the fact that we are not arguing the merits of any matter except the one before the House.

Mr. HOBBS: I will not say anything further except that I think a ten per cent reduction is not enough.

The SPEAKER: Is the House ready for the question?

Mr. CARLETON of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I think we should be consistent in this matter, and if this bill has passage, I shall put an amendment on it that the salaries of the members of the Senate and House be reduced one hundred dollars.

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is on the motion of the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Burkett, the Senate concurring, that all bills and resolves introduced at this session except, one, an act relating to the gasoline tax; two, a resolve ratifying the amendment to the Federal constitution regarding the so-called "Lame Duck" session; third, an act relating to expenses of primary elections; and fourth, such resolves as may be necessary to defray the expenses of this special session, be referred to the Eighty-sixth Legislature. Are you ready for the question?

Mr. Leonard of Hampden was granted permission to address the House for the third time.

Mr. LEONARD: Mr. Speaker, when the vote is taken I ask that it be taken by the yea and nay vote.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Hampden, Mr. Leonard, proposes that when this vote is taken it be taken by the yea and nay. All those in favor of the calling of the roll for the yea and nay vote will rise and remain standing until

counted and the monitors have returned the count.

Mr. SCATES: Mr. Speaker, if I understand it correctly under the Constitution it is not necessary to call for the opposition, simply the statement that a sufficient number has not arisen.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman is absolutely correct, and an insufficient number having arisen in support of the motion, the motion is lost. The vote is now upon the motion of the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Burkett, that the matters, all but those enumerated, be referred to the Eighty-sixth Legislature. All those in favor of that motion—

Mr. PERHAM of Paris: Mr. Speaker, may I have the privilege of addressing the House a second time.

Permission was granted.

Mr. PERHAM: Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Carleton, made a remark here that he would offer an amendment to reduce the salaries of the Legislature, both Senate and House. That to me is rather a confusing statement at this time. I wonder whether he is to offer this amendment to the order or to what? At this time I would request through the Chair, that Mr. Carleton will state what he will offer this amendment to, and, if he wishes, why he believes that the Senate and House are receiving enormous salaries.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Paris, Mr. Perham, asks the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Carleton, to answer the question if he wishes.

Mr. CARLETON: Mr. Speaker, I have been here three terms. At first I received four hundred dollars, then six hundred dollars, and now I am up for the primaries for another election. Seventeen in my city are offering themselves for my job—sixteen against me—and I am sure that there is no lack of material. I feel that if we should cut down salaries all through the State we should take our own cut, and I shall offer an amendment to take a cut of one hundred dollars if I am going to cut the other fellow.

The SPEAKER: Does that answer the gentleman?

Mr. PERHAM: I have no objection to—

Mr. SMITH of Bangor: Mr.

Speaker, has the gentleman permission to speak the fourth time?

The SPEAKER: The gentleman had not relinquished the floor by asking a question through the Chair.

Mr. PERHAM: Mr. Speaker, I would like to say to the members of the Legislature that the reason I am opposing this order is simply that we may introduce an economy measure later. There is nothing personal in it in any way. I believe that the word economy must be recognized and that we will make a grave mistake as legislators if we pass it by at this time. I am opposed to the passage of the order.

The question was called for, A viva voce vote being taken, Seventy-two voting in the affirmative and forty in the negative the order received passage and was sent up for concurrence.

Senate papers, out of order.

Papers from the Senate read and passed in concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Hathaway of Milo that gentleman was granted permission to introduce out of order an act relating to the gasoline tax, and on further motion by the same gentleman the bill was referred to the committee on Taxation and Ways and Bridges jointly.

RECESS

From the Senate: Bill, an act to amend the law governing primary elections.

Comes from the Senate, read twice, Senate Amendment A offered and rejected. The bill was then passed to be engrossed without reference to a committee.

In the House, under suspension of the rules the bill was given its first two readings in concurrence and Senate Amendment A read.

Thereupon the House voted to concur in the rejection of Senate Amendment A.

The SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House that the bill now have its third reading.

Mr. SCATES of Westbrook: Mr. Speaker, I, as a member of this Legislature, do not want to vote upon a matter that I know nothing about, and I will ask to have the bill read.

(The Clerk read the bill)

Thereupon the bill was given its third reading and passed to be engrossed in concurrence.

The SPEAKER: The Chair will make the announcement which is concurrent with an announcement made in the Senate that a committee hearing will be held on the gas tax bill in this House at 1.30 P. M.

On motion by Mr. Burkett of Portland, the House recessed until two P. M.

AFTER RECESS

Report of Committee

Ways and Bridges and Taxation jointly on bill, an act relating to the gasoline tax, reporting that the same ought to pass.

Report read and accepted.

The rules were suspended and the bill had its three several readings and was passed to be engrossed.

Sent up for concurrence.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Paris, Mr. Perham.

Mr. PERHAM: Mr. Speaker, I have an order and move its passage, as follows:

Ordered, that the Senate be and hereby is respectfully requested to return to the House, without passage in concurrence, the joint order relating to the reception of bills and resolves at this present session of the Legislature, which order was passed in the House this morning.

Mr. PERHAM: Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that this order is to recall the order which was voted on in the House this morning. The purpose in doing this is that we may have a chance to reconsider. I am stating this procedure in order that it may be understood what we are trying to do. It is to reconsider the order passed this morning and then to add an amendment which will allow us to take up the matter of reduction in salaries and then present the bill to have it come before the proper committee of Salaries and Fees. In passing this order I believe we will be doing that which the people back home will expect of us and it will reflect credit on this Legislature. I hope that the order to recall will have passage.

