

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Record

OF THE

Eighty-Sixth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1933

KENNEBEC JOURNAL COMPANY  
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**ERRATA:**

**The following errata are  
inserted because one or more pages  
in this session day have errors  
noticed and corrected here.**

## ERRATA

- Page 73—An act to empower the County Commissioners of Hancock County to construct a highway and raise money for the same (S. P. 35, L. D. 11)—Should be (S. P. 35, L. D. 9)
- Page 75—Ordered, that there be printed one thousand additional copies each of L. D. No. 28, H. P. No. 39, and L. D. No. 10, H. P. No. 37—should be L. D. 10, S. P. No. 37.
- Page 105—Resolve in favor of the town of Prescott. (H. P. No. 282)—Should be town of Trescott.
- Page 106—Second resolve in favor of the town of Dixmont (H. P. 401)
- Page 114—Resolve to reimburse the town of Solon for support of Mrs. Ernest Cousins having no known settlement in the state.—Should be Salem.
- Page 120—Resolve to reimburse Hamlin Plantation for support and burial expenses of Ephrem Picard, a State Pauper (H. P. No. 895)—Should be (H. P. No. 805)
- Page 128—Resolve in favor of the town of Atkinson (H. P. No. 876)—Should be (H. P. No. 976)
- Page 129—Second resolve in favor of the town of Cornish to be deleted.
- Page 152—Resolve in favor of E. G. Hodgkins of Carmel, H. P. 364, L. D. 197—should be H. P. 364, L. D. 203.
- Page 152—An act relating to health certificates for teachers and janitors S. P. 207, L. D. 295—Should be S. P. 207, L. D. 395.
- Page 153—An act relating to inland fish and game wardens; powers, duties and service of processes, S. P. 193, L. D. 597—Should be S. P. 193, L. D. 397.
- Page 163—Bill "An Act relating to Stamping of Registered Boilers" (H. P. No. 1132)—Should be (H. P. No. 1131)
- Page 163—Bill "An Act relating to Towns and Town Officers" (H. P. No. 1136)—Should be (H. P. No. 1135)
- Page 184—"An act relating to motor vehicles carrying passengers for hire over regular routes" (S. P. 92, L. D. 105)—Should be (S. P. 92, L. D. 104)
- Page 193—An act relating to motor vehicle lights S. P. 217, L. D. 598—Should be S. P. 217, L. D. 398.
- Page 202—(Presented by Mr. Stevens of Pownal)—Should be Mr. Stover.
- Page 246—An act relating to Board of Censors of Maine Pictures—should read Moving Pictures.
- Page 259—Resolve opening Jaquity Pond in Brownville, to ice fishing—Should be Jaquith Pond.
- Page 260—Ordered, that there be printed 500 more copies of H. P. 1082, L. D. 571—Should be H. P. 1083, L. D. 571.
- Page 267—Resolve in favor of John E. Parker of Windsor, for State pension (H. P. 90, L. D. 672)—Should be (H. P. 99, L. D. 672)
- Page 273—Resolve opening Jacquith Pond, in Brownville, to ice fishing—Should be Jaquith Pond.
- Page 315—(H. P. No. 552) (L. D. No. 231) Resolve relating to rabbit hunting in Vinalhaven—Should be (H. P. No. 552) (L. D. No. 221)
- Page 321—An Act relating to partition of real estate (S. P. 327, L. D. 833)—Should be (S. P. 327, L. D. 533)
- Page 341—An Act permitting Dennis Plourde to Dump Sawdust in Wallagrass Stream—Should be Dennis Fluorde.
- Page 343—(H. P. No. 39) (L. D. No. 776)—Should be (H. P. No. 739 (L. D. No. 776)
- Page 343—(H. P. No. 1476) (L. D. No. 778)—Should be (H. P. No. 1486) (L. D. No. 778)
- Page 358—An act to grant a new charter to the city of Rockland, S. P. 486, L. D. 788—Should be S. P. 486, L. D. 798.
- Page 383—An act to amend the banking laws by amending Sec. 91, of Chap. 57 of the Revised Statutes—Should be marked S. P. 548, L. D. 805.
- Page 417—An Act to provide for School Expenses in Towns having a Valuation of Less than \$200,000.00—Should be marked (H. P. 588, L. D. 235)
- Page 437—"An Act to amend Sections 48 to 54 of Chapter 28 of the Revised Statutes" (S. P. 353)—Should read Sections 48 to 51.
- Page 440—Resolve in favor of Henry McCroty of Farmingdale (H. P. 1502, L. D. 810)—Should be Henry McGroty.
- Page 442—Resolve regulating ice fishing in Tacoma Lakes (H. P. 1465, L. D. 736)—Should be (H. P. 1465, L. D. 756)

**HOUSE**

Thursday, February 16, 1933.

