

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Record

SPECIAL SESSION

JULY 22, 1940

HOUSE

Wednesday, October 23, 1940.

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

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Pressey of Augusta.

Journal of the previous session read and approved.

From the Senate: The following Order:

ORDERED, the House concurring, that the Joint Select Committee created by H. P. 2254 as amended, shall continue to have, and exercise the duties and powers set forth in said Order; and shall render its final report to the 90th Legislature, anything contained in said Order to the contrary notwithstanding (S. P. 793)

Came from the Senate, read and passed.

In the House:

Mr. HINMAN of Skowhegan: Mr. Speaker, in this Order coming along, I think that all the members of the House would like to express emphatically to the members of this particular Committee the fact that in asking them to continue it is not without due consideration of the service that they have rendered and the very important fact that it has been without any remuneration.

On the other hand, many of us feel that the work which they have done is of so much importance to the best interests of the State, and we yesterday having made arrangements for a similar Acting Committee to come into being during the next Legislative Session, there are many who feel that if we could have this Committee for the balance of this year, with them realizing that we did appreciate the service that they had rendered, and that in asking them to continue we were mindful of the sacrifice that they were making, but with the probability that they might not have to meet more than once a month and a few days previous to the regular session, it seemed in order that we might request them to do this, and I move you, Sir, that we of the House, having taken the stand that we are appreciative of what they have done and mindful of the fact that they must continue to give a little of their time to this cause without us being able to show our appreciation other than by

words, that this Order have a passage.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Skowhegan, Mr. Hinman, moves that the Order have passage in concurrence. Is this the pleasure of the House?

Thereupon, the Order received passage in concurrence.

Orders

Mr. LaFLEUR of Portland: Mr. Speaker, I want to talk upon an Order which I propose to introduce. Do I have to ask unanimous consent to address the House before I present the Order?

The SPEAKER: The Chair understands the gentleman is presenting the Order at this time?

Mr. LaFLEUR: I will present the Order, Mr. Speaker, and move its passage.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Portland, Mr. LaFleur, presents an Order and moves its passage.

Mr. LaFLEUR: Can I discuss the Order, Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER: The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. LaFLEUR: Mr. Speaker, on Monday afternoon we presented an Order in this body asking the State Military Defense Commission to make a complete report to date of their activities. At that time I did not know that a complete report had been actually completed. I have now ascertained that a report was completed some week or ten days ago, in anticipation of its being presented to this Special Session, and by inadvertence it was not sent in by the Governor. What I wish to convey to you members is this, that the report was a voluntary report, and I believe, as a matter of fairness to the Commission, I ought to make that explanation, because I am now asking this House to permit the withdrawing of the Order from the files, and may I say in this connection,—I have it from the Governor-Elect of Maine, the Honorable Sumner Sewall,— who reports from Colonel Olds, in charge of airport development in the country, that the legislation which this body and the Senate passed in the mid-summer, the Two Million Dollar Bond Issue and the Military Defense Commission, was the most constructive piece of legislation that this body has ever passed in the last year, and that that legislation is being held up as a model to all of the states in

the Union which come to Washington asking for money, and they are given a copy of the Bills which you passed, and they are told to "Go home and pass the same Bills, and we will talk about aiding you in State defense"; and it is interesting to note that the State of Maine is far up in the states who are receiving Federal Aid, and you may well argue to me that by reason of our geographical position that we would necessarily have to be helped, but I say to you, on the best information from Washington, the fact that Maine led the way in that particular legislation has made the aid from Washington all the easier. With that explanation, I now, Sir, present this Order and move its passage.

The SPEAKER: The Clerk will read the Order.

The Order was then read by the Clerk, as follows:

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that Joint Order, House Paper 2289, "That the State Military Defense Commission make forthwith a full and complete report of their work to date to the 89th Legislature, including therein a list of the salaries of their employees and all other expenditures authorized" be recalled to the House from the legislative files in the office of the Secretary of the State.

The Order received passage and was sent up for concurrence.

