

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

Ninety-Fifth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1951

**DAILY KENNEBEC JOURNAL
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

SENATE

Thursday, January 4, 1951.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Prayer by the Reverend Thomas G. Akeley of Gardiner.

Journal of yesterday read and approved.

Orders

(Out of Order)

On motion by Mr. Crosby of Franklin, out of order and under suspension of the rules, it was

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they adjourn to meet on Tuesday, January 9, 1951, at 4.30 o'clock in the afternoon. (S. P. 10)

Sent down for concurrence.

Subsequently the foregoing order was returned from the House having been read and passed in concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Ela of Somerset, it was

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 Honorable Frederick G. Payne and inform him that he has been duly elected Governor of the State of Maine for the current years of 1951 and 1952. (S. P. 11)

The President appointed:

Senators:

ELA of Somerset
KAVANAGH of Androscoggin
BREWER of Aroostook

Sent down for concurrence.

Subsequently the foregoing order was returned from the House, having been read and passed in concurrence, the Speaker having joined on the part of that branch:

Representatives:

BURKETT of Portland
WOODCOCK of Bangor
SANBORN of Gorham
HOUSE of Lincoln
CLAPP of Brooklin
PLUMMER of Lisbon
JAMIESON of Presque Isle

On motion by Mr. Leavitt of Cumberland, it was

ORDERED, the House concurring, that a Joint Select Committee of three on the part of the Senate with such as the House may join, be appointed to consider the Governor's Message and report a reference of its several subjects to appropriate committees. (S. P. 12)

The President appointed:

Senators:

LEAVITT of Cumberland
COLLINS of Aroostook
CHRISTENSEN of Washington

Sent down for concurrence.

Subsequently the foregoing order was returned from the House, having been read and passed in concurrence, and the Speaker having joined on the part of that branch:

Representatives:

BEARCE of Caribou
TURNER of Auburn
LARRABEE of Westbrook
CASTONGUAY of Waterville
MACOMBER of Jay
GAY of Damariscotta
HAWKES of Saco

On motion by Mr. McKusick of Piscataquis, it was

ORDERED, that three thousand copies of the Governor's Message be printed.

On motion by Mr. Broggi of York, it was

ORDERED, the House concurring, that the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House jointly prepare the Senate and House Register, and that 5,000 copies be printed for the use of the Legislature. (S. P. 13)

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Fuller of Oxford, it was

ORDERED, the House concurring, that the Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House, respectively, be authorized to furnish to the Superintendent of Public Printing, postage on all correspondence relative to advertising committee hearings during the present session, same to be charged to legislative expense. (S. P. 14)

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Boucher of Androscoggin, it was

ORDERED, that the Secretary of the Senate be directed to furnish

each member and officer of the Senate during the present session with two daily newspapers printed in the State, as each member and officer may direct.

On motion by Mr. Dennett of York, it was

ORDERED, the House concurring, that the members and officers of the Legislature be furnished with express and parcel transportation for all packages and department reports in a sum not exceeding \$5.00 for each member and officer thereof, and that such transportation be furnished and expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House, respectively, and the unexpended balance at the close of the year 1951 shall be available for use in 1953. (S. P. 15)

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Turgeon of Androscoggin, it was

ORDERED, the House concurring, that the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House, respectively, be authorized to furnish wrappers and postage stamps for each member and officer of the Senate and House, not exceeding \$5.00 in amount each, for the purpose of distributing the various reports of the Departments of State and other public documents such as they may desire to mail to the citizens of the State. (S. P. 16)

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Mrs. Kavanagh of Androscoggin, it was

ORDERED, the House concurring, that there be paid to the officers of the Senate and House of Representatives as advances on account of compensation, amounts included in fortnightly lists, certified to the State Controller by the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House, respectively, and that the final pay rolls at the end of the session of such officers, bear the approval of the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. (S. P. 17)

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Allen of Cumberland, it was

ORDERED, the House concurring, that free telephone service be

provided for each member and officer of the Senate and House to the number of 50 calls, of reasonable duration, 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 to by the Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House, respectively, the cost of this service to be paid to the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company at regular tariff rates; and it was further

ORDERED, that free telegraph service be provided to each member and officer of the Senate and House to the number of twenty 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. 18)

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Wight of Penobscot, it was

ORDERED, that the Secretary of the Senate purchase such stationery, office supplies and equipment as may be needed to carry on the business of the Senate.

Mr. Haskell of Cumberland presented the following Order:

ORDERED, the House concurring, that each member of the Senate and House be provided with a copy of the current issue of the Maine Register. (S. P. 19)

On motion by Mr. Wight of Penobscot, tabled pending passage.

The **PRESIDENT**: The Chair would like to make an observation for the record. The gavel which I am using today is a beautiful piece of workmanship which was presented to me by my personal secretary last session, Mrs. Marjorie Sewall. She made it herself, I understand, and while it does not have quite as much weight, it is a beautiful piece of work. I thought you and she might like to know that I am using it today.

Mr. Ela for the Committee reported that the Committee had waited upon the Honorable Frederick G. Payne, Governor-elect and that he was pleased to reply that he accepted the office and would attend on the Legislature at such time as may be designated for the purpose of taking and subscribing the oaths required by the Constitution to qualify him in the discharge of his official duties.