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

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Robbins of Hallowell.

Journal of the previous session read and approved.

Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

**Senate Bill in First Reading**

S. P. 115, L. D. 610: An act relating to the incorporation of the Hebron Water Company.

From the Senate: Resolve proposing an amendment to the Constitution to provide for a Bond issue the proceeds to be disbursed for the relief of destitution, H. P. 1117, L. D. 626, which was referred to the committee on Judiciary in the House on February 8th.

Comes from the Senate, referred to the committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs in non-concurrence.

In the House:

Mr. FERNALD of Winterport: Mr. Speaker, I move that this resolve be tabled.

Mr. SCATES of Westbrook: Mr. Speaker, I accede to the wishes of the gentleman from Winterport (Mr. Fernald) although I was going to make a motion that the House recede and concur with the Senate.

The SPEAKER: The motion to table is not debatable. All those in favor of the motion of the gentleman from Winterport, Mr. Fernald, that this resolve lie on the table pending reference to a committee will say aye; contrary mind—ed no.

A viva voce vote being taken, the motion to table failed of passage.

On motion by Mr. Scates, the House voted to recede and concur with the Senate in the reference of this resolve to the committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs.

From the Senate: Bill an act relative to closed season on bear, H. P. 691, L. D. 375, which was referred to the committees on Inland Fisheries and Game and Agricul-

ture jointly in the House on February 9th in non-concurrence.

Comes from the Senate referred to the committee on Agriculture in non-concurrence.

In the House:

Mr. CROWELL of Weston: Mr. Speaker, I move that we recede and concur with the Senate in the reference of this bill to the committee on Agriculture.

Mr. STERLING of Caratunk: Mr. Speaker, I move that the bill lie on the table pending reference to a committee.

A viva voce vote being doubted on the motion to table,

A division of the House was had.

Thirty-one voted in the affirmative.

The SPEAKER: The Chair is no longer in doubt and the motion to table fails of passage. The pending question is on the motion of the gentleman from Weston, Mr. Crowell, that the House recede and concur with the Senate in the reference of this bill to the committee on Agriculture.

A viva voce vote being taken, the motion to recede and concur prevailed.

**Communication from the Governor**  
(Out of order and under suspension of the rules)**STATE OF MAINE****OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

Augusta

Governor and Mrs. Louis J. Brann, President and Mrs. Harold H. Murchie, Speaker and Mrs. Franz U. Burkett and the members of the Executive Council, announce a reception to the public in the executive offices at the State House on February twenty-second, from two to four o'clock in the afternoon.

Governor and Mrs. Louis J. Brann, President and Mrs. Harold H. Murchie, and Speaker and Mrs. Franz U. Burkett, request the honor of the presence of the members of the Eighty-sixth Legislature, the Executive Council and their families at a State of Maine concert to be held in the House of Representatives on February twenty-second, at eight o'clock in the evening.

Governor and Mrs. Louis J. Brann request the presence of the members of the Eighty-sixth Legislature, the Executive Council, and their families at an informal reception to

be held at the Blaine House immediately after the concert.

A most cordial invitation is extended.

February 15, 1933.

Communication was accepted and ordered placed on file.

From the Senate: Resolve to appropriate money for the purpose of preventing damage to domestic animals by bears, S. P. 261, L. D. 382, which was referred to the committees on Inland Fisheries and Game and Agriculture jointly in the House on February 9th, in non-concurrence,

Comes from the Senate referred to the committee on Agriculture in non-concurrence.

In the House:

Mr. CROWELL of Weston: Mr. Speaker, I move that we recede and concur with the Senate.

Mr. STERLING of Caratunk: Mr. Speaker, I move that this lie on the table. I presented this resolve—

The SPEAKER: The motion to table is not debatable. The gentleman from Caratunk, Mr. Sterling, moves that this resolve lie on the table pending reference to a committee in concurrence. All those in favor will say aye, contrary minded no.

A viva voce vote being taken, the motion to table failed of passage.

The SPEAKER: The pending question is on the motion of the gentleman from Weston, Mr. Crowell, that the House recede and concur with the Senate in the reference of this resolve to the committee on Agriculture.

A viva voce vote being taken, the motion to recede and concur prevailed

From the Senate: Bill an act relating to bounty on bears, H. P. 762, L. D. 376, which was referred to the committees on Inland Fisheries and Game and Agriculture jointly in the House on February 9th in non-concurrence.

