

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Record

OF THE

Eighty-Ninth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1939

KENNEBEC JOURNAL COMPANY
AUGUSTA, MAINE

HOUSE

Friday, February 24, 1939.

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

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Gesner of Augusta.

Journal of the previous session read and approved.

Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

Senate Bill in First Reading

Bill "An Act to Permit Charles Hayden Foundation to be and become a Limited Partner in Hayden, Stone & Co. and to Authorize said Firm to Conduct Business under Said Name" (S. P. 62) (L. D. 35)

Bill read twice and tomorrow assigned.

From the Senate: Bill "An Act to Grant a New Charter to the City of Gardiner" (H. P. 682) (L. D. 266) which was passed to be engrossed in the House on February 22nd as amended by House Amendment "A".

Comes from the Senate, recommended to the Committee on Legal Affairs in non-concurrence.

In the House: On motion by Mr. Dow of Norway, the House voted to insist and ask for a Committee of Conference.

The SPEAKER: The Chair will announce the names of the members of the Conference Committee later.

The following remonstrances were received, and upon recommendation of the Committee on Reference of Bills, were referred to the following committee:

Taxation

Remonstrance of City Council of Bangor against Proposed Legislation Imposing Additional Taxes on the Municipalities in Connection with the Old Age Pension (H. P. 1813) (Presented by Mr. Eddy of Bangor)

Remonstrance of C. J. Bowley and 487 others of Rockland and vicinity against any Increase in the Gasoline Tax (H. P. 1814) (Presented by Mr. Sleeper of Rockland)

Sent up for concurrence.

Mr. WINTER of Kingfield: Mr. Speaker, I would like unanimous consent to address the House.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Kingfield, Mr. Winter, asks unanimous consent to address the House. Is there objection? The Chair hears none, and the gentleman may proceed.

Mr. WINTER: Mr. Speaker, I have a resolve that came in this morning from the town of Eustis, which I would like to present.

The SPEAKER: The Clerk will read the title of the resolve.

Resolve in favor of the town of Eustis.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Kingfield, Mr. Winter, asks unanimous consent to introduce a resolve at this time, out of order and under suspension of the rules, notwithstanding the joint closing order. Is there objection? The Chair hears none, and the resolve is introduced.

On motion by Mr. Winter the resolve was referred to the Committee on Claims and sent up for concurrence.

Additional paper from the Senate, out of order and under suspension of the rules.

From the Senate: The following Order:

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they adjourn to meet on Tuesday, February 28th, 1939, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon (S. P. 440)

Comes from the Senate, read and passed.

In the House, read and passed in concurrence.

Orders

On motion by Mr. Maxim of Portland, it was

ORDERED, that the use of the hall of the House be granted to the Committee on Taxation for the afternoon of Tuesday, March 7th, 1939, Wednesday, March 8th, 1939, and Thursday, March 9th, 1939.

On motion by Mr. Howes of Charleston, it was

ORDERED, that the use of the hall of the House be granted to the Committee on Labor for the afternoon of Tuesday, February 28th, 1939.

On motion by Mr. Larrabee of West Bath, it was

ORDERED, that the use of the hall of the House be granted to the Committee on Agriculture for the afternoon of Thursday, March 16th, 1939.

On motion by Mr. Farrington of Augusta, it was

ORDERED, that there be printed 500 additional copies of H. P. 1683, L. D. 739, Bill "An Act providing for the Disposition of Moneys from the Tax on Gasoline Purchased for Use in Internal Combustion Engines."

Reports of Committees

Mr. McGlaulin from the House Committee on Leave of Absence reported that Mr. Robinson of Bingham be excused from attending the sessions of the House during his illness.

Legislation Inexpedient

Mr. Douglass from the Committee on Salaries and Fees on Bill "An Act relating to Increase in the Salary of the Judge of the Caribou Municipal Court" (H. P. 1200) (L. D. 714) reported that legislation is inexpedient.

