

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

Legislative Record

OF THE

Eighty-Eighth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1937

KENNEBEC JOURNAL COMPANY  
AUGUSTA, MAINE

**HOUSE**

Friday, April 9, 1937

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

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Poole of Gardiner.

Journal of the previous session read and approved.

The **SPEAKER**: On the committee of Conference on the disagreeing action of the two branches of the Legislature on bill an act relating to beauty culture, the Chair appoints on the part of the House Messrs. Weatherbee of Lincoln, Coolidge of Livermore and Brown of Bangor.

From the Senate: Majority report of the Committee on Public Utilities reporting ought not to pass on bill an act authorizing municipal corporations to establish, acquire, own and operate public utilities (S. P. No. 210) (L. D. No. 296)

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. Willey of Cumberland  
Goudy of Cumberland  
Graves of Hancock  
—of the Senate.

Parsons of Hartford  
Noyes of Franklin  
Batchelder of Parsonsfield  
Webber of Auburn  
Martin of Oakland  
—of the House.

Minority report of same Committee on same bill reporting same in a new draft (S. P. No. 496) under title of an act authorizing districts, cities, towns and plantations to establish, acquire, own and operate public utilities and that it ought to pass.

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. Packard of Houlton  
Tabbut of Columbia Falls  
—of the House.

Comes from the Senate with the majority report accepted.

In the House:

Mr. **WEBBER** of Auburn: Mr. Speaker, I move that we accept the majority report in concurrence.

Mr. **LEONARD** of Hampden: Mr. Speaker, I move that the bill and reports lie on the table and be specially assigned for next Wednesday.

The motion prevailed and the bill and two reports were tabled pending the motion of the gentleman from Auburn, Mr. Webber, to accept the majority report in concurrence, and the matter was specially assigned for Wednesday, April 14th.

Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

From the Senate: Bill an act relating to vital statistics, S. P. 189, L. D. 288, which was indefinitely postponed in the House on March 31st in non-concurrence, it having previous to that time been passed to be engrossed in the Senate.

Comes from the Senate, recommended to the committee on Library in non-concurrence.

In the House, on motion by Mr. Owen of Bath, that body voted to recede and concur with the Senate in the recommitment of this bill to the committee on Library.

From the Senate: Resolve in favor of J. Edwin Bradbury of Rockland, H. P. 976, which the House recommended to the committee on Claims on April 7th.

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

In the House, that body voted to recede and concur with the Senate in the acceptance of the ought not to pass report.

From the Senate: Bill an act relating to pauper settlement, H. P. 1542, L. D. 569, which was passed to be engrossed in the House on March 31st as amended by House Amendment A in non-concurrence, and which, previous to that time, had been passed to be engrossed in the Senate.

Comes from the Senate, with House Amendment A indefinitely postponed and the bill passed to be engrossed in non-concurrence.

In the House, on motion by Mr. Palmer of Island Falls, that body voted to reconsider its former action whereby the bill was passed to be engrossed on March 31st.

On further motion by the same gentleman the House voted to reconsider its former action whereby House Amendment A was adopted.

On further motion by the same gentleman House Amendment A was indefinitely postponed in concurrence.

Thereupon, on motion by the same gentleman, the bill was passed to be engrossed in concurrence.

From the Senate: Report of the committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs on bill an act to appropriate moneys for the expenditures of State government and for other purposes for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1938, and June 30, 1939, S. P. 164, L. D. 242, reporting same in a new draft, S. P. 481, L. D. 899, under same title and that it ought to pass.

Comes from the Senate, report read and accepted and the bill passed to be engrossed as amended by Senate Amendments E and H.

In the House, on motion by Mr. Flanders of Auburn, the report of the committee was accepted in concurrence.

Thereupon, the bill had its two several readings.

Senate Amendment E was read by the Clerk.

Mr. CHASE of Baring: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I have great faith in the committee on Appropriations. They have all worked hard to present their report and I feel that we should stand behind them. I therefore move the indefinite postponement of Senate Amendment E in non-concurrence.

