

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Record

OF THE

Seventy-Fifth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1911

passage. 24 voting for its passage and none against, the Resolve was finally passed.

Orders of the Day.

On motion by Mr. Fuiton of Sagadahoc, the report of the conference committee on the disagreeing action of the Legislature on "An Act to provide payment of funds for free High schools," and on "An Act to provide for the payment from the State funds of amounts paid on account of union superintendent," was taken from the table.

On further motion by the same Senator, the report was accepted and sent down for concurrence.

An Act relating to the compensation of the justices of the Supreme Judicial and Superior courts, was taken from the table on motion by Mr. Staples of Knox.

Mr. STAPLES: Mr. President: I have read the amendment and it is satisfactory and I now move that the report be accepted.

On further motion by the same Senator, House Amendment A was adopted in concurrence, and under suspension of the rules the bill was given its two readings and was passed to be engrossed.

(Mr. Gowell in the chair.)

On motion by Mr. Winslow of Cumberland, the Senate reconsidered the vote whereby An Act relating to the salary of the judge of probate for the county of Cumberland, was indefinitely postponed.

The bill was given its first reading.

Mr. MILLIKEN: Mr. President, how much does that increase the salary of the judge?

The PRESIDENT: It is the same.

Mr. WINSLOW: Mr. President, I will state that this matter came up before the delegation asking for a salary of \$3000, and out of that \$3000 the judge is obliged to pay his clerk hire, and that expense is increased so that it will be but a fair salary. The salary now is \$2500.

Mr. MILLIKEN of Aroostook: Mr. President, I want to refer to this, and other matters, that have gone through here. Last session I suffered long through the committee on salaries and fees, and we turned down all these matters because we found after much investigation that the people in the counties did not want salaries increased.

I called attention to the matter when

the first one came up, and I wish to call attention to this one.

Under suspension of the rules, the bill was given its second reading and was passed to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr. Winslow of Cumberland, House Document 759, Resolve to amend Article 22 of the constitution, relating to cities of 40,000 inhabitants or more to increase the municipal indebtedness to 7½ per cent., was taken from the table.

Mr. WINSLOW: Mr. President, I move that the resolve be put upon its passage.

Mr. NOYES of Kennebec: Mr. President, I don't know as I have any particular objection to this, except that it was probably lucky for the city of Augusta that they didn't have this four years ago. I understand that there is another matter on the table in regard to Augusta; providing that after Augusta has reached its 40,000 inhabitants that it shall be forever after the seat of government. I think if this Portland measure goes through, this one making Augusta the seat of government should also go through. While at the present time, and for the next few years, I do not think there would be any trouble whatever, but some of the younger generation that will come up might consider it a feather in their caps to remove the Capitol from Augusta. I think the State generally has had all they want of the State House fight at the present time. I think if you let this bill go through that you should also pass the one in relation to Augusta, that is to follow.

The PRESIDENT: This resolves comes to the Senate with a divided report, and the question is on the acceptance of the report, A and B. Report A is "ought not to pass" and report B is "ought to pass." In the House, report B was accepted.

Mr. MILLIKEN: Mr. President, the senator from Kennebec has been looking appealingly in my direction for some time. I do not believe I can vote for an amendment to the Constitution to permit any one city to increase its debt limit. I should like to oblige my friends from Cumberland county, but it seems to me if the debt limit is wise for one city it is wise for all. If any city government finds itself in need of

more money than its debt limit would produce, it should increase its taxation. I think this bill would encourage city governments to issue bonds for the payment of taxes instead of having a larger tax rate, and thus make a good showing on the taxation question. This bill involves the Constitution of Maine and I realize the fact that it is rather fashionable to suggest amendments to the Constitution. I do not wish to vote for amendments for particular cities or towns. I want to say that if the Portland amendment is adopted, although I do not share in the apprehension of the senator from Kennebec, if this other amendment is introduced I will vote for that if the Portland amendment goes through, on the principle that what is "sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander."

The PRESIDENT: (Reading from resolve) "This resolution shall not be construed to apply to the city of Augusta which is forever conceded to be the seat of government of the State after it reaches a population of 40,000."

Mr. MULLEN: Mr. President, I understood that the House afterward reconsidered that action and indefinitely postponed Amendment A, and that the resolution only applies to Portland.

Mr. WINSLOW of Cumberland: Mr. President, you haven't the whole of the bill; that amendment has been taken out by the House, so that the matter in regard to the State Capitol being at Augusta was not considered in that bill.

The PRESIDENT: The paper referred to by the senator from Cumberland is in these papers.

On motion by Mr. Mullen of Penobscot, the resolve was tabled.

Mr. Stearns of Oxford presented the following order and moved that it have a passage. "Ordered, the House concurring, that 300 additional copies of the Legislative Record of March 21, be printed for the use of the Legislature."

Mr. STEARNS: Mr. President, I will say that the supply is exhausted and some of us would like a few copies of this particular record, and it is absolutely impossible to find any about the State House.

The order was given a passage and sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Donigan of Somerset, Resolve in favor of the postmaster of the Senate, was taken from the table.

On further motion by the same senator, the resolve was indefinitely postponed.

On motion by Mr. Milliken of Aroostook, An Act for the encouragement of industrial education was taken from the table.

Mr. MILLIKEN: Mr. President, this resolve originally provided for \$50,000, and if I understand the situation, an amendment has been introduced in the House reducing the amount to \$27,500, and in that case, I move that the Senate concur with the House in the adoption of the amendment and that the bill be given its two readings and be passed to be engrossed.

Mr. OSBORN of Somerset: Mr. President: Is that fund to be taken from the common school fund, so called?

Mr. MILLIKEN: Mr. President: I will say that four propositions involving the taking of some additional money from the common school fund were presented to the committee and considered. I will say that the suggestion in this case, as in the case of the others, comes I think direct from the administration, as a fund for the encouragement of industrial education, including manual training in schools, trade schools in cities and evening schools—and all schools under the head of industrial education. The amount incorporated was \$50,000, and second an increase in the equalization fund, so called, giving the State Superintendent or Public Schools authority to add to the appropriation for any particular town where in his judgment the burden of taxation was already larger than the average for the support of schools. And third, that the expense of supervision of districts of towns, that is, in unions of towns, be taken from the common school fund, about \$50,000, and that the appropriation for High schools be taken from the common school fund. That amounts to about \$118,000. These matters were all considered by the committee on Education, and since that time the committee on Appropriations has threshed these matters all out very thoroughly and I think the other