

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

Ninety-Seventh Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1955

DAILY KENNEBEC JOURNAL
Augusta, Maine

SENATE

Wednesday, March 30, 1955

Senate called to order by the President.

Prayer by Capt. Lloyd Scott of Augusta.

Journal of yesterday read and approved.

House Papers

The Committee on Public Utilities on Bill "An Act Relating to Condemnation Proceedings by Water Districts." (S. P. 332) (L. D. 896) reported that the same Ought not to pass.

In Senate on March 24, recommended to the Committee on Public Utilities.

Comes from the House, Ought not to pass report accepted in non-concurrence.

In the Senate, on motion by Mr. Martin of Kennebec, the bill was laid upon the table pending consideration.

House Papers Received by Unanimous Consent

"Resolve to Rebuild Part of Highway Route No. 7." (H. P. 1164) (L. D. 1393)

Which was received by unanimous consent and referred to the Committee on Highways, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Incorporate the Benton School District." (H. P. 1163) (L. D. 1392)

Which was received by unanimous consent and referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs, in concurrence.

House Committee Reports Leave to Withdraw

The Committee on Liquor Control on Bill "An Act Relating to Salesmen Under Liquor Laws." (H. P. 1002) (L. D. 1149) reported that the same be granted Leave to Withdraw.

The Committee on Taxation on Bill "An Act Providing for a Tax on Quahogs." (H. P. 1019) (L. D. 1159) reported that the same be granted Leave to Withdraw.

The same Committee on Bill "An Act Clarifying the Exemption of Municipal Airport Property from

Taxation." (H. P. 941) (L. D. 1044) reported that the same be granted Leave to Withdraw.

Which reports were severally read and accepted in concurrence.

Ought Not to Pass

The Committee on Legal Affairs on Bill "An Act Relating to Issuing Bonds in Emergencies in the City of Saco." (H. P. 617) (L. D. 663) reported that the same Ought not to pass.

The same Committee on Bill "An Act Relating to Real Estate of the Bath Water District." (H. P. 921) (L. D. 1029) reported that the same Ought not to pass.

(On motion by Mr. Cummings of Sagadahoc, tabled pending acceptance of the report.)

The Committee on Liquor Control on Bill "An Act Relating to Sales of Malt Liquor to Minors." (H. P. 673) (L. D. 749) reported that the same Ought not to pass.

The Committee on Sea and Shore Fisheries on Bill "An Act Prohibiting Drugging for Lobsters." (H. P. 967) (L. D. 1093) reported that the same Ought not to pass.

The Committee on Taxation on Bill "An Act Relating to Inheritance Taxes on Class B." (H. P. 969) (L. D. 1095) reported that the same Ought not to pass.

The same Committee on Bill "An Act Relating to Inheritance Taxes on Class A." (H. P. 970) (L. D. 1095) reported that the same Ought not to pass.

The same Committee on Bill "An Act Exempting Malt Beverages from the Sales and Use Tax Law." (H. P. 1016) (L. D. 1156) reported that the same Ought not to pass.

Which reports were severally read and accepted in concurrence.

Ought to Pass

The Committee on Claims on "Resolve in Favor of Aiyah T. Leighton of New Gloucester." (H. P. 466) (L. D. 511) reported that the same Ought to pass.

The same Committee on "Resolve in Favor of Ronald A. Faulkinham of Belfast." (H. P. 519) (L. D. 582) reported that the same Ought to pass.

The Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game on Bill "An Act Re-

lating to the Taking of Minnows for Bait." (H. P. 534) (L. D. 591) reported that the same Ought to pass.

The same Committee on "Resolve Regulating Fishing in Little Tunk Lake, Hancock County." (H. P. 779) (L. D. 862) reported that the same Ought to pass.

The same Committee on "Resolve Regulating Fishing in West Lake in Hancock County." (H. P. 780) (L. D. 863) reported that the same Ought to pass.

The same Committee on "Resolve Prohibiting Use of Fish as Bait in Certain Lakes in Aroostook County." (H. P. 782) (L. D. 865) reported that the same "Ought to pass."

The Committee on Public Utilities on Bill "An Act Relating to Appointment and Duties of Trustees of Presque Isle Water District." (H. P. 378) (L. D. 413) reported that the same "Ought to pass."

The Committee on Transportation on Bill "An Act Relating to Instruction Permits to Drive Motor Vehicles." (H. P. 614) (L. D. 622) reported that the same "Ought to pass."

Which reports were severally read and accepted in concurrence, the bills and resolves read once and tomorrow assigned for second reading.

Ought to Pass New Draft

The Committee on Public Utilities on Bill "An Act to Incorporate the Moscow Water District." (H. P. 716) (L. D. 784) reported the same in a new draft (H. P. 1162) (L. D. 1388) under the same title and that it "Ought to pass."

Which report was read and accepted in concurrence, the bill in new draft read once and tomorrow assigned for second reading.

