

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

Ninety-Ninth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

VOLUME II

1959
and
SPECIAL SESSION
1960

DAILY KENNEBEC JOURNAL

AUGUSTA, MAINE

SENATE

Monday, June 8, 1959

Senate called to order by the President.

Prayer by Rev. Malcolm A. MacDuffie of Hallowell.

On motion by Mr. Willey of Hancock,

Journal of Friday last read and approved.

Communication

State of Maine
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Office of the Clerk
Augusta

June 5, 1959

Honorable Chester T. Winslow
Secretary of the Senate
99th Legislature

Sir:

The House today voted to insist on its former action and joined conference and the speaker appointed the following Conferees on the following bill:

“An Act Permitting Injured Employee Under Workmen’s Compensation Act to Choose Physician from Panel Named by Employer.” (S. P. 346) (L. D. 973)

Messrs. HARDY of Hope
WHITMAN of Woodstock
DUNN of Poland

Respectfully,

(Signed) HARVEY R. PEASE
Clerk of the House

Which was read and ordered placed on file.

**Senate Committee Reports
Final Reports**

The following Chairmen of the Joint Standing Committees submitted Final Reports:

Mr. CHARLES from the Committee on Business Legislation.

Mr. WOODCOCK from the Committee on Election Laws.

Mr. CARPENTER from the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game.

Mr. WEEKS from the Committee on Judiciary.

Mr. MARTIN from the Committee on Legal Affairs.

Mr. WILLEY from the Committee on Liquor Control.

Mr. BRIGGS from the Committee on Natural Resources.

Mrs. LORD from the Committee on Public Health.

Mrs. MARTIN from the Committee on Public Utilities.

Mr. NOYES from the Committee on Retirements and Pensions.

Mr. HILLMAN from the Committee on State Government.

Mr. WILLEY from the Committee on Taxation.

Mr. CHARLES from the Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs.

Mr. ROSS from the Committee on Welfare.

Which reports were severally read and accepted.

Sent down for concurrence.

Committee of Conference

The Committee of Conference on the disagreeing action of the two branches of the Legislature on “Resolve Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution for Appointment of Attorney General by the Governor with Consent of the Senate.” (S. P. 85) (L. D. 157) reported that they cannot agree.

Which report was read and accepted.

Sent down for concurrence.

Orders of the Day

On motion by Mr. Pierce of Hancock, the Senate voted to take from the Special Appropriations Table bill, “An Act to Appropriate Moneys for the Expenditures of State Government and for Other Purposes for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1960 and June 30, 1961” (S. P. 461) (L. D. 131) tabled previously, pending enactment; and that Senator moved that the bill be passed to be enacted.

This being an emergency measure,

A division of the Senate was had.

Twenty-five having voted in the affirmative and none opposed, the bill was passed to be enacted.

On motion by Mr. Woodcock of Penobscot, the Senate voted to take from the table bill, “An Act Relating to Licensing and Safety Operation of Boats.” (S. P. 494) (L. D. 1374) tabled by that Senator on June 5 pending consideration; and

that Senator yielded to the Senator from Somerset, Senator Carpenter.

On motion by Mr. Carpenter of Somerset, the Senate voted to recede and concur.

Mr. Carpenter of Somerset was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate.

Mr. CARPENTER of Somerset: Probably many of you read the item in our local and statewide newspapers last weekend concerning the criticism by the Rev. Mr. Bubar of the Liquor Control Committee and also our presiding officer.

As a member of the Liquor Control Committee, I feel we have been unjustly criticized by the Reverend Benjamin Bubar, as being mouthpieces for the liquor traffic. I have been a member of this committee for some six or eight years, also chairman of it for four years and I must say that in all the hearings everyone who wished to testify for any bill was most gladly recognized and permitted to debate the issue as long as they saw fit. I have always welcomed myself, the attendance of ministers of all faiths to give their views on different liquor bills that were up for hearing, and I feel, personally that they have contributed a great deal as to what action our committee would take on particular items that were disturbing them.

We must recognize that the State of Maine is in the liquor business and receives some eight or nine million dollars of our income from that source. So, it is not to be least noticed as one of our departments, and of course must be headed in legislature by a committee. This committee is known as the Liquor Control Committee, who weighs evidence on all bills that are presented to them and they, as a rule, come up with what is best for the state and the people as a whole.

I have talked with Mr. Bubar many times in this last session, and have asked him personally if there were any problems that were troublesome to him, as far as our liquor bills were concerned. As far as I remember he said there were none, everything was running along smoothly.

I also want to take Mr. Bubar to task for criticizing the president of our body. I have known Senator John Reed for many many years, and I certainly believe that he has made one of the most outstanding Senate presidents that this body has ever had. Senator Reed is conscientious, honest, trustworthy, and one of the highest characterized men I ever met. I assure you that as far as I know, no pressure was put on Senator Reed by beer or liquor interests, and I assure you if there had been he probably would have done just the opposite from what they asked. I also wish to state that I have never been approached by any member of the beer or liquor interests, to cast my vote one way or another.

I believe the Mr. Bubar is suffering from mental illusions, and possibly megalomania, and that he should be reprimanded very severely by those that employ him, and, he should apologize openly to the committee and to our presiding officer of the Senate.

Mr. Boucher of Androscoggin was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate.

Mr. BOUCHER: Mr. President and members of the Senate: Along the same lines that the Senator from Somerset, Senator Carpenter, has just spoken, in regard to the attack by Mr. Bubar on the President of the Senate and the Senate members of the Committee on Liquor Control, I think that it is unwarranted and should be classified as a lack of discrimination and a matter of spite. At no time in the twenty odd years that I have served on what was first called the Temperance Committee and is now called the Liquor Control Committee have we refused anybody that appeared at any hearings to testify. We were very patient in all those years. We had long hearings that sometimes lasted all of the afternoon and into the evening and everybody who wanted to testify and be heard was heard.

I question his statement that the dries were kept out of hearings, because in talking with their group they themselves told me that this year they would try to keep out part of the group that used to come,

the presidents of the W.C.T.U. unions throughout the state and the ministers that came to testify against such bills. Mr. Bubar told me himself they had done that purposely to see if they would get better results. Apparently the results didn't satisfy them, and this accusing the President of the Senate and the members of the committee should certainly be condemned. I also, as a member of that committee, demand from the Reverend Bubar a public apology. I think he was way off base and had no reason to make such a statement. I am satisfied that nobody influenced the President of the Senate in the choice of the liquor committee. I am satisfied that I was not approached at any time in these twenty years to vote in any way. I let my conscience be my guide from what I heard in the testimony at those hearings. If he had accused me of being friendly to the group I might have agreed with him. I am friendly. I deny that at any time have I been bought or have they influenced my vote in any way,

shape or manner. So I believe that the people who run the dry element in this state should see to it that the Reverend Bubar apologizes to the President of the Senate and to the Senate members of the Committee on Liquor Control. Thank you.

On motion by Mr. Lessard of Androscoggin, the Senate voted to take from the table the 6th tabled item being bill, "An Act Relating to Weekly Benefits for Total Unemployment Under Employment Security Law." (H. P. 969) (L. D. 1378) tabled by that Senator on June 1 pending motion by Mr. Ross of Sagadahoc that the bill be engrossed; and on further motion by that Senator, the motion prevailed and the bill was passed to be engrossed in non-concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Wyman of Washington

Adjourned until tomorrow morning at nine-thirty o'clock.