A viva voce vote being taken, Senate Amendment E was indefinitely postponed in non-concurrence.

Thereupon, Senate Amendment H was read by the Clerk.

Mr. CHASE: Mr. Speaker, my faith in the Appropriations Committee is as strong as ever. I move the indefinite postponement of Senate Amendment H in non-concurrence.

The SPEAKER: Is the House ready for the question? As many as are in favor of the motion for the indefinite postponement of Senate Amendment H will say aye; those opposed no.

A viva voce vote was doubted.

Mr. HINMAN of Skowhegan: Mr. Speaker, I think in view of the fact that there are those who are in doubt, that perhaps it is proper that the Appropriations Committee should give them the reason for its action, and I would be very glad to do that if they so desire.

Mr. MAXIM of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I think some of us would appreciate very much some further information on this matter. I would like to request that the mem-

ber from Skowhegan, Mr. Hinman, give us whatever information he has.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Portland, Mr. Maxim, asks that the gentleman from Skowhegan, Mr. Hinman, give the House such information as he may have, and the gentleman from Skowhegan may do so if he wishes.

Mr. HINMAN: Mr. Speaker, as a background for the action of the Appropriation Committee on this particular part of the budget, was the fact that we have had in here a report of conditions at the State Prison, together with the knowledge that the Governor and Council were not only investigating such subject matter as the report covers, and the more or less general feeling that perhaps some things at the prison were not right. Because of that fact, and because we had absolute assurance in our own mind that the State Prison would be properly and fairly dealt with in due course, and, backing up the administration further, their definite statement to all departments that they would not allow the over-drawing of accounts, we felt that it was absolutely necessary that, regardless of what their findings might be, we not leave them short of money.

Now as to the State Prison itself. In 1935 and 1936 there were 55 new cells built down there. Those cells, according to our information, have been in use. The appropriation of 1935-1936 was overdrawn to the extent of \$19,980.67. The amount spent at the State Prison for commodities before the 55 cells were used was \$120,000. Now we do not actually know that that \$120,000 for commodities was properly spent; we have no proof as to whether or not it was; but we assume that it was, because the prisoners must have enough to eat.

Now they have added 55 cells, and the unfortunates who are in those cells must, without any further consideration, increase the commodity expense; therefore it is estimated that in 1938 and 1939 the commodity item will be \$125,000. In view of certain activities at the State Prison, the budget committee have slashed that item to \$120,000. We have not just reached that figure; we have taken the least amount that we felt they could get along with; and we submit to you that with the record as to the expenditures of the past,

and even hoping that economies will be made, it would be the height of folly, with 55 new cells down there, to reach into the air and grab \$30,000 or any other amount of money that you were going to cut them.

That is the background of our decision. We have given the matter thought, and we hope that our study will be upheld by granting the amount of money that we have recommended.

**The SPEAKER:** The question is on the motion of the gentleman from Baring, Mr. Chase, that Senate Amendment H be indefinitely postponed. As many as are in favor of that motion will rise and remain standing until counted and the monitors will make and return the count.

A division of the House was had, Ninety-three voting in the affirmative and eight in the negative, the motion prevailed and Senate Amendment H was indefinitely postponed in non-concurrence, and tomorrow was assigned for the third reading of the bill.

#### Reports of Committees

Majority report of the Committee on Sea and Shore Fisheries reporting ought to pass on bill an act relating to shipping clams beyond the borders of the State (H. P. No. 1575) (L. D. No. 716)

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. Lewis of Lincoln  
—of the Senate.  
Norwood of Southwest Harbor  
Sleeper of Rockland  
Barter of Stonington  
Pike of Lubec  
Melanson of Cherryfield  
—of the House.

Minority report of same Committee reporting ought not to pass on same bill.

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. Sewall of Sagadahoc  
Wentworth of York  
—of the Senate.  
Prince of Harpswell  
—of the House.

