

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Record

OF THE

Eighty-Seventh Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1935

KENNEBEC JOURNAL COMPANY
AUGUSTA, MAINE

HOUSE

Thursday, January 31, 1935.

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

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Bickmore of Augusta.

Journal of the previous session read and approved.

Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

From the Senate: Bill an act to permit National Forests in Maine, S. P. 216, L. D. 189.

Comes from the Senate referred to the committee on Judiciary.

In the House, on motion by Mr. Mace of Augusta, tabled pending reference in concurrence.

From the Senate: Ordered, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they adjourn to meet February 5, 1935 at 4.30 p. m.

Comes from the Senate read and passed.

In the House, read and passed in concurrence.

From the Senate: Bill an act relating to snow removal on R. F. D. routes, S. P. 233, L. D. 190.

Comes from the Senate referred to the committee on Ways and Bridges.

In the House, referred to the committee on Ways and Bridges in concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Russ of Woodstock the House voted to reconsider its action whereby it referred the above bill to the committee on Ways and Bridges in concurrence; and on further motion by the same gentleman the bill was tabled pending reference in concurrence.

From the Senate: Bill an act relating to intoxicated persons carrying loaded guns while hunting, H. P. 303, which was referred to the committee on Inland Fisheries and Game in the House on January 23rd.

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

In the House, on motion by Mr. Ellis of Rangeley, that body voted to recede and concur with the Senate in the reference of this bill to the committee on Legal Affairs.

From the Senate: Bill an act relating to discharge of firearms

across highways while hunting, H. P. 302, L. D. 76, which was referred to the committee on Inland Fisheries and Game in the House on January 23rd.

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

In the House, on motion by Mr. Ellis of Rangeley, that body voted to recede and concur with the Senate in the reference of this bill to the committee on Legal Affairs.

From the Senate: Bill an act relative to the making of local regulations for fishing by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Game, S. P. 190, L. D. 140, which was referred to the committee on Judiciary in the House on January 29th in non-concurrence.

Comes from the Senate that body insisting on its former action whereby the bill was referred to the committee on Inland Fisheries and Game, and asking for a Committee of Conference, with the following conferees appointed on its part: Messrs. Schnurle of Cumberland, Blaisdell of Hancock and Bartlett of Oxford.

In the House:

Mr. HESCOCK of Monson: Mr. Speaker, I move that we reconsider our former action whereby we referred this bill to the committee on Judiciary.

The SPEAKER: The Chair would inquire whether the gentleman from Monson, Mr. Hescoek, wishes to make the motion to reconsider rather than to recede and concur? If the gentleman from Monson (Mr. Hescoek) wishes to make the motion to reconsider, it would require a two-thirds vote to suspend the rules of the House in order to make that motion.

Mr. HESCOCK: Mr. Speaker, I will move that we recede and concur with the Senate.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Monson, Mr. Hescoek, withdraws his motion to reconsider and substitutes in place thereof a motion to recede and concur with the Senate in the reference of this bill to the committee on Inland Fisheries and Game.

Mr. CROWELL of Weston: Mr. Speaker, it is not my wish this morning to take the time of this House in discussing L. D. 140. We threshed this matter out in the Eighty-sixth Legislature and defeated similar legislation. This Legislative Document 140, to my mind, is vitally interesting to the people of

rural Maine. We are not opposing this bill this morning, but I hope the motion of the gentleman from Monson (Mr. Hescoc) does not prevail, and that this matter may go before the Judiciary committee, where we ordered it to go a few days ago, and there have its hearing. I am speaking as a man from rural Maine, interested in the boys of rural Maine, and I hope the motion does not prevail.

The SPEAKER: The motion before the House is to recede and concur with the Senate in the reference of S. P. 190, L. D. 140 to the committee on Inland Fisheries and Game. Are you ready for the question? All those in favor of the motion will please say aye, those opposed no.

A viva voce vote being taken, the motion to recede and concur failed of passage.

The SPEAKER: Does the gentleman from Weston, Mr. Crowell, have any further motion to make?

Mr. CROWELL: Mr. Speaker, I would like to have it go before the Judiciary committee. Is there any motion necessary to make?

The SPEAKER: Do you wish to move to insist? If you do, it goes to a committee of Conference.

Mr. CROWELL: Mr. Speaker, I wish to make the motion that we adhere to our former action.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Weston, Mr. Crowell, now moves that we adhere to our former action. Are you ready for the question? All those in favor of the motion to adhere will say aye, contrary-minded, no.

A viva voce vote being taken, the motion to adhere prevailed.

The following bills and resolves were received and upon recommendation of the committee on Reference of Bills were referred to the following committees:

Appropriations and Financial Affairs

An act relating to appropriations for private and public hospitals (H. P. 820) (Presented by Mr. Smith of Bangor).

