

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

Ninety-Sixth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1953

DAILY KENNEBEC JOURNAL
AUGUSTA, MAINE

HOUSE

Thursday, March 26, 1953

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

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Leslie Farrar of Jefferson.

The journal of the previous session was read and approved.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Portland, Mr. Fuller.

Mr. FULLER: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I ask unanimous consent that all former members of the Legislature be invited to occupy seats inside the rails during today's session.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from South Portland, Mr. Fuller, moves that all former members of the Legislature be invited to occupy seats inside the rails during today's session. Does the Chair hear objection to the gentleman's motion? The Chair hears none and the motion prevails.

The SPEAKER: Former members of the House of Representatives of the Maine Legislature: the individuals who are the members of this House, the 96th Legislature, have anticipated with pleasure the eventual and now the actual occurrence of this "Welcome Back" Day. Speaking for the members of the present House, there will be the oldest Republican in point of seniority of service and the oldest Democrat in point of seniority of service and the Chair, at this time, is happy to recognize the gentleman from Auburn, Mr. Jacobs.

Mr. JACOBS: Mr. Speaker, and other ex-Speakers of the House under whom I have had the pleasure of serving in the Legislature in years past and gone and the members of this House and to our guests who have been former members of this Legislature, it is a high privilege and a great honor as a member of this House to welcome you back. I will call you old timers, if you please, in the strictest sense as I feel that that is the worthy thing to say and the respectful thing to say to you, old timers.

You will see around you, today, as we progress in our business of

the House that not much change has been made during the past years. We have in this House two members who have served a long time back, Mr. Gowell, at my right, served this Legislature in 1897; Mr. Hanson, on our left, served in this House in 1893 and, for myself, my first term was 1907, forty-six years ago.

Time brings changes. Naturally the State of Maine is going gradually forward. You can find that by reading our record that the time has come when we look with alarm sometimes at the expense of our State Government, but that is so. During the past years, as years have come and gone, many changes have been made, more institutions have been recognized and, after they are recognized, they must be looked after financially. And, as we go forward, we hope that this prestige of Maine will ever be our motto and that it will be our best.

You ladies and gentlemen, members in the past, have come here interested in our work today, you all throughout the State of Maine feel, and I know you feel, the greatest interest in this Legislature as well as the members who are now members of this Legislature.

Again, in behalf of this House, I bid you a most cordial and hearty welcome. (Applause)

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Machiasport, Mr. Hanson, as the oldest Democrat in point of seniority of service in the House.

(Mr. Hanson was absent from the Hall of the House.)

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Auburn, Mr. Jacobs.

Mr. JACOBS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to mention that there are 140 old members now attending this session.

The SPEAKER: The Chair thanks the gentleman. The number is continually growing and the Chair understands the number is now 147. The House may be interested in the fact that as nearly as can be ascertained from the registrations, Charles Cobb, former Representative serving in the 72nd Legislature in 1905, appears to be the oldest individual present as a former House member in point of service and probably the eldest in age is former Representative Arthur Ellis of Fair-

field, at the age of 89. Those gentlemen particularly receive our most cordial welcome.

At this point, not being able to locate the gentleman from Machiasport, Mr. Hanson, the Chair wishes to present to the citizens and present members of the House, those distinguished individuals on the rostrum, each one truly an outstanding citizen of the State of Maine, who, by the very fact that they are present today, show that they are maintaining their interest in legislative activities and in the best interests of the State of Maine and that they desire to be as co-operative and helpful as they can.

In order of seniority, the Chair presents to you among the distinguished former Speakers and Presiding Officers of this House, the Honorable Burleigh Martin of Augusta, presiding officer of the 83rd House of Representatives, Legislature of 1927. (Applause, assemblage rising)

On the Chair's left, the presiding officer and former Speaker Franz U. Burkett, now of South Portland, who was Speaker of the House in the 86th Maine Legislature in 1933, Mr. Burkett. (Applause, assemblage rising)

Continuing in the order of seniority, we have with us the Honorable George E. Hill, who was the presiding officer in 1937 as Speaker of the House of Representatives of the 88th Legislature, Mr. Hill. (Applause, assemblage rising)

And from Cape Elizabeth, the Honorable Donald W. Philbrick, presiding officer of the House of Representatives in the 89th Maine Legislature in the year 1939. (Applause, assemblage rising)

Earlier in the session we had the privilege of having with us the Honorable George D. Varney of Kittery, and the House is most happy to have him with us again today, the presiding officer of the House of Representatives in the 90th Maine Legislature in 1941, Mr. Varney. (Applause, assemblage rising)

The Chair will now proceed to the Honorable John F. Ward, a member of the present Senate, presiding officer of the 93rd Maine Legislature, House of Representa-

tives, in the year 1947, Mr. Ward. (Applause, assemblage rising)

The Honorable Nathaniel M. Haskell, known to all of you as the present presiding officer of the other body, the presiding officer of the House of Representatives of the 94th Maine Legislature in the year 1949. (Applause, assemblage rising)

The Chair is happy to present to the House at this time a telegram from William Tudor Gardiner, former Speaker of the House of Representatives in 1925, the 82nd Maine Legislature: "May you have a happy session. Regret that business meeting in New York prevents my attendance at today's Legislature. The faces of the 1925 House never grow dim in my recollection and the bond of service to the State is a strong one. Regards to present and past members.

(Signed) William Tudor Gardiner"

The House has also received letters from the Honorable Robert Hale, presiding officer and Speaker of the House of Representatives of the 84th Maine Legislature in the year 1929; we have a letter from the Honorable George Barnes, presiding officer and Speaker of the Maine House of Representatives for the 92nd Maine Legislature in the year 1945.

The House has learned with regret within the last few minutes that former Speaker, the Honorable F. Ardine Richardson, has injured his back and will not be able to be here today. He was the presiding officer of the House of Representatives in 1943, and I am sure that most of you are acquainted with the fact that the junior Speaker, the presiding officer of this body two years ago, the Honorable William Silsby, is incapacitated, recuperating in convalescence from an operation. We wish that they were all with us and we are all thinking of them.

At this time, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Waterford, Mr. Ford.

Mr. FORD: Mr. Speaker, I present an order and move its passage.