Comes from the Senate referred to the committee on Agriculture in non-concurrence.

In the House, on motion by Mr. Crowell of Weston that body voted to recede and concur with the Senate in the reference of this bill to the committee on Agriculture.

From the Senate: Majority report "ought not to pass" and Minority report, "ought to pass" of the Committee on Judiciary on resolve proposing an amendment to the Constitution changing the date of the biennial election (H. P. 16, L. D. 4), on which the House accepted the minority report February 8th and passed the resolve to be engrossed.

Comes from the Senate the majority report accepted in non-concurrence.

In the House, on motion by Mr. Fernald of Winterport, that body voted to recede and concur with the Senate in the acceptance of the majority report, "ought not to pass."

The following remonstrances were received and upon recommendation of the committee on reference of bills were referred to the following committee:

#### Temperance

Remonstrance of Mrs. Ellen Perkins and 37 others of Oxford County against resubmission of the Prohibitory Amendment (H. P. 1382) (Presented by Mr. Knight of Waterford)

Remonstrance of Charles R. Sims and 9 others of Bath against same (H. P. No. 1383) (Presented by Mr. Oliver of Bath)

Remonstrance of F. L. Greeley and 32 others of Brownville Junction against same (H. P. No. 1384) (Presented by Mr. Ryder of Brownville)

Remonstrance of Alfred G. Hempstead and 40 others of Brownville Junction against same (H. P. No. 1385) (Presented by same gentleman)

Remonstrance of Jasper S. Lyette and 35 others of Caribou and Washburn against same (H. P. No. 1386) (Presented by Mr. Collins of Caribou)

Remonstrance of P. J. Clifford and 32 others of Vinalhaven against same (H. P. No. 1387) (Presented by Mr. Smith of Vinalhaven)

#### Orders

On motion by Mr. Rounds of Portland, it was

Ordered, that the use of the hall of the House be granted to the Maine Veterans' Legislators Association immediately after session and for the evening of Wednesday, March 8, 1933.

On motion by Mr. Piper of Bangor, it was

Ordered, that there be printed 1,000 additional copies of H. P. 1138, L. D. 563, an act relating to Board of Censors of Maine Pictures.

On motion by Mr. Blanchard of Wilton, it was

Ordered, that there be printed 500 copies of each of the following bills:

Bill an act relating to taxation of motor vehicles, S. P. 346.

Bill an act relating to dealers' registration fees for plates, etc. S. P. 347.

Bill an act relating to the payment of taxes must precede registration. S. P. 348.

And that there be printed 500 additional copies of bill an act to impose an excise tax on fuel oil, H. P. 1171, L. D. 615.

Mr. Bennett of Presque Isle presented the following order and moved its passage.

Ordered, the Senate concurring, that the committee on Legal Affairs be requested to return to the House bill an act relating to the Presque Isle town government, H. P. 640, L. D. 297.

The order received passage and was sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Burgess of Rumford presented the following order and moved its passage:

Ordered, the Senate concurring, that the committee on Legal Affairs be requested to return to the House, House paper 630, L. D. 171, an act relating to the tenure of office of the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department of the Rumford Village Corporation.

The order received passage and was sent up for concurrence.

#### Reports of Committees

Mr. Devereux from the Committee on Claims on resolve in favor of Bucksport and Prospect Ferry Company (H. P. No. 363) reported that same be referred to the 87th Legislature, by request of the attorney for the claimant.

Mr. Bartlett from the same committee reported ought not to pass on resolve in favor of A. H. Rogers of Hudson (H. P. No. 540)

Mr. Rounds from the same committee reported same on resolve in favor of Samuel Kertz of Southwest Harbor (H. P. No. 189)

Mr. Lindsey from same committee reported same on resolve in favor of John K. Forhan of Canton (H. P. No. 429)

Reports read and accepted and sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Hill from the Committee on Judiciary reported same on bill an act relating to licensing of persons maintaining Children's Homes (H. P. No. 617) (L. D. No. 243)

(Tabled by Mr. Hall of Bar Harbor pending acceptance of the report)

Mr. Eldridge from the Committee on Judiciary reported ought not to pass on bill an act relative to the transportation of firearms in automobiles (H. P. No. 844) (L. D. No. 341)

Mr. Fernald from same Committee reported same on bill an act relative to traverse jurors (H. P. No. 845) (L. D. No. 342)

Mr. Carswell from the Committee on Public Health reported same on resolve relating to burial of the dead (H. P. No. 650) (L. D. No. 192)

