

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Record

OF THE

Seventy-Sixth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1913

Constitution providing for the classification of property for the purposes of taxation.

An Act to ratify and confirm the organization of the Augusta Poultry Experiment Station, and to grant additional powers to said corporation.

An Act to amend Section 51 of Chapter 15 of the Revised Statutes as amended relating to the election of truant officers.

An Act to amend Section 34 of Chapter 15 of the Revised Statutes as amended, relating to the management of schools and the election of the superintendent of schools by the superintending school committee.

Resolve in favor of the Bureau of Horticulture. (On motion by Mr. Conant of Waldo, tabled pending second reading.)

Resolve in favor of the Bureau of Horticulture. (On motion by Mr. Conant of Waldo, tabled pending second reading.)

An Act to authorize the construction and maintenance of a dam and other structures in the River St. Francis.

Resolve for re-tracing and defining the lines around the reserved or school lands of plantations and townships. (On motion by Mr. Colby of Somerset, recommitted to the committee for correction.)

Resolve providing for epidemic or emergency fund.

An Act relating to the Fort Kent Electric Company.

An Act to create the Public Utilities Commission, prescribe its powers and duties and to provide for the regulation and control of public utilities.

Mr. STEARNS of Oxford: Mr. President, pending second reading of this bill, I move that it lie on the table.

Mr. HERSEY of Aroostook: Mr. President, I call for the yeas and nays on the tabling of this measure.

Mr. STEARNS: Mr. President, in order that I may be thoroughly understood as to the object of asking that the bill lie on the table at this time, I wish to say just briefly that this bill was reported, last Friday, and was printed over Sunday, and the printed copies came in, yesterday. I made an attempt, last night, to find some of the printed copies, and found my

Brother Hersey engaged in the same search, and neither of us were able to find sufficient copies to satisfy our requests. I know that there are a great many people around this State House and in the State of Maine, who are vitally interested in this measure. And it would seem that they ought to have an opportunity of reading the bill before it is passed to be engrossed here in the Senate.

I would not be understood in any degree to be standing here obstructing this very important measure. I do not believe this Senate is going to have any such notion of my object in asking that this bill be tabled at this time. But we realize that this is the most important measure that will be presented in this Legislature; the most important legislation that has ever been presented in the State of Maine to any Legislature assembled in this State. And it seems to me that it may be that we would be opening ourselves to criticism of attempting too great haste if we urge this matter to be passed to be engrossed, this morning, without at least a day or two in which to have printed copies of this practically new bill.

The committee, who have considered this bill, have considered it carefully. They have put a great deal of time and study upon it, and I believe they have examined the bill, and I believe that it is entitled to the favorable consideration of this Senate, but I see no reason why those interested in this bill, the lobby, the public utilities, and what not, should not have an opportunity to read this bill.

I do not believe there are half a dozen senators in this Senate, this morning, outside of the committee who have seen it, to say nothing about reading it.

I ask for no undue delay, simply for a day or two in order that we may be able to supply those who are requesting copies of this bill, which has been reported and which I say is a most excellent bill, and which I think is entitled to be read by those interested. That is my only object, fellow senators, in asking to have this bill tabled.

Mr. HERSEY: Mr. President, I presume I have the right to answer the senator from Oxford.

Now, the senator from Oxford, who has been on the committee which has reported this bill. I understand finds no objection in the bill. A committee of 20 lawyers of this Legislature has passed upon this bill. It has been reported to this Legislature, on last Friday afternoon, and printed copies were upon the desks of the members, yesterday. Previous to that, the members had,—some of them,—the full text of this bill since last Saturday. Let it pass its usual course to be engrossed in the Senate, this morning, then it would go to the House and take its usual course, there and would come back here sometime the last of this week or the first of next. It seems to me in all that time before it comes for final passage to this Senate, if there is anything in this bill that ought not to pass this Legislature,—if anything has been discovered up to that time that has not been discovered now, I think there is plenty of time to discover it.

I know that there is pressure brought to bear in the lobby against this measure going through this Legislature, and the lobby is interested in trying to find some reason for delay or defeat of the matter. I feel strongly if this bill is to go through this Legislature that it should take its usual course, while men outside the Legislature are working for its defeat.

Mr. MORREY of Androscoggin: Mr. President, for one, I was away yesterday afternoon, and that is no reason why, as far as I am concerned, I should urge that as a reason in support of the motion of the gentleman from Oxford, the mere fact of my absence, as far as I am concerned, would not entitle me to that objection.