Passed to be Enacted

An Act Providing for the Expiration of All Orders of the Governor's Council at the End of Its Term (S. P. 777) (L. D. 1260)

Was reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed, passed to be enacted, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Orders of the Day

On motion by Mr. Varney of Berwick, the House voted to take from the table the Final Report of the Joint Special Legislative Investigating Committee, tabled by that gentleman on October 21st pending acceptance; and on further motion by the same gentleman the Report was accepted and placed on file and sent up for concurrence.

The SPEAKER: Is there any further business to come before the House under Orders of the Day?

Mr. Varney of Berwick, was

granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. VARNEY: Mr. Speaker, purely by way of information to the members of the House, I feel that I should make this statement: It has just come to the attention of some of the members of this House that there may be a possibility of some required legislation, in order that we might take advantage of certain Federal grants for highway defense purposes. Personally, I have not had an opportunity to study the proposition, and I am not prepared to give any indications, one way or the other, as to whether this Legislature should take any action. I understand that a notice will be read immediately, suggesting a meeting of the Joint Standing Ways and Bridges Committee of this Legislature, in order that they may go into the subject thoroughly. Pending that meeting, this House should perhaps stand recessed for a short time.

Recess

After Recess—12:15 P. M.

Called to order by the Speaker.

Mr. Stilphen of Dresden, was granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. STILPHEN: Mr. Speaker, the Ways and Bridges Committee have come to a decision in this matter which was presented this morning, and we will have a written report ready at 1:30, to present to the House and Senate. I move that the House recess until 1:30 P. M.

The motion prevailed and the House so recessed.

After Recess—1:45 P. M.

The House was called to order by the Speaker.

ORDER (Out of Order)

Mr. Varney of Berwick, out of order and under suspension of the rules, presented the following Order:

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that the Joint Standing Committee on Ways and Bridges be, and hereby is, authorized to investigate and report the advisability of legislation at this session to enable the State to obtain WPA funds for highway construction (H. P. 2297).

Mr. COWAN of Portland: Mr. Speaker, may I ask that the Order be read again?

The SPEAKER: The Clerk will read the Order if there is no objection.

(Order read again by the Clerk.)

Mr. COWAN: Mr. Speaker, may I ask a question through the Chair of the gentleman from Berwick, Mr. Varney.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman may ask his question.

Mr. COWAN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to know if that Order would seem to the mind of the gentleman from Berwick, Mr. Varney, to hold us up for several days, or whether he has in mind that we might take a recess for several days, or what is in his mind?

The SPEAKER: The gentleman may answer if he wishes.

Mr. VARNEY: Mr. Speaker, I would be very glad to answer that question. The fact is, that the Committee has already met and considered that proposition, but, as a matter of procedure, I believe no Committee has any right to file a report with this Legislature unless they are ordered to do so. I think perhaps I am in order when I say that the Committee has already investigated and the report is very nearly prepared and will be immediately filed if the Legislature sees fit to permit the Committee to do so.

The SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House that the Order have passage?

Thereupon, the Order received passage and was ordered sent to the Senate forthwith.

The SPEAKER: The Clerk has in his possession the Joint Order (H. P. 2239) passed on October 22nd, directing the State Military Defense Commission to make a full and complete report, which Order was recalled from the files of the Senate and is now in the possession of the Clerk.

On motion by Mr. LaFleur of Portland, under suspension of the rules, the House voted to reconsider its action whereby the Joint Order received passage.

Mr. LaFLEUR: Mr. Speaker, I now ask permission to withdraw the Order, if that is the proper procedure.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman may move that the Order be indefinitely postponed.

On motion by Mr. LaFleur, the Order was indefinitely postponed and sent up for concurrence.

The SPEAKER: Pending arrival of additional papers from the Senate, the House may be at ease.

House at Ease

2.30 P. M.

Called to order by the Speaker.

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

**VETO MESSAGE
STATE OF MAINE
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
AUGUSTA**

October 23, 1940.

To the Honorable Senate
and

House of Representatives:

I return herewith, without my signature, L. D. 1265, an Act to Create a Legislative Research Committee.