Mr. JACKSON of Bath: Mr. Speaker, I move the yeas and nays on the order to recall.

The SPEAKER: All those in favor of the yeas and nays being called will please rise and remain standing until counted and the

monitors have returned the count. A sufficient number arose and the roll call was ordered.

Mr. PERHAM: Mr. Speaker, will you explain, simply for clarification, what a vote yes means and a vote no means?

The SPEAKER: A vote yes means a vote for the recall of the order from the Senate. A vote no means a vote against the recall of the order.

Mr. FARRIS of Augusta: Mr. Speaker, may I ask, through the Chair, the gentleman a question? For what purpose does he recall the order?

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Augusta, Mr. Farris, asks through the Chair of the gentleman from Paris, Mr. Perham, for what purpose he recalls the order and the gentleman may answer if he wishes.

Mr. PERHAM: Mr. Speaker, if there is any other party here who wishes an explanation I will gladly inform him. I think the matter has been explained and is thoroughly understood, but if anyone else beside Mr. Farris desires this information—and this is nothing personal—I will be glad to explain. (Laughter)

The SPEAKER: Does that satisfy the gentleman? The Clerk will proceed with the calling of the roll.

YEA—Additon, Allen, Allison, Authier, Bearce, Bennett, Berry, Biddle, Blanchard, Wilton; Blanchard, Phillips; Blodgett, Boody, Bowers, Brackett, Breen, Brewster, Briggs, Burgess, Burkett, Portland; Burkett, Union; Burns, Burr, Bussey, Carleton, Carter, Church, Clarke, Clement, Cobb, Cooper, Cram, Cranc, Davis, Day, Dow, Drisko, Duquette, Eastman, Eaton, Edwards, Farris, Fenlason, Ford, Friend, Gagnon, Gauvin, Gibson, Goudy, Graves, Gray, Hamel, Latch, Hathaway, Hawkes, Hills, Hiscock, Holbrook, Hobbs, Hussey, Jack, Jackson, Jacobs, Kent, Lancaster, Leonard, Lewis, Littlefield, Lowell, Luce, Mack, MacKinnon, MacPherson, Martin, McLoon, Merrill, Morey, Morin, Morse, Oliver, Palmer, Patterson, Peacock, Perham, Picher, Plouff, Plummer, Potter, Pratt, Quint, Richardson, Robie, Rogers, Greenville; Rogers, Y a r m o u t h; Rounds; Sanborn, Sargent, Sawyer, Scates, Snow, Blue Hill, Smith, Vinalhaven; Smith, Bangor; Smith, Waterboro; Soper, Sterling, Caratunk; Sterling, Kittery; Stern, Sturtevant, Sweet, Thomas, Harpswell; Thomas, Woodland; Thompson, Tompkins, Houlton; Towne, Varney, Viles, Wallingford, Ward,

Webber, Webster, Weeks, White, Crystal; Whitney, Wilbur, Worthen.—123.

NAY—Adams, Ashby, Audibert, Bailey, Pernald, Lizotte, Williams.—7.

ABSENT—Angell, Blaisdell, Deakin, Goodrich, Jones, Merritt, Owen, Snow, Scarborough; Smith, Masardis; Tompkins, Bridgewater; White, Dyer Brook; Wright—12.

One hundred and twenty-three having voted in the affirmative and seven in the negative, the order received passage.

Mr. SARGENT of Brewer: Mr. Speaker, is it now in order to make a motion to reconsider?

The SPEAKER: Not until the order is in the possession of the House.

Mr. Burgess of Rumford offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the members of the House of Representatives of the Eighty-fifth Legislature of the State of Maine have been deeply moved by the death of a highly regarded fellow member, the gentleman from Rumford, Richmond L. Melcher;

AND WHEREAS, the members of the House of Representatives sense a personal loss in the passing of a distinguished son of Maine, whose services to his State had ever been honorable;

NOW BE IT RESOLVED, that the State of Maine mourns the decease of Richmond L. Melcher of Rumford, whose death deprived her of a valuable public servant, and the members of the House of Representatives mourn the departure of a beloved companion and helpful fellow worker;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that these resolutions be spread upon the permanent records of the House, and that the Clerk transmit a copy to the bereaved family of the late gentleman from Rumford.

Thereupon the resolution was adopted by a unanimous rising vote.

Mr. Morin of Brunswick presented the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the members of the House of Representatives of the Eighty-fifth Legislature of the State of Maine have been deeply moved by the death of a highly regarded fellow member, the gentleman from Brunswick, Eugene H. Andrews;

AND WHEREAS, the members of the House of Representatives sense a personal loss in the passing of a distinguished son of Maine, whose services to his State had ever been honorable;

NOW BE IT RESOLVED, that the State of Maine mourns the decease of Eugene H. Andrews of Brunswick, whose death deprived her of a valuable public servant, and the members of the House of Representatives mourn the departure of a beloved companion and helpful fellow worker;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that these resolutions be spread upon the permanent records of the House, and that the Clerk transmit a copy to the bereaved family of the late gentleman from Brunswick.

Thereupon the resolution was adopted by a unanimous rising vote.

RECESS

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Burkett.

On motion by Mr. Burkett the House voted to reconsider its action whereby it passed to be engrossed bill an act to amend the law governing primary elections and that gentleman offered House Amendment A and moved its adoption as follows:

House Amendment "A" to bill an act to amend the law governing primary elections.