(500 copies ordered printed).

Claims

Resolve in favor of Richard Clayton French of Carmel (H. P. No. 748) (Presented by Mr. Clark of Plymouth)

Resolve to reimburse the town of Livermore Falls for support of Edward E. Dyke and family, having no

settlement in the State (H. P. No. 749) (Presented by Mr. Coolidge of Livermore)

Resolve in favor of Roland E. Smith, So. Portland (H. P. No. 750) (Presented by Mr. Cummings of So. Portland)

Resolve in favor of Raymond W. Smith, So. Portland (H. P. No. 751) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve to reimburse the town of Ashland for support of Mrs. Owen West, having no known settlement in the State (H. P. No. 752) (Presented by Mr. Ellis of Castle Hill)

Resolve in favor of Harvey I. Dillingham for damage inflicted to sheep by dogs (H. P. No. 753) (Presented by Mr. Flanders of Auburn)

Resolve in favor of the town of Dover-Foxcroft (H. P. No. 754) (Presented by Mrs. Forbes of Dover-Foxcroft)

Resolve in favor of Jesse Davis of Wales (H. P. No. 755) (Presented by Mr. Goss of Poland)

Resolve to reimburse the town of Bar Harbor for support of George A. Huntley and Donald G. Huntley and their families, having no known settlement in the State (H. P. No. 756) (Presented by Mr. Hall of Bar Harbor)

Resolve in favor of Percy A. Mills of Prospect (H. P. No. 757) (Presented by Mr. Harriman of Prospect)

Resolve to reimburse the town of Hope for support of Leroy E. Rolfe and family (H. P. No. 758) (Presented by Mr. Hobbs of Hope)

Resolve to reimburse the city of Portland for support of Robert Burgoyne and family (H. P. No. 759) (Presented by Mrs. Kilroy of Portland)

Resolve in favor of Northern Maine General Hospital (H. P. No. 760) (Presented by Mr. Labbee of Wallagrass by request)

Resolve in favor of Michel Pelletier of Fort Kent (H. P. No. 761) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of M. J. Pelletier of Fort Kent, for burial expenses of Nommie Lafferrier (H. P. No. 762) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of Dr. W. V. Kirk of Eagle Lake (H. P. No. 763) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of William J. McLellan and Mary Thompson of Hartland (H. P. No. 764) (Presented by Mr. Lancaster of Canaan)

Resolve to compensate the town of Greenbush for pauper expenses (H.

P. No. 765) (Presented by Mr. Leonard of Hampden)

Resolve in favor of General Contracting Co., Inc. of Bath, Maine, to reimburse same for damages on account of State Highway Project 116A Woolwich (H. P. No. 766) (Presented by Mr. Oliver of Bath)

Resolve in favor of C. Herbert Perry (H. P. No. 767) (Presented by Mr. Palmer of Island Falls)

Resolve in favor of John K. Forhan of Canton (H. P. No. 768) (Presented by Mr. Parsons of Hartford)

Resolve to reimburse the town of Stockholm for support of Joseph Blouin and family, having no settlement in the State (H. P. No. 769) (Presented by Mr. Phair of Caswell)

Resolve to reimburse Caswell Plantation for support of Thomas Giberson, having no settlement in the State (H. P. No. 770) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of Henry A. Day of Bangor (H. P. No. 771) (Presented by Mr. Smith of Bangor)

Resolve in favor of the town of Palermo (H. P. No. 772) (Presented by Mr. Woodbury of Morrill)

Education

An act providing medical service for small towns (H. P. No. 821) (Presented by Mr. Cook of Pittsfield)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act relating to admission to normal schools (H. P. No. 822) (Presented by Mr. Hammond of Strong) (500 copies ordered printed.)

Resolve in favor of Parsonsfield Seminary (H. P. No. 823) (Presented by Mr. Chase of Limington)

Resolve in favor of Limington Academy (H. P. No. 824) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of Washington Academy (H. P. No. 825) (Presented by Mr. Lindsey of East Machias)

Indian Affairs

An act relating to census of the Penobscot Indians (H. P. No. 826) (Presented by Mr. Clarke of Cooper) (500 copies ordered printed.)