It seems perfectly evident to most observers that government of late years has had a tendency to add bureau upon bureau with the inevitable increasing cost to the taxpayers. This Act seems to be no exception. It proposes to establish and perpetuate a committee of ten who shall meet as often as necessary, but at any rate four times a year. For such meetings the proposed compensation shall be five dollars per day for each member plus expenses. This means an amount that cannot be even estimated accurately. In addition, the Act makes possible "the employment of such assistants and research agencies as the committee may desire or its appropriation permit." There is no appropriation provided, that is apparent, and certainly the phraseology "such assistants and research agencies as deemed desirable" would make necessary budget estimates impossible. Overdrafts would more likely result.

To assist you in resolving your decision, it may not be inappropriate to call your attention to analogous situations occurring in recent months.

Section 6 of Chapter 254 of the Public Laws of 1933 carries a mandatory provision for a recess committee to make certain investigations in regard to election reports. Inasmuch as no action is ever taken or meetings held, would it be ad-

visible to add to the law or repeal it?

More recently, of course, has been the instance—presumably now evident to every citizen of the State—that out of all the large number of State officials and employees one was found to be dishonest, charged with larceny, and proper legal steps were taken for punishment the hour that it was first detected. No hesitation was shown by any State official, so far as was known then or has been discovered since, to do his plain duty. Yet ever since, a most exhaustive and detailed investigation has been going on and you have before you the final report of your committee. The expense to the State for that report and the assurances it contains cost the taxpayers \$7,994.60 and the detailed charges are available to you in the State Controller's office, if you want them. In addition, the expense of the various special legislative sessions, exclusive of the present one, has been \$42,941.83; the cost of the outside audit was \$50,000; and the expenses to date of the Recess Code Committee, so-called, are \$1,186. This is a total of over \$102,000, as you will observe.

Keep in mind also the increased appropriation and staff that has been provided to the State Auditor, which most decidedly should enable a constant and complete safeguard against any reoccurrence of that which had been going on for the past ten years, at least, and not detected until this year.

Furthermore, a new bureau such as herein proposed would mean added quarters and equipment, although that is not specifically mentioned in the Act.

I am fully convinced of the ability of the incoming administration, and the added staff that has been provided and is efficiently functioning at the present time, to carry on—and be just as alert to act quickly—if it has knowledge of any malfeasance or misfeasance of any employee.

If you insist that the taxpayers of this State be saddled with the permanent added expenditure that this Act would surely require, then the way is still open to you. However, the conclusion reported by the present investigating committee, that "it feels that the continuation of its work and the attendant expense would not be justified by any results that could be reasonably an-

ticipated," should be significant and conclusive, and I fail to understand how a "research" committee can be expected to accomplish any more than an "investigating" committee, plus the competent auditing control we now have.

I have read the partial report of your Code Committee and surely none can deny the eminence of its membership. However, as their report points out, the term of each member ceases with each succeeding regular legislative session. With attendant changing legislative personnel there is assured no continuity of service. To a very great degree the selection of departmental heads rests with the Legislature itself and over the years their selections have been admirable. I believe that any such official can supply, or at least quickly obtain, any information that is desired, upon request. If the plain intent is "to obtain factual information that can be relied upon," as stated, I believe that this is the source to obtain it from, without the permanent added organization. If such results are not possible, then it is time to change the departmental heads. You now have that power.

"Eliminating legislative congestion" most assuredly is commendable, but what assurance is herein guaranteed by this Act? That condition is wholly under your control now.

If a situation reoccurs such as we have just had, it is wholly inconceivable to me that any administration (Executive, Legislative, or Judicial), such as this State would ever have, will lack either the machinery or the determination to meet the issue squarely and quickly.

Briefly stated, these are but some of the reasons why your present Executive is unable to concur in what is realized as a mutual desire to legislate for economy and the best interest of the State of Maine.

The responsibility for these proposed added burdens to our taxpayers rests entirely with you.

Respectfully submitted

(Signed) LEWIS O. BARROWS
Governor

The communication and Bill came from the Senate, in that body the communication read and placed on file, and the Senate voted that the Bill become law notwithstanding the objection of the Governor.

In the House:

The SPEAKER: The question before the House is whether Bill "An Act to Create a Legislative Research Committee shall become a law notwithstanding the objection of the Governor?"