The reports were also accompanied by a telegram from the gentleman from South Portland, Mr. Richardson, as follows:

"So-called packers' bill close time on shipping clams out of State, am opposed to bill. I vote no."

**Mr. SLEEPER:** Mr. Speaker, since to everyone east of the Kennebec River this bill assumes the importance of almost life or death and since the bill has been lobbied inside out by the opponents, we feel that this bill should be accepted with an open mind by every member of this House, so we want you to read it, if you will, and find out everything about it that you can; and everyone who approaches you on the bill, ask them from where they come and for whom they come. This bill is not a packers' bill. I wish to lay the bill on the table and have it specially assigned for next Tuesday morning. I hope all the members will read it, because it is important.

**The SPEAKER:** The gentleman from Rockland, Mr. Sleeper, moves that the bill be laid on the table, pending acceptance of either report, and be specially assigned for Tuesday, April 13th

The motion prevailed and the bill and reports were so tabled and assigned.

#### Reports of Committees (Continued)

Mr. Cambridge from the Committee on Claims reported ought not to pass on resolve in favor of Charles H. Paulson of South Portland (H. P. No. 286).

Mr. Churchill from same Committee reported same on resolve in favor of Guy B. Durrell of Eustis (H. P. No. 603).

Same gentleman from same Committee reported same on resolve in favor of Herman Howard of Cumberland Center (H. P. No. 1401).

Same gentleman from same Committee reported same on resolve in favor of William B. Spiller of Brookline, Massachusetts (H. P. No. 956).

Mr. Cushing from same Committee reported same on resolve in favor of the Plantation of Monhegan (H. P. No. 785).

Reports read and accepted and sent up for concurrence.

Same gentleman from same Committee reported same on resolve in favor of George L. Hall of Rockwood (H. P. No. 1152).

Report read and accepted.

On motion by Mr. Robinson of Bingham, the House voted to reconsider its action whereby the ought not to pass report of the committee on Claims was accepted; and on further motion by the same gentle-

man the resolve and report were tabled pending acceptance of the report and specially assigned for Thursday, April 15th.

Mr. Cushing from the Committee on Claims reported ought not to pass on resolve in favor of Kenney Bros., Inc., of Portland (H. P. No. 1085) (L. D. No. 345).

Same gentleman from same Committee reported same on resolve reimbursing the town of Anson for support of Maurice and Wilfred Weymouth (H. P. No. 830), as it is taken care of otherwise.

Mr. Fuller from same Committee reported same on resolve in favor of A. E. Vining of Minot (H. P. No. 1272).

Mr. Mosher from same Committee reported same on resolve in favor of Emery L. Hussey of Waldo (H. P. No. 1149).

Mr. Palmer from same Committee reported same on resolve to reimburse the town of Bristol for State pauper expenses (H. P. No. 800) as it is taken care of otherwise.

Reports read and accepted and sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Fuller from the Committee on Claims on resolve in favor of Guy M. Babcock of West Gardiner (H. P. No. 650) reported same in a new draft (H. P. No. 1842) under same title and that it ought to pass.

Same gentleman from same Committee on resolve to reimburse the town of Benton, for burial expenses of J. Wilkes Hall a veteran of the Civil War (H. P. No. 987) reported same in a new draft (H. P. No. 1943) under same title and that it ought to pass.

Same gentleman from same Committee on resolve reimbursing the town of Stonington for support of Harry Taylor (H. P. No. 1137) reported same in a new draft (H. P. No. 1844) under same title and that it ought to pass.

Mr. Mosher from same Committee on resolve in favor of Henry E. Redmond of Solon (H. P. No. 181) reported same in a new draft (H. P. No. 1841) under same title and that it ought to pass.

Mr. Paul from the Committee on Legal Affairs on bill an act relating to automobile junk yards (H. P. No. 1671) (L. D. No. 803) reporting same in a new draft (H. P. No. 1845) under same title and that it ought to pass.