The SPEAKER: Out of order and under suspension of the rules the gentleman from Waterford, Mr. Ford, presents an order and moves

its passage. The Clerk will read the order.

The CLERK:

ORDERED, that a list of registrations of former members of the House of Representatives be made a part of "Appendix A" of the Journal of the House and also be made a part of the record of the proceedings of the House today.

Thereupon, the Order received passage.

Former Members of the House of Representatives Registered for "Welcome Back" Day

- Ames, Robie F., Northport, 92nd, 93rd
 Atwood, Edward W., Cape Elizabeth, 81st, 82nd
 Bacon, Roy S., Sidney, 89th
 Batchelder, Sidney R., Parsonsfield, 88th, 89th
 Berry, Lewis C., Livermore, 92nd
 Blanchard, John F., Wilton, 85th, 86th
 Boothby, Robert H., Livermore, 94th, 95th
 Boucher, Jean Charles, Lewiston, 87th, 88th
 Bove, Augustus F., Naples, 84th, 93rd
 Bradeen, Raymond H., North Waterboro, 95th
 Burkett, Franz U., South Portland, (Represented Portland), 84th, 85th, 86th, 95th
 Broggi, Carl J., Sanford, 93rd
 Brown, Ernest H., Wayne, 93rd, 94th, 95th
 Brown, Joseph S., Durham, 94th
 Bubar, Benjamin C., Jr., Weston, 89th, 90th, 91st
 Bubar, Benjamin C., Sr., Blaine, 87th, 94th, 95th
 Buzzell, Francis G., Augusta, (Represented Fryeburg) 91st
 Byron, Parker D., Hollis, 92nd, 93rd
 Campbell, F. Raymond, Garland, 93rd, 94th
 Campbell, Joseph B., Augusta, 94th
 Carpenter, Frank S., Augusta, 92nd
 Carpenter, Miles F., Skowhegan, 92nd
 Carroll, S. M., Norway, 82nd
 Carter, John H., Bethel, 94th, 95th
 Carville, C. Stanton, Stratton, 93rd, 94th, 95th
 Chase, Clarence P., Belgrade, 95th
 Chase, Clifford G., Baring, 86th, 87th, 88th
 Chase, Edward E., Cape Elizabeth, 83rd, 84th, 93rd, 94th, 95th
 Chute, Philip A., Harrison, 94th
 Cobb, Charles S., Gardiner, 72nd, 73rd, 85th, 86th
 Cobb, George A., Gardiner, 91st, 92nd
 Cole, Archie D., West Gardiner, 82nd, 87th, 92nd
 Collins, Samuel W., Caribou, 92nd, 93rd
 Connellan, James A., Portland, 92nd
 Cousins, Howard L., Jr., Augusta, (Represented Fort Kent), 93rd
 Crane, Lester S., Machias, 79th
 Cross, Burton M., Augusta, 90th, 91st
 Davis, Frederick H., Buxton, 90th, 91st
 Davis, Joseph W., Brownville, 88th, 89th
 Dean, Charles R., South Portland, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd
 Delahanty, Thomas E., Lewiston, 95th
 Dorrance, Samuel F., Augusta, (Represented Richmond), 89th, 90th
 Doughty, John T., Gray, 90th, 91st
 Dow, Robert B., Norway, 88th, 89th
 Dow, William E., Falmouth, 90th, 91st, 94th, 95th
 Eastman, Andrew J., Norway, (Represented Paris) 94th
 Ela, Arthur E., North Anson, 91st, 92nd
 Elliott, Ross, East Corinth, 92nd, 93rd
 Ellis, Arthur H., Fairfield, 82nd, 83rd, 88th, 89th
 Fadden, Edgar F., East Hiram, 88th
 Fay, Marguerite R., Portland, 94th, 95th
 Fenlason, Earl, Madison, (Represented Anson) 85th, 86th, 90th
 Fenn, Converse G., Bath, 95th
 Flanders, Louis E., Auburn, 86th, 87th, 88th
 Folsom, Blanche E., Norridgewock, 83rd, 84th
 Fowler, Burtis F., Augusta, 93rd
 Gauthier, Roland A., Sanford, 94th
 Gay, Spencer A., Damariscotta, 92nd, 95th
 Good, Lee C., Monticello, 89th
 Goodrich, Liston L., Palmyra, 91st
 Gowell, Roger L., Poland, 92nd
 Grant, Stanley K., South Portland, 94th
 Graves, Rae S., Northeast Harbor, 85th
 Gross, Lester P., Jefferson, 92nd
 Grua, George R., Livermore Falls, 89th, 90th, 91st