Mr. Mack from the Committee on Taxation reported same on bill an act relating to the regulation and control of outdoor advertising (H. P. No. 102) (L. D. No. 55)

Same gentleman from same Committee reported same on bill an act relating to the exemptions of estates from taxation (H. P. No. 666) (L. D. No. 198)

Reports read and accepted and sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Mack from the Committee on Taxation reported ought not to pass on bill an act to extend the Gasoline Tax Laws (H. P. No. 664) (L. D. 197)

(Tabled by Mr. Soper of Newport, pending acceptance of report)

Mr. Rounds from the Committee on Claims on resolve in favor of Henry Moor of Township No. 28 (H. P. No. 193) reported same in a new draft (H. P. No. 1388) under same title and that it ought to pass.

Mr. Devereux from same Committee on resolve in favor of Ernest C. Brown of Gorham (H. P. No. 537) reported same in a new draft (H. P. No. 1389) under same title and that it ought to pass.

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

Mr. Haggett from the Committee on Claims reported ought to pass on resolve in favor of the Somerset Farmer's Co-operative Telephone Company of Norridgewock (H. P. No. 440)

Mr. Wentworth from the Committee on Public Health reported same on resolve in favor of Charles

L. Lindsey (H. P. No. 76) together with petitions (H. P. No. 1145) and (H. P. No. 1146)

Reports read and accepted and the resolves ordered printed under Joint Rules.

Mr. Hill from the Committee on Judiciary reported ought to pass on bill an act relating to appeals in non-support cases (H. P. No. 884) (L. D. No. 353)

Same gentleman from same Committee reported same on bill an act relating to the South Portland Municipal Court (H. P. No. 843) (L. D. No. 420)

Mr. Goudy from same Committee reported same on bill an act relating to bail in municipal courts (H. P. No. 1008) (L. D. No. 352)

Mr. Viles from the Committee on Public Health reported same on bill an act relating to quarantine of indigent cases (H. P. No. 226) (L. D. No. 127)

Mr. Wentworth from same Committee reported same on bill an act authorizing cremation of bodies of the dead (H. P. No. 1064) (L. D. No. 492)

Reports read and accepted and the bills having already been printed were read twice under suspension of the rules and tomorrow assigned.

**First Reading of Printed Bills and Resolves**

(H. P. No. 1380) (L. D. No. 685) An act relating to the shipping and transporting of clams beyond the limit of the State during closed time.

(H. P. No. 1379) (L. D. No. 686) Resolve relating to the taking of smelts from certain waters of Penobscot Bay, Blue Hill Bay and Union River.

At this point a message was received from the Senate, transmitted through its Secretary, proposing a Joint Convention of both branches of the Legislature forthwith in the hall of the House for the purpose of extending an invitation to the Honorable Louis A. Johnson, National Commander of the American Legion, to attend the Convention and make such communication as pleases him.

The SPEAKER: The House hears the message.

On motion by Mr. Graves of Mt. Desert, the House voted to concur and the Clerk was charged with a message to the Senate to that effect.

Subsequently the Clerk reported that he had conveyed the message with which he was charged, and he was discharged with the thanks of the House.

Recess.  
The House was called to order at 10.50 a. m. and the Senate came in and a Joint Convention was formed.

**In Convention**

President Murchie in the Chair.  
On motion by Mr. Weeks of Somerset.

Ordered, that a committee be appointed to wait upon Louis A. Johnson, National Commander of the American Legion, and inform him that the two branches of the Legislature are in convention assembled in the Hall of the House of Representatives, and extend to him an invitation to attend the Convention and present such communication as he may be pleased to make; also,

Ordered, that the same Committee wait upon the Honorable Louis J. Brann, Governor, and extend to him an invitation to attend the Convention.

Which orders were read and passed.

The Chairman appointed as members of such a Committee: Messrs. Weeks of Somerset, Angell of York, Bartlett of Oxford of the Senate; Messrs. Graves of Mt. Desert, Morin of Brunswick, Eldridge of Eastport, Hill of South Portland, Dow of Livermore, Knight of Waterford, Michaud of Van Buren of the House.

Mr. Weeks for the Committee subsequently reported that the Committee had discharged the duties assigned it, and that Louis A. Johnson, National Commander of the American Legion, and the Honorable Louis J. Brann, Governor, would be pleased to attend the Convention forthwith.

Thereupon Governor Brann accompanied by National Commander Johnson entered the hall amid the applause of the Convention, the members rising.

