

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

*Ninety-Third Legislature*

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1947

DAILY KENNEBEC JOURNAL  
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fore the House is upon the motion of the gentleman from Portland, Mr. McGlauffin, that this matter be indefinitely postponed. Is the House ready for the question?

All those in favor of the indefinite postponement of this bill will please say aye; those opposed no.

A viva voce vote being taken, the motion prevailed, and the bill was indefinitely postponed.

The SPEAKER: The House has reached the end of the today assigned matters and we are proceeding under Orders of the Day.

On motion by Mr. Smith of Westbrook, the House voted to take from the table the fifth tabled and unassigned matter, House Report "Ought to pass" of the Committee on Claims on "Resolve, in favor of Fox & Ginn, Inc." (H. P. 1599) (L. D. 1267) tabled on April 23rd by the gentleman from Westbrook, Mr. Smith pending acceptance of report; and on further motion by the same gentleman, the "Ought to pass" report of the committee was accepted. This being a printed resolve, under suspension of the rules it was given its first reading and tomorrow assigned for second reading.

Mr. Burgess of Limestone was granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. BURGESS: Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I want to thank you for your kindness to me this morning in allowing the reconsideration of the bill which pertained to the salaries of the members of the Legislature. In my remarks this morning, I promised you that I would present amendments to the bill which would properly graduate the salaries on some schedule based on distances from the capitol. After discussing this with the Attorney General's office, I find that this is not possible.

It was mentioned this morning in regard to travel that a constitutional amendment would be necessary to change the method of allowance for travel. In the Constitution it provides that travel to and from this city can be paid once in each session. By statute—and, by the way, this statute has existed since 1841 without a change—the method of payment is at the rate of two dollars for every ten miles.

Ladies and gentlemen: I know that each of you will agree with me that mileage should be allowed more than once each session, and I know that you will agree with me that it would be only fairness that a member who lives one hundred miles away from this city should be allowed twice as much for travel as those that live fifty miles away from the capital city. I also submit to you—and I hope that you will concur—that an adjustment in our travel would be proper and necessary and could be done without any appropriation at this time.

I have had prepared by the Revisor of Statutes a constitutional amendment which would provide that instead of payment once in each session of travel allowance that it should be once in each of each session.

I will ask in a minute or two for unanimous consent to introduce this resolve. By way of explanation, I would like to say to you that I do not believe that it needs reference to any committee, and therefore it would not take up any of the time of this Legislature. It would be submitted to the people for vote at the next regular election, and if—and I believe they would—the people voted in favor of this constitutional amendment, at the next session of the Legislature it might, early in the session, in an emergency bill, adjust the rate so that the next Legislature convening could set its own travel allowance.

Ladies and Gentlemen: I realize that I am asking for a lot at this late date of the session, but I sincerely hope that you will allow me unanimous consent to introduce this resolve, because I believe that it will solve for future time this problem.

So, Mr. Speaker, I would ask unanimous consent to introduce a resolve, and I suggest that it be not referred to any committee.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Limestone, Mr. Burgess, presents a resolve and requests unanimous consent for its introduction. The Clerk will read the title.

"Resolve, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Regulate Traveling Expenses of Members of the Legislature."

The SPEAKER: Is there objection to the reception of this resolve? The Chair hears none, and it has been received by unanimous consent.

On motion by Mr. Burgess under suspension of the rules, the resolve was given its first reading without reference to a committee, ordered printed, and tomorrow assigned for second reading.

The SPEAKER: If there is no

further business to come before the House, the Clerk will read the notices.

On motion by Mr. Sharpe of Anson,

Adjourned until ten o'clock tomorrow morning.