Same gentleman from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Clerk Hire in the Office of Register of Probate for Franklin County" (H. P. 943) (L. D. 371)

Mr. Dow from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Compensation of the Register of Probate of Franklin County" (H. P. 942) (L. D. 370)

Mr. Fernald from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act to Increase the Salary of the Judge of the Farmington Municipal Court" (H. P. 16) (L. D. 20)

Leave to Withdraw

Mr. Churchill from same Committee on Bill "An Act relating to Clerk Hire in the Office of Sheriff of Androscoggin County" (H. P. 514) (L. D. 167) reported leave to withdraw.

Mr. McGillicuddy from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to the Sheriff of Lincoln County" (H. P. 1454) (L. D. 563)

Ought Not to Pass Report Tabled

Mr. Starrett from the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game re-

ported "Ought not to pass" on Resolve Regulating Fishing in Scraggly Lake (H. P. 1105) (L. D. 393)

(On motion by Mr. Varney of Berwick, tabled pending acceptance of committee report)

Mr. LaFleur from the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game reported "Ought not to pass" on Resolve for Screening Sabbathday Lake (H. P. 550)

Mr. Hanold from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relative to Game Preserve in Penobscot County" (H. P. 1128) (L. D. 406)

Mr. Fernald from the Committee on Motor Vehicles reported same on Bill "An Act relating to the Use of License Plate Locks on Motor Vehicles" (H. P. 565) (L. D. 198)

Mr. Dow from the Committee on Salaries and Fees reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Salary of Clerk of the Northern Registry of Deeds in Aroostook County" (H. P. 1455) (L. D. 564)

Reports were read and accepted and sent up for concurrence.

Ought to Pass in New Draft

Mr. Downs from the Committee on Salaries and Fees on Bill "An Act relative to an Increase in the Salary of the Judge and of the Recorder of the Presque Isle Municipal Court" (H. P. 1201) (L. D. 415) reported same in a new draft (H. P. 1815) under same title and that it "Ought to pass"

Report read and accepted and the new draft ordered printed under the Joint Rules.

Mr. Ford from same Committee on Bill "An Act relating to Clerk Hire in the Office of Register of Deeds of Franklin County" (H. P. 578) (L. D. 203) reported same in a new draft (H. P. 1816) under same title and that it "Ought to pass"

Mr. MILLS of Farmington: Mr. Speaker, I would hesitate to oppose the acceptance of this report were it not for the fact this is a matter up in my own neck of the woods.

You have this morning considered legislation inexpedient on three salary increases in Franklin County. This particular one, which comes from the committee in a new draft with the report that it ought to pass, has some merit, but I think that there are others upon which legislation has been reported inexpedient in Franklin County which are just as meritorious.

A good deal of attention was given to this particular bill by one of our

political guns in Franklin County. He is a good fellow, but this morning I am not on his firing line.

Up in Franklin County our people are making less than they were several years ago, and I feel that ninety-five per cent of the people up there do not want to raise the salaries. That has come to my attention walking down the street when I go home, because people speak of it repeatedly. I would feel I was shirking my duty if I sat here in my chair and saw this go by without raising my voice against it.

A matter like this, of course, concerns the County Commissioners; it is their business to look out for the money of the county and what is being spent. I expected all along at these hearings for salary increases in Franklin County that they would be coming down here and saying something about it, but they did not appear in any of the hearings, either in opposition or in favor of these salary increase propositions. So last week I sent to them posthaste letters with return envelopes self-addressed and stamped, and I thought that would surely get some answer out of them. I did not do it with any intention of putting them on the spot, but I thought it was their business and they ought to say something about it. I got two letters back, and the third I have not heard from.

If I am not trespassing on the time of the members, I would like to read a little from these two letters which I got. One of them says:

"Our Board is not unmindful of the fact that salaries paid County Officers in Franklin County is rather less than that paid in the other small Counties of the State, still we do not feel that conditions at the present time, warrant any general increase, and we do not think it would be fair for us to favor an increase for one or two, and not the others.

"I think that Mr. (Blank), our Chairman, will advise you of the stand we have decided to take in the matter, and I will say that we have made this decision unanimous."