This is by far the most important matter that will come before this Legislature at this session. I do not recollect a single bill that has been put through here on its passage, where a request to lay upon the table for a day or two has been refused. I do not know of one instance, and as I understand the motion of the sena-

tor from Oxford, it is that it lie upon the table and be specially assigned for next Thursday morning, only two days away. I go farther than Senator Stearns in his remarks. I do not believe there have been three senators, outside of the committee, who have read this bill. The matter is one of the greatest importance, and we all ought to have an opportunity to examine the matter carefully. I have the greatest respect for the judgment of the attorneys constituting the joint committee on this bill. I know well that it has received their best care, and their best thought, but it might be that something has escaped them, and it might be that nothing can be found in any way wrong in the bill, but as we accord to every measure that comes here the courtesy of allowing it to be tabled when we are convinced it is not done for any dilatory work, I see no reason why this matter should not be accorded the same courtesy and assigned for Thursday of this week. I therefore second the motion of the senator from Oxford.

Mr. MURPHY of Cumberland: Mr. President, I want to state that I was here yesterday afternoon, came in early, and the first I knew of this bill being printed was some time late yesterday afternoon, I saw one man with three or four in his hand and asked him if he had one to spare and he said there was one on the desk. I found one last night about 10 o'clock.

I believe some one here intended to do the right thing, but it is pretty hard to make us vote on something we have not had a chance to look into. As far as I am concerned, I am in favor of a public utilities bill. I think I shall vote that way, but would certainly like an opportunity for my friends to look into this matter.

Mr. STEARNS: Mr. President, I would suggest that Thursday, in the face of the objection of the senator from Aroostook, he would dislike to put it farther ahead, that this week Thursday, be assigned for consideration of this bill.

The question being on the motion of the senator from Oxford that the bill be tabled and specially assigned for

Thursday of this week, the yeas and nays were ordered.

The secretary called the roll. Those voting yea were: Messrs. Allan, Allen, Bailey, Boynton, Burleigh, Chase, Clark, Colby, Cole, Conant, Dutton, Emery, Hastings, Jillson, Maxwell, Morey, Moulton, Murphy, Packard, Patten, Reynolds, Richardson, Smith, Stearns, Walker, Wing—26. Those voting nay were: Messrs. Flaherty, Hersey—2. Absentees: Messrs. Hagerthy, Mansfield—2.

Twenty-six voting in the affirmative and two in the negative, the motion of the senator from Oxford was agreed to.

#### Passed to Be Enacted.

An Act to amend Sections 2 and 8 of Chapter 188 of the Public Laws of 1911, providing for the encouragement of industrial education.

An Act to amend Section 5 of Chapter 15 of the Public Laws of 1907, and also Section 6 of said chapter, as amended by Chapter 34 of the Public Laws of 1909 and Chapters 84 and 176 of the Public Laws of 1911, relating to the protection of trees and shrubs from dangerous insects and diseases.

An Act to amend Section 28 of Chapter 65 of the Revised Statutes relating to appeals from orders, sentences, decrees or deitals of judges of probate.

An Act to amend Section 50 of Chapter 93 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by Chapter 21 of the Public Laws of 1907, relating to liens on hemlock bark, cordwood and pulpwood for labor performed thereon.

An Act to repeal Chapter 153 of the Public Laws of 1911 entitled "An Act to prohibit the use of gang hooks, so-called, when fishing in the inland waters of the State.

An Act to amend Section 116 of Chapter 15 of the Revised Statutes relating to instruction for the blind.

An Act to extend the charter of the World's Standard Insurance Company.

An Act to amend Section 115, of Chapter 15 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by Chapter 106 of the Public Laws of 1909, and as further amended by Chapter 186 of the Public Laws of

1911, relating to appropriation for the support of the Normal and training schools.

An Act relating to the admission of foreign insurance companies and amending Section 78 of Chapter 49 of the Revised Statutes.

An Act to amend Section 6 of Chapter 18 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by Chapter 48 of the Public Laws of 1909, relating to the State Board of Health.

An Act to ratify the organization of St. Joseph's Convent and Hospital fixing the value of property it may acquire.

An Act in relation to the Skowhegan & Athens Railway.

An Act authorizing Blon M. Pike to maintain a ferry between Lubec, North Lubec, Eastport and Campobello.

An Act to amend Section 23 of Chapter 18 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by Chapter 26 of the Laws of 1907, relating to the State laboratory of hygiene.

An Act to amend Sections 41 and 42 of Chapter 49 of the Revised Statutes, relating to the organizations of insurance companies.

An Act to incorporate the Lincoln Sewerage Company.

An Act to amend Sections 80 and 81 of Chapter 52 of the Revised Statutes, relating to provisions for safety in the management and operation of steam railroads.

An Act to amend Chapter 100 of the Private and Special Laws of 1891 as amended by Chapter 506 of the Private and Special Laws of 1893, relating to drains and common sewers in the city of Rockland.

An Act to incorporate the Rockland Public Utilities District.

An Act to amend Section 2 of Chapter 253 of the Private and Special Laws of 1905, relating to Wiscasset bridge.

An Act to incorporate the Capitol Island Village Corporation.

An Act to amend Section 17 of Chapter 65 of the Revised Statutes, relating to the administration of oaths required by the courts of probate.

An Act to extend and amend the charter of the Eastern Maine Railroad.