- Hall, Ralph C., East Dixfield, (Represented Wilton), 89th, 90th
 Harold, Harold N., Standish, 90th
 Harding, Frank F., Rockland, 95th
 Harris, Charles L., Minot, 83rd, 88th
 Haskell, Nathaniel M., Portland, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th
 Haskell, Robert N., Bangor, 92nd
 Hemphill, Samuel H., Mechanic Falls, 91st, 92nd
 Hill, George E., Augusta, 86th, 87th, 88th
 Hills, Irving A., Belfast, (Represented Northport) 85th, 86th
 Holman, Charles H., Dixfield, 89th, 90th
 Ingraham, Maynard C., Rockport, 95th
 Jamieson, Charles A., Presque Isle, 94th, 95th
 Jameson, Sherman T., Friendship, 77th
 Jennings, Hervey B., Strong, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th
 Jewett, Mayland L., Manchester, 94th
 Johnson, Ervin R., Gardiner, 94th
 Johnston, Donald A., Jefferson, 93rd, 94th
 Keene, Carroll W., Clinton, 95th
 Keene, Wesley M., Clinton, 89th
 Kerswell, Frank, St. George, 80th
 Knapp, Archie F., Yarmouth, 94th, 95th
 Knight, Guy F., Jay, 91st, 92nd
 Lacharite, Bertrand A., Brunswick, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th
 Larrabee, Joseph W., West Bath, 88th, 89th
 Leathers, Emery L., Hermon, 91st, 92nd
 Leidy, Ella A., Fort Kent, 91st
 Littlefield, Truman I., West Kennebunk, 94th, 95th
 Lombard, George A., Yarmouth, 92nd, 93rd
 MacKinnon, John C., Mexico, 83rd, 84th, 85th
 Marshall, Fred W., York, 92nd, 93rd
 Martin, Burleigh, Augusta, 82nd, 83rd
 Maxwell, Robert, Winthrop, 95th
 McClure, J. Horace, Bath, 93rd, 94th
 McIntire, Raymond M., Phippsburg, 90th, 91st
 McKnight, Leon A., Poland, 83rd, 84th
 McKusick, Carroll L., Parkman, 90th, 91st
 Merrill, Leslie G., Stetson, 88th, 89th
 Millett, Obed F., Palmyra, 94th
 Moffatt, Elizabeth Deering, Bath, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 95th
 Morse, J. Henry, Oakland, 82nd, 84th, 85th
 Morse, James L., Bath, 81st
 Muskie, Edmund S., Waterville, 93rd, 94th, 95th
 Nowell, Gerald G., Hermon, 95th
 Noyes, Malcolm P., Franklin, 87th, 88th, 89th
 Osgood, Hamlin C., Bradford, 90th, 91st
 Palmeter, Curtis I., Meddybemps, (Represented Charlotte) 89th, 92nd, 93rd
 Parent, Henry J., Rumford, 95th
 Parker, Clarence W., Sebec, 94th, 95th
 Patterson, Levi T., Freeport, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 93rd, 94th, 95th
 Paul, S. Arthur, Portland, 88th, 89th
 Payson, Curtis M., Union, 93rd, 94th
 Payson, Walter M., Portland, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd
 Peirce, Charles A., Augusta, 92nd, 93rd
 Philbrick, Donald W., Cape Elizabeth, 87th, 88th, 89th
 Philbrick, Ray, Woodland, 94th
 Pierce, Frank M., Bucksport, 90th, 91st, 95th
 Plummer, Percy F., Lisbon, 88th, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th
 Race, Clarence A., Boothbay, 89th, 90th
 Rankin, Arthur E., Denmark, 90th
 Rankin, Emmet W., South Bridgton, 90th, 93rd
 Ricker, William J., Turner, 94th, 95th
 Robbins, R. Chauncey, Jr., Houlton, 93rd, 94th, 95th
 Rollins, Harry F., Belfast, (Represented Greenville) 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 95th
 Sanborn, Leon M., Gorham, 94th, 95th
 Sayward, Joseph T., Kennebunk, 90th, 91st
 Seeger, Lucius D., Kittery, 90th, 91st, 93rd
 Sharpe, Sidney R., Eagle Lake, (Represented Anson) 93rd, 94th
 Sinclair, Roy U., Pittsfield, 95th
 Slosberg, Samuel H., Gardiner, 89th, 90th
 Southard, Frank E., Jr., Augusta, 90th
 Spear, Charles O., Jr., South Portland, 94th, 95th
 Tabb, Foster F., Gardiner, 93rd

Taylor, Curtis C., Lyman, 94th, 95th
 Thomas, Frank P., Woodland, 85th,
 86th, 92nd
 Torrey, Leo G., Auburn, (Representing
 Poland) 93rd
 Tozier, Norman S., Fairfield, 90th,
 91st, 92nd
 Varney, George D., Kittery, (Represented
 Berwick) 85th, 88th, 89th,
 90th
 Ward, John F., Millinocket, 91st,
 92nd, 93rd
 Waterman, H. M., New Gloucester,
 82nd
 Weeks, George W., South Portland,
 93rd
 Wight, Freeman L., Bangor, 92nd,
 93rd, 94th
 Williams, Leonard F., Auburn, 91st,
 92nd, 93rd, 94th
 Williams, R. Leon, Clifton, 90th,
 91st, 92nd
 Winslow, Chester T., Raymond, 81st
 Woodworth, Paul L., Fairfield, 93rd,
 94th, 95th
 Wyman, E. C., Sidney, 83rd

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes in the well of the House a former member of the House of Representatives in the 91st Legislature, former Representative Burton M. Cross and, at this time, the Chair will request the Sergeant-at-Arms to escort to the rostrum the present Governor of the State of Maine, the Honorable Burton M. Cross.

Thereupon, Governor Cross was escorted to the rostrum by the Sergeant-at-Arms amid applause, the assemblage rising.

GOVERNOR CROSS: Mr. Speaker and Brother Speakers, shall we put it — I do not mean to imply that I am a former one, I do not know just what you would call them—shall we call them Messrs. Speakers, or what have you—fellow legislators, either old or new: I must assure you that this gives me a great deal of personal pleasure, because the one drawback — there are many others — but the one drawback to the Governor's Chair is that you get no opportunity except once a year to stand before you and even give your views let alone debate, and this gives me one more chance to get a chance at you.

Now we were talking, a few of us old-timers — and that implies you know, wisdom — we were talking about what we might be able to do for you. I understand that we have practically a quorum here now, and with your kind permission, and if you would like to have us do it, we would be very glad to take over this House now and really straighten you out. (Laughter and applause)

In the first place, with no intended criticism and not having presided over this House but having presided over the other unmentioned body, I would like to bring up this point: that in the other body it always has been our custom to be a shade more polite about bringing down the gavel on some of these motions. We have always made a perceptible pause, barely perceptible but at least polite. Mr. Speaker, I do wish to bring that to your attention. In other words, we used to say, "Is it the pleasure of the Senate," and bring down the gavel like that — you know, a perceptible pause. (Laughter)

But, seriously, "Ham" Osgood and I have discussed this reclassification, you know, the highway situation, and "Ham" and I have decided it is as simple as A.B.C., and if he and myself were sitting in the House here we would have it straightened out in no time. And we have talked a little bit about appropriations and balancing the budget. Why, it is so simple, and if you would like to have us do it we would be very happy. (Laughter)

But, seriously, gentlemen — pardon me, ladies and gentlemen — there is a feeling of nostalgia in the heart of every man who is sitting in the front rows here today. I know that many thoughts are in their minds of many instances that have been in their minds from the days when they were seated in this House, and I think that the paramount awareness that we have here is in the thoughts of what was in our hearts when we sat in these seats. I think that it is in your hearts, you who are here today, an awareness that you represent the people, that you are voting in their interests and not your own. Those

are the things that, if you care to look back in the Bible and see where a man was tempted, he was offered money, he was offered power, and he was offered wisdom, and he paused not a moment: he said, "Give me the wisdom to govern my people." That is all we need today is just the thought in our own hearts of the necessity and the weakness of man and the desire for personal things above public things. So let us legislate as we always have in the past in the interest of the people. Give us really and honestly the wisdom that we need. Thank you gentlemen. (Prolonged applause, members rising)

Thereupon, Governor Cross was escorted from the rostrum to a seat on the Floor of the House.