Mr. HINCKLEY of South Portland: Mr. Speaker and members of the House: I desire at this time to speak very briefly on this matter and I would say, first of all, that I think I speak for the full Committee, when I do so,—I am not sure that any other members of this Committee may desire to make any further remarks after I am finished, but certainly they are at liberty to do so. However, I express the unanimous opinion of the Committee, both on the part of the Senate and on the part of the House, and that is, that this Bill should become a law, notwithstanding the veto of the Governor. I want to say, further, that personally I am very friendly with Governor Barrows, that I respect him as a man and I respect him as an official of the State of Maine, and I certainly have no animosity whatever in anything I may say at this time, but I do firmly believe that this Bill should become a law, regardless of my feeling toward the Governor, and my respect for his opinions.

This Committee has met on several occasions; they have called in witnesses and had interviews with various State officials; and they came to the unanimous conclusion that this Bill should have passage, and they feel they should present it at this session of the Legislature, so that it would become a law, if passed, sometime about the last of January, next year, so that the next Legislature could act accordingly; that is the reason for passage at this time. If we delay until the next session of the Legislature in 1941, we could not get such a Committee as this until the session which met in 1943. Now, that is the purpose of passing it at this time. We believe that we have framed a good Bill, and we do not believe that the reasons which the Governor has proposed are at all satisfactory. The Governor has called attention to the expense to the State of Maine of these Committees and of this special Session of the Legislature, and the enormous expense of the accountants, Ernest & Ernst, in making a detailed audit of the financial affairs of the State of Maine.

Let me say, first, that the Legislature is responsible for the appointment of the Committees that it has appointed,—the Investigating Committee and the Code Committee. This Legislature must take the responsibility for that. It does not take responsibility for the calling of a Special Session of the Legislature, amounting in all to some \$42,000. We did not call this Legislature in session for a Special Session. We did not hire Ernst & Ernst as Auditors, and that can not be laid up to the members of the Legislature to the extent of some \$50,000. I believe, and I think you will agree with me, that the Joint Investigating Committee has done a good job. Its members are eminent and we have the highest respect for them, and they have brought in two reports to us which we believe are helpful to the members of this Legislature. Personally, I believe that the Code Committee has worked conscientiously and has brought in some Bills which, in my opinion, should be passed by this Legislature, and you have already passed three of them. The one in question has been vetoed by the Governor. They have worked conscientiously and they have presented something which they believe ought to have passage.

Now, let me say further in regard to expense, that our Committee has spent something like \$1,000. For the life of me, I do not believe a Committee such as suggested in this Bill will expend more than that at any time. The expense so far has been largely due to the necessity of hiring an attorney to assist us in our work, because, in the short space of time allowed this Committee, it was not able to get all the information that was required and to present Bills at this session. Therefore, it was compulsory for us to hire counsel to do some of the work for us.

Let me call your attention to the fact that, in 1935, Recess Committees cost this State over \$12,000; in 1937, \$275; in 1938, \$803; in 1939, \$2,000, and in 1940, to date, \$8,000. Eight thousand dollars, of course, is a lot of money to expend unnecessarily but I do not believe the members of this House have thought that it has been spent unwisely. If, by the expenditure of this amount of money, we can save the State of Maine many thousands of dollars, then I think it has been a wise in-

vestment, and I think we are not to be criticized for spending that much money, when we have such a report as this Investigating Committee has presented to us.

Now, in my opinion, this new Committee will combine the functions of the Legislative Committee and the Code Committee. It will not necessarily be an Investigating Committee, as such,—it may investigate if it chooses, but it is going to be a Committee that will get information for the benefit of the members of the Legislature, and they will be honest facts, as the Committee sees them. They will have no reason whatever to falsify anything. They will come in here and present such information as this Legislature wants to consider, and they have a right to present Bills. If the Legislature does not see fit to pass the Bills that they recommend, that is always in the hands of the Legislature, and they may turn them down at their pleasure. If they think the Bills are wise, then they also have that in their hands, and may pass the Bills, but let me call your attention to the fact that there are coming into this next Legislature something over one hundred new members. Those members are coming in here green, and they won't know very much about it until they are here for some time. I think it would be very helpful for the new members, especially of any incoming Legislature, to have facts and figures presented to them recommended by a competent Committee, a Committee on which they could rely. Now, I do not need to go into the merits of this Bill. You have it before you. You have our report and have read it. I do not think there is anything whatever objectionable in it, and if you want it to become law, you must pass it at this session. As I say, I have the highest respect for the Governor of our State, but, when I think he is wrong, I am going to stand up and say so, and I think this body, as a coordinate branch of our Government, has a right to stand on its two feet, and assert our right. That is our right and our constitutional duty. If we believe we are right, we should pass it over his veto, and I hope the veto will not be sustained. (Applause)

