

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

Ninety-Fourth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1949

DAILY KENNEBEC JOURNAL
AUGUSTA, MAINE

SENATE

Wednesday, January 19, 1949.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Prayer by the Rev. Arthur G. Christopher of Augusta.

Journal of yesterday, read and approved.

Papers from the House referred in concurrence.

Communications

STATE OF MAINE
House of Representatives
Office of the Clerk
Augusta

January 13, 1949

Honorable Chester T. Winslow
Secretary to the Senate of the
Ninety-fourth Legislature
Sir:

Acting under provisions of chapter 392 of Public Laws of 1947, the Speaker of the House today made the following appointments to the Legislative Research Committee:

Messrs.: Chase of Cape Elizabeth
Marsans of Monmouth
Hayward of Machias
McKeen of Lovell

Respectfully

HARVEY R. PEASE

Clerk of the House

Which communication was read and ordered placed on file.

STATE OF MAINE
House of Representatives
Office of the Clerk
Augusta

January 13, 1949

Honorable Chester T. Winslow
Secretary of the Senate
Sir:

Acting under provisions of Sections 34 to 39 inclusive of Chapter 9 of the Revised Statutes of 1944, the Speaker of the House today made the following appointment to the Maine Commission on Interstate Cooperation:

Representative Mr. Carville of Eustis.

Respectfully,

HARVEY R. PEASE

Clerk of the House

Which communication was read and ordered placed on file.

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

Agriculture

Mr. Brewer of Aroostook presented Bill "An Act Relating to County and Local Agricultural Societies." (S. P. 63)

(Ordered printed.)

Sent down for concurrence.

Appropriations and Financial**Affairs**

Mr. Haskell of Penobscot presented "Resolve Relating to Penobscot Indian Fund." (S. P. 64)

The same Senator presented Bill "An Act Relating to a State Police Barrack in the County of Penobscot." (S. P. 65)

The same Senator presented Bill "An Act Relating to Allocation of Moneys by Governor and Council." (S. P. 66)

(Ordered printed.)

Sent down for concurrence.

Claims

Mr. Cobb of Oxford presented "Resolve in Favor of Clarence Earl Osgood, of Fryeburg." (S. P. 67)

Mr. Knights of York presented "Resolve in Favor of Alfred Whitehouse, of Hollis Center." (S. P. 68)

Mr. Smart of Hancock presented "Resolve in Favor of Mrs. Ethel M. Rodigross of Newburyport, Massachusetts." (S. P. 69)

The same Senator presented "Resolve in Favor of Lee S. Fellows of Port Jervis, New York." (S. P. 70)

The same Senator presented "Resolve in Favor of Fred E. Jenks of Peaks Island." (S. P. 71)

The same Senator presented "Resolve in Favor of Basil A. Strout, of Saugus, Massachusetts." (S. P. 72)

Sent down for concurrence.

Indian Affairs

Mr. Haskell of Penobscot presented Bill "An Act Creating the Division of Indian Affairs." (S. P. 73)

(Ordered printed.)

Sent down for concurrence.

Judiciary

Mr. Haskell of Penobscot pre-

sented Bill "An Act Permitting the Presidential Short Ballot." (S. P. 74)

(Ordered printed.)

Sent down for concurrence.

Salaries and Fees

The same Senator presented Bill "An Act to Increase the Salaries of Members of the State Police." (S. P. 75)

(Ordered printed.)

Sent down for concurrence.

Order

Mr. Baker of Kennebec presented the following order:

ORDERED, the House concurring, that free telegraph service be provided to each member and officer of the Senate and House to the number of ten messages of reasonable length, from Augusta to points within the limits of the State of Maine, and that each member and officer of the Senate and House be provided with a card, to be certified by the Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House; the cost of this service to be paid to Western Union Telegraph Company at regular tariff rates. (S. P. 76)

Mr. Baker of Kennebec: Mr. President, I note the absence of Senator Williams of Penobscot and I therefore move that this order be laid upon the table until he returns.

Subsequently, the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Williams, having returned to the Senate Chamber, on further motion by the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Baker, the order was taken from the table and again read by the Secretary.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Penobscot: Mr. President and Members of the Senate, I appreciate the courtesy of tabling the order while I was out. I haven't changed any of my views of last Thursday regarding this order. I realize that it may be a very small matter to be haggled over in the Senate but I will say the same as I did last Thursday, that the Appropriations Committee for some time to come will be listening to many requests of the heads of various departments, some

of them on small matters. I have canvassed more members of the Senate than I had on Thursday and I haven't yet found any member of the Senate or of either branch who has ever sent a telegram on official business, and I can't quite comprehend why we should send any this year. We still have our fifty telephone calls which apparently takes care of our needs very nicely. If there could be some arrangement where-by we could take ten calls off the telephone card and give us ten telegrams in their place I wouldn't object to it but as it is, it is just an added expense to the state. And as to the argument that we give a subsidy to the telephone company and should therefore give to the telegraph company, I don't think we should give subsidies to any group.

