

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

OF THE  
STATE OF MAINE

1931

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## SENATE

Friday, February 13, 1931.

Senate called to order by the President.

Prayer by Rev. W. S. Eaton of Augusta.

Journal of yesterday read and approved.

On motion by Mr. Spear of Cumberland out of order and under suspension of the rules, it was

Ordered, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they adjourn to meet Tuesday, February 17, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

Sent down for concurrence.

Subsequently the foregoing order came back from the House, read and passed in concurrence.

From the House, the following order,

Ordered, the House concurring that a joint committee be appointed, three on the part of the Senate to be appointed by the President thereof, and seven on the part of the House, to be appointed by the Speaker thereof, with power to investigate the methods now employed in the state assessors' department in apportioning and equalizing the state taxes, and to study and report on the statutes and laws of the state appertaining to the above. (L. D. 107)

(In the Senate February 3, Senate Amendment "A" (L. D. 274) adopted and the order, as amended by Senate Amendment "A", was passed).

In the House, Order (L. D. 107) and Senate Amendment "A" (L. D. 274), referred to the Committee on Taxation in non-concurrence.

In the Senate:

Mr. SPEAR of Cumberland: Mr. President, this order as amended with reasons and facts did not even get the courtesy of a full reading in the House. I hope that anybody won't be blamed if members of the Legislature eventually discover that they have been out-generalled by the House Amendment. It is alleged that one of the assessors admits that their chairman has been ill for two years. The same

assessor, it is alleged, told a Grange group the other evening that Senator Spear was practically a liar. In order to look into this thing a little, Mr. President, I move that this order lie upon the table.

The motion to table prevailed.

From the House:

House Amendment "A" to Joint Order creating Administrative Code Committee.

Amend said order by adding thereto the following:

"Be it further ordered that six additional members be appointed by the Speaker and that the six additional members shall be so apportioned that each county in the state shall have one member from the House on said committee."

In the House, read and adopted.

In the Senate, on motion by Mr. Wheeler of Oxford, the Senate voted to reconsider its action of January 21st, whereby this order received a passage; and on further motion by the same Senator, House Amendment "A" was adopted in concurrence.

Thereupon, on motion by Mr. Littlefield of York, the order as amended by House Amendment "A" was laid upon the table.

Papers from the House disposed of in concurrence.

From the House:

Resolve in favor of the town of East Machias. (H. P. 1028)

In the House, received out of order and under suspension of the rules and by unanimous consent and referred to the Committee on Ways and Bridges.

In the Senate, on motion by Mr. Weeks of Somerset, tabled pending reference in concurrence.

From the House:

An act with respect to the trial terms of the Superior Court within and for the counties of Androscoggin and Franklin. (H. P. 964, L. D. 455)

In the House, referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

In the Senate, on motion by Mr. Holman of Franklin, tabled pending reference in concurrence.

From the House:

An act relating to dealers' registration plates. (H. P. 965, L. D. 456)

In the House, referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs.

In the Senate, referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs in concurrence. Thereupon on motion by Mr. Littlefield of York, the Senate voted to reconsider its action just taken and on further motion by the same Senator the bill was tabled pending reference in concurrence.

From the House:

An act to amend fees of the deputy sheriffs attending court. (H. P. 992, L. D. 435)

In the House, referred to the Committee on Salaries and Fees.

In the Senate, on motion by Mr. Littlefield of York, tabled pending reference in concurrence.

From the House:

Resolve proposing an amendment to the constitution relative to the authority of the legislature to impose a tax on incomes. (H. P. 998) (L. D. 440)

In the House, referred to the Committee on Taxation.

In the Senate, on motion by Mr. Spear of Cumberland, tabled pending reference in concurrence.