The SPEAKER: The Chair now recognizes the gentleman from Machiasport, Mr. Hanson.

Mr. HANSON: Mr. Speaker and Former and Present Democratic Members of this House: To those of you who have served in previous Legislatures who have come here today to assist in celebrating "Welcome Back" Day, I say to you on behalf of the House of Representatives of the 96th Legislature: your presence gives us cheer and you are indeed most welcome guests — to heck with the Republicans. (Laughter)

Inasmuch as you are not newcomers you are familiar with the methods involved in the operation of this great law-making and law-abiding body of citizens of the State of Maine, conducted or misconducted under Republican misrule, occasionally using a Democrat only as a punctuation mark. (Laughter)

In your experience as members of the Maine Legislature as of today and ever since the convening of that first Legislature back in 1820, each morning each branch of the Legislature on assembling join with the Chaplain in religious services. The lawmakers chosen by the citizens of a Christian State, conscious of the responsibility and dignity of their office, can enter upon the discharge of their duties in no more fitting manner than by asking the help of God, that his blessings may

descend and rest upon the State and Nation.

You, the "welcome back" Democratic members and we, your juniors in the work of holding our reputation as lawmakers to that high standard set by you during your term of office as Legislators of the State of Maine, are steeped in true democracy. However, we face a much different situation today from that which existed half a century ago. The whole country has made a marvelous advance in material prosperity and in the elevation of humanity; and in this march of progress Maine has not lagged.

Transportation has reached Maine's fertile valleys, her forests and waterways have stimulated and encouraged both agriculture and manufactures and have brought their products to a ready and profitable market, accomplished only through you Democrats and your forefathers, you whose blood never curdled in political defeat, you who carry the banner if you don't win a seat. (Laughter)

Transportation has brought suburban and even rural communities into a closer touch with her cities and large towns and has contributed to increased prosperity in bringing their products to a ready and profitable market and more comfortable means of travel.

Maine's magnificent water power no longer flows unharnessed, but science and skill have so controlled and managed it that commercial centers are established today where but a few years ago were wilderness and solitude.

I am addressing you Democrats today as if you were the majority members of the House of Representatives, because I know you would like to be, because I know you ought to be, and because in the twinkling of an eye you will be. (Laughter)

The scenic beauty of Maine's shores, lakes and mountains together with her ever-invigorating climate, has and is attracting a steadily increasing flow of health and pleasure seekers to our State and has been no inconsiderable factor in promoting and enlarging our business activities. Our farms have increased in value and almost all of our industries are

flourishing and prosperous. Commerce has expanded. The current of trade has quickened and grown strong. This is all due to you Democrats. (Laughter)

Financial institutions have increased with profit and safety, capital and labor have thrived together and the wage earner has not lacked opportunity to work and this should have caused an incentive to save.

The Democrats of Maine have always been humane, public spirited and generous. No doubt during your term of office, as in our experience from day to day, matters of a humorous nature have occasionally crept into our legislative endeavors. Just the other day I found myself assigned to the same telephone booth with a Republican. Well, you are aware that those telephone booths are small quarters for two to work in at the same time, so I think it quite unnecessary to tell you that our wires became crossed. Had my partner in the booth been of the opposite sex, I believe matters would have been much more cooperative. (Laughter)

Like those who are following you and now filling the seats once occupied by good Democrats, no doubt you had your disappointments, your experiences of failing to get enacted into law all the pet bills sent you by your constituents.

I recall a case where the presiding officer in one of the chambers called a member to the rostrum to act as presiding officer pro tem. The member was a lawyer and had placed to his credit as one playing to the galleries whenever opportunity came his way. It was but a few minutes when the calendar presented a question which called for a vote of that body. The pro tem, after laying the matter before the chamber, exhibiting all the pomp he possessed, inasmuch as the matter was being decided by a voice vote, the pro tem directed that all those in favor say aye. The ayes responded. Now, says the pro tem, all those opposed say aye, and the opponents responded with an aye, whereupon the pro tem announced "The ayes have it; it is a vote." No Democrat could be as stupid as that. (Laughter)

Some years ago, the Portland delegation came up here with all the

tools then thought necessary to move the State House from Augusta down to Portland. Well, they worked around the old foundation all winter and met with some success. They were of Republican extraction, the "High Hat branch." They even were successful in getting their "histing" gear under the State House structure, but when they gave the word to the boys to lift they found they were short three men. They just lacked that Democratic know-how to work shorthanded. (Laughter) Had Portland at that time mustered three or four additional votes you no doubt would have been sitting in the State House in Portland today and not in Augusta.

Now comes the rumor, believe it or not, that someone down Cumberland way wants to take all the members of the House of Representatives one and two at a time out of all the other counties and take them over and drop them down in Cumberland County. Allow me to predict, the moment when all the representatives from all the counties in Maine become herded into Cumberland County those people down there are going to have a housing problem on their hands and you couldn't blame them if they came up here with all that hydraulic power they possess and start in for a second round in placing the old State House on the moving skids. (Laughter)

You as past masters in the democratic faith — I suppose I am addressing Democrats; I was a little late in getting here — you of the democratic faith reared in the Jeffersonian school of Democracy, who believe you are nearer the common people and from whom so many people ran and hid in the last election and didn't vote, no doubt after the session of which you were members had folded up and you had gone home there were times when you wished you could have done more for the people at home, those who sent you here, sometimes you see where you think you could have done more for your constituents, in other words you feel in a way condemned. However, two years later when the succeeding Legislature has taken final adjournment and its members have returned to their homes, after which as a rule it re-

quires only about two weeks for everyone to become informed that the recently adjourned law-making body had accomplished the least and as a whole it was the worst Legislature in the history of Maine (this is always so), then as a faithful Democrat you without doubt relax in a self-forgiving attitude and in the spirit of your forefathers in a low voice murmur these words: "Lord save the State of Maine!" (Applause)

The SPEAKER: The Chair at this time will request the Sergeant-at-arms to escort the Hon. Burton M. Cross to the rear of the Hall of the House. I might say this was pre-arranged.