On motion by Mr. Weeks of Cumberland, it was ORDERED, that a message be sent to the House of Representatives proposing a Convention of both branches of the Legislature to be held forthwith in the Hall of the House for the purpose of administering to the Honorables Sidney R. Batchelder, George H. Meloon, Stanley G. Snow, Leroy F. Hussey, Frederic H. Bird, R. Leon Williams and Lee C. Good, the oaths required by the Constitution to qualify them to enter upon the discharge of their official duties as Executive Councillors, and for the further purpose of administering to the Honorable Frederick G. Payne, Governor-elect, the oaths required by the Constitution to qualify him to enter upon the discharge of his official duties.

The Secretary delivered the message and subsequently reported that he had performed the duty assigned to him.

A message was received from the House, by Mr. Pease, its Clerk, concurring in the proposition for a Joint Convention for the purpose of administering the oaths to the Executive Councillors and to the Governor-elect.

The Senate retired to the Hall of the House of Representatives where a Joint Convention was formed.

(For proceedings of Joint Convention, see House Report.)

In the Senate

The Senate was called to order by the President.

The PRESIDENT: At this time the Chair will appoint committees for the ensuing session and will make a brief statement in regard thereto:

Committee assignments this session pose an entirely different problem than usual. As your presiding officer it is my duty to lay before you a list of committees for your approval. With the order passed yesterday to consolidate the forty-two committees into twenty-two, it immediately presents several major difficulties of which I presume you are quite aware. One, the fact that there are sixty-six places for thirty-two Senators on the various committees, or approximately two each, and the other obvious fact that there will now be only twenty-two chairmanships to share with thirty-two Senators.

With regard to another phase of the situation I would like to quote from the report of the committee of last legislature that prepared the consolidation. I quote: "The Committee finds that at the present time all but a fraction of the work is being handled by approximately sixteen committees and that there is a need for revision so that work may be more fairly equalized and apportioned among the entire membership.

The Committee recommends that the number of joint standing committees be reduced to twenty-two plus a reference of bills committee. It would seem by such a reduction that each would have the status of a major committee. In addition, while no attempt is here made to direct or influence the appointment of joint standing committees hereafter or to direct reference of bills thereto, it is the thought of this committee that under the committee structure recommended there would be some distribution of lawyers among the several committees in order to enable them to deal with technical points, and the Reference of Bills Committee would refer measures according to their subject measure to a greater extent than has heretofore been possible."

This report was signed by the following Senators, two of whom are here at this session: Senators Ward, Denny and Boucher. In regard to the above reference to the lawyers of the Senate, I have put on their shoulders perhaps a larger load than I should in an attempt to spread their legal talent as far as possible among the various committees with the hope

that the legislature may benefit to the fullest degree from their legal knowledge. It is my hope that they will accept this added burden. To those Senators who have in the past received high posts of honor in the holding of important chairmanships, there seems no other alternative than to share these chairmanships with other Senators equally well qualified under the present limited number of chairmanships.

I assure you that it has been a difficult and thankless task to select this list as each member is qualified to a high degree. However, I have endeavored to put each Senator on those committees where his own particular talents and knowledge best serve the interests of this Senate and our State of Maine. It is my earnest hope that I may have your cooperation in this as well as in all other matters affecting our state.

I now lay before the Senate the following list of committee members for your approval:

Appropriations:

Senators Brewer of Aroostook
Leavitt of Cumberland
Tabb of Kennebec

Agriculture:

Senators Greeley of Waldo
Brewer of Aroostook
Tabb of Kennebec

Business Legislation:

Senators Haskell of Penobscot
Kavanagh
of Androscoggin
Dennett of York

Claims:

Senators Smart of Hancock
Weeks of Cumberland
Turgeon of Androscoggin

Correctional Institutes:

Senators Boyker of Oxford
Broggi of York
Sleeper of Knox

Education:

Senators McKusick of Piscataquis
Fuller of Oxford
Broggi of York

Highway:

Senators Crosby of Franklin
Greeley of Waldo
Christensen of Waldo

Inland Fish and Game:

Senators Ela of Somerset
Wight of Penobscot
Smart of Hancock

Judiciary:

Senators Haskell of Cumberland
Ward of Penobscot
Barnes of Aroostook

Labor:

Senators Reid of Kennebec
Marshall of York
Collins of Aroostook

Legal Affairs:

Senators Weeks of Cumberland
Ela of Somerset
Haskell of Penobscot

Liquor Control:

Senators Tabb of Kennebec
Dennett of York
Boucher of Androscoggin

Natural Resources:

Senators Larrabee of Sagadahoc
Crosby of Franklin
Ward of Penobscot

Public Buildings:

Senators Savage of Somerset
Palmer of Lincoln
Turgeon of Androscoggin

Public Utilities:

Senators Marshall of York
Noyes of Hancock
Barnes of Aroostook

Sea and Shore Fisheries:

Senators Sleeper of Knox
Larrabee of Sagadahoc
Brown of Washington

Taxation:

Senators Noyes of Hancock
Allen of Cumberland
Wight of Penobscot

Towns and Counties:

Senators Collins of Aroostook
Savage of Somerset
Haskell of Cumberland

Transportation:

Senators Allen of Cumberland
Christensen of Washington
Boyker of Oxford

Veterans and Military Affairs:

Senators Leavitt of Cumberland
Palmer of Lincoln
Brown of Washington

Welfare:

Senators McKusick of Piscataquis
Fuller of Oxford
Boucher of Androscoggin

Public Health:

Senators Kavanagh
of Androscoggin
Haskell of Penobscot
Savage of Somerset

Thereupon, the appointments were approved.

The PRESIDENT: Is there any further business to come before the Senate?

On motion by Mr. Crosby of Franklin

Adjourned until Tuesday, January 9 at 4:30 o'clock in the afternoon.