

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Record

OF THE

Seventy-Fourth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1909

tion meeting called for that night which I did not attend, but I notified the secretary as to what my proposition was. Now, you are all aware that this Portland bridge bill originally and the amendment offered previous to Amendment "B" was not a bill of my initiative, and I find that the parties offering the bill and the Portland delegation and a large percentage of the county delegation have agreed on House Amendment "B." House Amendment "A" was a very drastic proposition. It was that the county commissioners should proceed practically forthwith to reconstruct and rebuild the bridge. I was not in favor of that proposition. It carried another provision stating that the county shall pay one-half and the railroad interests should pay one-half. I objected to that. I suggested in case the parties could not agree that the county commissioners could still go ahead and build and the proportional expense should be divided by some justice of the court sitting in equity after a hearing. The present amendment which the gentleman from Portland desires to have adopted is, in affect this, that whenever in the judgment of the county commissioners public safety and business demand the reconstruction of the bridge then it shall be reconstructed along certain lines. There is the only limitation or restriction in the bill. It does not carry with it a single intent to shorten the life of the present bridge. In relation to the property interests the present bridge is so low, so near the surface of the water, that the draw has to be opened at least four times unnecessarily for once that it is necessary. This amendment is nothing more or less than an enabling act. It carries with it the authority to issue bonds to the amount of half a million dollars and reconstruct the bridge along permanent lines, and only when in the judgment of the county commissioners safety and business demand it. My people recognize the fact that Cumberland county is building a court house, that Portland is building a city hall. My people are not rich, my city is not rich. We are not in any hurry for the reconstruction of Portland

bridge, but conditions there are dangerous, and it is a matter vital to the protection of our families and vital to the interests of our property, and when this bridge is built it should be built permanently and along permanent lines. We fear nothing more or less than a half-way proposition which ought not to be attempted. We ask you to pass this enabling act to give the county commissioners authority to build this bridge. We simply ask that when it is reconstructed it shall be reconstructed permanently and right.

Mr. TRUE of Portland: Mr. Speaker: As a member of the Portland delegation, I hope the House will see fit to support the amendment.

Mr. JORDAN of Cape Elizabeth: Mr. Speaker, I live out beyond this Portland bridge in the town of Cape Elizabeth that has a valuation of about a million dollars. If there is one thing which retards our growth it is this Portland bridge; and I am interested that when that bridge is reconstructed it shall be reconstructed along proper lines, and for that reason I favor the amendment.

Mr. WHITNEY of Gorham: Mr. Speaker, as one of the delegation from Cumberland county I do not see why we should not leave this measure to some future Legislature to decide. I hope the amendment will not prevail.

Mr. Bisbee of Rumford, moved the previous question.

The motion was agreed to.

The question being, shall the main question be now put?

It was agreed to.

The question being on the adoption of House amendment "A."

The amendment was adopted.

The question being on the adoption of House amendment "B" to House amendment "A."—

A division was had, and 60 voted in the affirmative and 32 in the negative.

So the amendment was adopted.

The bill then received its two readings, and on motion by Mr. Rounds of Portland, the rules were suspended, the bill received its third reading and was passed to be engrossed as amended.

Unfinished business: An Act to make uniform the standard relating to the

percentage of alcohol in intoxicating liquors.

On motion by Mr. Wing of Auburn, the House, reconsidered the vote whereby this bill was passed to be engrossed.

Mr. Wing offered House amendment "A," by inserting after the word "liquors" in the first line the words "including cider containing one per cent. of alcohol and all liquors."

Mr. Bigelow of Portland, moved the previous question.

The motion was agreed to.

The question being, shall the main question be now put?

Mr. ALLEN of Jonesboro, stated that he had no objection to the amendment.

Mr. PATTANGALL of Waterville, hoped that the House would adopt the amendment and pass the bill.

Mr. WING said he had long felt that the statute which reads "all intoxicating liquors except cider" was a very great mistake and a blot on the statutes of the State, and he felt it was time that cider should be put in the class of intoxicating liquors. I do not offer the amendment to kill the bill.

The question being, shall the main question be now put?

It was agreed to.

Mr. Allen of Jonesboro, moved that the yeas and nays be ordered.

The motion was lost.

The question being on the adoption of House amendment "A" offered by Mr. Wing of Auburn,—

The amendment was adopted.

The bill was then passed to be engrossed as amended.

Unfinished business: An Act relating to the taking of beaver.

Mr. Smith of Andover, moved that the bill be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Colby of Bingham, offered House Amendment "A," by striking out all after the words in the third line and substituting the following: "Provided however it shall be lawful to kill beaver between the fifteenth day of November and the first day of January following of each year in Township number one, Range five, W. B. K. P., in Franklin county, being Jimmy pond Township, so called, and in all unorganized townships in Somerset county,

except it shall be unlawful to take or kill any beaver within one mile of any public sporting camps in Somerset county or within one mile of Moosehead lake for a period of two years from the time this act takes effect."

The amendment was adopted.

The question being on the motion to indefinitely postpone the bill,—

The motion was lost.

The bill then received its third reading and was passed to be engrossed.

Unfinished Business: An Act relating to the salary of the warden of the Maine State prison.

On motion by Mr. Davies of Yarmouth, the bill was passed to be enacted.

Unfinished Business: Report of the committee on temperance to which was referred bill, An Act for the better enforcement of the laws against the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors, reporting ought not to pass.

Mr. Havey of Sullivan, moved that the bill lie upon the table, stating that it depended upon what disposition was made of the so-called Sturgis bill.

The motion was agreed to.

Special Assignment: Bill, An Act prohibiting the depositing of sawdust and other mill waste in Jackson Mill stream and Joe Weeks' Mill stream in Lincoln county.

Mr. Wing of Kingfield, moved that the bill be indefinitely postponed.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Wing offered House amendment "A," by striking out of Section one after the word "employ" the words "into Jackson Mill stream and Joe Weeks' Mill stream, so called, tributaries to Damariscotta lake in the town of Jefferson in the county of Lincoln," and inserting the words "into any river or stream in the State of Maine."

The amendment was lost.

The bill then received its third reading and was passed to be engrossed in concurrence.

Special Assignment: An Act in relation to hunting on Sunday.

The pending question being the adoption of House amendment "B,"—

Mr. Wing of Auburn, moved that the bill be indefinitely postponed.

The question being on the adoption of House amendment "B."—