Mr. McGLAUF LIN of Portland: Mr. Speaker, may I have the privilege of facing the House?

The SPEAKER: For the last time from this Speaker, the gentleman has permission.

Mr. McGLAUF LIN: Mr. Speaker and members of the House: I wish to speak briefly on this matter, for this reason,—chiefly I was the one who led a fight against the Investigating Committee. I thought, and I still think, that that was a pernicious measure, but when this Bill was presented, I studied it carefully before supporting it, and, after studying it carefully, I found that it met with my approval.

There is a clause under Section 42 A, which says that they shall have authority to collect information concerning the government and the general welfare of the State.

Now, as I see it, that is a Committee to obtain information, and not to make itself a nuisance. Those words are pretty indefinite, I will admit, but I think the drafters of this Bill have pretty well protected the different branches of this State by the provision in 42-I, which says: "Any member of the Legislature shall have the right to attend any of the sessions of the Committee, and may present his views on any subject which the Committee may at any particular time be considering." That furnishes a real check on that Committee, because, if that Committee undertakes to do things that are decidedly outside of the purpose of this Act, the Members of the Legislature have a chance to be heard in the Committee. That hearing will be public, and the members of that Committee are going to hesitate about proceeding along lines that are distasteful to the public in general.

The Committee also has the right to examine the effects of constitutional provisions and submit to the Legislature whether there shall be any change. There can be no objection to that. They can also have the power to consider the possibilities of consolidation in State government so as to cut down expense. There can be no objection to that. And, finally, report to the Legislature their recommendations.

Another wise provision is that reports of their findings shall be submitted to each member of the Legislature thirty days before the Legislature convenes. To sum up: This is not an Investigating Committee in the sense of the other Bill at all. It is a Study Committee, that will

recommend the consideration of various measures that might otherwise be overlooked. I, too, have a great deal of respect for the Governor, but the Governor is not performing my duty; that is for me to do; and for you, in your respective capacity. I, therefore, favor the passage of the Bill over the veto. (Applause)

The SPEAKER: Is the House ready for the question? The question before the House is, shall Bill "An Act to Create a Legislative Research Committee" become a law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor? In accordance with the Constitution, the vote will be taken by the yeas and nays. All those in favor of the passage of the Bill to be enacted, notwithstanding the veto of the Governor, will answer yes when their names are called; those opposed will answer no. The Clerk will call the roll.

YEA—Arzonico, Ayotte, Babin, Bacon, Batchelder, Belanger, Bird, Bolduc, Bragdon; Brown, Caribou; Brown, Corinna; Brown, Eagle Lake; Bubar; Burgess, Limestone; Butler, Buzzell, Clough, Cook, Cowan, Crockett, Cushing, Davis, Dean, Dennison, Donahue, Dorrance, Dorsey, Douglass; Dow, Norway; Downs, Dwinall, Ellis, Emery, Erswell, Everett, Farwell, Fernald, Fogg, Fowles, Good, Goss, Grua, Hanold, Haskell, Hawes, Hildreth, Hinckley, Hinman, Hodgkins, Holman, Hussey, Jewett, Jordan, Keene, Labbee, LaFleur, Lambert, Larrabee, Latno, Leveque, Lord, Marshall, Maxim, McGillicuddy, McGlauffin, McNamara, Melanson, Mercier, Meserve, Miller, Mills, Murchie, Norwood, Noyes, Otto, Paul, Payson, Peakes, Pelletier; Poulin, Rumford; Poulin, Waterville; Pratt, Preble, Race, Richardson, Robbins, Robie; Robinson, Peru; Robinson, S. Portland; Slossberg; Snow, Dover-Foxcroft; Snow, Hermon; Starrett, Stilphen, Townsend, Varney, Violette, Walker, Wallace, Weed, Weatherbee, Welch, Whitney, Williams, Winslow, Winter, Worth; Young, Acton.