GOVERNOR CROSS: I wish you would say that, Mr. Speaker, so they won't think that I am trying to unduly influence them by staying here. (Laughter and applause)

The SPEAKER: There is work to be done in the Governor's office.

Thereupon, Governor Cross was escorted by the Sergeant-at-Arms to the rear of the Hall of the House, amid applause, the assemblage rising.

The SPEAKER: The other body requests the Senators and official personnel of the Senate to return to the Senate Chambers to conduct their labors.

Thereupon, the Senate members retired from the Hall of the House, amid applause, the members rising.

Papers from the Senate

From the Senate: The following Orders:

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn they adjourn to meet on Tuesday, March 31st, 1953, at ten o'clock in the forenoon. (S. P. 507)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that House Paper 493, Legislative Document 1258, Resolve, in Favor of W. Lawrence Doble, of Milo, be recalled to the Senate from the Governor. (S. P. 510)

Came from the Senate read and passed.

In the House, read and passed in concurrence.

Senate Reports of Committees Leave to Withdraw

Report of the Committee on Legal Affairs on Bill "An Act relating to Notice of Defects in

Buildings" (S. P. 257) (L. D. 679) reporting leave to withdraw.

Came from the Senate read and accepted.

In the House, read and accepted in concurrence.

Ought Not to Pass

Report of the Committee on Judiciary reporting "Ought not to pass" on Resolve Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Abolish the Governor's Council (S. P. 306) (L. D. 921)

Report of the Committee on Legal Affairs reporting same on Bill "An Act relating to Complaints of Dogs Hunting Wild Animals" (S. P. 316) (L. D. 810)

Report of same Committee reporting same on Bill "An Act Providing Penalty for Dog Hunting Wild Animals" (S. P. 318) (L. D. 809)

Report of the Committee on Welfare reporting same on Bill "An Act relating to Requirements for Old Age Assistance" (S. P. 431) (L. D. 1158)

Came from the Senate read and accepted.

In the House, read and accepted in concurrence.

Ought to Pass

Report of the Committee on Judiciary reporting "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to Limitation of Actions When Death of Either Party Before Suit Commenced" (S. P. 247) (L. D. 672)

Report of same Committee reporting same on Bill "An Act relating to Temporary Judges for Municipal Courts" (S. P. 249) (L. D. 674)

Report of same Committee reporting same on Bill "An Act relating to the Recording of Conditional Sales Agreements" (S. P. 252) (L. D. 675)

Report of same Committee reporting same on Bill "An Act relating to Arrests Without Warrant" (S. P. 305) (L. D. 922)

Report of same Committee reporting same on Bill "An Act relating to Dismissal and Disciplinary Action Under the State Personnel Law" (S. P. 399) (L. D. 1120)

Came from the Senate with the Reports read and accepted and the Bills passed to be engrossed.

In the House, Reports were read and accepted in concurrence, the Bills read twice and assigned the next legislative day.

Ought to Pass with Committee Amendment

Report of the Committee on Judiciary on Bill "An Act relating to the Admissibility of Blood Tests in Criminal Cases" (S. P. 250) (L. D. 677) reporting "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Came from the Senate with the Report read and accepted and the Bill passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A".

In the House: Report was read and accepted in concurrence and the Bill read twice.

Committee Amendment "A" was read by the Clerk as follows:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S. P. 250, L. D. 677, Bill "An Act Relating to the Admissibility of Blood Tests in Criminal Cases."

Amend said Bill by striking out the underlined word "shall" in the 26th line of said Bill and inserting in place thereof the underlined word 'may'.

Committee Amendment "A" was adopted in concurrence and the Bill assigned for third reading the next legislative day.

Report of the Committee on Judiciary on Bill "An Act Amending the Election Laws" (S. P. 309) (L. D. 926) reporting "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Came from the Senate with the Report read and accepted and the Bill passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A".

In the House: Report was read and accepted in concurrence and the Bill read twice.

Committee Amendment "A" was read by the Clerk as follows:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S. P. 309, L. D. 926, Bill "An Act Amending the Election Laws."

Amend said Bill by adding after "Sec. 1" thereof, a new section to be designated "Sec. 1-A" and to read as follows:

"Sec. 1-A. R. S., c. 3, § 19, amended. The 2nd sentence of section 19 of chapter 3 of the revised statutes, as

enacted by chapter 317 of the public laws of 1945, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"The said city clerk shall receive in writing the application of any such person who appears before him and shall stamp thereon the date when same is so received and shall file the same with the board of registration of voters and said board of registration shall in any open session of the board take action upon the said application and if satisfied as to the necessary qualifications of the applicant, the applicant shall be enrolled as a voter and his or her name shall then be placed upon the general register of voters and each applicant so registered and enrolled shall by said board be notified in writing of the enrollment and such registration."

Committee Amendment "A" was adopted in concurrence and the Bill was assigned for third reading the next legislative day.

Report of the Committee on Judiciary on Bill "An Act relating to Time of Cremation of Bodies After Death" (S. P. 353) (L. D. 964) reporting "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Came from the Senate with the Report read and accepted and the Bill passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A".

In the House, Report was read and accepted in concurrence and the Bill read twice.

Committee Amendment "A" was read by the Clerk as follows:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S. P. 353, L. D. 964, Bill "An Act Relating to Time of Cremation of Bodies After Death."

Amend said Bill by adding at the end thereof the following underlined sentence: **For said certificate the medical examiner shall receive a fee of \$5 payable by the person requesting same.**

Committee Amendment "A" was adopted in concurrence and the Bill was assigned for third reading the next legislative day.

**Ought Not to Pass
Recommitted**

Report of the Committee on Legal Affairs reporting "Ought not to pass" on Bill "An Act Amending

the Charter of the City of Lewiston" (S. P. 428) (L. D. 1155)

Came from the Senate with the Report and Bill recommitted to the Committee on Legal Affairs.

In the House, Report and Bill were recommitted to the Committee on Legal Affairs in concurrence.

On motion of Mrs. Christie of Presque Isle, House Rule 25 was suspended for the remainder of today's session in order to permit smoking.