Amend said bill by inserting before the enacting clause the following:

"WHEREAS the constitution of Maine provides that no act of the legislature, with certain exceptions not here applicable, shall take effect until ninety days after the recess of the legislature passing it, unless in case of emergency, and

WHEREAS there are less than ninety days intervening between the convening of this special session of the legislature and the regular biennial primary election to be held on the twentieth day of June next, and

WHEREAS adequate and correct laws to govern the nomination of candidates for office, from their very nature, vitally affect the welfare of the state and of the people, and

WHEREAS in the judgment of this legislature these facts constitute an emergency within the

meaning of the constitution of the state of Maine and therefore require the following changes in the election laws and machinery of the state of Maine as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health or safety, now therefore"

And also amend said bill by adding the following section:

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

A viva voce vote being taken, the amendment was adopted, and the bill as amended was passed to be engrossed.

Mr. AUTHIER of Sanford: Mr. Speaker and fellow members of the Eighty-fifth Legislature: I am sure that you will all agree with me that it is a pleasure for all of us to have returned here and tramp the corridors of the capitol and the floors of this Chamber within which we have formed that great sentiment of fellowship which exists among us. Looking over your faces I am convinced that that same sentiment of friendship which existed a year ago still maintains today.

When our Honorable Speaker in his opening remarks this morning alluded to the absence of a few members, he alluded to the passing of two brothers for whom we have just passed resolutions. They are missing, and while looking around you will also find a few other vacant chairs, among them that of our little friend Norman Shaw, the little man with the big voice, that you men all remember, who has been elevated to a judgeship. Likewise Joe McCart has been elevated to a judgeship. They are among the absent. We also have another member of this Legislature who has been detained at home by reason of severe illness. I refer to that congenial and beloved member, Charles Goodrich of York, Maine, who is a member of this Legislature and a member of the York county delegation. I move that the Clerk of the House be authorized and empowered to forward to Brother Goodrich of York a letter of sorrow for his absence, with expressions of a Godspeed recovery. (Applause)

The SPEAKER: The House has heard the eloquent tribute to the absent member, Mr. Goodrich, and will no doubt be pleased to express its approval of this motion by adopting it by a rising vote.

Thereupon the House adopted the motion by a unanimous rising vote.

Papers from the Senate, out of order.

Bill an act relating to the gasoline tax, which was passed to be engrossed in the House earlier in the day.

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

"Amend an act relating to the gasoline tax by striking out of the preamble the words "remove uncertainty in the administration of the law and".

In the House that body reconsidered its action whereby this bill was passed to be engrossed, and concurred in the adoption of Senate Amendment A, and the bill was passed to be engrossed as Amended by Senate Amendment A in concurrence.

Mr. Smith of Waterboro presented the following resolution and moved its adoption:

The Eighty-fifth Legislature of the State of Maine, appreciating the importance of the pulp, paper, lumber, farm woodlots and timberland industry to the State of Maine; desiring to preserve said industry for the State; realizing the serious condition which has arisen in this industry as a result of large importations of pulpwood, pulp, paper and lumber from the countries of depreciated currencies and lower labor and production costs; and wishing to restore value to our forests, profit to our mills, work for our laborers, income for our farmers, freight for our railroads and prosperity to our citizens makes the following recommendations:

That the Congress of the United States, for the protection of this and all other American industries, be urged to impose a tax upon all imported products equal to the difference between power of exchange and current quotations of exchange of those countries which, by going off the gold basis, have depreciated their currencies, and

That the Congress of the United States also be urged to impose specific duties upon all imported pulpwood, baled pulp, paper and lumber sufficient to offset the difference of labor and production costs.

The resolution was adopted.

Mr. PERHAM of Paris: Mr. Speaker, I rise to a point of information.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman may state his point.

Mr. PERHAM: I would like to ask whether when we voted to recall the order from the Senate by a vote of one hundred and twenty-three to seven, it is necessary that we wait for the order to be returned before Mr. Sargent moves reconsideration.

The SPEAKER: It is the opinion of the Chair that no action upon such order can be had in the House without possession of the order. It is not in the possession of the House.

Mr. PERHAM: Mr. Speaker, I rise to a point of information that when this order is returned you inform me of its arrival.

The SPEAKER: The Chair will do so immediately.

RECESS

Paper from the Senate out of order.

Order, relating to bills and resolves introduced at this session which was passed in the House this morning.

Comes from the Senate indefinitely postponed in non-concurrence.

In the House:

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Brewer, Mr. Sargent.

Mr. SARGENT: Mr. Speaker, I move that the House reconsider its action whereby it passed the order limiting the number of articles to be considered and excluding all others.

Mr. FERNALD of Winterport: Mr. Speaker, I rise to briefly state my objection to the change of vote that was made this morning. I believe that if we permit a change in the vote made in this House this morning we will permit our good friend Brother Farris to commit political suicide. I believe the Republicans of Maine should not do that. I do not believe that we should permit this order to be changed in order to reduce the salaries of the officials of Maine. I believe it is wrong in principle and wrong in theory, although for temporary political expediency it may be advisable. It is my impression that the salaries in Maine for public officials are not too high. If

there is anything wrong with our public officials it is that perhaps we are not picking four thousand dollar men for four thousand dollar jobs. According to the price lists sent out by the Federal Trade Commission, we are not paying too much for our public officials now known as Maine's new Hall of Fame. I believe that it is a mistake to change the salaries of our present officials. I think we should keep the salaries as they are and permit an honest public official to earn an honest wage, and I hope that the motion before the House does not prevail.