NAY—Burbank, Churchill, Cleaves, DeBeck, Eddy, Ford, Holden, Howes, Robinson, Bingham; Shesong.

ABSENT—Barter, Bates, Chandler; Dow, Eliot; Dow, Kennebunkport; Hall, Luro, MacNichol, Mahon, Merrifield, Palmeter; Pike, Lubec; Porell, Ramsdell, Sleeper; Smith, Thomas-ton; Smith, Westbrook; Stacy, Stevens, Sylvia, Tardif, Thompson.

Yes—108.

No—10.

One not voting.

Absent—22.

The SPEAKER: One hundred and eight having voted in the affirmative,

ten in the negative, one not voting, and twenty-two absent, more than two-thirds having voted in the affirmative, the Bill becomes law notwithstanding the objection of the Governor.

Thereupon, the communication from the Governor was placed on file in concurrence.

From the Senate: (Out of order)

The following Report: (S. P. 795)

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Eighty-ninth Legislature.

It has been brought to the attention of the Joint Standing Committee on Ways and Bridges that the sum of \$1,200,000 is available from the Federal Government through the WPA for highway construction for military defense purposes. This would require a cash expenditure of \$150,000 by the State together with the use of certain equipment of the State Highway Department.

The Committee has met and considered the advisability of undertaking this program. By Chapter 120 of the Private and Special Laws, approved June 27, 1940, the Legislature authorized an issue of bonds in an amount not exceeding \$2,000,000 for defense purposes.

By Chapter 308 of the Public Laws, approved June 27, 1940, the State Military Defense Commission was created and authorized to direct the expenditure of these funds.

In view of this recent legislation, it is our opinion that it is not necessary to raise additional funds at this time, but that the matter is one which falls within the province of the State Military Defense Commission and should be seriously considered by them.

(Signed) FRANCIS H. FRIEND

Chairman for the Committee on Ways and Bridges. Comes from the Senate, read and accepted.

In the House:

Was taken up out of order under suspension of the rules, report read and accepted in concurrence.

The SPEAKER: The House may be at ease pending arrival of a message from the Senate.

House at Ease

4.15 P. M.

The House was called to order by the Speaker.

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

The following Order:

ORDERED, the House concurring, that a Committee of three on the part of the Senate, with such as the House may join, be appointed to wait upon the Governor and inform him that both branches of the Legislature have acted on all matters before them and are now ready to receive any communication that he may be pleased to make (S. P. 794)

Came from the Senate read and passed, with the following members appointed on its part:

Messrs. **SPEAR** of Cumberland
THATCHER of Penobscot
OWEN of Kennebec

In the House:

The Order was read and passed in concurrence, and the Speaker appointed the following members on the part of the House:

Messrs. **ELLIS** of Fairfield
NOYES of Franklin
PAUL of Portland
LARRABEE of West Bath
DOW of Kennebunkport
DEAN of Greenville
SNOW of Hermon

Mr. Ellis, for the Committee, subsequently reported that the Committee had performed the duties with which it was charged, and that a Communication from the Governor would be received forthwith.

House at Ease

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Belfast, Mr. Buzzell.

Mr. **BUZZELL**: Mr. Speaker, I am very glad to respond. I understand that one of our much beloved and respected members of this House, who has been elected a member of the 90th Legislature as a Senator-elect, is about to leave us to discharge his duty that he owes to his country. He served in the World War and did meritorious service in France and returned a Lieutenant-Colonel. It is my understanding that he has recently been called to leave the State of Maine on January 3rd of next year, and that he will go to Florida. As an expression of our love and feeling for him, I move that we extend to him, and give him, a rising vote of thanks, and a welcome on his return, and the hope that he will return in due time and take his place

as a Statesman in the State of Maine. I now refer to our friend and your friend, Norman Whitney. (Applause, members rising).