#### House Bills in First Reading

Resolve in favor of Evie Morelen Studley for Teacher's pension. (H. P. 531)

An act relating to deductions from State School fund. (H. P. 13, L. D. 31)

An act relating to school attendance. (H. P. 19, L. D. 32)

An act relating to the burning of brush, slash or blueberry land. (H. P. 669)

Resolve authorizing the Forest Commissioner to sell lands in St. Francis Plantation, Aroostook County. (H. P. 230)

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

#### Inland Fisheries and Game

Mr. Towle of Kennebec: An act limiting catch of black bass in

Great and Long Ponds. (S. P. 434)

Mr. Boulter of York: An act relating to certain pollution of certain inland waters. (S. P. 435)

Five hundred copies of each ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

#### Judiciary

Mr. Jackson of Cumberland: An act relating to registration and taxation of motor vehicles. (S. P. 436)

Mr. Aldrich of Sagadahoc: An act relating to the investment of municipal trust funds. (S. P. 437)

The same Senator: An act with reference to disclosure petitions. (S. P. 438)

Mr. Littlefield of York: An act to make certain the legal boundaries of the town of Old Orchard. (S. P. 439)

Five hundred copies of each ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

#### Legal Affairs

Mr. Weymouth of Penobscot: An act relating to disposition of inheritance taxes. (S. P. 440)

Five hundred copies ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

#### Public Utilities

Mr. Aldrich of Sagadahoc: An act relating to procedure before Public Utilities Commission. (S. P. 441)

Five hundred copies ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

#### Order

On motion by Mr. Spear of Cumberland, it was

Ordered, the House concurring, that an invitation be extended to the Honorable Ashton Dovell, floor leader of the House of Delegates of Virginia, and Chairman of the Virginia Sesquicentennial Exposition, to address at some date convenient to him, both houses of the Legislature in joint convention concerning the proposed Yorktown Sesquicentennial celebration to be held at Yorktown, October 16-19, 1931.

Sent down for concurrence.

#### Bills in First Reading

An act to incorporate the Federal Employes Credit Union of Maine. (S. P. 165, L. D. 477)

### Committee Reports

Mr. Aldrich from the Committee on Judiciary on bill an act relating to foreclosure of mortgages of real estate (S. P. 70, L. D. 47) reported that the same ought not to pass.

Mr. Weeks from the same Committee on bill an act permitting Joseph D. Meehan to take the bar examination. (H. P. 143); reported that the same ought not to pass.

Mr. Aldrich from the same Committee on bill an act to legalize and make valid marriages solemnized in the state by Justices of the Peace and Notaries Public residing in the state after chapter 82 of the Public Laws of 1929 became effective (S. P. 200, L. D. 151); reported that the same ought not to pass.

Mr. Weeks from the same committee on bill an act relating to the annual payments to the Somerset Law Library (S. P. 88); reported that the same ought not to pass.

Which reports were read and accepted.

Sent down for concurrence.

Mr. Aldrich from the same Committee on bill an act authorizing the County Commissioners of Lincoln County to transfer certain real estate. (S. P. 194); reported that the same ought to pass.

The same Senator from the same Committee on bill an act relating to the removal of unworthy attorneys. (S. P. 197); reported that the same ought to pass.

Mr. Weeks from the same Committee on bill an act relating to the April term of the Superior Court for Penobscot County. (S. P. 196); reported that the same ought to pass.

The same Senator from the same Committee on bill an act to extend the charter granted to the Sandy River Railroad Company. (S. P. 198); reported that the same ought to pass.

Mr. Crosby from the Committee on Legal Affairs on bill an act changing the charter of the Fort Kent Water Company. (S. P. 201); reported that the same ought to pass.

The same Senator from the same Committee on bill an act increasing the capital stock of the Frontier Water Company (S. P. 202); reported that the same ought to pass.

The same Senator from the same Committee on bill an act relating to the Seal Cove Water Company (S. P. 203); reported that the same ought to pass.

Which reports were severally read and accepted, and the bills laid upon the table for printing under the joint rules.

### Passed to be Engrossed

An act to extend the charter of the Patten Water and Power Company. (H. P. 223, L. D. 393)

An act to extend the charter of the Blue Hill Water Company. (H. P. 224, L. D. 392)

An act to authorize the Treasurer of State under the direction of the Governor and Council to issue bonds for State Highway construction and reconstruction for the calendar year 1931. (S. P. 254, L. D. 269)

An act relating to definition of the term "Securities" in the Blue Sky law. (S. P. 44, L. D. 25)

Sent down for concurrence.