Mr. WORTHEN of Corinth: Mr. Speaker, I second the motion of the gentleman from Brewer, Mr. Sargent.

Mr. PERHAM: Mr. Speaker, I would like to state that, after reconsideration, if the House decides to reconsider, I will offer an amendment which will limit us simply to taking up the matter of cutting salaries. The bill will then be introduced to go before the Salaries and Fees committee, or such committee as may be directed, to decide on what the final bill is that comes back into the House. I move that the vote be taken by the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Paris, Mr. Perham, moves that when the vote is taken, it be taken by the yeas and nays. All those in favor of that motion will rise and remain standing until counted and the monitors have returned the count.

A sufficient number rising the roll call was ordered.

Mr. CARLETON of Portland: Mr. Speaker, will you state the question again?

The SPEAKER: The question is on the motion of the gentleman from Brewer, Mr. Sargent, that the House reconsider its action earlier in the session whereby the order presented by the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Burkett, the Senate concurring, that all bills and resolves introduced at this session except the four enumerated be referred to the Eighty-sixth Legislature; and the vote will be by the yeas and nays.

Mr. CARLETON: Mr. Speaker, at the present time I understand that there is before the House several bills at this special session. I move that those bills be sent to

the appropriations committee that we may know what we are paying. I do not say that it is so, but I understand that we have bills already presented of some two hundred dollars for some of our officials for serving here for a day, and I would like to see that bill.

The SPEAKER: The Chair will inform the gentleman from Portland that no such bills have been introduced in the House and they are not in the possession of the House.

Mr. BURKETT of Portland: Mr. Speaker, if I understand the parliamentary situation correctly, no action has been taken on this order approving or disapproving or concurring with the action of the Senate. I move to indefinitely postpone this order. As a matter of parliamentary inquiry, is a motion to recede and concur with the Senate in order?

The SPEAKER: As the Chair understands the parliamentary situation that is not necessary. Automatically the bill is in possession of the House. However, the Chair is subject to appeal from that ruling.

Mr. BURKETT: Mr. Speaker, I understand that the order went to the Senate and the Senate indefinitely postponed it. I am not clear in my own mind, but I had it in mind that possibly we could save further delay if we should dispose of the order by concurring with the Senate and clear the deck for such action as we might possibly wish to take. As I recall it, we have taken no action on the order since it came back here in this House.

The SPEAKER: There may be a technical question there, and to be on the safe side the Chair will entertain a motion to recede and concur.

Mr. BURKETT: I move, Mr. Speaker, that the House recede and concur with the Senate in the indefinite postponement of this order.

Mr. PERHAM of Paris: Mr. Speaker, I understood that the order was in possession of the House and we have come clear up to the yeas and nay vote, which is of short duration, and would be another vote placing this House as standing for a platform of economy. I certainly would prefer the yeas and nay. We have had it once, one hundred and twenty-three to seven, and I cannot see why we are going

to cause ourselves any great inconvenience by calling for the yeas and nays vote. Of course, if the motion to recede and concur comes ahead, why we can take it. If it does not, I should like to see this House again go on record in favor of economy.

Mr. ALLEN of Sanford: Mr. Speaker, I would like to inquire if the Clerk is waiting to call the roll? Will the Chair please explain the motion?

The SPEAKER: The motion before the House is of the gentleman from Brewer, Mr. Sargent, that the House reconsider its action. The yeas and nays are ordered. A yeas vote means a reconsideration of the motion whereby the order was passed. A no vote means the defeat of the motion to reconsider. The Clerk will call the roll.

YEA—Adams, Additon, Allison, Bearce, Bennett, Berry, Biddle, Blanchard, Wilton; Blanchard, Phillips; Blodgett, Boody, Bowers, Brackett, Breen, Brewster, Burgess, Burkett, Portland; Burkett, Union; Burns, Burr, Bussey, Carleton, Carter, Church, Clarke, Clement, Cobb, Cooper, Cram, Crane, Davis, Day, Dow, Drisko, Duquette, Eastman, Eaton, Edwards, Farris, Fenlason, Ford, Friend, Gagnon, Gauvin, Gibson, Goudy, Graves, Gray, Hamel, Hatch, Hathaway, Hawkes, Hills, Holbrook, Hobbs, Hussey, Jack, Jackson, Jacobs, Kent, Lancaster, Leonard, Lewis, Littlefield, Luce, Mack, MacKinnon, MacPherson, Martin, McLoon, Merrill, Morey, Morin, Morse, Oliver, Owen, Palmer, Patterson, Peacock, Perham, Picher, Plummer, Potter, Richardson, Robie, Rogers, Greenville; Rounds, Sanborn, Sargent, Scates, Snow, Blue Hill; Smith, Vinalhaven; Smith, Bangor; Smith, Masardis; Smith, Waterboro; Soper, Sterling, Carantuk; Sterling, Kittery; Stern, Sturtevant, Sweet, Thomas, Harpswell; Thomas, Woodland; Thompson, Tompkins, Houlton; Towne, Varney, Viles, Wallingford, Ward, Webber, Weeks, White, Crystal, Whitney, Wilbur, Worthen—116.

NAY—Allen, Angell, Audibert, Authier, Bailey, Blaisdell, Briggs, Fernald, Lizotte, Lowell, Plouff, Pratt, Quint, Rogers, Yarmouth; Williams—15.

ABSENT—Ashby, Dekin, Goodrich, Hiscock, Jones, Merritt, Sawyer, Snow, Scarborough, Tompkins, Bridgewater; Webster, White, Dyer Brook; Wright.—12.