Mr. Higgins from same Committee on bill an act relating to elections in the city of Biddeford

(H. P. No. 1107) (L. D. No. 362) reported same in a new draft (H. P. No. 1850) under same title and that it ought to pass

(Bill and report tabled by Mr. Donahue of Biddeford, pending acceptance of the report, and 500 copies of the new draft ordered printed)

Mr. Dow from the Committee on Temperance on bill an act relating to the transportation of intoxicating liquor (H. P. No. 1602) (L. D. No. 664) reported same in a new draft (H. P. No. 1846) under same title and that it ought to pass

Mr. Sleeper from same Committee on bill an act as to the importation of intoxicating liquors other than those consigned to wholesale malt liquor licensees; emergency (H. P. No. 1465) (L. D. No. 685) reported same in a new draft (H. P. No. 1847) under same title and that it ought to pass

Same gentleman from same Committee on bill an act relating to licenses of importers of malt liquors; emergency (H. P. No. 1464) (L. D. No. 673) reported same in a new draft (H. P. No. 1848) under same title and that it ought to pass

Mr. Meserve from same Committee on bill an act regulating the sale of liquor near National and State Homes (H. P. No. 1600) (L. D. No. 662) reported same in a new draft (H. P. No. 1849) under title of an act regulating the sale of liquor near National Home and that it ought to pass

Mr. Philbrick from the Committee on Judiciary on bill an act relating to the extension of the jurisdiction of Municipal Courts in certain cases (H. P. No. 1666) (L. D. No. 788) reported same in a new draft (H. P. No. 1851) under same title and that it ought to pass

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

Mr. Churchill from the Committee on Claims reported ought to pass on resolve in favor of Harry C. Austin & Co., Ellsworth, for burial expenses of Mark Arsenaull, having no known settlement in the State (H. P. No. 802)

Same gentleman from same Committee reported same on resolve, bonus granted to John Charles Mather of Old Town (H. P. No. 1487)

Mr. Palmer from same Committee reported same on resolve in fa-

vor of L. D. Chandler of Boston, Massachusetts, (H. P. No. 343)

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

### First Reading of Printed Bills and Resolves

(H. P. No. 1697) (L. D. No. 989)  
An act relating to the Knox Arboretum.

Mr. Elliot of Thomaston, offered House Amendment A and moved its adoption, as follows:

House Amendment A to H. P. No. 1123, L. D. No. 420, bill, an act relating to the Knox Arboretum.

Amend said bill by striking out all after the title thereof, and substituting in place thereof the following:

'Whereas, a deed of the property known as the "Knox Arboretum" has been offered to the state, and

Whereas, although the 88th legislature recognizes that the said "Knox Arboretum" is one of the outstanding attractions in the state, and worthy of state support; it also realizes that the acceptance of this deed would cause extra expense to the state at a time when the people demand that no additional expenses be authorized unless necessary, and

Whereas, some doubt may arise as to the title of the property of said "Knox Arboretum," now therefore

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Title of "Knox Arboretum" clarified. The State of Maine hereby declares that it does not accept the offer of the conveyance of the lot of land with the buildings thereon, situated in the town of Warren, between Oyster river, and the St. Georges river, and known as "Knox Arboretum," and that no grants or donations made by the state or by its officials shall be construed as evidence of the acceptance of such conveyance.'

The SPEAKER: The question is on the motion of the gentleman from Thomaston, Mr. Elliot, that House Amendment A be adopted. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Skowhegan, Mr. Hinman.

Mr. HINMAN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to table this measure just long enough to talk with Mr. Elliot and two or three others. I would move that it be tabled until tomorrow morning.

The motion prevailed and the bill was tabled pending the adoption of

House Amendment A and specially assigned for tomorrow morning.

(H. P. No. 1835) (L. D. No. 987)  
An act to provide for licenses for outdoor advertising

(H. P. No. 1836) (L. D. No. 993)  
An act relating to sale of alcohol.

(H. P. No. 1838) (L. D. No. 992)  
An act relating to the State Police Retirement System.