An act relating to Indians (H. P. No. 827) (Presented by same gentleman)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act relating to the Indian Island Ferry (H. P. No. 828) (Presented by same gentleman)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

Inland Fisheries and Game

An act relative to Game Preserve

in York County (H. P. 773) (Presented by Mr. Bragdon of Wells)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act relating to trapping in Cumberland and York Counties (H. P. 774) (Presented by Mr. Davis of Newfield)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act creating the Windham Game Preserve (H. P. 775) (Presented by Mr. Haskell of Windham)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act relative to dogs hunting moose, caribou, deer or elk or worrying domestic animals (H. P. 776) (Presented by Mr. Hescocock of Monson)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act relating to trapping in Aroostook and Piscataquis Counties (H. P. 777) (Presented by Mr. Sprague of Oakfield)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

Resolve relative to Game Preserve in York County (H. P. 778) (Presented by Mr. Chase of Limington)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

Resolve relative to Game Preserve in York County (H. P. 779) (Presented by Mr. Davis of Newfield)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

Resolve relative to extending open season on white perch (H. P. 780) (Presented by Mr. Burgess of Rumford)

Resolve relative to fishing in C. Pond (H. P. 781) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve relating to extending fishing season on white perch (H. P. 782) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve relative to season and bag limit on smelts (H. P. 783) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve for screening Boyden's Lake in the county of Washington (H. P. 784) (Presented by Mr. Clarke of Cooper)

Resolve relating to fishing in Round and Long Ponds in Livermore (H. P. 785) (Presented by Mr. Coolidge of Livermore)

Resolve relative to screening the outlet of Balch Pond (H. P. 786) (Presented by Mr. Davis of Newfield)

Resolve relating to fishing in tributaries to Walker's Pond (H. P. 787) (Presented by Mr. Gray of Brooksville)

Resolve relating to fishing in Black's Pond (H. P. 788) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve relating to fishing in Pleasant River and Hapgood Brook (H. P. 789) (Presented by Mr. Hastings of Bethel)

Resolve relating to fishing in Song-Pond (H. P. 790) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve relating to fishing in Round Pond (H. P. 791) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve to open for fishing Three Brooks in the town of Prentiss (H. P. 792) (Presented by Mr. Mallett of Lee)

Resolve relative to screening Shin Pond in Penobscot County (H. P. 793) (Presented by Mr. McKay of Drew)

Resolve relative to white perch fishing in Lake Anasagunticook (H. P. 794) (Presented by Mr. Parsons of Hartford)

Resolve closing the tributaries of Lake Anasagunticook to smelt fishing (H. P. 795) (Presented by same gentleman)

Interior Waters

Resolve changing the name of Corinna Bog and Stream (H. P. 829) (Presented by Mr. Austin of Exeter)

Judiciary

An act to incorporate the Consolidated Mortgage Company (H. P. 830) (Presented by Mr. Philbrick of Cape Elizabeth)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act relating to the Society of Friends (H. P. 831) (Presented by Mr. Hill of So. Portland)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act relating to danger and caution signals for motor busses and trucks (H. P. 832) (Presented by Mr. Hill of So. Portland)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act relating to the challenging of voters in towns (H. P. 833) (Presented by same gentleman)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act relating to the placing of political advertisements upon automobiles (H. P. 834) (Presented by Mr. Hammond of Strong)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act to establish the Brewer Municipal Court (H. P. 835) (Presented by Mr. Churchill of Brewer)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act relating to the appointment of humane officers (H. P. 836) (Presented by Mr. Hagan of Georgetown)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

Legal Affairs

An act to make valid the doings of the Harrison Water Company and to define and confirm its powers (H.

P. 837) (Presented by Mr. Haskell of Windham)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act to authorize and empower the city of Bangor to grant a pension to Edgar W. Gray (H. P. 838) (Presented by Mr. Smith of Bangor)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act amending the charter of the city of Biddeford" (H. P. 839) (Presented by Mr. Belaire of Biddeford)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act relating to caucus law of Biddeford (H. P. 840) (Presented by same gentleman)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act to permit Sunday movies (H. P. 841) (Presented by Mr. Bramson of Portland)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act to provide a permanent Chief Engineer of the Fire Department of the city of Westbrook (H. P. 842) (Presented by Mr. Brown of Westbrook)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act to provide a manager form of government for the town of Rumford (H. P. 843) (Presented by Mr. Burgess of Rumford)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act relating to the inspection of dams and reservoirs (H. P. 844) (Presented by Mr. Chase of Baring)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act to amend the city charter of Bangor (H. P. No. 845) (Presented by Mr. Eddy of Bangor)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act to incorporate the Presque Isle Water District (H. P. No. 846) (Presented by Mr. Gray of Presque Isle)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act relating to the Presque Isle Sewer District (H. P. No. 847) (Presented by same gentleman)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act relating to gambling (H. P. No. 848) (Presented by Mr. Hammond of Strong)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act relating to the charter of the city of South Portland (H. P. No. 849) (Presented by Mr. Hill of So. Portland)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act to provide a Town Council and Manager form of government for the town of Oakland, in the county of Kennebec (H. P. No. 850) (Presented by Mr. Martin of Oakland)

(500 copies ordered printed.)