Ought to Pass As Amended

The Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game on Bill "An Act Permitting Hunting with Bow and Arrow in Waldo County." (H. P. 895) (L. D. 1003) reported that the same "Ought to pass" as Amended by Committee Amendment A (Filing 142)

The Committee on Judiciary on Bill "An Act Relating to Dumping Rubbish and Bottles on Highways from Motor Vehicles." (H. P. 669)

(L. D. 745) reported that the same "Ought to pass" as Amended by Committee Amendment A (Filing 146)

The Committee on Public Utilities on Bill "An Act to Incorporate the Mexico Sewer District." (H. P. 500) (L. D. 551) reported that the same "Ought to pass" as Amended by Committee Amendment A (Filing 145)

The Committee on Taxation on Bill "An Act Adjusting Limitations on School Assessments in the Unorganized Territory to Conform with New State Valuations." (H. P. 1034) (L. D. 1206) reported that the same "Ought to pass" as Amended by Committee Amendment A (Filing 156)

The Committee on Transportation on Bill "An Act Relating to Dealer and Transit Motor Vehicle Registration." (H. P. 615) (L. D. 623) reported that the same "Ought to pass" as Amended by Committee Amendment A (Filing 143)

Which reports were severally read and accepted in concurrence and the bills read once. Committee Amendments A were severally read and adopted in concurrence, and the bill as so amended were tomorrow assigned for second reading.

Majority — ONTP Minority — OTP

The Majority of the Committee on Judiciary on Bill "An Act to Provide for the Observance of Legal Holidays." (H. P. 911) (L. D. 1019) reported that the same "Ought not to pass."

(Signed)

Senators:

SILSBY of Hancock
WEEKS of Cumberland

Representatives:

DAVIS of Calais
McGLAUFILIN of Portland
EARLES of South Portland
MacDONALD of Rumford

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject matter reported that the bill "Ought to pass"

(Signed)

Senator:

REID of Kennebec

Representatives:

NEEDHAM of Orono
HANCOCK of York
BROWNE of Bangor

Comes from the House, Majority Report read and accepted.

In the Senate, on motion by Mr. Reid of Kennebec, the bill and accompanying papers were laid upon the table pending acceptance of either report; and were especially assigned for later in today's session.

Majority — ONTP
Minority — OTP

The Majority of the Committee on Liquor Control on Bill "An Act to Permit Taverns to Sell Wine and Spirits." (H. P. 202) (L. D. 207) reported that the same "Ought not to pass".

(Signed)

Senators:

CRABTREE of Aroostook
CARPENTER of Somerset

Representatives:

CHRISTIE of Presque Isle
RICH of Charleston
CHARLES of Portland
PIERCE of Bucksport
ANTHOINE of Windham

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject matter reported that the bill "Ought to pass." (Signed)

Senator:

BOUCHER of Androscoggin

Representatives:

DOSTIE of Winslow
COTE of Lewiston

Comes from the House, having been indefinitely postponed.

In the Senate on motion by Mr. Carpenter of Somerset, the "Ought not to pass" report of the Committee was accepted.

Majority — ONTP
Minority — OTP

The Majority of the Committee on Liquor Control on Bill "An Act Relating to Limitation of Liquor Licenses." (H. P. 373) (L. D. 408) reported that the same "Ought not to pass."

(Signed)

Senators:

BOUCHER of Androscoggin
CARPENTER of Somerset
CRABTREE of Aroostook

Representatives:

PIERCE of Bucksport
CHARLES of Portland
ANTHOINE of Windham

COTE of Lewiston
DOSTIE of Winslow

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject matter reported that the bill "Ought to pass." (Signed)

Representatives:

CHRISTIE of Presque Isle
RICH of Charleston

Comes from the House Majority Report read and accepted.

In the Senate, on motion by Mr. Crabtree of Aroostook, the Majority "Ought not to pass" report was accepted in concurrence.

Majority—ONTP
Minority—OTP

The Majority of the Committee on Liquor Control on Bill "An Act Relating to Tables, Booths, etc. on Certain Premises Licensed to Sell Liquor." (H. P. 1003) (L. D. 1150) reported that the same Ought not to pass.

(Signed)

Senators:

CRABTREE of Aroostook
BOUCHER of Androscoggin
CARPENTER of Somerset

Representatives:

PIERCE of Bucksport
CHARLES of Portland
ANTHOINE of Windham
COTE of Lewiston
DOSTIE of Winslow

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject matter reported that the bill Ought to pass. (Signed)

Representatives:

RICH of Charleston
CHRISTIE of Presque Isle

Comes from the House, Majority Report read and accepted.

In the Senate, on motion by Mr. Boucher of Androscoggin, the Majority "Ought not to pass" report was read and accepted in concurrence.

Majority—ONTP
Minority—OTP

The Majority of the Committee on Liquor Control on Bill "An Act Relating to Employment by Liquor Licenses of Persons with Liquor Law Convictions." (H. P. 751) (L.

D. 832) reported that the same Ought not to pass.

(Signed)

Senators:

CARPENTER of Somerset
BOUCHER of Androscoggin

Representatives:

PIERCE of Bucksport
CHARLES of Portland
ANTHOINE of Windham
COTE of Lewiston
DOSTIE of Winslow

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject matter reported that the bill Ought to pass.

(Signed)

Senator:

CRABTREE of Aroostook

Representatives:

CHRISTIE of Presque Isle
RICH of Charleston

Comes from the House, Minority Report read and accepted, and the bill passed to be engrossed.

In the Senate, on motion by Mr. Crabtree of Aroostook, the bill and accompanying papers were laid upon the table pending acceptance of either report, and were especially assigned for later in today's session.

First Reading of Printed Bills

"Resolve in Favor of Eugene F. Young of South Portland." (S. P. 265) (L. D. 1395)

Bill "An Act Relating to Public Hearings for Public Utilities." (S. P. 506) (L. D. 1396)

Which were read once and tomorrow assigned for second reading.

