

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

Legislative Record

OF THE

Eighty-Third Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1927

KENNEBEC JOURNAL COMPANY
AUGUSTA, MAINE

Railroad Company for over-payments on taxes.

(H. P. 260) (H. D. 266) Resolve in favor of the town of Abbot for reimbursement of monies expended for the support of Scott W. Pierce and family.

(H. P. 162) (H. D. 267) Resolve to reimburse the town of Washburn for support of a State pauper.

Orders of the Day

The SPEAKER: Under matters tabled and today assigned the Chair lays before the House, H. D. 23, an act relating to the excise tax on railroads, tabled by Mr. Williams of Falmouth, February 23, pending assignment for third reading.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Falmouth: Mr. Speaker, I now yield the floor to the gentleman from Van Buren, Mr. Hammond.

Mr. HAMMOND of Van Buren: Mr. Speaker and gentleman: I desire to offer an amendment to this bill, which has been prepared at the suggestion of the Governor, and has the approval of the Attorney General and representatives of the railroad. The purpose of this amendment is to strengthen the powers of the Public Utilities Commission as regards examination and auditing the books of railroad corporations.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Van Buren, Mr. Hammond, presents the following amendment and moves its adoption.

House Amendment A to House Document 23

Amend by adding the following paragraph:

The term "net railway operating income" means the railway operating revenue less the railway operating expenses, tax accruals and uncollectible railway revenues, including in the computation thereof debits and credits arising from equipment rents and joint facility rents. The Public Utilities Commission, after notice and hearing, may determine the accuracy of any returns required of any railroad, and if found inaccurate, may order proper corrections to be made therein.

On motion by Mr. Rounds of Portland, the amendment was tabled for printing.

On motion by Mr. Wing of Auburn, it was voted to take from the table bill an act to provide equitable and uniform taxation for motor vehicles,

S. P. 359, S. D. 138, tabled by that gentleman earlier in the session.

Mr. WING of Auburn: Mr. Speaker, I move that the House decline to join in the reference and that the paper be returned to the Senate with the statement that it invades the constitutional rights of the House. I read from the Constitution Article IV, Section 9:

"Bills, orders or resolutions, may originate in either house, and may be altered, amended or rejected in the other; but all bills for raising a revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives."

Thereupon the motion prevailed and the House declined to refer the bill to the committee on Taxation in concurrence with the Senate, and returned the bill to the Senate for the reasons stated by the gentleman from Auburn, Mr. Wing.

Mr. WING of Auburn: Mr. Speaker, I now move to take from the table resolve proposing an amendment to Section 8 of Article IX of the constitution of the State of Maine.

The SPEAKER: The Chair will state that the next three Senate papers, 370, 371 and 372, seem to all have the same bearing.

Mr. WING: Mr. Speaker, I propose to take them all from the table.

Thereupon, on motion by Mr. Wing of Auburn, Senate Papers 370, 371 and 372, tabled by that gentleman earlier in the session were all taken from the table.

Mr. WING: Mr. Speaker, I now move that each of them be referred to the committee on Taxation in accordance with the Senate reference. They do not raise a revenue, but may provide a way for raising a revenue.

Thereupon, these three resolves were referred to the committee on taxation in concurrence.

On motion by Mr. Goodwin of Sanford, it was voted to take from the table, S. P. 272, report of committee on Legal Affairs, "ought to pass" on bill an act to amend Section 77 of Chapter 211 of the Public Laws of 1921, relating to reserved automobile registration numbers being S. D. 96 tabled by that gentleman, February 24, pending acceptance in concurrence.

Mr. GOODWIN of Sanford: Mr. Speaker, I yield the floor to the