President MURCHIE: Members of the Convention, it is again a pleasure to present to a Joint Convention of Maine, our Governor, the Honorable Louis J. Brann of Lewiston. (Applause, the convention rising)

Governor BRANN: Mr. President, Members of the Eighty-sixth Legislature, Ladies and Gentlemen: We have the very great privilege of en-



tertaining briefly a distinguished American, distinguished not only in his own splendid personality, but notable as the head of the greatest veteran organization which the world has ever known,—an organization to which we look confidently in these stressful times, and an organization that has the unqualified confidence of the people of America.

I am, of course, as most of us are, I assume, troubled about some problems that confront us at the present time; but I am in no way disturbed at the part that the American Legion and its splendid personnel is to play in the rehabilitation of America. In other words, I do not question the fidelity nor the patriotism of the American Legion, and I am not one of those who believe that the American Legion will ever make any demands upon government that are improper in any way.

I want the eminent Commander of the Legion upon his first visit to the State of Maine to understand something of the genuine hospitality of the forthright people of our State, a hospitality entirely in keeping with that of his own beloved State, West Virginia; and I want this morning to extend to him a very warm and cordial welcome to the State of Maine. Now, my friends, I have the very great privilege and honor of presenting to you the National Commander of the American Legion, the Honorable Louis A. Johnson of West Virginia. (Applause, the Convention rising.)

Commander JOHNSON: Governor Brann, Mr. President, Mr. Speaker and distinguished citizens of Maine: I am not unappreciative but indeed I am deeply grateful for the opportunity in this sovereign State of coming before this Joint Assembly. I am grateful, too, for the kind words your distinguished Governor has spoken. I am appreciative of the cordiality and the hospitality that has been shown me in this State since my arrival yesterday morning on my first trip to Maine. Indeed this State is very much like my own State and I feel very much at home. I love your mountains and rivers just as I love the like characteristics of old West Virginia.

I would that there were time this morning to try to tell you, since the Governor has sounded the keynote, just what this American Legion is

all about. The Governor has shown in his statement to you that he knows that this Legion, with its million men and its Auxiliary of a half million women, is doing its duty in these days by America. The American Legion has some twelve or fifteen major programs, not to mention the lesser programs, any one of which major programs alone would be sufficient for any other organization in America. Standing at the head of that list of programs comes the American Legion program on rehabilitation, and, Governor, in a few words that program is just this: That while for me as an able bodied man the war may have ended with the Armistice, for that man who comes back from "over there" broken in mind or body, the position of the American Legion is that nothing this country can do for him within reason is too good for it to do for him nor beyond what it is going to do for him.

In these trying days, second only to our work on rehabilitation, has come the American Legion work on Child Welfare. We are giving one-half of our endowment fund of some six million dollars to Child Welfare. We have a contribution, illustrative of the general contributions which we are receiving, of twenty-five thousand dollars from one source, and other most substantial contributions. We are reaching out into this Child Welfare, not only to the children of veterans—we recognize no distinction. The Legion reaches out to the veterans' children only as they may be one group of the children of the United States. May I tell you just how important that Child Welfare work has become in this crisis when we of the Legion are determined that regardless of what else may be overlooked, the children of America, the statesmen of tomorrow, shall not be overlooked today. The Chief Executive has said that the American Legion and its Auxiliary have come to be the leading child-caring organization of America. In these days, too, the American Legion is carrying on a program of Americanism that has many ramifications. Americanism program does not mean so much in a solid, substantial State of native born people, like Maine, as it means in States of different characteristics.

In this Americanism program I might for a moment talk about the

Boy Scout troop, some three thousand of them, sponsored by American Legion posts and about the schools for the foreign born carried on by the American Legion, about our trying to teach health welfare and respect for the flag and the institutions for which it stands, and the half million boys engaged last year in junior American Legion baseball; but having looked at the morning newspaper and having had the same shock that you had when you saw it, let me take just one leaf out of our program of Americanism. I had intended to say a few words to you on the American Legion belief that ignorance is the greatest menace to Americanism today, but instead of that just let me, here in these proud legislative halls say that there is nothing in common between the Communist and the American Legion and on yesterday when a Communist tried to kill the President-elect of the United States, just let me say, just let this organization of a million men be recorded, here in these halls and in this proud State, that if communism ever comes knocking at the door of America as it knocks today at the doors of Berlin, Governor, standing squarely behind the duly constituted government of America will be found the men and women of the American Legion. (Applause)

May I add just one word to that, Mr. President? Until this year the American Legion has not taken a definite position on immigration. This year we are doing so, and the developments of today intensify it. There are not enough jobs in America to go around today, and we of the Legion believe that that man who in these days would come from foreign shores to take your job or mine had best be kept over there. We believe that the diseased, the paupers and the criminals of foreign lands should not be permitted to come to American shores as candidates for our poorhouses, our hospitals and our jails. We believe if there are those who have come and who are not loyal to the stars and stripes, the sooner the American government send them home, the better off this country will be. He certainly must be kept over there. If he is already here and will not help to fight for and respect this flag as you and I do and have done, and if needed will do again, the sooner Uncle Sam sends him home the better off the rest of us will be. (Applause).