Referred to Committee

Report of the Committee on Welfare on Resolve Providing for an Increase in State Pension for Nancy A. Gilbert of Belfast (S. P. 425) reporting that it be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Came from the Senate with the Report read and accepted and the Resolve referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

In the House, Report was read and accepted and the Resolve referred to the Committee on Judiciary in concurrence.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act Repealing Town's Share in Aid to Dependent Children Expenditures" (H. P. 1206) (L. D. 1378) which was referred to the Committee on Welfare in the House on March 19.

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs in non-concurrence.

In the House, the House voted to recede and concur.

The SPEAKER: At this time, the Chair urges all former House Members who have not registered to do so in the Speaker's office in order that the record may be as complete as possible.

Orders

Mr. Hand of New Limerick presented the following Order and moved its passage:

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that the Joint Committee on Claims be authorized to employ a Reporter to take and transcribe the evidence in the Carroll claim offered at its hearing to be held Tuesday, March 31. (H. P. 1214)

Thereupon the Order received passage and on further motion of Mr. Hand the Order was sent forthwith to the Senate.

House Reports of Committees Divided Report

Majority Report of the Committee on Judiciary reporting "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to Evidence of Intoxication" (H. P. 422) (L. D. 469)

Report was signed by the following members:

Mr. REID of Kennebec
— of the Senate

Messrs. LOW of South Portland
TRAFTON of Auburn
MARTIN of Augusta
FULLER of Bangor
McGLAUFILIN of Portland
— of the House

Minority Report of same Committee reporting "Ought not to pass" on same Bill.

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. WARD of Penobscot
HARDING of Knox
— of the Senate

Messrs. CIANCHETTE of Pittsfield
FITANIDES of Saco
— of the House

Reports were read.

On motion of Mr. Trafton of Auburn, the Majority Report "Ought to pass" was accepted, the Bill was given its two several readings and assigned for third reading the next legislative day.

Ought to Pass Printed Bills

Mr. Fuller from the Committee on Judiciary reported "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to Definition of 'Absent Voting'" (H. P. 106) (L. D. 107)

Same gentleman from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Taxation of Personal Property Held in Trust" (H. P. 417) (L. D. 465)

Same gentleman from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Employees of University of Maine Receiving Social Security Benefits" (H. P. 418) (L. D. 466)

Mr. McGlaufilin from same Committee reported same on Bill "An

Act relating to Rights and Stock Options of Stockholders" (H. P. 339) (L. D. 355)

Reports were read and accepted, the Bills read twice, and assigned for third reading the next legislative day.

**Ought to Pass
with Committee Amendment**

Mr. Low from the Committee on Taxation on Bill "An Act relating to Sales Tax on Isolated Sales of Motor Vehicles" (H. P. 282) (L. D. 279) reported "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Report was read.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Rockland, Mr. Low.

Mr. LOW: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: As short a time ago as last October at the budget hearing, the yield of the sales tax was estimated at \$11,700,000. By the time we came here in January, the estimate was raised to \$12,800,000 and the estimate now stands at \$13,500,000. If we do not pass any substantial exemptions which will reduce the yield of that tax, and if we pass the Appropriations Bill as it is now before us, we would have used up \$13,000,000 of the sales tax money.

We have before us three bills which it is generally thought will receive passage. One has to do with elderly teachers' pensions, another with aid to the totally disabled and a third one in respect to Old Age Assistance. Those bills together will call for about a half million dollars more of revenue and those bills, together with the Appropriations Committee bill, will use up all of the revenue which it is estimated the State will have. That gives no consideration whatever to nearly a million dollars worth of L.D.'s. which are still here before us. Many of those bills are just as worthy as the bills which make up the Appropriations Committee report. If we want to proceed to have enough money to pass those bills, we have the following taxes which can still be put on: The first is the bill before you which taxes the sale of cars by casual sellers. That bill will probably yield in the neighborhood of \$125,000. We can tax the

corporations for the items which, through court decisions, they were relieved from. It is our intention to offer a bill to that effect in any case. And we can tax household fuel, which will yield \$300,000. So we have \$300,000, \$250,000 from the corporation exemptions and \$125,000 for this bill which taxes the casual sales of cars and that, members, is the bottom of the barrel. We have no more bills, we don't even have any more ideas of how to raise tax money. It is our opinion that this bill, as a matter of fairness, should be passed anyhow.

I therefore move that the committee report be accepted.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Rockland, Mr. Low, moves that the House accept the "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" Report of the Committee on Taxation on Bill "An Act relating to Sales Tax on Isolated Sales of Motor Vehicles," House Paper 282, Legislative Document 279. Is this the pleasure of the House?

The motion prevailed and the Bill was then given its two several readings.

Committee Amendment "A" was read by the Clerk as follows:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H. P. 282, L. D. 279, Bill, "An Act Relating to Sales Tax on Isolated Sales of Motor Vehicles."

Amend said Bill by inserting immediately after the enacting clause thereof, the following:

"Sec. 1. R. S., c. 14-A, § 2, amended. Section 2 of chapter 14-A of the revised statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 250 of the public laws of 1951, is hereby amended by inserting in alphabetical order the following new paragraph:

"Motor vehicle" means any self-propelled vehicle operating on land, not designed to run on rails."

Further amend said Bill by inserting at the beginning of the 1st line thereof the following abbreviation and figure 'Sec. 2.'

Committee Amendment "A" was adopted and the Bill was assigned for third reading the next legislative day.

Passed to Be Engrossed

Bill "An Act relating to Salary of Judge of Probate in Cumberland County" (S. P. 148) (L. D. 348)

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading, read the third time, passed to be engrossed and sent to the Senate.

Tabled

Bill "An Act Creating the Department of Finance and Administration" (S. P. 159) (L. D. 407)

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

(On motion of Mr. Turner of Auburn, tabled pending third reading and unassigned.)