Senate Committee Reports Ought to Pass—New Draft Same Title

Mr. Farris from the Committee on Business Legislation on Bill "An Act Relating to Payments of Benefits by Fraternal Beneficiary Societies of Children." (S. P. 120) (L. D. 316) reported the same in a New Draft (S. P. 511) (L. D. 1401) under the same title, and that it Ought to pass.

Which report was read and accepted, the bill in new draft was read once and tomorrow assigned for second reading.

Ought to Pass—New Draft New Title

Mr. Reid from the Committee on Judiciary on Bill "An Act Relating to Trial Terms in Knox County." (S. P. 345) (L. D. 954) reported the same in a new draft (S. P. 512) (L. D. 1400) and under new title, Bill "An Act Relating to Trial Terms in Knox and Oxford Counties." and that it Ought to pass.

Which report was read and accepted, and the bill in new draft and under a new title was read once and tomorrow assigned for second reading.

Ought to Pass—as Amended

Mr. Fuller from the Committee on Education on Bill "An Act Relating to Education in Unorganized Territory." (S. P. 151) (L. D. 345) reported that the same Ought to pass as Amended by Committee Amendment A.

Which report was read and accepted and the bill read once. Committee Amendment A was read.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to L. D. 345. Amend said bill by adding at the end thereof the following section: 'Section 3 Appropriations. There is hereby appropriated from the Unorganized Territory School Fund, the sum of \$25,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1956 and \$25,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1957 to carry out the purposes of this act.'

Which amendment was adopted and the bill as so amended was tomorrow assigned for second reading.

Second Readers

The Committee on Bills in the Second Reading reported the following Bills and Resolves:

House

Bill "An Act to Incorporate Maine Oil and Heating Equipment Dealers' Association." (H. P. 913) (L. D. 1021)

Which was read a second time and passed to be engrossed in concurrence.

"Resolve Requesting Judicial Council to Study Problem of Common Law Pleading and Procedure." (H. P. 939) (L. D. 1137)

(On motion by Mr. Silsby of Hancock, tabled pending passage to be engrossed.)

House — as Amended

“Resolve Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Change the Qualifications of Citizenship of the Governor.” (H. P. 432) (L. D. 478)

(On motion by Mr. Lessard of Androscoggin, tabled pending passage to be engrossed.)

Bill “An Act Relating to the Reporter of Decisions.” (H. P. 826) (L. D. 918)

“Resolve Authorizing Arthur W. Bushey of Waterville, John Tibbetts, Archie Leeman and Oscar Bradstreet, all of Palermo, to Sue the State of Maine.” (H. P. 914) (L. D. 1022)

Which were severally read a second time and passed to be engrossed, as amended, in concurrence.

Senate

Bill “An Act Relating to the Taking of Alewives in the Town of Columbia Falls.” (S. P. 417) (L. D. 1178)

Bill “An Act Relating to the Appointment of Conservators.” (S. P. 503) (L. D. 1385)

Which was read a second time and passed to be engrossed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Senate — as Amended

Bill “An Act to Clarify the Liquor Laws.” (S. P. 254) (L. D. 685)

Bill “An Act Relating to Prior Convictions in Operating Motor Vehicles Under Influence of Liquor.” (S. P. 287) (L. D. 798)

Bill “An Act Relating to Preference in State Employment to Mothers of Veterans.” (S. P. 297) (L. D. 805)

Bill “An Act Relating to Sales to and Consumption of Liquor by Minors.” (S. P. 302) (L. D. 810)

Which were severally read a second time and passed to be engrossed, as amended, in non-concurrence.

Sent down for concurrence.

Enactors

The Committee on Engrossed Bills reported as truly and strictly en-

grossed, the following bills and resolves:

An Act relating to Definition of Retail Sale Under Sales Tax Law (S. P. 138) (L. D. 330)

An Act relating to Payment of Alimony and Support of Minor Children (S. P. 193) (L. D. 447)

An Act relating to Children Caring for Parents (S. P. 194) (L. D. 445)

An Act relating to Charitable Gifts by Trust Companies (S. P. 341) (L. D. 950)

An Act to Change the Name of Rumford Falls Trust Company and Amend its Charter (H. P. 192) (L. D. 197)

An Act to Establish the Town of Madawaska Municipal Court (H. P. 299) (L. D. 310)

An Act Providing for the Union of the Towns of Bucksport and Verona as One Municipality (H. P. 300) (L. D. 311)

An Act relating to Trapping for Bear (H. P. 413) (L. D. 460)

An Act relating to Open Season for Fishing (H. P. 414) (L. D. 461)

An Act relating to the Taking of Alewives in the Town of Alna (H. P. 456) (L. D. 491)

An Act relating to Annual Meeting of Board of Veterinary Examiners (H. P. 512) (L. D. 567)

An Act relating to Time of Examination by Board of Veterinary Examiners (H. P. 513) (L. D. 577)

An Act relating to Failure of Towns to Remit Dog License Fees (H. P. 562) (L. D. 619)

An Act relating to Reports on Damages by Dogs to Poultry (H. P. 633) (L. D. 710)

An Act to Confer Additional Rights and Powers upon East Branch Improvement Company (H. P. 707) (L. D. 775)