Now from that I thought the Chairman was going to send me a statement one way or the other on these salary raises. This is what he said:

"I am in receipt of your letter of

February 17 and in reply to same will say that at the last regular meeting of the County Commissioners of Franklin County, due to the fact every official in the Court House was anxious for a raise in salary, the Commissioners decided they would not sign any papers for or against any raise of salaries.

Sincerely,"

From the Chairman there is nothing on record one way or another, and the others say they are not in favor of any salary raises at this time. So I make the motion, Mr. Speaker, that this committee report be indefinitely postponed.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Mills, moves the indefinite postponement of the report of the Committee on Salaries and Fees on H. P. 578, on Bill "An Act relating to Clerk Hire in the Office of Register of Deeds of Franklin County."

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Saco, Mr. Ford.

Mr. FORD: Mr. Speaker, when this bill first came into the Committee, it seemed to have a rough voyage all the way through. At the hearing there were six members of the committee present. When we voted, three voted in the negative and two in the affirmative, one not voting.

It is not the attitude of your Committee on Salaries and Fees to be unfair with anybody. We have no desire to decrease the salary of anybody up in Franklin County.

The evidence that was presented to us was very limited. We did not receive a report from the Franklin County delegation, neither did we have any report from the County Commissioners, so it was on our own judgment that we voted as we did. Not wishing to see a divided report come into the House, I was one of the two who were instrumental in getting that bill back to the committee, which we did, and it was suggested, after further deliberations—by the way, the letters that the member from Farmington, Mr. Mills, has read to you, we did not see those letters. We could only judge the merits of the bill from what evidence was produced, and I think we voted fairly. However, after the bill came back, we thought we would be fair to both parties and we gave them a raise of three dollars each, which meant a fifty-fifty proposition. I

think that every man and woman in the Legislature would agree that was a very fair proposition.

It came to my attention yesterday that there were some politics back of this bill. That may be so or it may not be so, it matters not to me. But I think your Committee acted very wisely, and, on these grounds, I move the acceptance of the report.

Mr. RICHARDSON of Strong: Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the motion of the member from Farmington, Mr. Mills, for indefinite postponement.

I do not believe that this body should lose sight of the fact that two members of that Board of County Commissioners were present and in this building but on the wrong side of the door when this particular measure was heard by this Committee, not possessing, for some reason, the necessary intestinal fortitude to go on record.

I believe when we take this action we are merely saying that the people of Franklin County are to pay a certain amount for a certain service. The people of Franklin County are not in accord with any such move. I believe that we are here to represent them and not the chosen few who have assumed the right to speak.

Mr. FORD: Mr. Speaker, I still want to impress upon the minds of this House that we can only vote on the evidence that is given us. If the men were on the wrong side of the door, that was not our fault. Perhaps there are other members of the committee who would like to speak in behalf of the report.

Mr. DOWNS of Rome: Mr. Speaker, I am one of the committee who heard the evidence on this particular matter. That evidence was more or less conflicting, and it consisted more or less in whispered innuendos in the lobby rather than concrete evidence presented to the committee. For the purpose of harmony, as stated by the gentleman of the committee, that matter came out of the committee as it did.

I feel that it would be only fair to say at this time that this is a matter which concerns Franklin County alone, it concerns the taxpayers of Franklin County alone, and I do not believe that it matters very much to us as a whole, and I do not believe that the dignity of the Committee on Salaries and Fees

would be very badly affected if the motion of the gentleman from Farmington (Mr. Mills) prevailed.

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is on the motion of the gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Mills, that the report of the Committee on Salaries and Fees on H. P. 578 on Bill "An Act relating to Clerk Hire in the Office of Register of Deeds of Franklin County" be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. LAFLEUR of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I am not speaking by request, and perhaps I will make myself disliked in this body this morning if I favor the motion of the gentleman from Farmington (Mr. Mills).

I am very much concerned at the present time that there are pending in this body at least ten or fifteen bills which would increase the salaries of certain officials in our counties and would increase the salaries of our judges and recorders.

This may be a county matter, but in my own county there is a bill pending before this body which would increase the salary of the recorder in one of our courts, and I find that the reason for the increase is apparently that the duties of the recorder have increased. I find upon investigation that the Judge of that court is here, lobbying in this present body. He is lobbying here for pay, and he turned the duties of his court over to his recorder, and the recorder wishes an increase in salary.