One hundred and sixteen having voted in the affirmative and 15 in the negative, the motion to reconsider prevailed.

On motion by Mr. Burkett of Portland, a viva voce vote being taken, the order was indefinitely postponed in concurrence.

Mr. SCATES of Westbrook: Mr. Speaker, as I understand it we are now just where we were before we started any action at all. Is that correct?

The SPEAKER: The gentleman is correct.

Mr. SCATES: That being the case, I wish to introduce this bill which I read to you this morning. I have made an addition to it which I will read; in fact I will read the whole bill.

"Be it enacted that the salaries of all State officials and State employees receiving a salary in excess of fifteen hundred dollars per annum be reduced ten per cent and said reduction be credited to the general fund of the State."

I have made that addition because this afternoon I have been informed from reliable authority that the undetermined income of the State will be nearly \$750,000 less than was anticipated when we were here at the regular session, and that it is estimated that the undetermined income for next year will reach a million dollars. Of course this undetermined fund comes from probably the following sources and no one of course can estimate accurately what it will be. The loss is from the railroad tax, not so much as estimated, from the bank tax, not so much as estimated, from the inheritance tax, not so much as estimated, from the corporation tax, not so much as estimated, and from the insurance tax, not so much as estimated. Of course this undetermined income is a large factor in supplying the revenues of the State and so I simply have made that addition to my bill and would present this bill for the consideration of the House.

The SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House under suspension of the rules to receive the bill?

Permission was granted.

The SPEAKER: The Chair would ask the gentleman if he suggests reference to any committee.

Mr. SCATES: Mr. Speaker, I would like to have it considered, but I do not know whether it had better be referred to the committee on Salaries and Fees or to a committee of the whole. It is perfectly agreeable to me whether it be considered by a committee of the

whole or the committee on Salaries and Fees because then anyone who objected to it could come in and be heard. Any reference would be perfectly satisfactory to me and I would ask Mr. Burkett if he has any suggestions to make.

Mr. PERHAM of Paris: Mr. Speaker, I move that all bills relating to this matter be referred to the committee on Salaries and Fees.

Mr. JACK of Lisbon: Mr. Speaker and fellow members of what is left of the Eighty-fifth Legislature: (Laughter) We are spending more or less time jockeying here, not perhaps for the purpose of conducting this business as we in more sober moments would have wanted it to be done if we had any expectancy of doing it in a business like way. Now I do not assume that Brother Scates is taking much interest in this thing beyond the mere presentation of the bill. Apparently it is immaterial to him whether it is assigned to any committee or not. It will have had its effect. Now I have been wondering when these various committees were going to function, if they ever start to function, and when are they going to hold their hearings. If we were to wait here at two dollars a day for that committee to report, if they function as they should function, we would be hanging around here some time.

Now what is the proposition? We are asked to cut the wages of the employees of the State of Maine. Well, as an attorney I should not want to vote favorably on that without some evidence or some facts placed before me. Now there has been nothing of the kind presented here. It is just simply an accusation without any evidence to back it up. Now it is not unreasonable to suppose that we should have varied opinions here because we are quite numerous in number, but I assume that whatever we do we want to act intelligently and can we without the facts presented to us? They have not been yet. Now I assume that if any member of this organization were asked how many of the officials of the State of Maine came under what we call Constitutional officers, there would not be a man here who could answer that question. Then the question might be if we put this through to whom does it apply, or, in other words, who does it affect. I do not know, I am frank to say.

Now a large percentage of the officials of Maine come under the so-called Code, and as such their wages are being lifted or lowered by the officials in charge, and I have it for a positive fact that a percentage of the State employees have already been cut. Well, should this action go through it would mean two cuts. I assume that we want to be fair with the State of Maine and that we want to be fair with the officials of the State of Maine. I have nothing against them because they happen to be working for the State of Maine. I do not say that I would not be in favor of cutting some of the salaries of the officials of the State of Maine, but before I could get into such a frame of mind, gentlemen and ladies, I am going to have some concrete evidence that they are either overpaid or underpaid, and if they are underpaid I would say raise their pay. I employ some labor and I do not ask them to work for less than a living wage and I do not believe that you representatives intend to ask anybody to work for less than a living wage. A few headlines in our newspapers that the Legislature is for a general cutting of salaries in Maine might mean a few votes, but that is not the proposition. We are not here to elect Representatives or Senators. We are here to play fair with the State of Maine and its employees, and I say this, that until we have some evidence concerning the wages in these various departments, until we have some reason to believe that those in charge of the Code are not handling the wage situation as it should be handled—and it is on their backs and not ours—I do not think this is the proper time or place to take it up with no evidence for or against. We can fool around here today and tomorrow but we certainly have not time to get at this proposition this session. It is only a short time before we will be in session again or somebody else will (Laughter) and when that time comes I hope before any drastic action of this kind is taken that they will act on evidence and decide it as it should be decided. It cannot be decided in any other way. (Applause)

Mr. PLUMMER of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I am probably in favor of economy. I have been rather pleased listening to my brother on

the other side of the House. He made a statement that he did not know to whom this applied. Now I am not a lawyer and am just an ordinary business man, but I do think I can understand a clear statement; so I am going to just show you to whom it does not apply because it is right here in the acts and resolves. I am going to read a few statements here and if that does not mean what it says that's all right and somebody can explain it. I refer to Chapter 216, an act relating to the administration of the State. That clearly says: "1, Department of Finance. 2, Department of Health and Welfare. 3, Department of Sea and Shore Fisheries. 4, Department of Education." Now that is a clear statement as to what that Code bill included. There is no doubt about that. Now if we will follow down here and read the section, and it won't take me a great while for I will only read a little of it: "The heads of departments may employ such bureau chiefs, deputies, assistants and employees as may be necessary, with the approval of the Governor and Council. Sec. 4. Salaries. The heads of the departments and bureau chiefs established by this act shall receive such compensation as shall be fixed by the Governor and Council."