An Act relating to Sale of Unused Forest Fire Warden Headquarters Sites (H. P. 786) (L. D. 869)

An Act Regulating Abandonment of Iceboxes, Refrigerators and other Airtight Containers (H. P. 836) (L. D. 927)

An Act Regulating the Taking of Alewives in the Town of Bristol (H. P. 350) (L. D. 936)

An Act Regulating the Taking of Clams in the Town of Penobscot (H. P. 851) (L. D. 937)

An Act to Provide for the Creation of the Office of Director of Public

Works for the City of Waterville (H. P. 917) (L. D. 1025)

An Act relating to Power to Hold and Purchase Property by the City of Waterville (H. P. 918) (L. D. 1026)

An Act Amending the Charter of the City of Brewer. (H. P. 923) (L. D. 1031)

An Act relating to the Digging of Clams in Freeport (H. P. 936) (L. D. 1039)

Resolve in favor of H. Tabenken & Co., Inc., of Bangor (H. P. 40) (L. D. 365)

Resolve Regulating Fishing in Mousam Lake, York County (H. P. 267) (L. D. 251)

Resolve Regulating Fishing in Square Pond, York County (H. P. 268) (L. D. 252)

Resolve Regulating Fishing in Goose Pond, York County (H. P. 269) (L. D. 253)

Resolve Regulating Fishing in Flagstaff Lake in Franklin and Somerset Counties (H. P. 477) (L. D. 522)

Resolve Regulating Fishing in East Pond Stream (H. P. 656) (L. D. 733)

Resolve Regulating Fishing in Pemaquid River, Lincoln County (H. P. 658) (L. D. 766)

Resolve Opening Porter Lake, Franklin County, to Taking of Smelts (H. P. 659) (L. D. 735)

Resolve Authorizing Certain Monies in Possession of the Augusta State Hospital to be Added to the Hospital's Trust Funds (H. P. 700) (L. D. 768)

Reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed.

Which bills were severally passed to be enacted, and the resolves finally passed.

Emergency

Bill "An Act to Create the Brunswick Parking Authority." (H. P. 622) (L. D. 628)

Which bill, being an emergency measure, and having received the affirmative vote of 30 members of the Senate and none opposed was passed to be enacted.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair at this time, on behalf of the Senate notes a group of students from Gorham State Teachers College, in the balcony. We welcome you and hope

you will be critics of our legislative procedure and we hope you will come down and meet us and visit with us and take home some good impressions of your legislature in action. Thank you very much for coming.

Orders of the Day

The Chair laid before the Senate, the first tabled and especially assigned matter being House Report from the Committee on Judiciary; Majority Report Ought not to pass, Minority Report Ought to pass on Resolve Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Reduce the Voting Age to Eighteen Years (H. P. 483) (L. D. 528) tabled on March 2 by the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Weeks, pending acceptance of either report, and the Chair recognized that Senator.

Mr. WEEKS of Cumberland: Mr. President, I move the acceptance of the minority "Ought to pass" report of the committee, and in support of that motion I am not going to present any impassioned plea to this Senate body but I will convey a few remarks which have been going through my mind.

I suppose that somewhere around one hundred and thirty-five years ago, more or less, a group of individuals who were making laws, such as you and I, sat around the table and said, "How old should a person be before he votes?" I suppose in the course of that discussion someone may have said "eighteen," somebody "twenty-five," and somebody "twenty." I suppose they stayed within a fairly narrow range, but when they were all through they wound up with twenty-one, which still did not have any real reason behind it except it must have become more or less of an arbitrary selection of an age. "Twenty-one," what else could it be? I suppose they looked around their neighborhood and talked with different ones, they took their own experience, and that is what they came up with.

Now after a hundred and thirty-five years, with all that has happened in that period, especially in very recent times—you have heard the President advocate it; you have read articles, you have heard broad-

casts and discussions in the schools—I am talking about Boys' State and Girls' State; you have heard much about it. I in my own wanderings-around have talked with a good many, and strange as it may seem, there are more among the young ladies who say they should vote at eighteen than there are among the young men. That is in my experience at least, but there is a good deal of thinking on this line that tends to convince me we should report this bill out "Ought to pass" and let the people of the State of Maine decide whether or not they want to amend their Constitution to permit eighteen-year-old voting.

By our vote we are not saying that eighteen-year-olds can vote, we are not doing that, we are saying, "Let's put it out and let the people decide on it among themselves." I think the subject has been in the minds of a good many people for quite a little while and I think they expect it. I do not believe we should foreclose the opportunity for all of our electorate to pass upon this issue.

With those few remarks I will repeat my motion that the minority report be accepted.

Mr. REID of Kennebec: Mr. President and members of the Senate: I rise in opposition to the motion of the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Weeks. At the same time I agree with him that this is one of those measures for which there is a good argument both ways. That appeared at the hearing, and I would just like to have the members of the Senate know the basis upon which I voted with the majority.

I think that the impulse to allow the eighteen-year-olds to vote was stimulated by the position at one time taken by President Eisenhower when he first took office. Being an Eisenhower fan, I was inclined at that time to go along with him, but since that time I haven't heard it made much of an issue, and this year I decided to vote either way upon this question, depending on what came out at the hearing, who was for it and who was against it and so forth.