Bill "An Act to Increase the Salary of the Treasurer of Cumberland County" (S. P. 232) (L. D. 600)

Bill "An Act relating to the Salary of the Deputy Treasurer of the County of Cumberland" (S. P. 233) (L. D. 599)

Bill "An Act relating to Clerk Hire in Office of Register of Probate, Cumberland County" (S. P. 261) (L. D. 687)

Bill "An Act relating to the Salary of Register of Probate, Cumberland County" (S. P. 263) (L. D. 686)

Bill "An Act relating to Compensation for Members of Maine Turnpike Authority" (S. P. 297) (L. D. 827)

Bill "An Act relating to Meetings by Towns to Regulate Taking of Clams" (S. P. 378) (L. D. 1041)

Bill "An Act relating to Adoption of a Certain Child" (S. P. 438) (L. D. 1206)

Bill "An Act to Increase the Salary of the Sheriff of Waldo County" (H. P. 607) (L. D. 606)

Bill "An Act relating to Hospital Aid" (H. P. 1210) (L. D. 1381)

Bill "An Act relating to Salaries of Public Utilities Commission" (H. P. 1211) (L. D. 1382)

Resolve Providing for a Continuous Survey of Closed Clam Areas and Study of Fuel Oil Pollution (S. P. 94) (L. D. 229)

Resolve relating to the Schoolhouse in Indian Township (H. P. 61) (L. D. 51)

Were reported by the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading, Bills read the third time, Resolves read the second time, all passed to be engrossed and sent to the Senate.

Amended Bills

Bill "An Act relating to Duties of Court Stenographers" (S. P. 104) (L. D. 318)

Bill "An Act relating to Roadside Picnic Areas" (S. P. 167) (L. D. 412)

Bill "An Act Creating a State Scholarship Fund for Normal School and Teachers' College Students" (S. P. 242) (L. D. 667)

Bill "An Act relating to Salaries of County Attorney and Assistant County Attorney of Cumberland County" (S. P. 260) (L. D. 684)

Bill "An Act relating to the Taking of Lobsters in York River, County of York" (S. P. 329) (L. D. 832)

Bill "An Act relating to Driving of Deer" (H. P. 94) (L. D. 87)

Bill "An Act relating to Closed Season on Deer in Cranberry Isles, Hancock County" (H. P. 410) (L. D. 459)

Bill "An Act relative to the Salary of the Judge of the Brunswick Municipal Court" (H. P. 446) (L. D. 489)

Bill "An Act to Increase the Salary of the Recorder of the Brunswick Municipal Court" (H. P. 447) (L. D. 490)

Bill "An Act relating to Preference in State Employment for Veterans" (H. P. 1093) (L. D. 1227)

Resolve Regulating Fishing in Porter Lake, Franklin County (H. P. 65) (L. D. 61)

Resolve Authorizing the Forest Commissioner to Convey by Sale Certain Interests of the State in Land in Hallowell, Kennebec County (H. P. 1027) (L. D. 1148)

Were reported by the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading, Bills read the third time, Resolves read the second time, all passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A" and sent to the Senate.

Tabled and Assigned

Bill "An Act to Appropriate Monies for the Expenditures of State Government and for Other Purposes for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1954, and June 30, 1955" (S. P. 476) (L. D. 1316)

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Auburn, Mr. Jacobs.

Mr. JACOBS: Mr. Speaker, due to the fact that the hour is getting late, many of us have quite a distance to go, especially our visitors, and further to state to the members of the House that the Appropriations Committee of the House is not trying to railroad this particular bill through the House, I move that it be tabled and assigned for next Tuesday morning.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Auburn, Mr. Jacobs, moves that Bill "An Act to Appropriate Monies for the Expenditures of State Government and for Other Purposes for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1954, and June 30, 1955", Senate Paper 476, Legislative Document 1316, be tabled pending third reading and be specially assigned for Tuesday, March 31. Is this the pleasure of the House?

The motion prevailed and the Bill with accompanying papers was so tabled and so assigned.

Orders of the Day

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Whitefield, Mr. Chase.

Mr. CHASE: Mr. Speaker, I ask for reconsideration of our action of yesterday on Legislative Document 1368, Resolve, to Reimburse the Town of Jefferson for Conveyance of School Children, which was re-committed to the Claims Committee.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Whitefield, Mr. Chase, moves that the House reconsider its action of yesterday whereby it re-committed to the Committee on Claims the Report and Resolve, to Reimburse the Town of Jefferson for Conveyance of School Children, House Paper 719, Legislative Document 1368. Is this the pleasure of the House?

The motion prevailed.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Whitefield, Mr. Chase.

Mr. CHASE: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I have contacted some of the committee members of the Claims Committee and feel assured that there is no question as to their desire in relation to the amendment proposing that the funds for the resolve are to come from the Department of

Health and Welfare. I, therefore, at this time, move that the resolve receive its second reading.

The SPEAKER: The Chair understands that the gentleman from Whitefield, Mr. Chase, moves that this resolve be given its second reading. Is this the pleasure of the House?

The motion prevailed and the Resolve was given its second reading, passed to be engrossed as amended and sent to the Senate.

(The gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Jalbert, was granted unanimous consent to address the House)

Mr. JALBERT: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I was silently opposed to my good friend's motion (the gentleman from Auburn, Mr. Jacobs) to table the Appropriations Bill until Tuesday. However, far be it from me to oppose the wishes of the House Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, particularly due to the fact that he happens to be Mr. Jacobs. There are a few thoughts, however, that we must bear in mind. The fact that the gentleman from South Portland, Mr. Fuller, commended the Appropriations Committee for their work on the bill yesterday, the fact that the gentleman from Island Falls, Mr. Crabtree, stated that the bill turned out was the work of experts, is no reason why at least the members, the many new members of the House, some of whom I contacted when I was down in the Appropriations Committee room today — there is no reason why this gem is beyond being given a complete look-see.

If you heard the remarks of the gentleman from Rockland, Mr. Low, he made the comment about the scraping of the bottom of the barrel. As one member of the Appropriations Committee this term, two previous terms, and twice on the Governor's Budget Committee, having spent several weeks with the other members of the Committee on this bill, having practically slept with the budget book under my pillow, I would like to stress to you the urgency of really going over this bill as we did, item by item, two years ago.

I know, without stating names, that the top brass is not in full accord as to the present procedure. I know that some of the top brass — and I do not say that certainly to be disrespectful — is interested in this document being gone over item by item.

I bring to you the fact that the Appropriations Committee has worked a lot of hours on this bill, not to praise necessarily the Appropriations Committee, not to heap self-praise upon myself, or the extra hours I have put in on this bill, but merely to state that since we have worked that many hours and that many weeks on the bill you other members should certainly not be expected to just give it a cursory glance and say "That is it and I am going along with it."