The highest authority in America, bar none, has said to me—and the Secretary of War has said substantially the same thing to me,—the national defense of this country was saved at the last session of Congress by the American Legion and its friends. We had a close call in that session. The American Legion takes the position that the American navy should be second to no other navy in the world and we are going to keep fighting until that position is established. (Applause).

Let me just refer you, to show you why we of the Legion are so concerned with that situation, let me just give you one set of figures to show to you that the American navy has sunk to a new low level. These figures have been checked in Washington—and the language I use shall be most guarded and most careful—if the program as prepared by Japan, Great Britain and the United States continues through the next three years, then in 1936 the United States will have 63 ships, Great Britain, 134 ships, Japan, 156 ships. Let me state it to you, approaching it from another most astounding angle that since the Washington Conference following which the United States sank \$400,000,000 worth of practically new battleships while Japan and Great Britain got busy building cruisers at an alarming ratio, since that Washington Conference the funds have been appropriated for or the keels have been laid for the following ships in these three countries: Remember that the ratio agreed on in the Washington Conference was five each for Great Britain and the United States and three for Japan; but since that Washington Conference, let me repeat the appropriations have been made by the governments, or the keels have been laid, in the United States for 38 ships of war, in Great Britain for 96 ships of war, and, mark you, in Japan for 126 major ships of war. May I repeat that? Since the Washington Conference, when the world was going to disarm and in good faith we proceeded to comply, our government has appropriated, or keels have been laid, for only 38 ships in the United States, while in Great Britain there have been 96 and 126 in Japan.

The American Legion takes the position that our country is just as strong as its army and navy, and no stronger; that national defense is a matter over and above politics. Let's let the record here be correct.

The American Legion is not a militaristic organization. More than in any other organization in the world we of the Legion want no more war. We but want America sufficiently prepared for peace that no foreign aggressor will come to disturb our shores, and on that theory we take our creed of national defense from the Good Book, the Bible. I quote from Luke: "A strong man well armed keepeth his palace in peace," and we but seek in America that we shall be sufficiently strong and well armed that the peace of America may be maintained.

But, Governor, after the last close call in the last session of Congress, the American Legion changed its position on national defense. Last summer the Portland convention ordered me to send to every Department Commander, and I did, and it ordered every Department Commander in the United States—and all but three did—send to every candidate to the House of Representatives and the Senate of the United States a questionnaire asking him where he stood on the navy, the regular army, the C. M. T. C., the R. O. T. C., National Guard, and down the line, and asked him to sign on the dotted line. In other words, since that Portland convention, and on down through the years, when a man throws his hat into the ring as a candidate for the House of Representatives or the Senate of the United States, we of the American Legion, and our friends, are going to check up on it and see whether or not there is emblazoned on it the stars and stripes; or, in other words, when a man announces himself for the bodies at Washington, we are going to send in that questionnaire and ask him to sign on the dotted line, and if he will not sign the questionnaire, or if he signs it and answers it so that he is not for adequate and reasonable national defense of American as we see it, then, Governor, the American Legion stands committed to go into politics and try to keep that quasi-American from ever getting into the halls at Washington to give us trouble on national defense. That is the new position of the American Legion, and on that matter the American Legion has been criticised. As I think of this criticism there comes back to me the story of a political convention held in my own home town of Clarksburg just before I

went to Portland, and here in Maine I do not need to say whether that was a Democratic or Republican convention. It makes no difference here. On this particular occasion we had agreed on a temporary chairman of the convention, but we could not agree on the permanent chairman and decided to fight that out on the floor. After the temporary chairman had delivered his keynote speech, he called for the next order of business, the election of a permanent chairman. My good friend Bill who was four sheets in the wind was standing near the door and he jumped up and said: "Mr. Chairman, I move you that the temporary organization be made permanent." The leader of the opposite faction, who did not agree with that at all, instead of addressing the chair, said: "Sit down Bill, you're drunk, you don't know what you are doing. You don't know the difference between temporary and permanent." Like a flash my good friend Bill came back and said: "To Hell I don't. I am drunk, that's temporary; you're a damn fool and that's permanent." (Laughter and applause).