(Tabled by Mr. Douglass of Gorham, pending assignment for third reading)

(H. P. No. 1840) (L. D. No. 991)  
An act relative to termination of registrations of motor vehicles

(Tabled by Mr. Larrabee of West Bath, pending assignment for third reading and specially assigned for Tuesday, April 13th)

(H. P. No. 1837) (L. D. No. 990)  
Resolve relating to State pensions

(H. P. No. 1839) (L. D. No. 988)  
Resolve providing pensions for certain soldiers and sailors and dependents

### Passed to Be Engrossed

(S. P. No. 187) (L. D. No. 250)  
An act relative to Rading Commission

(H. P. No. 1832) (L. D. No. 981)  
An act relating to consolidation of corporations

(H. P. No. 1834) (L. D. No. 984)  
An act relating to dealers in junk

(S. P. No. 312) (L. D. No. 588)  
Resolve in favor of the United States of America

(S. P. No. 482) (L. D. No. 915)  
Resolve authorizing sale of certain lands to Eugenia A. Powers

### Orders of the Day

The Chair lays before the House the first tabled and today assigned matter, resolve authorizing D. M. Susi to bring a suit at law against the State of Maine, H. P. 1516, L. D. 605, tabled on April 7th by Mr. Ellis of Rangeley, pending second reading; and the Chair recognizes that gentleman.

On motion by Mr. Ellis, the resolve was referred to the committee on Claims and sent up for concurrence.

The Chair lays before the House the second tabled and today assigned matter, bill an act relating to pauper settlements, H. P. 1545, L. D. 629, which was passed to be engrossed in the House on March 26th and which came from the Senate indefinitely postponed in non-concurrence, and which was

tabled by Mr. Ellis of Fairfield pending further consideration; and the Chair recognizes that gentleman.

Mr. ELLIS of Fairfield: Mr. Speaker, at the request of several town officials who are interested in the bill I had it recalled and tabled for the purpose of amendment. The amendment has not yet been prepared and I would like the bill retabled and assigned for next Tuesday.

The motion prevailed, and the bill was retabled pending further consideration and specially assigned for Tuesday, April 13th.

On motion by Mr. Philbrick of Cape Elizabeth, the rules were suspended and that gentleman permitted to take up a recalled matter, the last item on today's calendar, an act to provide for aid to dependent children, H. P. 1656, L. D. 794, recalled from the Executive to the House by joint order.

On further motion by the same gentleman the rules were suspended to permit a motion to reconsider the passage of the bill to be enacted and a further motion to reconsider the passage of the bill to be engrossed.

Thereupon, on motion by the same gentleman, the House voted to reconsider its former action whereby this bill was passed to be enacted; and on further motion by Mr. Philbrick the House voted to reconsider its action whereby this bill was passed to be engrossed.

Thereupon, Mr. Philbrick offered House Amendment C and moved its adoption as follows:

House Amendment C to H. P. No. 1656, L. D. No. 794, bill an act to provide for aid to dependent children.

Amend Section 8 of said bill by striking out the words "and directed" in the 2nd line thereof;

And further amend said bill by striking out the words "and to comply with such conditions as may be required for such aid;" in the 4th and 5th lines of Section 8 thereof;

And further amend said bill by striking out the word "adoption" in the 7th line of Section 8 thereof, and inserting in place thereof the word "provision";

And further amend said bill by striking out the words "by the federal government" in the 8th line Section 8 thereof.

Thereupon, House Amendment C was adopted.

Mr. PHILBRICK: Mr. Speaker, may I inquire whether we are still proceeding under suspension of the rules so that I may move to reconsider the adoption of House Amendment A.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman may make a motion to suspend the rules for that purpose.

Mr. PHILBRICK: I so move, Mr. Speaker.

Thereupon, the rules were suspended to permit a motion to reconsider the former action of the House whereby House Amendment A was adopted.

On motion by Mr. Philbrick the House voted to reconsider its former action whereby House Amendment A was adopted.

Mr. PHILBRICK: Mr. Speaker, that amendment changed the uniformity of procedure in cases of various dependent children and it seems desirable to all departments concerned that the same procedure be used in all cases.