Now there is one thing sure. If you go ahead and pass this new bill the first thing you have got to do is to repeal a part of the Code bill after all the fight that we had to put it over. Now at this special session are you going to repeal a part of this Code bill in order to pass the bill which some of you gentlemen are trying to put through here? (Applause)

Mr. BURKETT of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I am rather forced to get up and make a motion at the suggestion of the gentleman from Westbrook, Mr. Scates, I put in an order here this morning, a routine order, in perfect good faith, such as has gone into every special session of the Legislature. That is, to expedite matters so that we might get through our work today and go home. I have seen it battled around and finally I got up and killed it myself. Mr. Jack has expressed my feelings on this matter a great deal more eloquently and more loudly than I could do it. (Laughter) I am in favor of economy and I be-

lieve there should be an adjustment of salaries and wages in this State. I went down to the Treasurer's office this morning and tried to get some figures in order to find out what a ten per cent reduction in wages would save the State and how it would affect the taxpayer. I could not get any figures and they said it would take a month to get them together. A reduction in salaries such as this bill proposes would affect every bureau chief in the State and also, as Mr. Plummer has said, affect a large army of people all over the State,—every judge, every sheriff, the judge of every municipal court, every county attorney and his assistants, teachers of every normal school in the State and teachers in the University of Maine,—in fact everybody who works for the State of Maine. I know there are people in the State who are getting more money than they should, but I honestly believe that a number are getting less than they should receive. I am not in favor of slicing ten per cent off the salaries of these people without giving them a chance to come in here and having a hearing so that we may understand the situation correctly. I do not believe we would save enough by that ten per cent reduction in salaries to justify us in doing this thing here now. I think when we do it we had better do it in an orderly, fair and impartial way. The motion I am going to make now, at the suggestion of Mr. Scates, is one he will not like, and that is that all these bills be referred to the Eighty-sixth Legislature.

The SPEAKER: There is a prior motion before the House that all bills pertaining to this matter be referred to the committee on Salaries and Fees.

Mr. PLUMMER of Portland: Mr. Speaker, may I ask a question?

The SPEAKER: The gentleman may.

Mr. PLUMMER: As I understand it there are no committees now in force. When the Legislature adjourned before all the committees had reported finally and this is a new session.

The SPEAKER: The Chair will inform the member from Portland that its understanding of the matter is that all officials and committees of the Legislature, duly appointed or elected, hold office dur-

such as the House may join, to ing the two years, or biennial period, until the convening of its successor. Consequently, all committees hold throughout the year during which there is no regular session, ready to respond without new organization to any emergency call. Those committees are still officially in existence. Is the House ready for the question? All those in favor of the motion that all bills pertaining to the subject matter under discussion be referred to the committee on Salaries and Fees will say aye; those opposed no.

A viva voce vote being taken, the motion to refer to the committee on Salaries and Fees was lost.

Mr. BURKETT: Mr. Speaker, I now move that this bill and all similar bills that may be introduced having to do with the salaries and wages of State employees be referred to the Eighty-sixth Legislature.

The SPEAKER: Is the House ready for the question?

Mr. LEONARD of Hampden: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature: After listening to the arguments here presented by the gentleman who has last spoken, I wish to say that I think they are correct. I second the motion of the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Burkett. (Applause)

A viva voce vote being taken, the motion to refer these matters to the Eighty-sixth Legislature prevailed.

Mr. PERHAM of Paris: Mr. Speaker, I would like to present a bill to reduce the pay of State employees and move that it be referred to the Eighty-sixth Legislature.

The SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House to receive a bill out of order?

A viva voce vote was doubted.

Mr. BURKETT of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I think perhaps the members do not understand the question.

The SPEAKER: The question is on the motion of the gentleman from Paris, Mr. Perham, that the bill which he presents relating to the matter of salaries be received. He added the words which are unnecessary in the light of the previous vote that it be referred to the Eighty-sixth Legislature. All those in favor of the motion will rise and remain standing until counted and

the monitors have returned the count.

A division being had, One hundred and three voting in the affirmative, the motion prevailed.

Mr. Smith of Vinalhaven presented the following order, out of order and moved its passage:

Ordered, the Senate concurring, that this Legislature instruct the Highway Department to restore the wages of the State highway employees from the cut of \$2.88 per day to \$3.00 until the Eighty-sixth Legislature can act on same. (Applause)

A viva voce vote being taken, on motion by Mr. Burkett of Portland, the order was temporarily tabled.

Papers from the Senate, out of order.