We of the American Legion do not contend for a moment that all the legislation on the statute books of the Federal government is right and proper or that it is correctly administered. The critics of the Legion, Governor, have often charged the American Legion at Washington with responsibility for Spanish war pensions, and of course that is absurd.

That same Portland Convention last year authorized me to appoint a committee to study all World War legislation on the Federal statute books from the standpoint both of the veterans and the government and I appointed as that committee ten of the outstanding Legionaires of America, headed by one of our most beloved Past Commanders, Bodenhamer of Arkansas. There is no man on that committee who is interested in any particular piece of World War legislation. There is only one man on that committee who draws a nickel from the Federal government and that is Frank Dixon of Birmingham, Alabama. He was shot twice and his right leg was amputated. That committee has recently sent me its first tentative draft report, over forty pages long and where there is something wrong either from the standpoint

of the veteran or the government, the American Legion has the guts to speak out in meeting, and I promise you it will do so.

To me this American Legion is the great peace time, peace-loving organization in the history of the world. The attacks that have come from without have solidified it from within, and when we meet at Chicago next fall, instead of having a million members, from all present indications we are going to have a million and a quarter to a million and three hundred thousand.

This organization represents no race or creed, no class or clan. It is the greatest possible cross section of Americanism in America today, and Mr. President regarding the use of that word clan, since the klan episode is over, since it has been said that I come from the old State of Virginia and you might suspicion therefore that I am a member of the Episcopal church in which church it is said in old Virginia "There is neither religion nor politics," may be I can get away with this story. A Southerner who had traveled far and wide returned from his travels and asked his friend Pat where he should go next. I wish time permitted me to try and give you Pat's eloquent speech and all he said about the Emerald Isle, the shamrocks and the lilacs and all that, of course recommending that the Southerner go to Ireland. Before he finished the distinguished Southerner broke in and said "No, Pat I don't want to go to Ireland, it's cold, it's wet and it's full of Catholics." Said Pat with a broad smile "Well, my brother, if you feel that way about it, let me make you another recommendation. I recommend that you go to Hell. It's hot, it's dry and it's full of Protestants." (Laughter)

The American Legion is the most independent organization in America, I repeat. You men who are not members of the Legion, we ask you to continue to have faith in this Legion of ours; and may I close by telling you a story of the World War which illustrates just the faith that I think this Legion deserves from you and from all those who in its formative years have been its friends. This is a true story of the World War. Messines Ridge was held by the Germans. The Canadians and the Australians, than whom there are no better soldiers, were ordered to take this Ridge. It was

bombarded and the top of it blown away with tons and tons of dynamite. As they went up the mountain side at the zero hour a young Canadian captain was brought down by shrapnel fire. He crawled into the nearest shell hole. When the day was done, as history shows, the Germans still held the Ridge and there was left only a few of those Canadians and Australians, way back in the trenches at the foot of the mountain. A young fellow came to his commanding officer and said, "Captain, my brother was brought down by shrapnel fire this morning and I ask your permission to go up the mountainside and bring back his body." The Captain, being somewhat hard-boiled, said, "No, you can't go. No one can live on that mountainside tonight." However, the boy insisted and he went up the mountainside, found his brother and brought him down. As he laid him on the ground he realized that his brother was dead and he said a prayer for his departed soul. In the stillness of the moment he was conscious that someone was near him, and turning he saw his commanding officer who said "Buddy, he's dead." "Yes, Captain, he is dead." Said the Captain, "I told you not to go, that you would be sorry." But with as fine a smile as ever illumined human countenance, he looked up at his commanding officer and said, "No, Captain, I am not sorry. As I went over the top of that crater I knew that my brother Bill was dying because his face was pale and his eyes were closed. But as I tried to get him on my shoulder, it seemed to arouse him and he opened his eyes, looked at me and recognized me and said: 'Oh, John, I knew you would come,' and Captain I would rather have gone to the top of that mountain and been killed in the attempt than to have had my brother believe in me and have failed him."

To you distinguished citizens of Maine, may I say on behalf of the National Commander of the Legion, and in behalf of the sterling Department commanders, that in this year 1933 this American Legion, a million and a quarter strong, with an Auxiliary of five or six hundred thousand women, is going right down the middle of the road that is America with but two guide posts to control this organization and its destiny and the destiny of America, and these guide posts are those

fixed by the preamble of the Constitution of the American Legion,—“God on the one hand and Country on the other;” and as National Commander I say to you that I had rather die in the attempt than vary one whit from either of these guide posts—God and Country. Men of Maine, the American Legion is going places and the American Legion is going to be in the front and carry on. I thank you. (Applause, the Convention rising).