Thereupon, on further motion by Mr. Philbrick, House Amendment A was indefinitely postponed, and the bill as amended by House Amendments B and C was passed to be engrossed in non-concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Higgins of Ellsworth, it was voted to take from the table the fifth unassigned matter, an act to provide for the perambulation of the Maine and New Hampshire Boundary Line, S. P. 345, L. D. 614, tabled by that gentleman on April 6th pending passage to be enacted.

On motion by Mr. Higgins, the rules were suspended to permit a motion to reconsider the previous action of the House whereby this bill was passed to be engrossed; and on further motion by the same gentleman the House voted to reconsider its previous action whereby this bill was passed to be engrossed.

Thereupon, Mr. Higgins offered House Amendment A and moved its adoption as follows:

House Amendment A to S. P. No. 345, L. D. No. 614, bill an act to provide for the perambulation of the Maine and New Hampshire Boundary Line.

Amend said bill by striking out all of Sec. 4 and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Sec. 4—Appropriation. There is hereby appropriated the sum of



\$1,000 to carry out the provisions of this act for the fiscal years 1937-1938.'

House Amendment A was adopted, and the bill was passed to be engrossed, as amended by House Amendment A, in non-concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Packard of Houlton, it was voted to take from the table the second unassigned matter, majority report ought to pass in New Draft "B" and minority report ought to pass in new draft "A" of the committee on Public Utilities on bill an act exempting trucking of farm products and certain lumbering products from the Common Carrier Law, H. P. 1624, L. D. 751, new draft "B" H. P. 1829, L. D. 979, new draft "A" H. P. 1830, L. D. 980, tabled by that gentleman on April 6th pending acceptance of either report.

Mr. PACKARD: Mr. Speaker, I move that we accept the majority report, new draft "B" ought to pass, and I want to state that this new draft is acceptable to the farmers, lumbermen, truckmen, and railroads on condition that an amendment which will be offered in a short time is offered and accepted.

A viva voce vote being taken, the motion prevailed and majority report "B" ought to pass in new draft, was accepted.

Thereupon, the rules were suspended and the bill given its two several readings and tomorrow assigned.

On motion by Mr. Flanders of Auburn, it was voted to take from the table the fourth unassigned matter, an act relating to mileage compensation for county officials, H. P. 1761, L. D. 871, tabled by that gentleman on April 6th pending passage to be enacted.

On motion by the same gentleman under suspension of the rules the House voted to reconsider its action whereby this bill was passed to be engrossed.

The same gentleman then offered House Amendment A and moved its adoption, as follows:

House Amendment A to H. P. No. 1761, L. D. No. 871, bill, an act relating to mileage compensation for county officials.

Amend said bill by striking out from the title thereof, the words "for county officials."

Further amend said bill by strik-

ing out all after the enacting clause, and inserting in place thereof the following:

'One mileage allowable. One official only shall be allowed mileage when two or more officials travel in the same conveyance on official business for any county.'

House Amendment A was adopted and the bill as amended by House Amendment A was passed to be engrossed in non-concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Robinson of Bingham, it was voted to take from the table the first unassigned matter, resolve for the construction of bunters along Austin Stream, H. P. 1629, L. D. 773, which was passed to be engrossed in the House on April 2nd and which came from the Senate indefinitely postponed in non-concurrence. In the House, on April 6th, under suspension of the rules, the passage to be engrossed was reconsidered, and on motion by Mr. Robinson of Bingham, it was tabled pending passage to be engrossed.

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

House Amendment A to H. P. No. 1629, L. D. No. 773, entitled, resolve for the construction of bunters along Austin Stream.

Amend said resolve by striking out at the end of the resolve the following words: "the general highway fund and expended for said purposes by the state highway commission." and inserting in lieu thereof the following words: "the general funds of the state and expended for said purposes by the county commissioners of Somerset County."