An act to provide for the sur-

render by town of Mount Chase of its organization (H. P. No. 851) (Presented by Mr. McKay of Drew by request)

(500 copies ordered printed)

An act relating to Islesboro Transportation Company (H. P. No. 852) (Presented by Mr. Harriman of Prospect)

(500 copies ordered printed)

An act to incorporate the Calais Water District (H. P. No. 860) (Presented by Mr. Tupper of Calais)

(500 copies ordered printed)

An act to change the name of the Nasson Institute to that of Nasson College and to otherwise alter the charter of said corporation (H. P. No. 861) (Presented by Mr. Demers of Sanford)

(500 copies ordered printed)

Military Affairs

An act relating to education of War orphans (H. P. No. 853) (Presented by Mr. Hall of Bar Harbor) (500 copies ordered printed)

Pensions

Resolve providing for a State pension for Adelaide A. Leighton of Hallowell (H. P. No. 796) (Presented by Mr. Cole of West Gardiner)

Resolve providing for a State pension for Richard T. Kensell of Alna (H. P. No. 797) (Presented by Mr. Carleton of Alna)

Resolve providing for a State pension for Albert Stevens Prescott of Vassalboro (H. P. No. 798) (Presented by Mr. Crosby of Vassalboro)

Resolve providing for a State pension for Hattie Shea of Pittston (H. P. No. 799) (Presented by Mr. Fowles of Randolph)

Resolve providing for a State pension for Ralph White of Randolph (H. P. No. 800) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve providing for a State pension for Annie York of Pittston (H. P. No. 801) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve providing for a State pension for W. S. Brookings of Pittston (H. P. No. 802) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve providing for a State pension for Murzalia D. Holbrook of Randolph (H. P. No. 803) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of John L. Harris of Poland (H. P. No. 804) (Presented by Mr. Goss of Poland)

Resolve providing for a State

pension for Fannie Batchelder of Prospect (H. P. No. 805) (Presented by Mr. Harriman of Prospect)

Resolve providing for a pension for Winfield Goodrich of Canaan (H. P. No. 806) (Presented by Mr. Lancaster of Canaan)

Resolve providing for a State pension for Alice Lucinda Bragg of Hampden (H. P. No. 807) (Presented by Mr. Leonard of Hampden)

Resolve in favor of a pension for Hattie Milliken of Hampden (H. P. No. 808) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve providing for an increase in State pension for Mildred C. Fleming of Winn (H. P. No. 809) (Presented by Mr. Mallett of Lee)

Resolve providing for a State pension for Fred Braddock of Knox (H. P. No. 810) (Presented by Mr. Payson of Brooks)

Resolve providing for a State pension for Ella M. Gordon of Brooks (H. P. No. 811) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve providing for a State pension for Murray J. Wentworth of Waldo (H. P. No. 812) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve providing for an increase in State pension for Hannah C. McLaughlin of Farmingdale (H. P. No. 813) (Presented by Mr. Thompson of Chelsea)

Resolve providing for a State pension for Lucy E. Potter of Farmingdale (H. P. No. 814) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve providing for a State pension for George F. Shaw of Kennebunk (H. P. No. 815) (Presented by Mr. Wentworth of Kennebunk)

Resolve providing for a State pension for Frank Douglas of Freedom (H. P. No. 816) (Presented by Mr. Woodbury of Morrill)

Resolve providing for a State pension for Hannah L. Banks of Searsmont (H. P. No. 817) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve providing for a State pension for Alonzo Stevens of Palermo (H. P. No. 818) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve providing for a State pension for Charles S. Adams of Liberty (H. P. No. 819) (Presented by same gentleman)

At this point a message was received from the Senate, through its Secretary, proposing a Joint Convention of both branches of the Legislature to be held forthwith

in the hall of the House of Representatives for the purpose of extending an invitation to Dr. A. W. Manchester, Regional Director of the Land Policy Section of the Agricultural Administration, to attend the Convention and make such communication as he sees fit.

Reception of bills and resolves continued:

Public Utilities

An act relating to leases, consolidations and mortgages by public utilities (H. P. No. 856) (Presented by Mr. Smith of Bangor.

(500 copies ordered printed)

An act providing penalties for boarding freight trains without right (H. P. No. 857) (Presented by Mr. Hathorn of Bangor)

(500 copies ordered printed)

An act relating to wilful or malicious injury to property of any railroad (H. P. No. 858) (Presented by same gentleman.

(500 copies ordered printed)

Salaries and Fees

An act relative to the salary of the Recorder of the Yorkshire Municipal Court (H. P. No. 854) (Presented by Mr. Burnham of Kittery)

Sea and Shore Fisheries

Resolve relating to taking and sale of clams in Scarborough (H. P. No. 859) (Presented by Mr. Philbrick of Cape Elizabeth)

(500 copies ordered printed)

State Lands and Forest Preservation

On act to authorize the town of Whiting to withdraw from the Maine Forestry District (H. P. No. 862) (Presented by Mr. Pike of Lubec)

Taxation

An act relating to taxation of national bank deposits (H. P. No. 863) (Presented by Mr. Harriman of Prospect.