At the conclusion of the address Commander Johnson accompanied by the Governor retired, amid the applause of the Convention, the audience rising.

The purpose for which the Convention was assembled having been accomplished, the Chairman declared the same dissolved and the Senate retired to the Senate chamber, amid applause, the audience rising.

### In The House

#### The Speaker in the Chair

##### Passed to Be Engrossed

(S. P. No. 64) (L. D. No. 497) An act to correct phraseology in Section 21 of Chapter 92.

(S. P. No. 65) (L. D. No. 498) An act to transfer law relating to the courts to the Court Chapter.

(S. P. No. 66) (L. D. No. 499) An act to repeal obsolete law.

(S. P. No. 68) (L. D. No. 503) An act to transfer Section 8 of Chapter 157 to Chapter 33.

(S. P. No. 69) (L. D. No. 501) An act repealing obsolete sections.

(S. P. No. 71) (L. D. No. 500) An act repealing obsolete law.

(S. P. No. 72) (L. D. No. 502) An act to revise penalty provisions in Chapter 72.

(S. P. No. 93) (L. D. No. 105) An act relating to hearings in vacation.

(H. P. No. 1212) (L. D. No. 612) An act relating to fees for jurors.

Mr. Hobbs of Hope offered House Amendment A and moved its adoption as follows:

House Amendment A to H. P. 1212, L. D. 612, bill an act relating to fees for jurors.

Amend said bill by striking out in the twentieth and twenty-first lines thereof, the words “Sundays and holidays excepted.”

On motion by Mr. Flanders of Auburn, the amendment and bill were tabled pending adoption of the amendment.

(H. P. No. 1231) (L. D. No. 684) An act relating to Judges of Probate.

(H. P. No. 1305) (L. D. No. 669) An act relating to the counting and sealing of ballots.

(H. P. No. 74) (L. D. No. 670) Resolve providing for a State pension for Mary A. Leighton of Gardiner.

(H. P. No. 75) (L. D. No. 671) Resolve for a State pension for Augusta O. Goodwin of Augusta.

(H. P. No. 80) (L. D. No. 42) Resolve relating to smelt fishing in East Machias.

(H. P. No. 99) (L. D. No. 672) Resolve in favor of John E. Parker of Windsor, for State pension.

(H. P. No. 385) (L. D. No. 673) Resolve providing for a State pension for William H. Rankin of Winterport.

(H. P. No. 570) (L. D. No. 674) Resolve providing for a State pension for Susie E. Simmons of Belfast.

(H. P. No. 606) (L. D. No. 675) Resolve in favor of the Monson Rod and Gun Club.

(H. P. No. 1304) (L. D. No. 652) Resolve relating to ice fishing in Webber Pond and Three Mile Pond.

(H. P. No. 1306) (L. D. No. 676) Resolve providing for an increase in State pension for Eva J. Rundlette of Readfield.

(H. P. No. 1307) (L. D. No. 677) Resolve providing for a State pension for Cassie E. Spencer of Winterport.

(H. P. No. 1308) (L. D. No. 679) Resolve providing for a State pension for Frank F. Clark of Gardiner.

(H. P. No. 1309) (L. D. No. 678) Resolve providing for a State pension for Mary L. Merrill of Gardiner.

(H. P. No. 1310) (L. D. No. 680) Resolve providing State pension for Meretta McFarland of Augusta.

(H. P. No. 1311) (L. D. No. 681) Resolve providing for a State pension for Agnes Gilson of Gardiner.

##### Passed to Be Enacted

(H. P. No. 101) (L. D. No. 430) An act relating to election of officers for the Van Buren Water District.

(H. P. No. 163) (L. D. No. 91) An act relating to the taking of lobsters in certain waters in Hancock County, adjacent to the town of Brooklin.

##### Finally Passed

(H. P. No. 47) (L. D. No. 433) Resolve for screening Pierce Pond in the county of Hancock.

**Orders of the Day**

On motion by Mr. Sargent of Brewer, it was voted to take from the table the third unassigned matter, bill an act to amend the charter of the Northport Wesleyan Grove Campmeeting Association, H. P. 158, L. D. 635, as amended by House Amendment A, tabled by that gentleman February 15, pending

passage to be engrossed; and on further motion by the same gentleman the bill as amended was passed to be engrossed.

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On motion by Mr. Raymond of Westbrook,

Adjourned until ten o'clock tomorrow morning.