The following order:

Whereas the members attending this special session of the Legislature realize that it is imperative that some action be taken towards reducing the cost of government and bringing salaries and wages more closely in line with existing economic conditions and

Whereas no such steps should be taken until after due consideration and with full knowledge of the facts involved which are not available and cannot be obtained within a reasonable time, be it therefore

ORDERED, the House concurring, that a Recess Committee shall be and hereby is created to be composed of five members, two on the part of the Senate, to be appointed by the President, and three on the part of the House, to be appointed by the Speaker, to study and consider the problem of possible salary and wage reductions for state officials and employees and to make such recommendations as they may deem proper and expedient to the Eighty-sixth Legislature;

Senate Amendment "A" to above Order as follows:

Amend said Joint Order by striking out everything after the word "concurring" and substituting in the place thereof the following: "That a special committee shall be and hereby is created, to be composed of two members on the part of the Senate, to be appointed by the President of the Senate, with

study and consider prior to the twenty-fourth day of May, 1932, the system of salary and wage regulation, now provided by law, and report to this Legislature on said twenty-fourth of May, 1932 such changes in the system of salary and wage regulation as may seem advisable, it being the sense of this Legislature that reductions in salaries and wages of State Officials and Employees is desirable and should be put into effect at the earliest possible date consistent with efficient and orderly procedure;

Comes from the Senate the Order and Amendment indefinitely postponed.

In the House:

Mr. BIDDLE of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I rise to a point of personal privilege. Is it possible for us to vote on this measure or the previous measure that was tabled in view of the fact that we have decided to pass all these matters on to the next Legislature?

The SPEAKER: The Chair understands that this would not prevent us from expressing ourselves on this concurrent action.

Mr. PERHAM of Paris: Mr. Speaker, as long as we are not going to do anything today in regard to cutting salaries and all bills have been passed over to the Eighty-sixth Legislature, I move that this matter be referred to the Eighty-sixth Legislature so that there may be sufficient time to look into the matter.

The SPEAKER: Does the Chair understand the gentleman to make the motion to refer this matter to the Eighty-sixth Legislature in non-concurrence.

Mr. PERHAM: I do, Mr. Speaker, in non-concurrence with the Senate.

Mr. MORSE of Oakland: I move, you, Mr. Speaker, that the House concur with the Senate.

The SPEAKER: There is a motion to commit which has precedence over your motion to concur. All those in favor of the motion of the gentleman from Paris, Mr. Perham, to refer this order to the Eighty-sixth Legislature in non-concurrence with the Senate will say aye; and those opposed no.

A viva voce vote being taken, the motion to so refer was lost.

On motion by Mr. Morse of Oakland, a viva voce vote being taken, the House voted to concur with the Senate.

AFTER RECESS (6.55 p. m.)

Called to order by the Speaker.

Mr. CARLETON of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I now present out of order and under suspension of the rules an act to appropriate money for necessary governmental expenditures and resolve on payroll of the House and I may say that this session is costing about one thousand dollars less than the last special session. (Applause)

The act to appropriate money for necessary governmental expenditures had its three several readings, under suspension of the rules and was passed to be engrossed.

A resolve on the payroll of the House of Representatives then had its two several readings, under suspension of the rules, and was passed to be engrossed.

Sent up for concurrence.

Senate paper out of order.

Resolve on the payroll of the Senate.

Comes from the Senate, read twice under suspension of the rules, and was passed to be engrossed.

In the House, read twice under suspension of the rules and passed to be engrossed in concurrence.

From the Senate: Resolution addressed to Congress relating to the tax or importation of paper and pulp which was adopted in the House earlier in the day, comes from the Senate indefinitely postponed in non-concurrence.

In the House, that body voted to recede and concur with the Senate in the indefinite postponement of the resolution.

From the Senate: Memorial to the Congress of the United States urging that body to assist in excluding certain products from this country.

Comes from the Senate, read and adopted,

In the House, that body voted to concur in the adoption of the resolution.

**PASSED TO BE ENACTED
(Emergency Measure)**

An act relating to the gasoline tax.

The SPEAKER: This being an

emergency measure it is necessary that it have the affirmative vote 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 twenty-four voting in the affirmative and none in the negative, the bill was passed to be enacted.

(Emergency Measure)

An act to amend the law governing primary elections.

The SPEAKER: This being an emergency measure, it is necessary that it have the affirmative vote 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 twenty-four voting in the affirmative and none in the negative, the bill was passed to be enacted.

On motion by Mr. Burkett of Portland, it was voted to take from the table the order relating to wages paid by the State Highway Department, tabled by that gentleman earlier in the session.

Mr. BURKETT: I tabled this order simply for the purpose of finding out something about it and thought it best not to act upon it until some information could be obtained. I have asked a member of the Ways and Bridges committee to explain it, and I now yield to the gentleman from Limerick, Mr. Quint.

Mr. QUINT of Limerick: Mr. Speaker and members of the House: You all know that at the last session of our Legislature we set up a general highway fund. In that fund all money due the State for highway purposes was to go. Then we budgeted that fund. First, we made provision to take care of our fixed charges such as interest, State highway police, Secretary of State's office and our State Highway Commission. Then we made provision to take care of state aid for a fixed amount, \$2,700,000. Then a provision to take care of the special resolve fund, a fixed amount of \$150,000 for each year. We then made provision to take care of third-class highways and set up the

amount, \$700,000. In addition to that all funds remaining were to go into the general maintenance fund. At that time when we set up this fund we felt that the general maintenance fund should be increased from year to year to take care of the additional roads that we were building from year to year; but as with all other bills, it did not always work out as expected, and this year, instead of increasing, our maintenance fund is practically a million dollars below the estimate we made at that time; our gas tax is about \$250,000 below the estimate. Also, in addition to that, the last session of the legislature authorized the State Highway Commission to take over the maintenance of all state highway bridges, interstate and intrastate, except a few of the larger cities, also the amount for snow removal. This spring we are placed in the worst condition relative to our roads we have ever been in for maintenance. I think we are taking a serious chance in doing anything to affect that maintenance fund at the present time. I think we should let the next session of the Legislature take care of it.