Thereupon, a viva voce vote being taken, House Amendment A was adopted, and on further motion by the same gentleman the resolve was passed to be engrossed as amended by House Amendment A, in non-concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Ellis of Rangeley, it was voted to take from the table the tenth unassigned matter, resolve providing for the payment of certain damages caused by protected wild animals, S. P. 483, tabled by that gentleman on April 8th, pending final passage and on further motion by the same gentleman the resolve was finally passed.

Mr. PHILBRICK of Cape Elizabeth: Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous

consent to address the House briefly.

The SPEAKER: Is there objection? The Chair hears no objection and the gentleman may proceed.

Mr. PHILBRICK: Mr. Speaker, among the bills referred to the Judiciary Committee this year were two bills affecting the Workmen's Compensation Act and asking very substantial and important changes in that law. The bills as drafted, I think it was the unanimous agreement not only of the committee but also of the parties interested, were not in proper shape to be favorably reported. The time for making a new draft or a proper draft of the bills was insufficient, because we were informed by the Chairman of the Industrial Accident Commission that he had been working on the subject himself for two years, and that it probably would take at least two years more to get proper bills prepared. The bills are debatable in policy, but there seems to be sufficient call for them so that we should not reject them summarily. The committee would therefore like to report to this House that they be referred to a recess committee in each case. Therefore, I ask unanimous consent to introduce at this time a resolve creating a recess committee. If unanimous consent is granted to introduce Resolve Creating a Recess Committee on Compensation for Occupational Diseases, a similar resolve will be introduced in the Senate taking care of the other bill.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Cape Elizabeth, Mr. Philbrick, asks unanimous consent to introduce a resolve notwithstanding the provisions of the joint closing order. Is there objection? The Chair hears no objection. The gentleman now presents a resolve, and the Chair declares the resolve received.

Mr. PHILBRICK: Mr. Speaker, if it is in order, I move that the resolve be given its first reading without reference to any committee.

The motion prevailed, the resolve was given its first reading, 500 copies ordered printed, and tomorrow assigned.

On motion by Mr. Varney of Berwick, it was voted to take from the

table the ninth unassigned matter, bill an act relating to registration of stone-crushers, well-drillers, steam shovels, graders, rollers and wood-sawing outfits, H. P. 1833, L. D. 983, tabled on April 8th by that gentleman, pending first reading.

Mr. VARNEY: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: So many members of the House have approached me concerning the provisions of this bill that before it goes any further I would like to call the attention of all of the members as to just what the bill does.

Apparently a good many of you are under the impression that it places a ten dollar tax on every little wood-sawing machine that you might have.

Under the law at the present time, any wood-sawing machine or well-driller or grader or steam shovel or roller which is permanently mounted on a tractional unit or motor chassis, which means, in substance, permanently mounted on a unit which operates itself over the highway, must now be registered as a truck and pay the registration fee of a truck of whatever rate that should be.

As those various equipments which are permanently mounted and operate along the highways under their own power are not frequently run over our highways, there was a feeling that they should not pay the regular registration fee for a truck. This bill therefore provides that particular equipment may be registered for a flat fee of ten dollars. Now it really cuts down the fee for which you can now license such apparatus. The minimum, as I understand it now, for a truck, would be \$14, and increasing up to I guess forty or fifty dollars for some of those trucks.

This bill does not apply to the ordinary wood-sawing machine which you tow over the highway or haul along the highway not under its own power.

If I have not made myself clear to any of the members of the House, I would be glad to go into a further explanation of the bill. It is really cutting down the fee and is not increasing it at all. I move that the bill be given its first reading.

Thereupon the bill was given its two several readings and tomorrow assigned.

On motion by Mr. Brown of Eagle Lake, it was voted to take from the table the eighth unassigned matter, bill an act relating to weekly payment of wages, H. P. 1823, L. D. 977, tabled on April 7th by that gentleman, pending third reading; and on further motion by the same

gentleman the bill was given its third reading and passed to be engrossed.

On motion by Mr. Merrill of Stetson,

Adjourned until ten o'clock tomorrow morning.