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair declares the motion unanimously carried by a rising vote.

House at Ease

(Out of Order)

From the Senate: The following Communication:

STATE OF MAINE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT AUGUSTA

October 23, 1940

To the President and Members of the Senate:

To the Speaker and Members of the House:

I herewith transmit the total number of Acts and Resolves passed by the Special Sessions of the Eighty-ninth Legislature.

I have approved twenty-two Acts, six Resolves, and I have submitted one veto, which becomes a law by your vote overriding the veto.

There are three Acts on my desk awaiting consideration and study.

I have no further communication to make.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) **Lewis O. Barrows**,
Governor.

Came from the Senate read and ordered placed on file.

In the House: The communication was read and ordered placed on file in concurrence.

House at Ease

5:20 P. M.

The House was called to order by the Speaker.

(Out of Order)

The following Communication:

STATE OF MAINE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT AUGUSTA

October 23, 1940.

To the President and Members of the Senate:

To the Speaker and Members of the House:

Since my previous communication to you this afternoon, I have found time to complete a study of the bills before me.

I herewith transmit the total number of Acts and Resolves passed

by the various Special Sessions of the Eighty-ninth Legislature.

I have approved twenty-five Acts, six Resolves, and I have submitted one veto, which becomes a law by your vote overriding the veto.

This constitutes final action on all of the legislative matters presented to date by you.

I have no further communication to make.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) LEWIS O. BARROWS
Governor.

Came from the Senate read and ordered placed on file.

In the House:

The Communication was taken up out of order under suspension of the rules, read and ordered placed on file in concurrence.

A message came from the Senate, borne by Senator Hill of Cumberland, informing the House that the Senate had transacted all business before it and that it was ready to adjourn without day.

On motion of Mr. Bird of Rockland, that gentleman was charged with and conveyed a message to the Senate informing that body that the House had transacted all business before it and was ready to adjourn without day.

Mr. Murchie of Calais was granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. MURCHIE: Mr. Speaker, feeling that this is probably the last session of the 89th Legislature, I would just like, in my own way, to say a word. I feel that every member of this Legislature came here with the idea that their efforts would contribute to doing those things that would make for the greater happiness of all of the people of the State of Maine in the future. One hundred and eighty men and women, scattered as we are, we may never all meet again.

We also came here with the idea of seeing our fellowmen as men and not just workers in material things, and to find for ourselves the answer, and we have the answer here. I feel that the spirit of cooperation which in this group has prevailed has been a saving grace to the State of Maine in this most unusual situation. I just want to say now that I am very grateful to the members of the Legislature who are depart-

ing. I am saying good-bye to them with sorrow. I am sorry that they cannot come back with us. I wish them well and hope that every one who is not coming back into the Legislature may be able to find a job that will bring him back with us, and, in particular, I have reference to the Speaker, and I would like to see him placed somewhere that will bring him back with us again.

Now, in closing, I would like to tell a story, that possibly some of you have heard before, which to me seems suitable to the occasion. It has to do with a politician, an architect and a physician, who were trying to discuss the relative ages of their various activities. The physician claimed the greater antiquity for his profession, since Eve was made of the rib of Adam, and therefore he claimed that his profession had the greatest antiquity. The architect said that his profession had the greatest antiquity, saying, "You remember that there was a condition of chaos, and who brought that into a universal condition?" He said that it must have been an architect, and the politician spoke up and said, "And who in H--l do you think made the chaos?" (Applause and laughter)

The SPEAKER: Once again, as I did a year and a half ago, I wish to most heartily thank the members of this House for their most constant cooperation and sincere work with one another and with me. I have certainly enjoyed my experience in these two years and I hope that we will all meet again.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Levant, Mr. Fernald.

Mr. FERNALD: Mr. Speaker and members of the Eighty-ninth Legislature: The object for which this Special Session of the Eighty-ninth Legislature was called seems to have been completed, and I think the results that have been accomplished will save the State many thousands of dollars. I now move that the House adjourn sine die.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Levant, Mr. Fernald, moves that the House, now, at 5:30 P. M. October twenty-third, adjourn without day.

The motion prevailed and the House so adjourned.