(500 copies ordered printed)

Temperance

An act relating to the hours of sale of malt beverages (H. P. No. 855) (Presented by Mr. Bramson of Portland)

(500 copies ordered printed)

Ways and Bridges

An act relating to construction of State Aid roads in Indian Town-

ship (H. P. No. 705) (Presented by Mr. Chase of Baring)

Resolve in favor of the town of Phippsburg (H. P. No. 706) (Presented by Mr. Allan of Topsham)

Resolve in favor of the town of Roxbury (H. P. No. 707) (Presented by Mr. Burgess of Rumford)

Resolve in favor of the town of Mapleton (H. P. No. 708) (Presented by Mr. Cambridge of Westfield)

Resolve in favor of the town of Easton (H. P. No. 709) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Westfield (H. P. No. 710) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Chapman (H. P. No. 711) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Perry (H. P. No. 712) (Presented by Mr. Clarke of Cooper)

Resolve in favor of the improvement of "Arm Road" so-called in town of Crawford (H. P. No. 713) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Robbinston (H. P. No. 714) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Cooper (H. P. No. 715) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Alexander (H. P. No. 716) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Pembroke (H. P. No. 717) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Charlotte (H. P. No. 718) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Vassalboro (H. P. No. 719) (Presented by Mr. Crosby of Vassalboro)

Resolve in favor of the town of Sebago (H. P. No. 720) (Presented by Mr. Dennett of Sebago)

Resolve in favor of the town of Baldwin (H. P. No. 721) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of Wilton (H. P. No. 722) (Presented by Mr. Dow of Jay)

Resolve in favor of the town of Pittston (H. P. No. 723) (Presented by Mr. Fowles of Randolph)

Resolve in favor of the town of Otisfield (H. P. No. 724) (Presented by Mr. Haskell of Windham)

Resolve in favor of the town of Harrison (H. P. No. 725) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of

Otisfield (H. P. No. 726) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of a road in Lincoln Plantation (H. P. No. 727) (Presented by Mr. Hastings of Bethel)

Resolve in favor of the town of Lovell (H. P. No. 728) (Presented by Mr. Heald of Lovell)

Resolve in favor of the town of Embden (H. P. No. 729) (Presented by Mr. Jillson of Anson)

Resolve in favor of Liberty Bridge and a road in Wallagrass Plantation (H. P. No. 732) (Presented by Mr. Labbee of Wallagrass)

Resolve in favor of the town of Canaan (H. P. No. 730) (Presented by Mr. Lancaster of Canaan)

Resolve in favor of the town of Hartland (H. P. No. 731) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Caratunk (H. P. No. 733) (Presented by Mr. MacKenzie of Jackman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Jackman (H. P. No. 734) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Sidney (H. P. No. 735) (Presented by Mr. Martin of Oakland)

Resolve in favor of the town of Belgrade (H. P. No. 736) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Oakland (H. P. No. 737) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Hartford (H. P. No. 738) (Presented by Mr. Parsons of Hartford)

Resolve in favor of the town of Burnham (H. P. No. 739) (Presented by Mr. Payson of Brooks)

Resolve in favor of the town of Lubec (H. P. No. 740) (Presented by Mr. Pike of Lubec)

Resolve in favor of the city of Belfast (H. P. No. 741) (Presented by Mr. Thompson of Belfast)

Resolve in favor of the town of Cumberland (H. P. No. 742) (Presented by Mr. Willey of Falmouth)

Resolve in favor of the town of Cumberland (H. P. No. 743) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve in favor of the town of Liberty (H. P. No. 744) (Presented by Mr. Woodbury of Morrill)

Resolve in favor of the town of North Kennebunkport (H. P. No. 745) (Presented by Mr. Young of York)

Resolve in favor of the town of Old Orchard Beach (H. P. No. 746) (Presented by same gentleman)

Resolve appropriating money for the construction of terminals and

approaches thereto, of a ferry across Penobscot Bay (H. P. No. 747) (Presented by Mr. Harriman of Prospect)
(500 copies ordered printed)

Orders

On motion by Mr. Stilphen of Dresden, it was

Ordered, that there be printed 500 copies of Senate Paper 219, bill an act relating to deputy sheriffs in Lincoln county.

Reports of Committees

Mr. Chase of Baring from the Committee on Legal Affairs on bill an act relating to the sale of firearms (H. P. No. 198) (L. D. No. 60) reported that legislation thereon is inexpedient.