In the County of Sagadahoc, I understand that there is a bill to increase the compensation of the present judge. I ascertain on good authority that there are at least four hundred farmers in that county that cannot presently pay their taxes. Now there is a bill in this present Legislature which would send back to the towns a proportionate part of the cost of the old-age relief investigation and part payment thereof, and I hear from the towns and the counties that they are opposed to that measure on the ground that they cannot pay, and yet they come in here for an increase in pay.

There is a bill before this Legislature which would reduce the salaries of the State officials five percent, I believe. There is also a bill here that would reduce the working days from six to five days a week. There is also a bill which would

increase the compensation of the State Police. I would like to give to every man an increase in salary, but before we do that, gentlemen, we have got to pay our taxes at home. I stand upon this floor as an attorney-at-law opposing any increase to any judge or any recorder under the present conditions in this State. I hope that the motion of the gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Mills, prevails. (Applause)

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is on the motion of the gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Mills, that the report of the Committee on Salaries and Fees, "Ought to pass in new draft" and accompanying bill, H. P. 578, be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. LaFLEUR: Mr. Speaker, I would ask for a division of this House upon this very important question.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Portland, Mr. LaFleur, asks for a division. All those who are in favor of the motion for indefinite postponement of the report and bill will rise and stand until counted and the Monitors will make and return the count.

A division of the House was had.

One hundred and eight having voted in the affirmative and two in the negative, the motion prevailed and the "Ought to pass in new draft" report of the committee was indefinitely postponed and sent up for concurrence.

Reports of Committees (Continued) Ought To Pass In New Draft

Mr. McGillicuddy from the Committee on Salaries and Fees on Bill "An Act relating to Salaries in Lincoln County" (H. P. 1339) (L. D. 510) reported same in a new draft (H. P. 1817) under same title and that it "Ought to pass"

Mr. LaFLEUR of Portland: Mr. Speaker, for the same reasons I advanced on the other bill, I move you that this report be indefinitely postponed.

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is on the motion of the gentleman from Portland, Mr. LaFleur, that the report of the Committee on Salaries and Fees "Ought to pass in new draft" on (H. P. 1339) (L. D. 510) new draft (H. P. 1817) Bill "An Act relating to Salaries in Lincoln County" be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. VARNEY of Berwick: Mr. Speaker, I move that this report lie on the table.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Berwick, Mr. Varney, moves that the report lie on the table pending the motion of the gentleman from Portland, Mr. LaFleur, that the report be indefinitely postponed.

Is this the pleasure of the House? The motion prevailed and the report was so tabled.

Mr. LaFLEUR: Now, Mr. Speaker—

The SPEAKER: For what purpose does the gentleman rise?

Mr. LaFLEUR: Mr. Speaker, I wish to reconsider the action taken by the House a few moments ago whereby it accepted the report of the Committee on Salaries and Fees reporting "Ought to pass in new draft" on Bill "An Act relative to an Increase in the Salary of the Judge and of the Recorder of the Presque Isle Municipal Court" (H. P. 1201) (L. D. 415) new draft (H. P. 1815).

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Portland, Mr. LaFleur, now moves that the House reconsider its action taken a few moments ago whereby it accepted the report of the Committee on Salaries and Fees reporting "Ought to pass in new draft" on Bill "An Act relative to an Increase in the Salary of the Judge and of the Recorder of the Presque Isle Municipal Court" (H. P. 1201) (L. D. 415) new draft (H. P. 1815). Is this the pleasure of the House? All those in favor will say aye; those opposed no.

Mr. McGLAUFILIN of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I move that this report also lie on the table.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlaulin, moves that the report lie on the table. Will the gentleman from Portland assign a definite date for the consideration of the motion to reconsider?