Now at the hearing it seemed to me that a preponderance of the speakers, a preponderance of the argument was both parents and children. Parents seemed to be against the right to vote at eighteen. The reason for it was they seemed to feel that for the purpose of voting, at least, that children had not reached that adult age when they could really understand the issues involved and could really vote intelligently on the issue. That surprised me to a certain extent. I do not recall the hearing of two years ago, but this year it seemed to me that that was quite definite.

That in itself would not have been sufficient for me necessarily to vote against the right of eighteen-year-olds to vote. What impressed me was the fact that evidently at the Boys' State and Girls' State, which as you all know are organizations made up to induce young people to interest themselves in government. If my recollection is correct and if the information presented to the committee was correct, repeatedly these schools vote against themselves, so to speak. They themselves feel that they have not yet arrived, in arriving at eighteen, at the age when they ought to be able to participate in voting.

There was a lot of discussion about "if you are old enough to fight you should be old enough to vote," and I concede that there is merit in that argument, except it was brought out at the committee hearing that fighting requires certain qualifications and voting requires other qualifications.

And so, until such time as it appears to me that parents believe their children should vote when they arrive at eighteen and the children themselves, that is these children who claim they are interested in governmental affairs believe in that right, I think I shall go along voting against the right to vote at eighteen.

Mr. FARRIS of Kennebec: Mr. President, I have been open-minded on this subject for many years and I have now reached a point where I find I have got to make a decision. I am going to vote with my colleague, the Senator from Cum-

berland, Senator Weeks for the reason that he has outlined. I feel the people are entitled to have an opportunity to make this decision once and for all and then we will know the answer as to what the people of the State of Maine wish to have as law for the voting age.

I would like to remark on some previous experiences I have had and which Senator Reid has mentioned, in regard to the children themselves. I have followed the Hi-Y Legislature for a number of years, and of course the issue always comes up and seems to go down in defeat and the age remains at twenty-one in these children's legislatures; but in looking into it and analyzing it I found that the majority of the participants in these legislative groups were under the age of eighteen, they were sixteen and seventeen, and they felt that that if at eighteen they were able to vote why not drop it down to a lower age so they themselves could vote. And I am also reminded, in regard to this issue that the children of eighteen today are not well enough versed to make their own decision in voting, of a situation that arose in the last election: I picked up a very venerable, dear lady in my home town and transported her to the polls. She said, "You know this Indian business, I don't think the Indians should be allowed to vote because I don't think they will know what they are voting for and they will be subject to pressure." Well, that was a good thought. Then she said, "By the way, what are we voting for and who are these candidates?" And she proceeded to ask me questions about every one.

So I think I must agree on the acceptance of the minority report and let this issue go to the people and be decided once and for all.

Mr. BOYKER of Oxford: Mr. President, we realize the interest our young men and women are taking in state government today. We also realize that our young men eighteen years of age fight for us and die for us, but let us remember that they are not on their own, that the very moment that they step over the threshold of their father's

home, they are under their commanding officer. He teaches them about the battleground and he teaches them how to fight.

Eighty-five percent of all our accidents by automobile are caused by persons under 21 years of age. Why? Because they are irresponsible. They have not become of age and if we lower the voting age to 18 years, I feel that many of our young men at the present time below 21 years of age as they advance along through the years will look back to the time when they had placed upon their shoulders a great responsibility before they became of age, and pity the town or the city when a person 18 years of age can go into their annual town meeting and double the appropriation recommended by their budget committee, or can put a bar room on every corner of their town.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair at this time notes in the Senate Chamber a distinguished former legislator who is probably the most mature young man it has ever been my privilege to serve with in the legislature.

The Chair requests the Sergeant-at-Arms to escort to the rostrum, the Honorable Edward Gowell.

That was done amidst the applause of the Senate.

The PRESIDENT: The question now before the Senate is on the motion of the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Weeks, that the Senate accept the minority report "Ought to pass." Is the Senate ready for the question?

Mr. SILSBY of Hancock: Mr. President and members of the Senate: I too am opposed to the motion of my good friend, Senator Weeks of Cumberland. I think this matter which we now have under consideration is a very serious matter. It is a matter that was so serious that at our Constitutional Convention in 1778 it was left at that time in our Constitution of the United States that the right for minors to vote, or the age at which they could vote, would be left to the states. To my knowledge there is one state that has reduced the age from 21 to 18.

I would like to premise my remarks upon the knowledge that Boys' State is opposed to the 18 year old voting. I think that, to me, car-

ries a great deal of weight, that they themselves do not feel that they should have that privilege at that age, and believe me, to vote is a privilege. I believe that we should here examine the vehicle upon which we are building for certain people to rise and do certain things, very carefully. I think that we should examine it in every particular as to its inconsistencies, because I believe that we as a legislature are here to clarify the law rather than to create confusion. And if you will just consider with me for a moment, to vote at the age of 21, and I believe it carries with it the right to hold office in our municipalities, and then I consider the statute and one statute in particular do I consider, that no action shall be maintained on any contract made by a minor unless ratified in writing after he arrives at the age of 21. Then again I consider our statutes in the matter of the laws that are on our statutes, and I am only referring to the index, and if you will look in the index where it says "Infants", you will find one, two, three, four, five pages of indexes referring to infants; in other words, "minors".