Report read and accepted and sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Davis from the Committee on Legal Affairs reported "ought to pass" on bill an act relating to the use of steam boilers (H. P. No. 66) (L. D. No. 22)

Report was read and accepted, and the bill having already been printed was read twice under suspension of the rules, and tomorrow assigned.

Pased to be Engrossed

(S. P. No. 173) (L. D. No. 95) An act to amend the law relating to industrial banks investments.

(S. P. No. 63) (L. D. No. 152) An act to extend the charter granted to the Sandy River & Rangeley Lakes Railroad Company.

On motion by Mr. Hill of South Portland, it was voted that the House signify to the Senate its concurrence in the proposal for a Joint Convention.

Thereupon, the Clerk of the House performed that duty subsequently reporting that he had so done, which report was accepted.

Orders of the Day

On motion by Mr. Hill of South Portland, the House voted to reconsider its action taken yesterday whereby H. P. 662, resolve providing for a State pension for Eimil Maschino of Gardiner was referred to the committee on Claims; and on further motion by the same gentleman the resolve was referred to the committee on Pensions.

At this point the Senate came in and a Joint Convention was formed.

IN CONVENTION

The President of the Senate in the Chair.

On motion by Mr. Blaisdell of Hancock

Ordered, that a committee be appointed to wait upon Dr. A. W. Manchester, Regional Director for the Land Policy Section of the Agricultural Administration, 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.

Order read and passed.

The Chairman appointed the following members: Senators Blaisdell of Hancock, Potter of Penobscot and Worcester of Washington, and Representatives Hobbs of Hope, Crowell of Weston, Ellis of Rangeley, Devereux of Penobscot, Yong of York, Smith of Van Buren and Wright of Madison.

Mr. Blaisdell, for the committee, subsequently reported that the committee had discharged the duties assigned to it, and that Dr. A. W. Manchester would be pleased to attend the Convention forthwith.

The Chairman appointed the foregoing committee to escort Dr. A. W. Manchester to the Convention hall.

CHAIRMAN WEEKS: Members of the Convention: It is with great pleasure that I introduce to you Dr. A. W. Manchester, Regional Director for the Land Policy Section of the Agricultural Administration. (Applause).

DR. MANCHESTER: I wish to express my appreciation of this honor. I feel that in the few moments that I can address you I can best serve the purpose you desire by attempting to state the facts as well as I can without pausing much for an attempt at persuasion or argument,—rather trying to make the case as plain as I can.

I wish to make clear, first, the attitude of the division of the Government I represent in this land policy program. We look at the project as entirely an effort of cooperation on the part of the Federal Government with the State. In meeting the land problems we recognize that many of them are purely local, purely for the State itself; that there are certain others whose significance is so regional or national that the Federal Government is justified in offering the use of some

of its resources and some of its facilities in meeting the problems that exist. We recognize, however, that even in this latter problem the people of the State are closer to the problem, know it better, and are in a better position to plan than are we who are more remote. So in every project we look for the planning and for the development of the program through State agencies, and that has been true in the actual steps we have taken here in Maine. The principal programs that we have for consideration now have been proposed to us, have been developed by the State Planning Board, after study, with the cooperation of the State College of Agriculture and the State Relief Administration. The Federal Government does not initiate these programs.

Now I might devote a moment to some of the things that it is hoped to accomplish through the land program. One basic thing, fundamental thing, is a proper proportion between the amount of land in agriculture in this country, the amount of land under tillage in this country, and the demand, both domestic and foreign, for the protection of agriculture. I think, without discussion that further, we all recognize that that is a basic thing to a sound agricultural program, an amount of land in agriculture that will provide adequately for the needs of our population and for the export opportunities of agricultural products, but at the same time will permit prices of farm products that give reasonable returns to those who till the soil.

Now a second objective, and perhaps one that assumes major importance in this whole work, is that the land that is in agriculture be land on which it is possible for those who till it to make reasonable incomes, to be decently self-supporting at the market conditions that will prevail. We have estimates indicating that there are at least 80,000,000 acres now in farms in this country on which there is no prospect—no considerable prospect—that the people who till them will be able to support their families decently. And this same 80,000,000 acres apparently have no use, no desired use, in private ownership that will take it out of the farming use it is now in.

Now a third objective, a third part of the program, is aid to distressed owners or distressed occupants of

sub-marginal lands in resettling themselves under conditions under which they will have a reasonable opportunity to be decently self-supporting. The lands that will be purchased, if the present sub-marginal program is carried out, are lands that will in the course of time go out of agriculture anyway. Most of the sub-marginal areas are in the process of abandonment, and that process will go on regardless of whether we intervene or not publicly; but the process of land abandonment, as those of you who are close to it know, is a slow, a costly process, one that is intolerably cruel to the people who occupy the lands. The residents of those lands apparently fight, often for long periods, endeavoring to make a decent living under conditions where it is impossible. Their families suffer and many other unfortunate conditions accompany that process.