I move the indefinite postponement of the order.

Mr. BAKER of Kennebec: Mr. President, one of the reasons that I presented this order again is to correct the statement I made last Thursday that the machine would be removed if the order did not receive passage. I was misinformed as to the situation and the machine will remain there whether the order is passed or not. However, it has seemed to me that there are many instances where this service would be less expensive to the State, sending telegrams of ten words for thirty-six cents or less to Presque Isle, for example, than it would be to make a telephone call. I feel that both of these services are valuable to the members of the legislature and I hope the motion of the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Williams, does not prevail.

The PRESIDENT: The question before the Senate is on the motion of the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Williams, that the order be indefinitely postponed. Is the Senate ready for the question?

A viva voce being doubted

A division of the Senate was had. Eight having voted in the affirmative and thirteen opposed, the motion to indefinitely postpone did not

prevail; and on motion by Mr. Baker of Kennebec the order received a passage.

Orders of the Day

On motion by Mr. Haskell of Penobscot the Senate voted to take from the table Joint Order Relative to Reimbursement of Traveling Expenses of Members of the Ninety-fourth Legislature (S. P. 24) tabled by that Senator on January 13 pending consideration.

Mr. HASKELL of Penobscot: Mr. President, in relation to this order my motion will be that the Senate insist on its former action and request a committee of conference. In explanation of that motion I will advise the Senate that there is every indication that the most active members of the other Body who disagree with our action are willing to meet with us in a committee of conference and I think I can assure the Senate that there will come out of this committee of conference a new order or a modification of the present order that will be satisfactory to every one concerned.

I move that the Senate insist and ask for a committee of conference.

The motion to insist prevailed and the Chair appointed as members of such committee on the part of the Senate, Senators Haskell of Penobscot, Noyes of Hancock and Denny of Lincoln.

Thereupon, on further motion by the same Senator the order was sent forthwith to the House.

On motion by Mr. Noyes of Hancock the Senate voted to take from the table, Joint Order with Reference to Notes at Hearings to be Kept by Committee Clerks (S. P. 39), tabled by that Senator on January 13, pending consideration.

Mr. NOYES of Hancock: Mr. President, with your permission I will read a copy of this order so that those who were not here last Thursday may know what it is all about. (The Senator read the order.) I tabled this order because I couldn't see any useful purpose

that it would serve. I have talked with some of the Senators and the only argument that I can find in favor of this order is that some of the Senators feel that we have many clerks of committees who don't have enough to do. Therefore, they think they should make these reports. That is a good deal like a farmer who has a man doing chores and when the chores are done he lets him go out into a field and dig a hole and the next day he has him go out and fill it up again. If there is any good in this order I would like to know about it but it seems to me that we are setting up an order whereby the clerk of each committee must be present at all times and if we want to send out a message we will have to send for a messenger. Therefore, committees of succeeding legislatures will be hiring messengers at additional expense. I can't see that this order serves any useful purpose and I move the indefinite postponement of the order.

Mr. ALLEN of Cumberland: Mr. President, I do not think this is a matter of the greatest importance that will come before this Body, by any means. This order was not put in with the idea of hiring more clerks or messengers. In fact I think we have plenty at the moment. However, I do know of several committees in the other Branch—and I do not mean to cast any reflection on any hard-working committee—where there are clerks who don't exactly kill themselves and most of them could sit at the hearings and take notes. Also I understand that most legislative committees have a House Chairman and a Senate Chairman and a Secretary, the Secretary usually being a House member, who could take a few notes if the clerk had to go out of the room. I understand that other states use a system very similar to this one proposed, and this was put in with the idea that perhaps we could improve our filing system. As far as I know there would be no additional expense and it seems to me that it is just a

matter of a little lack of efficiency that could be corrected without killing anybody.

The PRESIDENT: The question before the Senate is on the motion of the Senator from Hancock, Senator Noyes, that the order be indefinitely postponed. Is the Senate ready for the question?

A viva voce vote being had

The motion to indefinitely postpone prevailed.

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

On motion by Mr. Knights of York,

Adjourned until tomorrow morning at ten o'clock.