Many of those laws in that index deal with ages other than twenty-one but it does deal in many instances with appointment of guardians and other matters and if we enact this law we have confused the legal aspect in every particular as to how far a minor might go. Now the time may be, and it may come, when it would be right and proper for them to vote and God knows I have a great deal of respect for the youngsters, every respect that any person can have, I have three of my own, but nevertheless I do not want to confuse our statutes. I want us to carry on until such time as this matter is given the proper study so that the proper amendments may be made to the end that we will have no inconsistencies in our statutes, and I hope that the motion of the Senator from Cumberland will not prevail.

Mr. FULLER of Oxford: Mr. President and members of the Senate, I want to vote with the minority, not because we send our eighteen year olds to fight, not because it is a referendum. I believe our legisla-

ture by a majority vote should resolve the question, but I want to vote with the Minority "Ought to pass" report because I have confidence in the maturity of our young people. My associations with them, the many appearances such as Youth Cavalcade, Television panels and appearances at our hearings, convinces me that they are ready to take the responsibility of voting and that that responsibility will be definitely helpful to these young people in their attempt to become regular citizens.

Mr. DUNHAM of Hancock: Mr. President and members of the Senate: I think this has been pretty well covered by previous speakers. I only speak from my experience with Boys' State. I think all of you were impressed as I was the other day when that young man who had been elected Governor, spoke to us. Many of us said to one another, "We certainly have hope for the future when a representative can stand up here before men of experience and maturity and speak with all the poise and dignity which he did." I happened to attend Boys' State last summer in which this question was brought up and I listened to the discussions and I listened also to those who were advising these boys and they were so sure in their own minds that they weren't ready for this privilege. They felt as though some of the idealism which they had should be rubbed off by meeting with other people. And they were idealistic. You could tell by talking with them, but they were so sure of themselves that they wanted just to out and rub shoulders with other people before they took on this great privilege.

Therefore, I don't feel as a parent that I want to force it upon them when they don't want it themselves. Therefore I am against the motion of Senator Weeks.

Mr. FARLEY of York: Mr. President and members of the Senate, the debate has been interesting, and I have been interested in the remarks of the fraternity who would reduce the voting age from twenty-one. I would like to say that I am the father of ten children, a potential ten voters and potentially ten serving their country with one lost.

I have watched my children as they have come along, as have other mothers and fathers. Those were very fine words that the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Reid, spoke in regard to the parents of the children. It is the parents of the children who watch their children from a certain age until they mature. I believe that they have something in common here today in this eighteen-year-old voting law. My children as they enter high school—and a majority of them have graduated from high school in the last ten years—they are either basketball, baseball or physically inclined or something in that line. And when they go into their senior year they are then thinking about "Should I join the National Guard at seventeen and a half and continue my studies or should I go on to the age of eighteen if I can get a permit from the draft." That is what is in their minds. My family is no different from any other family, I know it, because I have associated with boys in high school here and there.

There has been much talk and reference to the President of the United States, but we all know that Congress turned it down. There has been some reference made, not here but in other places, to what occurred in Georgia. Well, if everybody has watched the national trend they will know that Georgia wanted to be able to vote at eighteen.

It so happened in the last year I had occasion to talk to the young gentlemen who represented the Boys' School at the State of Maine, sponsored by the American Legion. Not only that, but I brought in a group of the South Portland boys and girls who were here, and in a fatherly way I maneuvered around here and there and I found that they were perfectly satisfied. They told me they had taken this eighteen-year-old bill and debated it in their schools and only four were in favor of voting at the age of eighteen.

I think we are making a serious mistake if we pass this measure. Possibly the gentlemen are correct in reference to the referendum. But allowance has got to be made for the parents who today have got to

take care of the family budget in order that their children may go here and go there. I do not think myself that the eighteen-year-old is ready to vote, and I am going to vote for the majority "Ought not to pass" report.

Mr. BUTLER of Franklin: Mr. President I have been greatly interested in what has been said and must concur with my friend Senator Weeks in his motion. Thus far nothing has been said as to the fact that our young womanhood in America, in the State of Maine are able to make their own decision if they wish to take the band of marriage. There is no harm in that and no confusion. They have been granted that right. Now if any girl is mature enough to take the step of making the greatest move in her life that she will ever make, at the age of eighteen, certainly then the young people are likewise able to vote as intelligently as we have been able to show how we have voted over the past few years.

I feel it is perhaps another instance of where we who are going along in our years of maturity, can look back upon our youth and feel that as soon as that individual boy or girl has more maturity, then they in turn will have better sense. I don't think that the years of maturity make one bit of difference upon the ability or right of those individuals to vote intelligently, and where we give the right to our young girls to be the mothers of tomorrow and give them the right to go out and make their own marriage vows, certainly we are not going to lose much if we give them the right, or as this measure does, give them an opportunity to present this to the people. I hope that the motion prevails.

Mr. REID of Kennebec: Mr. President, maybe we should amend this bill so that we give just the women the right to vote at eighteen. It seems that if the women have the right to marry, they should have the right to vote but unless we amend this law or the other law, the men are going to get stuck and they will be able to vote at eighteen but not get married. That does point up part of the inconsistencies mentioned by Senator

Silsby and it also points up one more thing that we have not come to vote on yet, but I think probably before the session is over, we will, and that is the right of eighteen year olders to be legally permitted to consume alcoholic beverages.

The PRESIDENT: Consistent with the debate that is taking place at the moment, the Chair is very pleased to welcome to the Senate, a group of young ladies from Pittsfield. We hope that you enjoy the debate in the Senate session and we thank you very much for joining us today.