Now a sound land program endeavors to enable those people to make the change to more favorable conditions without a part of that long, painful, wasteful, costly process that ordinarily goes with land abandonment.

Another objective of sound land program is a sounder public economy. The most careful studies that have been made have shown that the poor farm sections, the unadapted farm sections, are costing the local and the State governments from three to five times as much for the maintenance of the governmental services, roads, schools, and so on,—are costing from three to five times as much as they return in taxes. They are dependent parts of our whole political set-up.

Now a proper reorganization enables the people now living on those lands to carry their part of the load of our economic structure, to become economically self-sustaining rather than dependents of the State. I say dependents not with any reflection on them, but recognizing that they are not in situations in which they can return to the State a fair return for what they cost. In that process of reorganization there is real economy effected in governmental expenditure.

And one other objective of a proper land program is to provide needed areas in public ownership for recreational uses, for purposes such as propagation of fish and game, increasing our wild life resources, and so on. In proper usage these lands

which are now a drag on our economic system become contributory, are an asset to us rather than a liability.

I want to speak very briefly about the methods, about what will be done in Maine if this body approves its being done. There have been for a short time under investigation here two small projects, one in the Camden-Lincolntonville area, which proposes the purchase of land for State Park purposes if it is approved and desired. It is a very beautiful area. The area promises to contribute much, I think, in the way of recreational opportunity and also in attractiveness to outsiders who would visit the State as sightseers and summer visitors. There is also a small project under investigation which proposes the addition of land to Acadia National Park. Those lands would be under national administration as a part of the existing Acadia National Park.

Now the larger project for which we have just received approval to investigate from Washington, as I have explained, has been developed by the Planning Board of the State with the cooperation of the Agricultural College and the State Relief Administration, and has had the approval, so far as they have been able to check on it, of the various State departments that would be concerned—the State Department of Agriculture, Fish and Game, Forestry, and the Executive of the State. This proposal sets up five areas tentatively for study, and those areas are scattered from the extreme western side of York and Cumberland counties including little parts of Waldo, Lincoln, Oxford, Piscataquis—and I think I have omitted something—Washington county. Now these areas are purely tentative. It may be found on investigation that some of these are not proper fields for action. Investigation will be made, if desired, of other areas in the State which may prove more appropriate, and so on, but they are a basis for beginning action.

Now I understand there is before this body, or in committee, a State Commission to administer lands so acquired. If such a State Commission is established by you, that Commission will be consulted constantly and no lands will be purchased except as that Commission decides that they are proper for State administration. If the lands

are purchased, they will go to that Commission for administration under a long term lease, which is practically a complete turning over to the State for administration.

There has been quite a bit of misunderstanding in some areas about the relationship of this program to the land owners and the residents. Now to them the method of approach is purely an offer of cooperation in meeting their problems. There is no compulsion whatever. The process is about like this: The land owners in the area under study are visited and their individual attitudes for the sale of their lands and resettlement is ascertained. If they desire to consider a sale of their lands, appraisals are made, and then, following appraisal, they are given the opportunity to option their lands at the appraisal price. The United States Government is not engaged in the jockeying business. It has no desire to purchase lands at less than a fair value, and we have no authorization to purchase lands at more than the fair value. In other words, we are trying to get the best and soundest appraisal that we can and then offer that price. If the owners desire to sell, or if the residents who may not be owners are involved, and if they do not have financial resources with which to resettle themselves where they have a reasonable opportunity to be self-supporting, then the State Relief Administration has the power to apply for Federal funds, and special funds are specifically provided for this, for Federal funds which may be used in the form of loans to those people in reestablishing themselves elsewhere. Now lands will be purchased from people who will be economically dependent, who will not be able to take care of themselves except with confidence that their resettlement is properly taken care of. Now the resettlement phase of the program, I consider—it is in the hands of the Relief Administration—I consider the most difficult part of the whole problem. It means that lands are purchased only as opportunities are found for those people, opportunities which they desire and which are adapted to their capacities and their abilities as individual families, and, of course, we all know that it is not easy under present conditions to find those opportunities. We believe it can be

done; but also only as opportunities are found for them that do not involve decreasing the opportunity of someone else who is now self-supporting.