Mr. McGLAUFILIN: Any date next week, Mr. Speaker. I will suggest Wednesday of next week.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlaulin, moves that the report lie on the table pending the motion of the gentleman from Portland, Mr. LaFleur, for reconsideration of the action taken in today's session whereby it accepted the "Ought to

pass in new draft" report of the Committee on Salaries and Fees on Bill "An Act relative to an Increase in the Salary of the Judge and of the Recorder of the Presque Isle Municipal Court" (H. P. 1201) (L. D. 415) new draft (H. P. 1815), and that the matter be specially assigned for next Wednesday, March 1st. Is this the pleasure of the House?

The motion prevailed and the report was so tabled.

Mr. FORD of Saco: Mr. Speaker, I move that we reconsider the action of the House taken earlier in today's session, whereby the House voted to indefinitely postpone the report of the Committee on Salaries and Fees, "Ought to pass in new draft" on Bill "An Act relating to Clerk Hire in the Office of Register of Deeds of Franklin County" (H. P. 578) (L. D. 203) new draft (H. P. 1816). I wish the report to lie on the table.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Saco, Mr. Ford, moves that the House reconsider its action taken earlier in today's session, whereby the House voted to indefinitely postpone the report of the Committee on Salaries and Fees, "Ought to pass in new draft" on Bill "An Act relating to Clerk Hire in the Office of Register of Deeds of Franklin County" (H. P. 578) (L. D. 203) new draft (H. P. 1816). The Chair will ask the gentleman if he voted in the affirmative on that matter.

Mr. FORD: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair will inform the gentleman from Saco, Mr. Ford, that the question was: Did the gentleman vote in the affirmative on the motion to indefinitely postpone?

Mr. FORD: I did not, Mr. Speaker, I voted in the negative.

The SPEAKER: A motion to reconsider, then, is not in order from the gentleman from Saco (Mr. Ford).

Reports of Committees (Continued) Ought to Pass

Mr. Palmeter from the Committee on Public Health reported "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to Registration Fees for Apothecaries" (H. P. 936) (L. D. 326)

Mr. Arzonico from the Committee on Public Utilities reported same on Bill "An Act to Extend the

Charter of the Central Aroostook Railway Company" (H. P. 577) (L. D. 202)

Mr. LaFleur from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act to Amend the Charter of the Gray Water District" (H. P. 513) (L. D. 166)

Reports were read and accepted.

Report Tabled

Mr. Downs from the Committee on Salaries and Fees reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Clerk Hire in the Office of the Register of Deeds in Lincoln County" (H. P. 579) (L. D. 204)

(On motion by Mr. LaFleur, of Portland, tabled pending acceptance of committee report and specially assigned for next Wednesday)

The SPEAKER: The Chair at this time will announce the members of the Committee on Conference on Bill "An Act to Grant a New Charter to the City of Gardiner" (H. P. 682) (L. D. 266).

The Chair will appoint as members of that committee the gentleman from Norway, Mr. Dow, the gentleman from Gardiner, Mr. Slosberg, and the gentleman from Camden, Mr. Dwinall.

First Reading of Printed Bills and Resolves

Bill "An Act relating to Town Clerks" (H. P. 244) (L. D. 60)

Bill "An Act relating to Removal of Paupers from Towns wherein They Have no Settlement" (H. P. 245) (L. D. 61)

Bill "An Act relating to Removal of Paupers" (H. P. 246) (L. D. 62)

Bill "An Act relating to Removal of Paupers" (H. P. 488) (L. D. 183)

Bill "An Act relating to Pauper Settlements" (H. P. 552) (L. D. 189)

Bill "An Act relating to the All Maine Fair Association" (H. P. 670) (L. D. 245)

Bill "An Act relating to Apportionment of School Equalization Fund" (H. P. 673) (L. D. 248)

Bill "An Act to Incorporate the city of Presque Isle" (H. P. 683) (L. D. 267)

Bill "An Act to Incorporate the Presque Isle Water District" (H. P. 921) (L. D. 308)

Bill "An Act Validating Acts of Boothbay Harbor and Southport" (H. P. 1177) (L. D. 494)

Bill "An Act relating to the Har-

risson Mutual Fire Insurance Company" (H. P. 1185) (L. D. 456)

Bill "An Act Authorizing Cities and Towns to Raise Money for Certain Purposes" (H. P. 1330) (L. D. 538)