I further believe that this method we used two years ago that was instigated by the floor leader of the House—and at that time I opposed it—I was wrong, I admit it—it was a splendid program, it turned out pretty well—I think it could possibly save us a little time. It would also allow every member of the House, bearing in mind that there are 86 new members, it would allow all of those members and the rest of you—and I do not say this to chastise you—it would at least give you an opportunity to open that green book that some of you have tucked away in the drawer and have left there. It is your duty to open it, it is your duty to study this bill, it is your duty to thoroughly understand it so upon being asked why you did this or why you did that by your constituents at home you can tell them.

I feel very strongly that by going along in the ordinary procedure that we did two years ago, as these items come up the amendments could be prepared within twenty-four hours, then brought forward and we would save a great deal of time.

As far as I am concerned—and I am now getting away for a moment from Appropriations—when we land here on Tuesday if the calendar is a large one we look at the clock and decide whether or not we should get up and speak because it is getting late and people want to eat, so we let it go and we possibly

let a bill ride that we might like to nip or that we might like to discuss or might like to give it the axe. On Wednesday when we get in here the calendar is usually long, it gets along to about 12:15 or 12:20, we all have committee hearings and we cannot do anything. On Thursday if you dare to get up you figure you are going to get hurt because some of the people who live far away want to get home. So we do not have the opportunity to devote to a lot of these measures the time that we should devote.

You must also bear in mind that it might be very well that we have gone into a program of three days. We must, however, bear in mind that we are here to represent the people, we are here oftentimes visited by various people of Maine, various members of our constituency, and frankly—I don't know about the remainder of you members—but at times, due to committee work and other pressing work and short sessions that are rapid, we do not have an opportunity to spend the time that we owe to ourselves as a duty to spend on these matters.

I want to state again and reaffirm my stand: as far as I am concerned as a member of the Appropriations Committee, I have not presented any amendment, I do not intend to. If that is the wish of the committee, I am willing to abide by it. But that certainly does not stop any individual on the committee or anybody else however from speaking on anything or offering any amendment if they feel it should be presented. If we are to keep possession of the Appropriations bill the only way is to start discussing this program piecemeal, item by item from A to W. I am making that suggestion for the leaders.

On motion of the gentleman from Hampden, Mr. Stanley, the House voted to take from the table the twentieth tabled and unassigned matter, Bill "An Act Accepting from Dorothea Dix Memorial Association a Deed of Gift of Dorothea Dix Park" (H. P. 1213) (L. D. 1386) tabled by that gentleman on March 25 pending reference; and on further motion of the same gentleman the bill was referred to the Committee

on Public Buildings and Parks and sent up for concurrence.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Brewer, Mr. Archer.

Mr. **ARCHER**: Mr. Speaker, I would like to inquire whether or not H. P. 943, L. D. 985 is in the possession of the House?

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair informs the gentleman from Brewer, Mr. Archer, that the "Ought not to pass" report of the Committee on Taxation is in the possession of the House.

Thereupon, on motion of Mr. Archer, the House voted to reconsider its action of yesterday whereby it accepted the "Ought not to pass" report of the Committee on Taxation on Bill "An Act Relating to Sales under Nineteen Cents under Sales Tax Law" (H. P. 943) (L. D. 985).

On further motion of the same gentleman the Report with accompanying papers was tabled and unassigned, pending acceptance of the Committee Report.

Order Out of Order

The gentleman from Naples, Mr. Pickett, presented the following order out of order and under suspension of the rules and moved its passage:

WHEREAS, the members of the House have learned with profound sorrow of the death of the brother of Representative Waldo Burgess of Limestone, on March 23, 1953:

BE IT ORDERED, that the sympathy of the House be extended to Mr. Burgess of Limestone in the loss of his brother;

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the Clerk of the House be directed to send an attested copy of this Order to him.

Thereupon the order received passage.

(The gentleman from Bangor, Mr. Totman, was granted unanimous consent to address the House)

Mr. **TOTMAN**: Mr. Speaker, much as I regret it, I feel that many of our constituents at home follow our proceedings in the House simply by reading the headlines in the papers. I noticed an A. P. release this morning in various papers carrying the headline that the Maine

House has approved the \$68,000,000 general appropriations bill. I think the gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Jalbert, has more or less expressed the thought I had in mind. However, inasmuch as I am definitely not one of the top brass in the House but one of the plain people, I just want to go on record that I definitely do want to take a good hard look-see at the Appropriations Bill, and I definitely feel that our constituents should know that simply because the paper said that the bill rolled through the House and had two readings without a single amendment, it was more out of courtesy, to speed legislative procedure, than due to the fact that we were either asleep or indifferent. I think the sentiment of the House, if I have properly sensed it, is very much to the contrary.

The **SPEAKER**: Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: At this time the Chair feels justified in defending the position of the legislative leaders of both branches, even as the Chair would expect any one of you to defend a committee report to which you were a party. It seems at this time that it is up to the House to express itself one way or the other as to whether or not a three-day working week should be continued. For your information, it appears that the number of hearings will definitely slacken off, those hearings before committees, as they have begun to slacken this week, so that by approximately the 14th of April over 99 per cent of the hearings and executive sessions may well have been held, and that by approximately the 14th of April both branches of this Legislature may be in a position to go into session morning, afternoon and evening, if you so desire, three days a week. If any member of this House wishes to put before this House a motion that morning Friday sessions or afternoon Monday sessions be made a part of the legislative schedule, beginning next week — and the earliest you could do it would be a week from Friday at this time — the Chair will be happy to entertain such a motion.

At this time, the Chair appoints on the Committee of Conference

on the disagreeing action of the two branches of the Legislature on Resolve to Repeal Certain Special Resolve Pensions, House Paper 612, Legislative Document 732, the following members on the part of the House: The gentleman from Brooks, Mr. Dickey, the gentlewoman from Lincoln, Miss Steeves, the gentlewoman from Rumford, Miss Cormier.

The House is proceeding under Orders of the Day. If there is no further business to come before the House the Clerk will read the notices.

On motion of Mr. Walker of Calais,

Adjourned until Tuesday, March 31, at ten o'clock in the forenoon.