There is one issue that has been raised frequently in connection with this program by very sound and very careful thinking people and to which there is no one, single, prompt, decisive answer, and that is the issue of the tax problems of the townships in which lands are purchased. If lands go into Federal ownership, there is no provision at present by which the Federal government can pay taxes on those lands. As a rule it is believed that purchases will constitute only certain of the poorer and more remote parts of townships. As a rule we believe resettlement opportunities will be found for many of the people in the townships in which they now live. We believe it is sounder procedure for people to remain in the general environment to which they are accustomed and that they will solve their problems more successfully on that basis. That means that the movement of population in Maine is likely to be from the poorer back lands to the better lands, over better roads, nearer the villages, schools and so forth. It means that when back lands are taken out of circulation, there will be improved houses, improved properties, better opportunities in town to bear increased taxes which will, partially at least, substitute for the tax base that is removed. Also the process should, if soundly carried out, as I have already mentioned, result in a considerable decrease in local expenses through the abandonment of certain little used back roads which are expensive to maintain as compared with the amount of traffic they bear, tax through the closing of scattered, isolated schoolhouses which are often operated—I am not speaking specifically for Maine because I do not know—which are often operated for from four to six pupils at excessive cost, through the termination of transportation of school children and through the decrease in the relief load of the local township. We hope that the thing can be worked out so that there may be decisive savings made in these ways. Also it will be true, if this thing is a success, that the population of those towns will consist of a population which is in a better eco-

conomic condition and better able to pay taxes and carry their part of the load of the township.

With all of these potential questions, however, I believe we can fairly say that there are likely to be some townships, if this program is carried through, whose local financial problems will be made more difficult. With no desire for compulsion in the program, it may not be found possible to close certain roads that should be closed; there may be certain individual families who may desire to remain there for a time. The family situation may not be appropriate for removal. We may not be able to accomplish immediately all these objectives that can be accomplished in the course of time and are desirable. We may not be able to effect as much in cuts in school and town costs as may be desirable, and there may be certain cases in which resettlement will be outside of the township. That leads to one issue, if I may suggest it, that you might properly consider. It has been considered in many other states in connection with this program. There may be cases on the short time basis for the State to consider whether or not, in certain townships, the State may not properly take over some of that burden. You probably know that there are a great many set devices that are used for that purpose. Some states, such as Pennsylvania, are paying a small tax on state administered lands, while certain other states are returning to the local townships a percentage of the products of the State administered lands. Certain other states, such as your adjoining state of New Hampshire, rebate to townships in which the State administers a considerable amount of land, a part of the State tax due from the township to the State, as compensation.

The program as a whole means a saving in governmental cost if successfully carried out. It means a saving in the need for state aid to townships if successfully carried out. I believe the gain to the State justifies the State in considering the possibility of certain townships being in a more difficult financial condition because of it.

I do not want to take more of your time. I hope I have covered many of the issues you have in mind. I should be glad to meet you individually and discuss others.

I just want to emphasize in closing that the whole attitude of this program is one of cooperation, an attempt to cooperate with the State in carrying out its desires and plans in regard to the use of its land and an attempt to cooperate with each distressed individual resident of the poor lands in solving his individual problem. We have no desire for compulsion. We have no desire for action that is not heartily supported both by the local people and by the State as a whole. We are anxious to contribute what we can to meeting your problems if you desire action on our part. (Applause)

At the conclusion of the address Dr. Manchester retired amid the applause of the Convention.

The purposes for which the convention was assembled having been accomplished the Convention was dissolved and the Senate retired, amid the applause of the House.

IN THE HOUSE

The Speaker in the Chair.

The SPEAKER: We are still proceeding under Orders of the Day. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Portland, Mr. Hill.

Mr. HILL: Mr. Speaker, I move that the House reconsider its action taken earlier in today's session in connection with L. D. 140, bill an act relative to the making of local resolutions for fishing by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Game, whereby the House voted to adhere to its former action. This is a Senate bill, introduced in the Senate, and in that body referred to the committee on Inland Fisheries and Game. Then when it came into the House we voted here to refer it to the committee on Judiciary in non-concurrence. It was then returned to the Senate, the Senate voting to insist on its former action and asking for a committee of conference. Then when the bill came back here this morning the House voted to adhere. The effect of that is that we refused the request of the Senate for a committee of conference in an effort to iron out the difficulty as to which committee the bill should be referred. It seems to me that the bill is of sufficient importance to be entitled to the consideration of some committee and that we ought not refuse the request of the Senate for a committee

of Conference unless there is some good reason for it.

The SPEAKER: The motion before the House is to reconsider the vote whereby, this morning, we voted to adhere to our former action on S. P. 190, L. D. 140, an act relative to the making of local regulations for fishing by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Game, and to insist upon the reference of this bill to the committee on Judiciary. Is it the pleasure of the House to reconsider its vote? All those in favor of reconsidering

will please say aye, contrary-minded, no.

A viva voce vote being taken, the motion to reconsider prevailed.

On further motion by Mr. Hill the House voted to insist and join in the committee of conference.

The SPEAKER: The committee of conference will be appointed later.

On motion by Mr. Woodbury of Morrill

Adjourned until next Tuesday afternoon, February 5 at 4.30 P. M.