Mr. SMITH of Vinalhaven: Mr. Speaker and members. I am aware of the impropriety of introducing matters at this special session that are foreign to what it is called for. I am also conscientious of the time, but, during the recess, I have been accused of introducing this order as a political measure or political expediency or in expediency, whatever you may like to call it. Now I have not introduced this for any such purpose but I introduced it because I believe that we should be consistent in our action. We have voted to leave the reduction of salaries to the next Legislature, the man who is making from fifteen hundred dollars up. Now to be consistent we should leave the pay of the working man who is making \$2.88 per day where it was. If he works nine months out of the year, which he probably will not do, he only makes seven hundred dollars. I believe that we should be consistent in this matter. I think this order should have a passage.

There is one thing I would like to add. In my town for instance we raise \$3,000 to pay the men, in addition to that we have to raise \$1,500, to make up the difference in wage which our town pays more than the State pays. We pay \$4.00 a day

which I consider a fair wage under present conditions. I hope you will vote to pass this order and I leave it to you.

Mr. BREWSTER of Ogunquit: Mr. Speaker, I did not intend to say anything at this special session, but I feel that I should take the side of the working man. I do not see any reason why the State of Maine should begin with the man with the pick and shovel and lower his wage the measley sum of twelve cents which would be equal to about three-quarters of a pound of crackers. I do not presume that they looked into the situation of the mouths these men have to feed when this reduction was voted. I have been employing about fifty-two men also I have had about twelve to fourteen trucks working. We created the work for them. We thought it better to create work for them so that they could sustain their self respect rather than to cut wages and throw them on the town as paupers. That is the position we took. I do not think you should cut them down to that measley sum of \$2.88. Neither do I think that the farmer whom you have driven down to selling eggs for fifteen cents and milk for three cents should be asked to work for \$5.75 and furnish his team. There is no man who can operate a truck upon the highway for nine dollars and make a cent or pay his expenses. I think if there is anything to be done by us to maintain that wage of three dollars, it should be done. If we had been up to a high wage during the war, the same as other States, five or six dollars, that would be different; but the State of Maine lets these contracts to the outsiders and the outsiders come in and pay their men five dollars and our men can not even get a job at fifty cents on the highway. That has happened right in our own town. They do the work for a certain price or they do not work; yet they pay their men five dollars per day. (Applause)

The SPEAKER: Are you ready for the question? The question is upon the passage of the order.

Mr. DUQUETTE of Biddeford: Mr. Speaker, I move that the vote be taken by the yeas and nays.

An insufficient number having arisen, the motion for the yeas and nays was lost.

A viva voce vote being doubted,

A division of the House was had,

Sixty-seven voting in the affirmative and 29 in the negative, the order received passage and was sent up for concurrence.

PASSED TO BE ENACTED

An act to appropriate money for necessary governmental expenditures.

FINALLY PASSED

Resolve on the payroll of the Senate.

Resolve on the payroll of the House of Representatives.

AFTER RECESS (7.40 p. m.)

Called to order by the Speaker.

Paper from the Senate out of order.

Order relating to pay of employees of the Highway Department which was passed in the House,

Comes from the Senate indefinitely postponed in non-concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Lowell of Lincoln, the House voted to recede and concur with the Senate.

A message was received from the Senate, transmitted through Senator Jackson of Cumberland, informing the House that the Senate had transacted all business before it and is ready to adjourn without day.

On motion by Mr. Jack of Lisbon, that gentleman was appointed as a messenger to wait upon the Senate and inform that branch that the House has transacted all business before it and stands ready to adjourn without day.

Subsequently Mr. Jack reported as follows:

Mr. SPEAKER: Your committee has performed the duty with which it was charged and now requests that it be discharged.

The SPEAKER: The committee has the thanks of the House.

From the Senate: Ordered, the House concurring, that a committee of three on the part of the Senate, with such as the House may join, be appointed to wait upon His Excellency, the Governor, and inform him that both branches of the Legislature have acted on all matters before them and are ready to receive any further communication he may be pleased to make.

Comes from the Senate read and

passed, with the following Senators appointed on its part: Senators Holman of Franklin, McLean of Hancock and Story of Aroostook.

The order received passage in concurrence.

Mr. BLAISDELL of Franklin: Mr. Speaker, I move you that a committee of seven be appointed to wait upon His Excellency, the Governor, and inform him that the business of the House of Representatives has been completed and that we stand ready to adjourn.

A viva voce vote being taken, the motion prevailed and the Chair appointed Representatives Blaisdell of Franklin, Miss Martin of Bangor, Lowell of Lincoln, Leonard of Hampden, McLoon of Rockland, Oliver of Bath and Mrs. Carter of Fairfield.

Subsequently Mr. Blaisdell for the Committee reported that the committee had performed the duty with which it was charged.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Augusta, April 1st, 1932.

To the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House:

I herewith transmit a list of the acts and resolves passed by the present special session of the Legislature. I have approved three acts and two resolves.

I have no further communication to make.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed)

WM. TUDOR GARDINER.

The communication was received and ordered placed on file.

The SPEAKER: There remains the one closing act of this session, and the Speaker feels great pleasure in paying the compliment to the oldest member of the House, a man who has proven his worth and value as a public servant, both by his friendship, lovable qualities and personality.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Plummer.

On motion by Mr. Plummer of Portland,

The House adjourned without day. (Applause)