Mr. BOYKER of Oxford: Mr. President, I would like to answer Senator Butler in this way. Our young ladies eighteen years of age do have the right to make their decisions to get married and they also, in a year's time, have the right to make the decision to get a divorce. Therefore they should have a little more time to consider those steps.

Mr. WEEKS of Cumberland: Mr. President and members of the Senate: A little while ago we had a little bit more adult group in the balcony, students from Gorham Normal School and I noticed that after they heard several Senators refer to them as children and infants they departed, and I am more or less inclined to think I would too. As I view the situation today, an eighteen-year-old is no longer an infant or a child.

Now I am not going to take any time talking about possible future legislation which might have to be made, if you felt impelled to do so, in regard to other parts of our law protecting those under twenty-one. I noticed a bill went through here today which makes it a crime for twenty-one-year-olders to do certain things in reference to the liquor law. If you are going to hold them fully responsible for everything they do, even misrepresenting their age to get a bottle of beer, you are certainly not protecting the young when you are doing that. That does not indicate any expression of opinion on my part of whether or not you can reduce the age when you can buy a bottle of beer, although I will say this: somebody else injected the idea of military service. It is very interesting to have an eighteen-year-old walking around Augusta here

and he can't buy a bottle of beer, but the minute he gets his uniform on he can go and get soused any day of the week right at the military PX. But we have passed a law as of today making it an even more serious offense for those under twenty-one years old. That is contrary to the theory which has prevailed over the years, whereby we passed that same protective legislation which Senator Silsby referred to. I still say it is desirable, and I do not see that reducing the voting age necessarily compels us to change our protection around those same individuals. That may be a little inconsistent with my ideas of maturity of judgment and sense of responsibility, but it is there nevertheless. This is not the first time we have made slight changes in the law which may appear to be desirable later on.

It might also be noted that Senator Farley referred to the vote which was overwhelmingly against. Several of the votes which have been referred to, at Boys' State and other places, have been fairly close; they have not all been by an overwhelming majority. There still is considerable sentiment in favor of this. As I said before, we are not voting today to reduce the age, we are voting to submit it to the people to let them express their opinion at the polls.

With these few remarks I will close, and I will also move that when the vote is taken it be taken by a division.

Mr. FARLEY of York: Mr. President and members of the Senate: I would like to answer some of the remarks made by the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Weeks.

In 1951 I put up a strong fight on the moral end of the eighteen-year-old law he has referred to in the House, but I was defeated. At that time I had the parents in mind. When parents can't trust their children to go across the street and bring this and that home to eat at the age of eighteen I think it is time for us to leave. With reference to those who are in the service, these boys I know when they get away into the service then can get all the liquor they want. I still want to go along with the majority report. "Ought not to pass."

Mr. BOUCHER of Androscoggin: I would feel remiss in not saying a few words on this measure because I have introduced a similar measure in several past legislatures and was defeated, but I haven't changed my mind. I still believe that the young people of today eighteen years old are well able to vote.

My remarks will be very short. I want to pick up a few words that have been mentioned here today. The first one is or the boys. I repeat, as I have said often, that if they are old enough to fight they are old enough to vote; and for the girls, at eighteen if they are old enough to marry and divorce they are old enough to vote. After all, we are not granting them the privilege this morning; we are just giving the oldesters a chance in a referendum to say whether they want them to vote or not. Their youngsters have nothing to say about it; it is the other people that can vote and will vote who will decide this matter. Let's settle it once and for all.

The PRESIDENT: The question before the Senate is on the motion of the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Weeks, that the Senate accept the Minority "Ought to pass" report of the committee and that Senator has asked for a division. Is the Senate ready for the question?

A division of the Senate was had.

Eleven having voted in the affirmative and twenty-one opposed, the motion did not prevail.

Thereupon, on motion by Mr. Reid of Kennebec, the Majority "Ought not to pass" report of the committee was accepted in non-concurrence.

Sent down for concurrence.

The Chair laid before the Senate House Report from the Committee on Judiciary, Majority Report Ought not to pass; Minority Report Ought to pass on bill "An Act to Provide for the Observance of Legal Holidays" (H. P. 911) (L. D. 1019) tabled earlier in today's session by the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Reid, pending acceptance of either report, and that Senator yielded to the Senator from Hancock, Senator Silsby.

Mr. SILSBY of Hancock: Mr. President and members of the Senate: I just want to make a few brief remarks setting forth the reasons why I signed the Majority "Ought not to pass" report. It is rather a difficult question to analyze, it wholly and totally perhaps deals with some sentiment, yet there is a factual aspect to it. We believed, on the majority "Ought not to pass" report that the holidays, such as Memorial Day, Washington's Birthday, especially Memorial Day, which was established by John Logan in 1868 and became a law in this State in 1874, as well as Washington's Birthday being a law in 1776, that it was the real foundation and the premise for the patriotism that we have so well enjoyed over the period of years, and we did not feel that we should take away the day and substitute another day for it. We all know, and I am sure we can all agree that a substitution is exactly what it means: it loses the weight and the patriotism and the seriousness of the original matter. Under those circumstances we did not feel that it would be a good policy to have the youngsters that are coming along believe that the day in itself meant nothing more than just a day and could be as well observed some other day as the day it was established. It was our purpose, in view of the patriotism that we now have, that we would like to keep on cultivating this patriotism without a ny substitution, and that is the reason for the "Ought not to pass" report.