### Orders of the Day

Mr. LITTLEFIELD of York: Mr. President, perhaps I was a little quick in laying on the table this morning the joint order creating an administrative code committee. I did not just understand what it was at the time but I have heard so much about these orders in the last week, and about bills, that I thought possibly it might be something that we did not want to do—that is, I mean for myself, at least. I did not think, of course, that the Senator from Oxford, Senator Wheeler, was trying to put something over but I did think that perhaps somebody else was. However, I understand now that such is not the case and I now move that this order be taken from the table.

Thereupon the order was taken from the table.

Mr. GREENLEAF of Androscoggin, Mr. President, in the absence of the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Weatherbee, who is to be the Chairman of this committee, as I understand, I would prefer that this matter lie upon the table for the present and will so move.

Mr. LITTLEFIELD: Mr. President, possibly this matter may be

something about which the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Greenleaf, is not informed, but I understood that this order was being put through on account of the absence of the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Weatherbee, and that he wished it to be done.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair will state that the matter, of course, is not debatable and would suggest that perhaps the Senator from York, Senator Littlefield, might wish to confer with the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Greenleaf. In the meantime, is it the pleasure of the Senate that this matter lie upon the table?

The motion to retable prevailed.

On motion by Mr. Southard of Kennebec, the Senate voted to take from the table, Resolve relative to Legislative Research Bureau, tabled by that Senator on February 5th pending adoption; and on further motion by the same Senator the resolve was indefinitely postponed.

On motion by Mr. Leland of Piscataquis, that Senator was given unanimous consent to introduce, out of order and under suspension of the rules, "Resolve to reimburse the town of Dover-Foxcroft for support of the family of Harry E. Thompkins, a veteran of the World War;" and on further motion by the same Senator the resolve was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Thereupon, on motion by Mr. Southard of Kennebec, the Senate voted to reconsider its action just taken whereby this resolve was referred to the Committee on Claims; and on further motion by the same Senator the resolve was laid upon the table.

On motion by Mr. Holman of Franklin, the Senate voted to take from the table, An act with respect to the trial terms of the Superior Court within and for the counties of Androscoggin and Franklin (H. P. 964, L. D. 455), tabled by that Senator earlier in today's session; and on further motion by the same Senator the bill was referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs in non-concurrence.

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Wheeler of Oxford, the Senate voted to take from the table, An act to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act (S. P. 416 L. D. 512), tabled by that Senator on February 12, pending reference; and on further motion by the same Senator the bill was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Crosby of Penobscot, the Senate voted to take from the table, Senate Report from the Committee on Claims, "Ought Not to Pass" on S. P. 5, Resolve in favor of the town of Exeter, for compensation for disbursements, tabled by that Senator on February 12th, pending acceptance of report; and on further motion by the same Senator the report was accepted.

Sent down for concurrence.

The PRESIDENT: The Senate will take a short recess.

#### AFTER RECESS

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Mr. GREENLEAF of Androscoggin: Mr. President, during the recess I have been in touch with the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Weatherbee, and I will say that I have been directed by him to take from the table the joint order creating an administrative code committee, tabled by me earlier in today's session, and I so move.

The motion prevailed; and on further motion by the same Senator the order, as amended by House Amendment "A", received a passage in concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Southard of Kennebec, the Senate voted to take from the table, Resolve to reimburse the town of Dover-Foxcroft for support of the family of Harry E. Thompkins, a veteran of the World War, tabled by that Senator earlier in today's session; and on further motion by the same Senator the resolve was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Weeks of Somerset, the Senate voted to reconsider its former action of this morning whereby Resolve providing for a state pension for Madison Howard of Palmyra (H. P. 1027) was referred to the Committee on Pensions in concurrence; and on further motion by the same Senator the resolve was laid upon the table pending reference.

On motion by Mr. Littlefield of York, the Senate voted to take from the table, An act relating to non-resident's registration of motor vehicles (S. P. 358 L. D. 375), tabled by that Senator on February 6th pending reference; and on further motion by the same Senator the

bill was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Littlefield of York, the Senate voted to take from the table, An act to amend fees of the deputy sheriffs attending court (H. P. 992, L. D. 435) tabled by that Senator earlier in today's session pending reference in concurrence; and on further motion by the same Senator the bill was referred to the Committee on Salaries and Fees in concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Leland of Piscataquis,

Adjourned until next Tuesday afternoon at four o'clock.