Bill "An Act relating to Exemption of Polls and Estates from Taxation, of Veterans of the Philippine Insurrection" (H. P. 1344) (L. D. 531)

Bill "An Act relating to Payment to State of Teachers' Retirement Association Deductions" (H. P. 1409) (L. D. 603)

Bill "An Act relating to Set-offs against Taxes" (H. P. 1808) (L. D. 981)

Bill "An Act relating to Operators' Licenses" (H. P. 1809) (L. D. 982)

Resolve in favor of George H. Larrabee of Portland (H. P. 1147) (L. D. 978)

Resolve in favor of the town of Nobleboro (H. P. 1806) (L. D. 979)

Resolve in favor of Allen C. Reed and Warren Reed of Boothbay Harbor (H. P. 1807) (L. D. 980)

Resolve relating to the Digging of Clams in the town of Brooksville (H. P. 1810) (L. D. 983)

Resolve relating to the Digging of Clams in the town of Sedgwick (H. P. 1811) (L. D. 984)

Resolve relating to the Digging of Clams in the town of Brooklin (H. P. 1812) (L. D. 985)

Bills were read twice, Resolves read once, and tomorrow assigned.

Passed To Be Engrossed

Bill "An Act relative to Taking Tuna" (S. P. 418) (L. D. 877)

Bill "An Act relating to Probation Officers" (H. P. 1786) (L. D. 967)

Sent up for concurrence.

Finally Passed (Emergency Measure)

Resolve Appropriating Money for the Study and Control of the European Spruce Sawfly (S. P. 230) (L. D. 275)

The SPEAKER: This being an emergency measure it requires for its passage the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the entire elected membership of the House. As many as are in favor that the resolve be finally passed will rise and stand in their places until counted and the Monitors will make and return the count.

A division was had.

One hundred and nineteen voting in the affirmative and none in the negative, 119 being more than two-

thirds of the entire elected membership of the House, the resolve was finally passed.

Passed To Be Enacted

An Act to Establish the Van Buren Municipal Court (S. P. 91) (L. D. 54)

An Act to Amend and Extend the Charter of Kennebec Reservoir Company (S. P. 182) (L. D. 233)

An Act Ratifying the Conveyance of Certain Land and Buildings in Thomaston (H. P. 139) (L. D. 50)

An Act relating to Corporations (H. P. 281) (L. D. 88)

An Act in relation to the Duties of Town Treasurer (H. P. 509) (L. D. 163)

An Act relating to Recording of Personal Property Titles (H. P. 564) (L. D. 197)

An Act to Incorporate the Charles A. Dean Memorial Hospital (H. P. 922) (L. D. 361)

An Act to Amend the Charter of the York Beach Village Corporation (H. P. 926) (L. D. 364)

An Act relating to the York Beach Village Corporation (H. P. 927) (L. D. 365)

An Act Conferring Additional Powers on Domestic Insurance Companies (H. P. 929) (L. D. 320)

An Act to Clarify the Meaning of the Law Regulating Mutual Insurance Companies (H. P. 930) (L. D. 321)

An Act relating to the Charter of the Aroostook Mutual Fire Insurance Company (H. P. 1184) (L. D. 455)

Finally Passed

Resolve relating to Smelt Fishing in Georges River (H. P. 138) (L. D. 49)

Resolve relating to the Taking of Shellfish and Worms within the Limits of the Town of Falmouth (H. P. 257) (L. D. 69)

Resolve Regulating Fishing in Certain Waters in Auburn (H. P. 473) (L. D. 144)

Resolve relating to Digging of Clams in Harrington (H. P. 516) (L. D. 169)

Orders Of The Day

Mr. PAYSON of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I move that the House take from the table the first unassigned matter, Memorial Memorializing the Postmaster General of the United States Relative to a Special Postage Stamp in Honor of Captain Jeremiah O'Brien (H. P. 868) tabled

on February 21st by accident in my name, without my knowledge and consent.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Portland, Mr. Payson, moves that the House take from the table the first unassigned matter, Memorial Memorializing the Postmaster General of the United States Relative to a Special Postage Stamp in Honor of Captain Jeremiah O'Brien (H. P. 868) tabled by that gentleman on February 21st pending adoption.