Mr. REID of Kennebec: Mr. President and members of the Senate: The vote was six to four on this particular measure and the issue involved in it is important enough so that at least the thinking of the minority should be expressed. I am not here fighting for the acceptance of the minority report.

In this particular bill, as insignificant as in some ways it may appear to be, there is a very broad issue and an issue upon which we are going to have to vote later in the session on more than one bill. In one sense of the word it might be called the issue of business versus tradition.

At the hearing there were represented a large number of business associations, the manufacturing industry, the wholesale industry and the retail industry, and they were very anxious that we go along with this bill so that five of the holidays we have would always fall on Monday rather than haphazardly in the middle of the week. For bigger industry it means quite a lot of shut-down, you might say, to have to observe a holiday in the middle of the week. For the retailer it means quite a lot of extra work, loss of employment and one thing and another, and they have all come to an agreement as far as business is concerned that it would be far better for them to have these five holidays fall on Monday.

Now it is not altogether important at this stage of the game, because this bill itself, the last paragraph in effect says that Maine will not observe these holidays falling on Monday until thirty-one other states have previously voted to do the same thing, so it is not really tremendously important which way we vote on it this year. Still it does point up this issue. We need to be sentimental, we need to keep our traditions, but we have got to weigh them and analyze them and see how important they are. It seems to me we should not think the observance of Washington's Birthday or Veterans' Day or Armistice Day or Memorial Day, but what we are in effect doing is saying that we will observe it but that in the interest of going forward with business we will observe it on another day in the week. Now if that means to you that we have lost all tradition, that we have given up hope of observing Memorial Day and Washington's Birthday, I couldn't quarrel with you voting as you please on that, if you feel it hurts them. But if on the other hand you analyze your feeling on sentiment and tradition and realize you are still observing these holidays, then I say maybe you will consider on this relatively small bill the interest of business.

It bothers me a little that we here in Maine frequently spend large sums of money, and we are going to have to do a lot of talking about industrial development in this State and the Governor's proposal for a

new department, and it seems to me that sometimes we fight in various ways to keep what business we have got here in the State and to try to attract other business into this State, and then for some reason we fight against ourselves and a lot of that money is wasted.

Later on we will come into an argument on Civil Defense. I do not want to inject that in here now, but I will tell you when that time comes why the issue involved in this particular bill has some bearing even on that particular piece of legislation. So I am not going to ask anyone here this morning to vote for the minority report, but I do hope that as we go along we will remember that we have got to weigh heavily what business means in the State of Maine now and what it means to us to get some more in. Those are my expressions of opinion in going along with the minority and I think they express the opinion of the other members of the committee.

Mr. SILSBY of Hancock: Without any further comments, I move the acceptance of the "Ought not to pass" report.

Thereupon, on motion by Senator Silsby of Hancock the Majority "Ought not to pass" report was accepted in concurrence.

On motion by Senator Crabtree of Aroostook, the Senate voted to take from the table House Report from the Committee on Liquor Control, Majority Report "Ought not to pass" Minority Report "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act Relating to Employment by Liquor Licensees of Persons with Liquor Law Convictions," (H. P. 751) (L. D. 832) tabled by that Senator earlier in today's session pending acceptance of either report.

Mr. CRABTREE of Aroostook: Mr. President and members of the Senate: There is a song in a lighter vein which seems to be a little applicable to this situation. The title of the song is "Somebody Goofed." I have in my left hand yesterday's calendar in the House and in my right hand today's Senate Calendar, and "somebody goofed," whether it was the printer or the stenographer I know not, but it does not make very much difference. I have conferred with my colleague and we

have arranged for a procedure. Mr. President, I now yield to the Senator from Somerset, Senator Carpenter.

On motion by the Senator of Somerset, the matter was retabled pending consideration of either report.

On motion by Mr. Carpenter of Somerset, the Senate voted to take from the table Senate Report from the Committee on Labor, "Ought to pass" on bill "An Act Relating to Chiropractic Treatment Under Workmen's Compensation Law" (S. P. 373) (L. D. 1069) tabled by that Senator on March 23 pending acceptance of the report; and on further motion by the same Senator, the report was accepted, the bill read once and tomorrow assigned for second reading.

On motion by Mr. Martin of Kennebec, the Senate voted to take from the table Senate Report "Ought not to pass" from the Committee on Retirements and Pensions, on "Resolve Providing Retirement Pension Increase, for Arthur L. Jordan of Augusta" (S. P. 196) tabled by that Senator on March 10 pending acceptance of the report; and on further motion by the same

Senator, the Ought not to pass report was accepted.

Sent down for concurrence.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair at this time notes in the gallery another group of bright youngsters from Newport High School, accompanied by Mr. Willette and Miss Moore. We have had many groups in here this morning and we hope that you come down after the session and meet some of us and see a little more closely the workings of your legislature. Thank you very much for coming over.

On motion by Mr. Martin of Kennebec, the Senate voted to take from the table bill "An Act to Amend the Act Providing for the Board of Commissioners of Police for the City of Augusta" (H. P. 916) (L. D. 1024) tabled by that Senator on March 17 pending assignment for second reading; and on further motion by the same Senator, the rules were suspended, the bill given its second reading and passed to be engrossed in concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Brown of Washington

Adjourned until tomorrow afternoon at 1:30 o'clock.