Mr. PAYSON: Mr. Speaker, I now offer House Amendment "A" with a brief explanation.

When this matter was considered by the Committee on Federal Relations, we were in an economy mood, and we decided to let the Postmaster General read about our action in the newspaper, thinking that might be sufficient; but, on further consideration of the matter, we decided that perhaps it would be proper to mail him a copy. It is with some trepidation that I make this proposal now, because of the economy attitude this Legislature has shown, but I will say that one member of the House has already offered to pay the postage, if there is serious objection.

The SPEAKER: The Clerk will read House Amendment "A".

House Amendment "A" to H. P. 868 Memorial Memorializing the Postmaster General of the United States Relative to a Special Postage Stamp in Honor of Captain Jeremiah O'Brien.

Amend said Memorial by striking out all of the last paragraph, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

RESOLVED, That a certified copy of this Memorial be transmitted by the Secretary of State to the Postmaster General of the United States, and to each of the Representatives and Senators representing the State of Maine in Congress.

Thereupon, House Amendment "A" was adopted and the Memorial as amended was adopted.

Mr. RICHARDSON of Strong: Mr. Speaker, could I ask a question through the Chair?

Mr. SPEAKER: The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. RICHARDSON: Mr. Speaker, we did not understand from the Memorial whether that was to be transmitted by mail or taken in person.

The SPEAKER: The Chair will inform the gentleman that he has a printed copy of the amendment on his desk which he may consult and draw his own conclusions.

On motion by Mr. Brown of Eagle Lake, the House voted to take from the table the tenth unassigned matter, House Report, "Ought to pass in new draft under same title" of the Committee on Claims on Resolve in Favor of Sylvia A. Martin of Eagle Lake (H. P. 1805) tabled on February 23rd by that gentleman pending acceptance; and on further motion by the same gentleman the report of the Committee was accepted.

On motion by Mr. Brown of Eagle Lake, the House voted to take from the table the eleventh unassigned matter, Bill "An Act to Incorporate the Town of Princeton Lighting District" (S. P. 184) (L. D. 235) tabled on February 23rd by that gentleman pending third reading.

Mr. Dow then offered House Amendment A and moved its adoption.

House Amendment "A" to S. P. 184, L. D. 235, Bill, "An Act to Incorporate the Town of Princeton Lighting District"

Amend said Bill by adding thereto before the enacting clause thereof of the following:

'Emergency preamble. Whereas, the present facilities for lighting the town of Princeton are liable to cease to be available because of financial difficulties, and

Whereas, it is necessary that electric power be available for the town of Princeton, and

Whereas, a delay of 3 or 4 months might leave the said town without electric service, and

Whereas, in the judgment of the legislature these facts create an emergency within the meaning of section 16 of Article XXXI of the constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore'

Further amend said bill by striking out the 1st sentence of section 8 thereof, and inserting in place thereof the following:

"This act shall take effect on approval by the governor for the purpose of permitting its accept-

ance or rejection by the legal voters of the town of Princeton at any annual or special town meeting legally called to consider the acceptance of this act; an appropriate article being inserted in the call for said meeting.'

Further amend said bill by adding at the end thereof the following:

'Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this act shall take effect when approved.'

Thereupon, House Amendment "A" was adopted, and the bill had its third reading, was passed to be engrossed as amended by House Amendment "A" in non-concurrence, and sent up for concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Fellows of Augusta, the House voted to take from the table the seventh unassigned matter, House Report, "Ought not

to pass" of the Committee on Judiciary on Bill "An Act Relating to Pauper Settlements" (H. P. 503) (L. D. 157) tabled on February 23rd by that gentleman pending acceptance; and on further motion by the same gentleman the House voted to accept the "Ought not to pass" report of the committee and sent up for concurrence.

The SPEAKER: Are there any further matters that can be taken from the table?

Is there any other business to come before the House under Orders of the Day? If not, the Clerk will read the notices.

On motion by Mr. Chandler of New Gloucester,

Adjourned until Tuesday, February 28th, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon.