RUNOFF OF LITTLE ANDROSCOGGIN UP TO 450% NORMAL

The runoff of the Little Androscoggin River was 450% of the September average, according to figures compiled by U. S. Department of the Interior's Geological Survey Water Resources Division. For the year ending Sept. 30, the runoff of the river was 113% of normal. August runoff was 50% of normal for that month; July 292% and June 124%.

Storage reservoirs in the Androscoggin River basin are a little more than half full. "Normal fall rains should produce enough runoff to maintain adequate storage for the winter season," said Gordon S. Hayes, district engineer.

At the end of September the Androscoggin reservoirs were 65% full. In August they were 74% full; in July 69%; in June 95%. The average for the water year ending Sept. 30 was 64% of capacity. Hayes estimated that average rainfall in this area in October will produce a runoff of about 250% of normal in the Little Androscoggin River. If the rainfall is "negligible" the runoff will be about 50% of normal for October.

September precipitation at Rumford was 3.7 inches; at Gulf Island Dam 4.79 inches; at Errol, N.H., 2.57 inches.

WATER COMMISSION AT BETHEL TOMORROW

AUGUSTA AP--The Water Improvement Commission will hold a public hearing at Bethel tomorrow on purity classification of the tributaries of the Androscoggin River from Gilead to West Peru.

Raeburn W. MacDonald, WIC chief engineer, said today there is "considerable pollution" in the Little Androscoggin from a tannery, small paper mills and municipalities.

BETHEL--Purity classification of the tributaries of the Androscoggin River from Gilead to West Peru will be discussed at a public hearing at the Community Room at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday.

The Little Androscoggin River, which enters the main river...
at Auburn after flowing through the towns of Woodstock, West Paris, South Paris, Norway, Mechanic Falls and Minot, is expected to be the main topic of discussion.

Some of the other tributaries under consideration will be the Nesinscot River at Buckfield, the Swift River in Rumford and Mexico; the Ellis at Andover, the Wild at Gilead, the Sunday in Bethel, the Androscoggin Lake system, the Webb in Dixfield and Alder Brook, Bethel.

Raeburn W. MacDonald, chief engineer for the Water Improvement Commission, which has called the hearing, said there is considerable pollution in the Little Androscoggin from a tannery, small paper mills and municipalities.

He continued on to say that no attempt will be made, yet, to clean up the main stream of the Androscoggin, which is probably the greatest pollution problem in the State.

He explained that the commission has neither the money nor the personnel to clean up the Androscoggin.

The commission will recommend to the next Legislature classification of the water system under study into one of five degrees of purity. The recommendations will be based on engineering studies and public views expressed at the hearing.

Legislative action is necessary to give the commission power to enforce anti-pollution measures depending upon the classification.

Lewiston Daily Sun October 31

WATER IMPROVEMENT BOARD
CONDUCTS HEARING AT BETHEL

BETHEL--Purity classification of tributaries of the Androscoggin River from the New Hampshire line to West Peru were discussed, Tuesday afternoon, at a public hearing here.

The Water Improvement Commission, which conducted the hearing, received a request to change the classification of Chapman Brook, Bethel's water supply, from B-1 to A, it being understood that water in the local reservoir is Class A. No action was taken.

R.W. MacDonald, chief engineer of the commission, told of classification at present of various streams.

Present at the hearing were Ronald W. Clifford, Mexico town manager; Dr. E. Linwood Brown, Bethel; Edward J. Reichert, Gorham, N.H.; P.W. Churchill, Berlin, N.H.; Norman K. Ferguson, Hanover; Verner Smith, West Peru; P.M. Schaffrath, Rumford; Norwood Ford, Locke Mills.

Commissioners Lew Colomy, Hallowell, and George Rancourt, Lewiston; Clifford G. Chase, commission chairman; Dr. Edward W. Colby, another commissioner; Louis Van denkerckoven of Bethel Water Co; Leo J. Morency, Rumford town manager; Stuart Martin, chairman of Rumford selectmen; O.T. Rozelle, Bethel town manager; Harold Bennett, Henry H. Hastings, and Herman A. Bennett, all of Bethel; Harold McInnis, trustee of Mexico Water District.
Members of the Legislative committee of the Maine Fish and Game Association will meet with Gov. Edmund S. Muskie next Monday afternoon to discuss a pollution law for the coming legislative session.

"The general situation will be reviewed and proposed legislation discussed," said J. Dennis Bruno, chairman of the pollution committee. The pollution committee has held several meetings alone and with the legislative committee of the MFGA.

Among those at the meeting will be Bruno, James Carr of Richmond, former MFGA president, Clarence Roth of Litchfield, chairman of the MFGA legislative committee, Llewellyn Colomy of Hallowell, former MFGA president, Arthur Bucknell of Brownfield, Thomas Bragg of Waldoboro and Attorney Charles Peirce of Augusta.
BEGIN ATTACK ON
STARCH MILL POLLUTION
OF STATE STREAMS

AUGUSTA AP -- A three pronged attack on starch mill pollution of Maine waters is underway with a $7,000 war chest and the scientific facilities of the Univ. of Maine's Dept. of Industrial Cooperation. The starch manufacturers have provided $2,500 and the Maine Water Improvement Commission $3,500 to study extraction of protein from starch factory waste water.

3 AGENCIES TACKLE
POLLUTION PROBLEM
POTATO STARCH FIRM SEEKS MEANS
TO EXTRACT PROTEIN

AUGUSTA, NOV. 14 AP -- Three agencies have opened a drive to solve one of the stubbornest of Maine's water pollution problems. George Philbrick of Fort Fairfield, president of the Maine Institute of Potato Starch Mfrs., Inc., said today his organization has provided $2,500 to study ways to extract protein dissolved in starch factory waste water.

The Maine Water Improvement Commission has made available $3,500 and the University of Maine Dept. of Industrial Cooperation will supply laboratory space and technical assistance.

Philbrick said the industry is making progress in the removal of solids from the waste, through use of the dried "pumice" as cattle feed. There is no method known for removing the protein content of the water, he said.

Aroostook farmers are feeding 20 cows the dried potato pulp waste. It is cheap feed, Philbrick said, and if the diet proves suitable the project could lead to a cattle feeding industry in Aroostook similar to that of the Midwest, where cattle are fattened for market on corn.

Pollution remains one of the most annoying problems faced by the State of Maine. It is welcome news to read that efforts are being made in the Aroostook County area to solve pollution of streams there by potato starch factories.

The Maine Institute of Potato Starch Mfrs., the Maine Water Improvement Commission and the University of Maine's Dept. of Industrial Cooperation are combining their efforts to find ways of extracting protein dissolved in starch feed.
extracting protein dissolved in starch factory waste water. The starch manufacturers group and the Water Improvement Commission are providing funds for the project, while the university is supplying laboratory space.

The starch industry has made progress toward eliminating pollution through discovery of ways to remove solids from the waste. As yet there has been no method found to extract the protein content. If a practical method can be discovered, another source of pollution can be eliminated.

It is encouraging to find manufacturers working with the State in an attempt to solve the pollution problem. The Institute of Potato Starch Mfrs., deserves credit for adopting an affirmative rather than a negative attitude toward the pollution issue.

Lewiston Daily Sun

November 29

AUBURN ENGINEER TO PRESENT
FLOOD STUDY OF ANDORS COGGIN

A paper entitled "Discussion of the Results on the Androscoggin River if Visited by Rains of Magnitudes which have Occurred in Southern New England" will be presented by Paul W. Bean, of Auburn, chief engineer for the Union Water Power Co., Lewiston, to members of the Maine Association of Engineers at the December meeting at Augusta. Bean, also is chairman of the Auburn Planning Board.

A second paper on the "Behavior of Virus-Size Particles in Water Treatment Plants" will be presented by Seymour J. Ryckman, professor of Sanitary Engineering at the University of Maine.

Harrison G. Marshall, electrical engineer for the Central Maine Power Co., will present a paper entitled, "Automatic Spinning reserve For Harris Station." This is the CMP Co. power plant named for Ford Harris of Auburn, CMP Co. chief engineer. Following the presentation of papers, a colored movie film on the Kitimat project of theAluminum Co. of Canada will be shown.

The meeting, open to interested non-members, will be held at the Augusta House this Saturday, with a dinner at 6 p.m. Preceding the presentation of papers at the evening meeting, there will be an inspection of the new State office building at 4 p.m. followed by an inspection of the Central Maine Power Co. dispatching office at 9 Green St., at 4:45 p.m.
WATER IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION REPORTS TODAY ON PENOBSCOT

MILO AP -- The Water Improvement Commission reports at a public hearing here today on purity classifications assigned sections of the Penobscot River watershed.

The waters under scrutiny include the Penobscot and its tributaries from Seboomook Lake to the outlet of Quakish and Ferguson Lakes; the Piscataquis River basin; and previously unclassified Penobscot tributaries from Millinocket to tidewater at Bangor.

At a hearing here yesterday all but nine tributaries of the Kennebec River between Skowhegan and Bath were classified B-2, which means able to support fish life and suitable for bathing and drinking if properly treated.

The exceptions included the Androscoggin and Sebasticook Rivers and the Cobbossee and Messalonskee Streams which were not classified.

The classifications are intended as the first step toward pollution reduction.

AUGUSTA, DEC. 3 AP -- All but nine tributaries of the Kennebec River between Skowhegan and Bath have been classified B-2 or higher by the Water Improvement Commission.

Class B-2 means the water supports fish life and is suitable for bathing and for drinking if properly treated.

No objection to these classifications of pollution content appeared at a public hearing today.

The exceptions in the list were the Androscoggin and Sebasticook Rivers and Cobbossee and Messalonskee Streams, which were not involved in today's list of classifications, and five other small streams.

These were one running through Skowhegan which the commission rated from Class C down to "nuisance;" Two-Mile Stream, Augusta, rated C and D; a short section of Togus Stream, Augusta, rated C; and a tributary of the Cathance River in Bowdoinham, rated D.

Hearing will be held tomorrow at Milo on parts of the Penobscot watershed not previously classified. These waters include the Penobscot and its tributaries from Seboomook Lake to the outlet of Quakish and Ferguson Lakes; the Piscataquis River basin;
and tributaries of the Penobscot not previously classified from Millinocket to tidewater at Bangor.

With this year's reports to the Legislature, the commission will have classified 27,000 of Maine's 30,000 miles of waterways, Chairman Clifford G. Chase of Bangor said. The other 3,000 miles is mainly on the major rivers.

The classifications are intended as a starting point for reduction of pollution.
An alternative to the federal funds available to municipalities by the appropriation of State matching funds to the extent of two-thirds of the federal grant has been suggested. It would provide a revolving fund from which municipalities could borrow, interest free, funds necessary to construct, not only sewage treatment plants, but also other sewage works. This alternative has considerable merit but would not appear to go as far toward solving the financial problem of municipalities as the matching fund proposal.

I recommend further that the Commission be given the necessary funds to provide consulting and planning services for municipalities, and to employ the technical and enforcement staff needed if the recommended classifications are adopted.

Another suggestion of considerable merit has been advanced. Briefly, it proposes that enabling legislation be adopted providing for the creation of municipal sewage districts under model charters spelled out in the law. Implementation of this suggestion will require considerable study and research, for which appropriate provision should be made. Such legislation would provide a more flexible and ready tool for financing municipal sewage projects.

It is evident that financial and technological limitations dictate caution in the imposition of time limits for compliance if we are to avoid back-breaking burdens upon municipalities and industries. At the same time, let no one mistake our intention to bring this problem under control.

Two other recommendations touching upon our water resources should be considered:

a. An adequate water supply is almost assumed in Maine except during occasional extremely dry summer months. We know that this supply and its management are important to industry, to the generation of hydro-electric power, to the control of pollution, to agriculture, to the breeding and feeding of fish life, and to our domestic needs. To obtain more of the facts bearing upon these two factors, I recommend that we establish a ground waters survey program to be conducted by the Department of Development of Industry and Commerce in cooperation with the United States Geological survey.
its inland waters, and its marine life. These priceless assets will increase in value as the years pass. Another indispensable resource is water, and he strongly urges the Legislature again to act upon anti-pollution. Partly within this field lies the question of utility rates, and the message recommends that the present system of basing rates on current value be changed in favor of "an exact accounting rate base which will give due weight to the utility's prudent investment."

We were pleased to see Gov. Muskie call attention to our State parks, another asset of incalculable value, and ask for "enthusiastic endorsement" of their expansion. The State can make no finer investment.

Lewiston Daily Sun January 4

POLLUTION, part of Governor's message

5. Water Resources: The pollution of these clam flats is a part of the broader problem of water pollution which touches almost every area of the State, and which must find a solution within reasonable time limits if we are to derive maximum benefits from our water resources.

Surely it is beyond argument that an abundant supply of clean water is essential to our industrial growth, to meet our domestic needs, to encourage the natural reproduction of fish in our streams, and to our coastal economy. We are relatively favored as among the forty-eight states in our possession of this resource, but we should improve our position as rapidly as we can.

This imposes responsibilities upon industry and upon our communities. Each must make progress to the maximum extent possible in the light of technological advances and reasonable financial requirements. We cannot afford to be rigid nor can we afford to be lax.

We must really face up to these alternatives in this session of the Legislature. The Water Improvement Commission reports that approximately 15,000 miles of streams will have been studied, covered in public hearings, and prepared for submission to you in its recommendations for classification. If you should adopt these recommendations, the extension of classification then authorized will present problems to nearly every community. Thus, you will be confronted with a sobering responsibility.

With respect to the community problem, the Congress of the United States has enacted legislation appropriating funds to assist municipalities in the construction of sewage treatment works. Under the Act grants are limited to 30 per cent of the estimated cost of the works or $250,000, whichever is the smaller. Maine's allotment for the current fiscal year is $627,125. In addition, we are allotted $19,331 in the current fiscal year to assist us in meeting the costs of our program for pollution control. Each project seeking to qualify for the federal funds must be approved by the Water Improvement Commission and must be part of a comprehensive State water pollution control plan.
WILL SEEK TO HAVE STORM SEWER
EMPTY INTO UWP CO. MILL POND

A little known private law of 1880 may be circumvented by the City of Lewiston in an attempt to save some $30,000-$40,000 in the construction of the Oak Street storm relief sewer.

The original plans for the storm sewer which is being built by the city on a $350,000 bond issue called for the sewer to run from the Oak Street area to Main Street and down Chapel Street to the river.

But—the old law, designed to keep the water of the river clean because of the fact that ice was harvested there, declares that no "sewer or drain" shall discharge its contents into the Androscoggin River above the falls.

There were alternatives proposed: 1. That the sewer be run down Chapel Street, turn left at the B. Peck Company parking lot and continue across country to the Union Water Power Company mill pond which is privately owned and is not considered to be a part of the river.

TOO EXPENSIVE

The second proposal was that the new sewer would be tunneled under the existing canal and finally end up at the river in the vicinity of the North Bridge.

This last proposal was considered to be nearly impossible because of the expense involved. But the first idea was thought to be workable if permission could be gained from the power company. Not only would that proposal work, but it would save the city some $30,000-$40,000 in comparison with the cost of running the sewer to the river along the length of Chapel Street.

Lewiston Corporation Council Philip M. Isaacson said today that if the various legal difficulties cannot be straightened out by the time the sewer line construction near the turning off point on Chapel Street, the first plan will be carried out and the sewer will run the length of Chapel Street to the river.

GOOD BREAK

Isaacson said the plan to use the mill pond "is just a good break we're trying to take advantage of."

He said that once the entire plan was worked out, members of the city engineering staff and city officials met with the legal counsel for the power company in order to work out details of the easement which would allow the city to run the sewer into the mill pond.

At this session the power company demanded that the city agree to extend the sewer to the river in the event the mill pond is ever closed and filled in for any reason.

Also asked was that the city contact each of the six mills that employ the canal which runs from the mill pond for either water power or processing and get their approval of the plan.

ONLY FLOOD WATER

Isaacson said that very lengthy agreement forms were prepared for each of the mills to sign and to date the city has received the signed agreements from four of the six mills and expects the return of the other two within a matter of days.

When all the users of the canal have agreed to the use of
the mill pond as an outlet for the storm sewer waters, "then will be time enough to start legislative action to allow the city to ignore the provisions of the old law which does not allow sewerage or drainage to enter the river above the falls," said Isaacson.

The corporation council pointed out that the storm sewer is in no way to be considered as sanitary sewerage. The water flowing in that sewer will be the excess water from flash flooding during seasonal rains.

**IGNORED LAW**

He said that in some years the storm sewer might not even be used and in other years it would operate only four or five days out of the year and then only for minutes each time.

An engineer from the Stewart Associates—the firm which engineered the sewer—said that the sewer will be likened to a sub-fire station. "It might not be called upon for months at a time, but when it is needed, it is needed badly."

Isaacson said that the old law has been ignored for several years inasmuch as ice has not been harvested there for some time. Also, he said, the cities of Lewiston and Auburn have, on two separate occasions, obtained special permission from the Legislature to contravene the old Act.

"The city will ask this session of the Legislature to enact an emergency measure giving the right to locate the outflow of the storm sewer in the mill pond," said the corporation counsel.

He added that it should be pointed out that this sewer concerns itself only with surface water and does not in any way add to the contamination of the river.

"Even if legislation were later enacted requiring the city to construct a sewerage disposal plant the surface water would continue to be expelled into the river," he said.

The question involved, he said, is only whether the water should enter the river above or below the falls and "inasmuch as ice is no longer harvested in that area the city feels the location is immaterial."

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Lewiston Evening Journal  January 10

One of the major items recommended in the Governor's budget message

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

To match local and federal funds for municipal sewage disposal plants, $376,000.

To expand industrial development, research and planning, and geology work in the Development Dept., $102,000.

For port promotion, $75,000.

For larger technical and enforcement staff and consulting services by the Water Improvement Commission, $67,000.

**SUPPLEMENTAL**

Having discussed the cost of current services and having determined that we can meet it, with something to spare, I anticipate that your next question might be this: "Should we provide for something more than current services?" My own answer is, "Yes, we should."

I have again used the device of a supplemental budget to
I have again used the device of a supplemental budget to spell out the expanded, improved, and new services which, in my opinion, you should consider.

In the field of economic resources and development, supplemental appropriations are recommended as follows: . . . .

3. For the Water Improvement Commission, $33,240.00 the first year and $33,552.00 the second year. These sums will provide the technical and enforcement staff needed if the recommended classifications of streams are adopted by this Legislature; and, in addition, will provide consulting and planning services to assist municipalities in planning their facilities.

4. To assist municipalities in taking advantage of available federal funds for sewage disposal planning and construction, in accordance with the inaugural message, $418,000.00 each year of the biennium.

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Lewiston Daily Sun  January 24

NEW FILTRATION AND CLEAR WATER PLANT AT RUMFORD -- Picture caption

RUMFORD -- The improvement and expansion program of the Oxford Paper Company, begun after World War II, is expected to reach a new high tempo of activity in 1957. Plans for the year indicate a greater volume of construction and modernization activity than in any year in the company's history.

A major project for 1957 will be the transformation of Oxford's number "C" paper machine into a completely modern manufacturing unit. When this work is completed in September, 1957, the machine will have more than double its present speed and capacity and will be able to produce a wider variety of grades of quality paper.

Another major project for 1957 will be the rearrangement of the Oxford finishing room so as to provide more space and improved facilities for finishing operations. A new area is to be provided for the trimmers of the finishing department with improvements for roll storage and crane facilities. It is also planned to provide a completely new room with hydraulic lift tables for fan and count operations.

The improvements to the finishing department will be carried out on a step-by-step basis with completion scheduled for the fall of 1957.

A continuing part of Oxford's improvement and expansion program for 1957 will be the completion of the new 12,000,000 gallons-a-day chemical coagulation, filtration, and clear water storage plant now under construction in Oxford's Island Division area. This plant is now about one-half completed and the greater part of the 3,000 feet of 30-inch transite pipe, to bring water from the new pumping station near the mouth of the Swift River, has been laid.

A major engineering feat on this project will be the suspension of the 30-inch pipe line across the Androscoggin river in the spring. The suspension bridge for the pipe will run longside the present suspension bridge running across the river from the mill to Rumford Avenue. The towers to support the new bridge are now under construction.

When completed, the new filter plant will contain the most modern equipment for chemically treating and filtering water
taken from the Swift River or the Androscoggin. After treatment, the crystal clear water will be piped to the mill and distributed through stainless steel and copper pipes to the paper mill, bleach plants, and wash room areas.

The entire plant has been designed so that it will be possible and convenient to increase its capacity by as much as 50% should the expanding requirements of the mill require a greater volume of pure process water.

Lewiston Daily Sun and Evening Journal January 30

COMM'N STUDIED MAINE STREAMS

During the last two years, the Maine Water Improvement Commission has studied 15,000 miles of Maine streams, held public hearings on their classifications and made recommendations on classification to the present session of the Legislature.

"We are quite confident that with few exceptions the 98th Legislature will have an opportunity to classify the remaining unclassified waters in the State," said Dr. Dean H. Fisher, commissioner of health and welfare and secretary of the commission.

The exceptions consist of the main streams of the State's major rivers, the Androscoggin, Penobscot, Saco and Kennebec.

The program now consists of engineering, laboratory studies, enforcement licensing, consultation and research. As more streams are classified a larger enforcement staff will be needed and more communities will need technical help in solving their pollution problems.

Lewiston Daily Sun and Evening Journal January 30

COLD CLIMES
SENT CHILLS
OVER VALLEY

by Kent Foster

Uncle Weatherman left open the door to the Arctic deep freeze last year and the chilly blast gave the Twin Cities the coldest time in seven years.

And the door didn't shut either when sluggish 1956 went into cold storage last Dec. 31.

January 1957 slipped on the abundant ice and the mercury tumbled to 26 degrees below zero on the 18th to come within two notches of tying the lowest January temperature ever recorded in Lewiston, a bone-chilling 28 below Jan. 19 in 1903.

Before this worst coldest wave in years melted in the face of the three-day January thaw, the shivering official thermometer had stayed below zero 81 hours in six days and the average temperature for 126 consecutive hours covered at a frigid 4.7 degrees below zero.

SUMMER WAS TIP

Only twice in 74 years has a January thermometer plummeted below the minus 26 mark, the day the record was set in 1903 and the
27 below registered Jan. 3 in 1904.

But it has tied the 26 below figure twice, on Jan. 4 in 1904 and on Jan. 26 in 1920. In fact, 1904 saw a pretty steady run of cold days and the records still stand on four of them—the minus 27 on Jan. 3, the minus 26 on Jan. 4, the minus 14 on Jan. 5 and the minus 19 on Jan. 6.

But folks should have smelled a frozen rat back last summer when July, August and September turned out to be nearly long underwear months and the resort operators were screeching about a foul into the left field stands.

July turned in the coldest average for the month in at least 26 years. August and September didn't do much better, either. It was the chilliest August since 1954 and the coldest September since 1950.

**HUMDRUM YEAR**

The year's mercury average came out at 43.923 degrees above zero, more than a notch below normal and more than two degrees below the 1955 figure and folks settling up bills for furnace oil and coal suspected there was a hole in the system somewhere. It was the coldest since the 42.209-degree average in 1949.

Otherwise, 1956 was pretty much a humdrum wearisome year, weatherwise. Precipitation at Lewiston was slightly above average but it was below normal by a fraction or so at Rumford and in the Rangeley Lakes area. Stacked against 1955, some places had a little more and some a little less.

No records, high or low, were established at any of the scattered Androscoggin River valley stations checked by the Union Water Power Co. which controls river water rights.

The peak temperature of the year came in June, 94 on the 15th, and this, while unusual, is not unexpected in view of the chilly weather the rest of the summer.

**SIX UP, SIX DOWN**

Snowfall last winter reached 99.52 inches, a better amount than normal but not near the record high of 139$\frac{1}{2}$ inches piled up in doorways in 1888, the year of the worst blizzard in Twin City history.

And 1957 got off to a shoveling start in the snow field. November brought 9.5 inches and December dumped 29.1 inches into driveways and streets. It was the heaviest December snowfall since the 37 inches in 1951.

Despite the chilly mercury average for 1956, six months came up with marks above normal and six were below. Last January was quite balmy, with a 26.145-degree mark which was nearly seven degrees above the 71-year average. And precipitation ran well above average across the valley. It was virtually a month of January thaw and raised Cain with highways.

February, with a 24.546-degree mercury average, was the coldest month of 1956 but its mark still was about four notches above normal.

Then came the cold spring, with March and April also on the wet side. May was drier but still colder than normal. June got a fraction above average in the temperature department and stayed a little below normal for rainfall. The three other summer months were just plain cold but October saw a warmup which lasted the rest of the year.
Here is a comparative table of temperature statistics.

**TEMPERATURES**

(In Degrees Above Zero)

**AT LEWISTON**

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<th>Month</th>
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<th>1956</th>
<th>Ave.</th>
<th>71-Yr. Ave.</th>
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<td>Mar.</td>
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<td>June</td>
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<td>63.488</td>
<td>63.188</td>
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<td>July</td>
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<td>Oct.</td>
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<td>36.145</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec.</td>
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<td>25.568</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ave.</td>
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<td>43.923</td>
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**LAST DECADE**

Yearly Temperature Averages

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Ave.</th>
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<td>42.209</td>
<td>1954</td>
<td>44.890</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>45.863</td>
<td>1956</td>
<td>43.923</td>
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**TEMPERATURE RANGE**

At Lewiston

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<th>Min.</th>
<th>Max.</th>
<th>Min.</th>
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<td>1955</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan.</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>-7</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb.</td>
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In the precipitation department, only Lewiston had a yearly average above normal. January, March, April and December were the wettest months. June was dry the length of the valley.

Compared with 1955, Lewiston, Rumford and Errol, N.H., had higher marks but the others were below the 1955 levels.
Here are comparative tables:

**PRECIPITATION RECORDS**
*(in Inches of Water)*

**LEWISTON**

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<td>3.92</td>
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Total: 38.50 | 44.76 | 43.71
Ave.: 3.21 | 3.69 | 3.64

Annual record high: 59.42 in 1954
Annual record low: 25.61 in 1941

**RUMFORD**

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Total: 32.65 | 35.36 | 39.65
Ave.: 2.72 | 2.95 | 3.30

Annual record high: 62.41 in 1954
Annual record low: 27.90 in 1941

**FONTOCOOK, N. H.**

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## MIDDLE DAM

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Annual record high: 53.11 in 1954
Annual record low: 25.86 in 1908

## UPPER DAM

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Annual record high: 53.37 in 1954
Annual record low: 22.40 in 1921

## GORHAM, N. H.

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Annual record high: 59.67 in 1954
Annual record low: 28.92 in 1942
### BERLIN, N. H.

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**Annual record high:** 58.13 in 1954  
**Annual record low:** 22.69 in 1930

### SNOWFALL  
*(In inches)*  
*(At Lewiston)*

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<th>Month</th>
<th>1953-4</th>
<th>1954-5</th>
<th>1955-6</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>0.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov.</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>0.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec.</td>
<td>6.60</td>
<td>11.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan.</td>
<td>25.15</td>
<td>6.65</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb.</td>
<td>13.81</td>
<td>28.90</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar.</td>
<td>19.25</td>
<td>12.30</td>
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<td>0.20</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>4.30</td>
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<td>Totals</td>
<td>65.31</td>
<td>60.65</td>
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**Record high:** 139½ inches in 1888  
**Record low:** 43.85 inches in 1952

River flows at Berlin, N.H., and at Lewiston were lower than in 1955. Both got the highest water in May during the late spring runoff but Lewiston had a good spurt in April. The flows were close to average in March, the danger month.

This table compares 1956 flows with 1955:

### RIVER FLOW  
*(In Cubic Feet per Second)*  
*AT BERLIN, N. H.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>1955</th>
<th>1956</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan.</td>
<td>3,059</td>
<td>1,821</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb.</td>
<td>2,664</td>
<td>1,814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar.</td>
<td>2,796</td>
<td>1,825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr.</td>
<td>5,009</td>
<td>2,654</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>4,526</td>
<td>4,474</td>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>3,077</td>
<td>2,685</td>
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<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>1,946</td>
<td>1,937</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug.</td>
<td>2,101</td>
<td>1,937</td>
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<td>Sep.</td>
<td>2,145</td>
<td>2,025</td>
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<td>Oct.</td>
<td>1,809</td>
<td>1,974</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov.</td>
<td>1,654</td>
<td>1,995</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec.</td>
<td>1,588</td>
<td>1,806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ave.</td>
<td>2,698</td>
<td>2,246</td>
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Month | 1955 | 1956
---|---|---
Jan. | 4,269 | 5,921
Feb. | 4,027 | 2,464
Mar. | 4,605 | 2,369
Apr. | 14,294 | 9,267
May | 8,497 | 11,327
June | 5,061 | 4,945
July | 2,410 | 3,308
Aug. | 2,832 | 2,143
Sep. | 2,206 | 3,208
Oct. | 2,178 | 2,940
Nov. | 4,222 | 3,212
Dec. | 1,859 | 3,065
Ave. | 4,705 | 4,513

Lewiston Evening Journal

BROWNE BILL PROPOSES STATE PAY A SHARE OF FED'L AID POLLUTION ABATEMENT PROJECTS

Augusta AP -- The state would pay a share of federal-aid pollution abatement projects under a bill filed today by Rep. Browne (R-Bangor).

The bill would appropriate $418,000 in each of the next two years from the general fund. From this amount, the Water Improvement Commission could pay up to 20 percent of the total cost or two-thirds of the federal grant, whichever was less, toward municipal sewage treatment projects. Gov. Muskie recommended this program in his supplemental budget, which requires new tax revenue.

Another bill by Browne would appropriate $50,000 to pay for technical advice to municipalities from the WIC regarding collection and disposal of sewage.

Under a third Browne bill, the WIC would get another $50,000 to help municipalities to pay for sewage disposal planning surveys. The state would pay half the cost, or $2,500, whichever was less.

January 31
POLLUTION CONTROL

A modified clean waters measure is to be introduced to the 98th Maine Legislature at this session. The chief changes from the bill that was defeated two years ago are two in number.

Under the previous measure municipalities were given a two-year limit for halting the dumping of sewage in lakes and rivers. The new bill sets no limitation, but instead leaves the decision up to the Water Improvement Commission. The second important alteration would increase the number of public members on the commission by two.

The regulations covering pollution of streams by industries would remain about the same. The WIC would have the power to order waters cleaned up, and officials of industries adjudged guilty of violating WIC orders would be subject to fines and imprisonment.

Pollution of Maine waters is a serious problem. It is vital that progress be made in cleaning up the most seriously polluted lakes and streams.

It is only realistic to declare that major rivers such as the Androscoggin, Kennebec and Penobscot must be considered as "industrial" streams. Nevertheless, there is no excuse for these rivers continuing to be polluted to the point where they fall below the category of a Class B river in terms of actual pollution. There is no question but what the Androscoggin currently is below a Class B rating along a lengthy portion of its wandering course to the sea.

Progress necessarily must be orderly and restricted within the limits of municipalities and industries to pay for pollution control. But progress must be made, and until a clean waters measures is voted with sufficient restrictions to assure such gains, Maine will continue to flounder in its attempts to clean up polluted waters.

Lewiston Daily Sun

WILL SUPPORT
CLEAN WATERS

BILL DEMANDS CLEAN UP
BUT HAS FLEXIBLE
TIME LIMIT

RETAINS "TEETH" OF FINES AND
JAIL SENTENCES; SAYS NEW
INDUSTRY NEEDS WATER

AUGUSTA -- Legislation calling for a clean-up of Maine's waters will be introduced at this session of the Legislature by

"It is indeed time that we enacted legislation to protect our waters from a refuse problem so insidious that it is fast destroying our most precious natural resource--clean water," Brewer said yesterday.

He will introduce the "Clean Waters Act" which is a revised edition of a similar bill entered at the last Legislature.

"I feel that this revised edition has a splendid opportunity to be passed into law by the 98th Legislature," he said. "The controversial two-year clause has been removed and the Water Improvement Commission representation has been increased."

KEEPS "TEETH"

The previous bill gave municipalities a maximum of two years to stop dumping sewage in the rivers or lakes after being ordered to stop by the WIC. Many legislators at the last session contended that this was entirely unrealistic.

Brewer's bill sets no maximum limit but leaves the matter up to the WIC. The bill also adds two more public members to the commission.

It makes use of the present system of classifying streams and retains the "teeth" which permit the WIC to order waters cleaned up. Officials of industries found guilty of violating the regulations are subject to fines and prison sentences.

"The ever increasing emphasis being given to water as our natural resource number one, at local and national levels, has pointed out the need for a stronger pollution law," said Brewer.

FACE BIG EXPENSE

He pointed out that several Maine communities, including Bangor, are faced with a "tremendous" expense in order to clean up their present water supply or to look for another source because of the extreme pollution in the present supply.

"Industry is also faced with expensive water treatment procedure in many instances to provide clean water for their varied operations," he said.

An abundant supply of clean water is essential to attract many types of new industry to Maine, said Brewer. The long-range program of cleaning up Maine's waters will be expensive for all concerned but the State will get full value for every dollar spent.

"To continue the abuse of our waters, as in the past, would result in an even greater dollar expenditure plus the tremendous cost involved in loss of industry, loss of recreational use of the waters and the health problems that would be provoked," he said.

"In short," said Brewer, "continued abuse of our waters would result in a much higher expenditure with a deficit return for dollars expended."

The lengthy Clean Waters Act provides for control of all State waters including coastal waters. Provisions for clean-ups and penalties for failing to make steps in this direction when ordered to do so cover both municipal sewage and industrial waste. The towns and cities are allowed to issue special non-debt revenue bonds to be paid by charges for the use of the sewers. Such bonds would not fall within a municipality's debt limit.
LEVI TON DALLY

SWIFT F8 x UAR1 22

BIIER MIN JOIN

DRIS AGAINST

LIQUOR AGENCIES

CONTEND IT WOULD MEAN TOUGHER ENFORCEMENT;

POLLUTION LAW BILL

CURBS WIC POWER

AUGUSTA, Feb. 21 AP -- The Legislature gave unanimous consent today for belated introduction of a bill curbing the Water Improvement Commission's power to enforce anti-pollution orders.

Sen. Reed's (R-Fort Fairfield) bill, offered a week after the filing deadline, said:

"x x x Where industrial waste or municipal sewage is disposed of in such manner as will lower the quality of classified waters x x x below the minimum required of such classifications, the Commission shall not issue orders for abatement thereof unless technology and equipment to effect abatement are available at a cost which is economically feasible."

Reed, a potato grower, also would require Superior Court justices, in hearing appeals from WIC orders, to consider "the public interest" and "any substantial injustice or financial hardship" to the petitioners before reaching a decision.

LEWISTON EVENING JOURNAL

Editorial

February 22

REED POLLUTION PROPOSAL

Control of pollution of Maine waters under present law is not as effectual as it should be. Senator John H. Reed, Fort Fairfield Republican, would weaken the law still further by curbing the authority of the Water Improvement Commission.

Under present statutes the Commission's enforcement powers read as follows: "After adoption of any classification by the Legislature for surface waters or tidal flats or sections thereof, it shall be unlawful for any person, corporation, municipality or other legal entity to dispose of any sewage, industrial or other waste, either alone or in conjunction with another or others, in such manner as will lower the quality of the said waters, tidal flats or section thereof below the minimum requirements of such classification . . . ."

In brief this means there shall be no pollution of waters by any individual or group which would reduce the quality of such waters below the minimum standards set by classification.

Senator Reed would amend this. His proposed revision goes as follows: " . . . Where industrial waste or municipal sewage is disposed of in such manner as will lower the quality of classified waters . . . . below the minimum required of such classifications, the Commission shall not issue orders for abatement thereof unless technology and equipment to effect abatement are available at a cost which is economically feasible."

His proposal would amount to wrecking any possible effective pollution control in the State of Maine, should the 98th
Legislature be unwise enough to approve the suggested change. One may be sure that WIC orders for abatement would be contested consistently on the grounds of exorbitant cost, if Reed's proposal should be enacted.

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**Lewiston Evening Journal**  
**February 26**

**CLAIMS CLEAN WATERS CRUSADEARS**  
**DOING MORE HARM TO MAINE THAN WATER POLLUTION**

**FARMINGTON AP** — An Associated Industries of Maine official said today the "crusaders for 'clean waters'" are doing more harm to Maine than water pollution ever could.

Walter H. Martin, assistant to the director of the AIM, denied what he said was an assertion of "clean waters" advocates that "Maine waters are among the most polluted in the nation."

**DETERRENT TO INDUSTRY**

He said the efforts of the "Clean Waters crusaders, while their objective is made to appear desirable," are a deterrent to industrial growth. He added they have not given due credit to industry for its efforts to abate pollution.

In a speech prepared for an assembly at Farmington State Teachers College, Martin said:

"The truth is that less than one per cent of the presently classified waters of Maine are considered as primarily devoted to the transportation of municipal and industrial waste. The remaining classified waters will support fish life and are suitable for recreation and portable water supply, with proper treatment."

The same proportion applies to the waters now recommended for classification, he said. This will leave only the major rivers and tidal estuaries unclassified.

Creation of new sources of pollution, even in unclassified waters, is prohibited by law except with license from the Water Improvement Commission, Martin said.

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**Lewiston Evening Journal**  
**February 27**

**'CLEAN WATERS' BILL PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE**

**AUGUSTA AP** — With a few changes, the "clean waters" bill rejected after hot debate in the 1955 Legislature was presented anew to the House today.

It was the most stringent of several pollution control bills considered two years ago. Reported adversely by the Natural Resources Committee, the measure was indefinitely postponed.

Sen. Briggs (R-Caribou), then a representative, was the author. This year the bill bears the signature of his House successor—Rep. Brewer (R).

The principal change is addition of a paragraph stating: "It is the intent of the Legislature that this chapter provide a means for gradual, progressive abatement of the pollution
program and that the Water Improvement Commission exercise with moderation the authority and discretion invested in it to the end that no person, municipality or industry suffer grave or irrepairable injury."

Under the "clean waters" bill, discharge of industrial wastes would be deemed a public nuisance, and the WIC could put a halt to either industrial or municipal pollution.

**PROVIDES FOR FINE AND JAIL**

For discharging sewage in violation of a WIC order, the courts could fine anyone up to $1,000 a day or put him in jail a day for each dollar of unpaid fine. Such a jail sentence, however, must be less than a year, in any event.

Industrial wastes discharged after a WIC stop order could bring up to $1,000 a day fines or 60 days in jail. A second offense could mean as much as $5,000 and 11 months in jail.

The bill would authorize cities and towns to issue revenue bonds--outside their municipal debt structure--to build sewage treatment plants. Sewer assessment revenues would retire the bonds.

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**Lewiston Evening Journal Editorial February 27**

**CLEAN WATERS CRUSADERS**

During the latter half of the 19th century and the first two decades of the present century, there was a "public be damned" attitude maintained by many of the nation's major financiers and industrialists. Their consistent intent upon making more millions was one of the basic reasons for the growth of organized labor in the 1930's and the 1940's.

It is distressing to find this same antiquated outlook exists today within an organization that theoretically should be progressive, namely, the Associated Industries of Maine. Yet it was most evident in the remarks of Walter H. Martin, assistant to the director of the AIM, made before an assembly at Farmington State Teachers College.

Martin specifically was discussing the water pollution issue. He said: "The crusaders for 'clean waters' in the Pine Tree State have done more harm to Maine than pollution possibly could. According to Martin, the people who champion a reduction in pollution of streams and lakes already polluted, and prevention of pollution of clean waters, are a deterrent to Maine's industrial growth.

With all due respect to Mr. Martin, the truth of the matter is that a number of industries have decided against coming to Maine because of the lack of clean water on such major waterways as the Androscoggin, Kennebec and Penobscot Rivers. The sooner the AIM and some of the state's major industries start thinking constructively about the pollution problem, instead of constantly attacking all attempts made to solve it, the better off the state and industry will be.

It is discouraging to find Victorian Age thinking prevalent within an organization such as the AIM. We wish the AIM would "aim" higher.
EDUCATION CHIEF, HILL, TO EXPLAIN IT; SAVINGS BANKS INSURANCE BILL

NEW POLLUTION ACT

AUGUSTA, Feb. 27 AP (in part) -- Sen. Briggs' (R-Caribou) "clean waters" bill, defeated in 1955 when Briggs was a representative, reappeared today under the sponsorship of Rep. Brewer (R-Caribou).

Strictest of several anti-pollution measures considered two years ago, the "clean waters" bill would declare dumping of industrial wastes a public nuisance. The Water Improvement Commission could halt either industrial or municipal sewage pollution and impose stiff penalties for willful refusal to comply.

Principal change in the bill as presented this year was addition of a paragraph defining the Legislature's intent as "gradual progressive abatement" of pollution with the WIC using "moderation x x x to the end that no person, municipality or industry suffer grave or irreparable injury."

WANTS STATE TO CONTROL WATER PURITY

AUGUSTA AP -- A bill filed in the House today would give the state control of the purity of drinking water.

Plans for new water systems and purification plants and alterations of existing facilities would have to be submitted to the Dept. of Health & Welfare.

Rep. Carey (D-Augusta), who is mayor of the capital city, presented the bill.

Any municipality, water district or private water company could be required to submit samples for analysis. If the water was found to be polluted, the department could order installation of purifying equipment and issue rules and regulations for adequate use of all purification equipment.

Rep. Hughes (R-St. Albans) filed by request a bill providing that only pasteurized milk could be sold to the State, public hospitals, school lunch programs or charitable and educational institutions supported wholly or in part by state or municipal funds.
PRESS COMMENTS
MARCH, 1957

Lewiston Daily Sun
March 8

"CLEAN WATERS"
BILL HEARING IS
DUE NEXT WEEK

ANTI-POLLUTION MEASURE
EXPECTED TO RESULT IN
PROLONGED SESSION

2 MAJOR TAX BILLS

AUGUSTA, March 7 AP -- Rep. Brewer (R-Caribou) said today his
"clean waters" bill has been assigned for public hearing by the
Natural Resources Committee next Tuesday.

The hearing will start at 1 p.m., EST. If it's anything
like the committee's 1955 hearing on substantially the same anti-
pollution measure, it ought to be good for five or six hours,

at least.

In 1955, the Committee took up together the "clean waters"
and several other pollution bills. The hearing ran until 11 p.m.,
then continued for several hours the next day.

Sponsored then by Rep. Briggs (R-Caribou), who now is a
senator, the "clean Waters" bill was the strictest of several
pollution measures under consideration.

After hot debate in both branches, the measure was in-
definitely postponed.

Lewiston Evening Journal
March 8

MAINE LEGISLATURE
CLOSES 10TH WEEK
WITH LITTLE ACTION

AUGUSTA AP -- The 10th week of the 1957 session of the Maine
Legislature closed yesterday with relatively little action, a
chronic condition in this the 98th session of the body politic.

Horse pulling was the headliner of yesterday's closing
session. A bill to prevent it because its sponsor claimed it
was inhumane met poor reaction from the legislative Agriculture
Committee.

The measure provoked one of the best hearings--from the
spectator's point of view--so far this session as proponents of
the sport claimed the horses love it.

The measure was tabled by its sponsors, Rep. Leathers
(R-Heron), when it appeared back in the House with an adverse
report.

On the docket for next week is a surefire high temper issue.
It will be Caribou's Rep. Brewer's (R) clean waters bill--
in slightly different form of the Briggs Bill which provoked
stormy days at the last session.
Brewer said the hearing will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday.

The bill’s only major change is a clause which would let
stream polluters off the hook if cleaning up their pollution
sources would mean "grave or irreparable injury" to persons,
municipalities or industries.

Lewiston Daily Sun  March 9

SEEK TO DAM FLOW
OF POLLUTION WORDS

COMMITTEE HOPEs TO AVOID
SESSION AT TUESDAY HEARING

AUGUSTA, March 8 AP -- Informal agreement resulted today from
efforts to keep Tuesday’s water pollution hearing from becoming
a marathon, Se. Briggs (R-Caribou) said today.

The hearing on the "Clean Waters Act" before the legis-
slative Natural Resources Committee will start at 1 p.m. The
committee hopes it can be completed without an evening session.

On virtually the same subject two years ago, the hearing
continued all afternoon and evening and part of the following
day. The bill was defeated.

Briggs said a conference today resulted in a tentative
agreement that proponents will limit their presentation to two
hours, and opponents will be invited to do the same, although
Sen. Butler (R-Farmington), the chairman, said he does not want
anyone denied an opportunity to speak.

The bill would declare pollution of water a nuisance and
empower the Water Improvement Commission to order and enforce
abatement. This year’s bill, introduced by Rep. Brewer
(R-Caribou), adds a section stating that it is legislative intent
that pollution abatement be gradual and orderly, and that all
hardship on industry or municipalities be avoided.

Both Brewer and Briggs said proponents will have some
"very interesting" new information for the committee.

Lewiston Evening Journal  March 11

'CLEAN WATERS ACT'
RECEIVES TOP BILLING

AUGUSTA AP -- The Maine Legislature starts its 11th week of
meetings tomorrow with the "Clean Waters Act" heading the list
of committee hearings.

House and Senate meet at 10 a.m. on their 30th legislative
day. The hearing on the big anti-pollution bill, slightly diluted
from the vigorous form in which it appeared—and was defeated—
two years ago, will start at 1:30.

The proponents, headed by Rep. Brewer (R), the sponsor,
and Sen. Briggs (R), both of Caribou, and the opposition have
agreed tentatively to limit their presentations as much as pos-
sible. The Natural Resources Committee hopes to complete the
hearing without an evening session, in contrast to the two-day
The Appropriations Committee will hold two hearings this week on subjects of wide interest--Tuesday on agricultural promotion and Wednesday on problems of the mentally retarded.

Tomorrow at 2:15 p.m. they will hear a proposal for $15,000 grant to find out how much farm land is going unused in Maine. Rep. Bruce (R-Buxton), the sponsor, has said livestock ranchers in the arid grazing lands of the west might move their herds east if more suitable land were available.

At 1:30 Wednesday, the committee will hear a group of bills relating to instruction of the mentally retarded. One would reactivate the Committee on Problems of the Mentally Retarded, and another would establish traveling clinics for diagnosis and to recommend physical and mental treatment for these children.

TUESDAY

Judiciary Committee, 1:30 p.m., Authorizing cities, counties and state agencies to cooperate with each other, with agencies of other states or of the federal government for any purpose they are allowed to undertake individually.

WEDNESDAY

Highways, 1:30 p.m., Authorizing a bond issue to build ferries to be operated between the mainland and Vinalhaven, North Haven, Islesboro and Swans Island; ordering a survey of a Maine-Quebec highway across central Aroostook county; prohibiting "distracting signs" along public ways.

THURSDAY

Liquor Control, 9:30 a.m., Allowing hotels to sell drinks with meals or in guest rooms between 1 and 11 p.m. Sundays; allowing liquor sales by licensees until 1 a.m. daily except Sunday and Monday.

State Government, 10 a.m., Requiring lobbyists to file statements of their fees and expenditures.

Welfare, 10 a.m., Eliminating the requirement that applicants for old age assistance, aid to the blind or aid to the disabled file sworn statements of their income and assets.

Lewiston Evening Journal

'CLEAN WATERS ACT'
HEARING PROCEDURE
TERMED IRREGULAR

by Edward G. Schlick

AUGUSTA -- A decision by the Natural Resources Committee Chairman to allow opponents of the "Clean Waters Act" to testify at a later date, instead of at today's hearing, was attacked as "highly irregular" today.

B. Morton Havey, Executive Director of the Associated Industries of Maine, said the industries were surprised by the early hearing date and have not had time to arrange presentation of their case.

Members were informed in a newsletter that the hearing
came up suddenly and the industry side of the pollution story will be presented later.

Natural Resources Committee Chairman, Sen. Benjamin A. Butler (R-Farmington) said he would not at any hearing prohibit industry from making remarks on any legislation pending before the committee.

The general picture to be presented by industry applies equally to several pieces of legislation and there is no reason for them to have to present almost identical testimony several times, said Butler.

"HIGHLY IRREGULAR"

Sen. James Briggs (R-Caribou), sponsor of the anti-pollution bill at the last session and one of the chief backers at this session, said:

"This is highly irregular. I don't believe industry should be allowed to tear us apart later when we will not have a chance for rebuttal."

He said some persons appearing in favor of the "Clean Waters Act" including the chairman of the Pennsylvania Sanitary Water Board, will not be able to attend later hearings.

"These people come here at their own expense while the representatives of industry come here for their employers and are paid to be here," said Briggs.

The hearing date was moved forward from March 20 to today at the request of the Great Northern Paper Company, which had a meeting on the former date, he said. Proponents of the "Clean Waters Act" were put to considerable trouble to inform supporters of the change in date.

"PLENTY OF TIME"

The bill has been printed for three weeks and is almost identical with the bill presented two years ago, said Briggs.

"The opponents have had plenty of time to prepare their case," he said. "I feel this move is just organized snobbery aimed at cutting us down and trying to make the Committee feel the bill isn't important."

The "Clean Waters Act" is modeled closely after a Penn. law. One of the principal supporters scheduled to appear at the hearing was Henry L. Brownback, of Norristown, Pa., who maintains a residence at Deer Isle. He has been a member of the Pennsylvania Sanitary Water Board for 14 years and is chairman. Brownback, in remarks prepared for the hearing, said he is not in Maine to try and tell the people of Maine what they should or shouldn't do.

"But I can point to a substantial accomplishment in Pennsylvania," he said.

"INDUSTRIAL BOOM"

"Clean up there has greatly aided cities, towns and industry and has created new land values," he said. No recession in Pennsylvania industry has been due to action of the Water Board.

Pennsylvania is enjoying a tremendous industrial boom in great part due to the fact that prospective industries and residents feel assured of a plentiful supply of clean water.

The people in Pennsylvania are pollution conscious and any proposal to weaken the anti-pollution laws would be met with "universal protest," said Brownback.
Pennsylvania passed anti-pollution laws "with teeth" in 1937 and 1945, he said.

The bill's sponsor, Rep. Stanley Brewer (R-Caribou) said the "Clean Waters Act" is entirely feasible. The arguments of the opposition represent "a minority."

"This bill will do the most good for the most people, because it places the health and welfare and economy of the State above everything else."

"HIDE BENEFITS"

Cleanup will cost something, he said, but it is not a "pickerel versus payroll" proposition.

"The true cost can't be measured until you cite the benefits of clean water," he said. "Our opponents hide the benefits and cite only the cost."

Clean water would attract new industry and not force any existing industry to close, he said.

"We have lost industry that has taken a look at the Androscoggin River and said 'That's not for me!'" he said. Briggs, in remarks prepared for the hearing, said the present setup of public hearing and classification by the Legislature is not satisfactory.

"Pressure can be exerted at the hearing and people fear reprisal from the powerful interests," he said. "The only bad thing about this bill, from our opponents' point of view, is that it will do the job of cleaning up Maine's waters."

Lewiston Daily Sun

March 13

OXFORD PAPER
BARS POLLUTION
CONTROL BILL

MIGHT HAVE TO CLOSE UP,
SPOKESMAN DECLARES AT
LEGISLATIVE HEARING

OTHERS PRAISE BILL

AUGUSTA, March 12 AP -- "Any state benefits so greatly by cleaning up its water that it cannot afford not to do it," a member of the Pennsylvania Sanitary Water Board said today.

Henry L. Brownback, of Norristown, who said he spends more time at his Deer Isle, Maine, residence than in his home state, spoke to the legislative Natural Resources Committee for a "clean waters" bill to speed up pollution control.

But the first spokesman for the opposition, Theodore Gonya, counsel for the Oxford Paper Co. of Rumford, told the committee:

"If this law took effect, I can't see how any management that is approaching the problem of pollution abatement could do anything but close their plants."

He said the bill calls for possible jail sentences for continued discharge of pollution, and added: "I don't believe the officers of any company would subject themselves to a jail sentence."
PENNSYLVANIA'S EXPERIENCE

In his experience in Pennsylvania's rapid clean-up of its waters, Brownback said he does not "know of any industry forced out of business by pollution laws."

He likened the condition of a state with a pollution problem to that of a person with an abscess which the doctor says must be opened.

"You have to pay the doctor," he said, "and when he first squeezes it, it hurts like the devil. But after it is over, you're probably a healthier person with a longer life outlook."

The "clean waters" bill, similar in most of its parts to Pennsylvania's law, would replace Maine's present program of long-term improvement of its waters by classification and upgrading. Virtually the same bill was defeated in 1955, but this year's measure eliminates a two-year clause for clean-up and said the aim is "gradual, progressive abatement" without "grave or irreparable injury" to any municipality or industry.

GOOD, SAYS BREWER

Rep. Brewer (R-Caribou), the sponsor, called the measure "good, sound, equitable legislation designed to do the most good for the majority."

He said it would remove a "dangerous health problem," provide an inexpensive source of clean water, attract new industry and provide new recreational facilities.

The opposition comes largely from industry, he said, adding: "In spite of the seeming majority their resources make possible, they are in fact a minority group. They are resisting expenditure much the same as you and I resist some expenditures that are for the public good."

CLEAN WATER GREAT ASSET

Brownback told the committee clean water is one of Maine's greatest assets and will become more important. The first thing industry must have is a clean water supply, he said.

Expenses of the clean-up in Pennsylvania have been repaid "time and time again," he said, by new growth of industry and climbing real estate.

The people who opposed it now admit they were wrong, he said. His state has the same industries as Maine, he said, and they have cleaned up their waste discharge.

JOHN GOULD

"The years roll by, and we still come back again and again for this unrewarding rendezvous with the stinking rivers of Maine," said John Gould, Lisbon author.

"How long x x x will the Legislature take to do something that should have been done years ago? How long will we stink?"

GONYA'S ARGUMENTS

Leading off for the opposition, Gonya said the matter is "too important to delegate to commissioners," as this bill would do. The Legislature has the final word now on stream classification.

He said the bill would declare any discharge of waste a nuisance and thereby give any citizens the right to ask the court for an injunction. It would make every industry an "outlaw," he said.

He added:
"We concede that the public interest is to clean up the waters of Maine in the earliest time consistent for industry to finance its portion and the municipalities and the state to pay for their share. We are looking to the same ultimate objective."

Within two years, he said, classification of Maine waters will be completed; then the Water Improvement Commission "will be in a position to devote its entire time to upgrading, but they will have to come to the Legislature with statistics, costs and methods."

STARCH INDUSTRY

Asa Roach of Houlton, Attorney for the Maine Institute of Starch Manufacturers, said his group has had trouble complying with the orders under the present law, but does not oppose the classification program.

He observed that "a good part of the money you (the Legislature) will appropriate will come from industries here opposing this legislation."

Winfield C. Towne, speaking for Saco-Lowell Shops of Biddeford, said the "legislation now in force has distinctly improved the waters of Maine and I think they will continue to improve."

Frank G. Chapman, executive secretary of the Maine Municipal Assn., opposed the bill but called attention to three anti-pollution measures his organization backs. They would provide a total of $936,000 in state funds, the bulk of it for matching federal and local money for construction of sewage treatment plants.

About $100,000 would be available for technical assistance and surveys of sewage disposal needs.

In rebuttal, Sen. Briggs (R-Caribou), sponsor of a "clean waters" bill in 1955, said:

"We are destroying one of our most valuable resources, and we are going about it wholesale. Recreation may well be one of our prime assets in the future. Defiling the waters is not the way to exploit it."

LEWISTON EVENING JOURNAL

CLAN WATERS BILL
HEARING RUNS OVER
INTO A NIGHT SESSION

AUGUSTA AP -- A Natural Resources Committee hearing on the new Clean Waters Bill, scheduled by gentlemen's agreement to last only a little over four hours, blossomed into a night session yesterday.

Speakers for both sides of the 1957 version of a 1955 bill got lost in rhetoric as they presented their respective views of the watered-down measure's effects.

Leading the proponent's parade before the committee was Pennsylvania Sanitary Water Board member Henry L. Brownback, a seasonal resident of Deer Isle.

Brownback said he did not know of any industry forced out of business by pollution laws" similar to those proposed for Maine in Rep. Brewer's (R-Caribou) bill. They are patterned after the Pennsylvania law.

The measure is similar to that presented at the 1955 session
by Brewer's House predecessor, Sen. Briggs (R-Caribou). Its major change is a softening of the enforcement section in an effort to ease the burden on those forced to abate pollution.

Heading the opponents was Atty. Theodore Gonya, counsel for the Oxford Paper Co. who said:

"I can't see how any management that is approaching the problem of pollution could do anything but close their plants."

Proponents of a $15,000 survey of Maine's vacant farms to entice drought-stricken beef cattlemen to Maine testified before the Agriculture Committee.

Sponsor Rep. Bruce (R-Buxton) said cattle ranchers have moved as far northeast as Pennsylvania for grass while William Pynchon of Gorham pointed out that Maine can offer large quantities of assured water to cattlemen.

Opposing Bruce's proposed survey was the Maine Farm Bureau Federation, represented by John Carter of Bethel who said owners favor letting such farmlands grow back to timber.

Lewiston Daily Sun Editorial March 14

CLEAN WATERS--BUT WHEN?

It isn't very show that can play a return engagement two years later before a full house, but something like that has taken place at the Legislature, where the Natural Resources committee has just held hearings on the so-called Clean Waters bill for pollution abatement.

It was two years ago, but in April, that the same measure, with minor changes, was heard, and this week mostly the same people appeared for and against it. Since it might be expected that proponents would be consistent in their support of the anti-pollution bill, we turned back two years to what industry spokesmen were saying then. And without being surprised, we found that in 1957 they were just as consistent in opposing it.

If anything, their predictions of disaster are more ominous. In 1955, the spokesman for the Oxford Paper Company said that passage of the Clean Waters act would "end industrial development" and lead to the "disintegration and death of most existing industries." This year he has said that if the law passed, managers of industries continuing to pollute Maine streams, even if they were "approaching the problem of pollution abatement," would close their plants rather than go to jail.

We have not yet noticed a repeat of the statement made on behalf of another pulp-paper company two years ago, reminiscent of the famous quote ascribed to Commodore Vanderbilt, that it "was disturbed by the philosophy that discharge of industrial wastes is against public policy." Upon reflection, perhaps it sounded better to take that statement out of the script.

* * * *

But before the people of Maine must admit there seems to be a deadlock here, there are numerous things they need to know. For instance, a member of the Pennsylvania Sanitary Water Board told the hearing in a most impressive way that he didn't know of a single industry forced out of business in his home State by passage of a law which the Clean Waters bill copies in most respects. Is this another case in which Maine is "different," so that we cannot apply here the experience of other parts of the country?
For another thing, since Maine industry claims that anti-pollution progress is being made, how much was made, and in what respects, during the past two years? How much shall we credit the pulp-paper companies with spending in good faith, to abate pollution? How much more will it cost, on the basis of present knowledge, to keep pulp and paper waste from our rivers? With Aroostook in mind, what is done in other parts of the country on starch pollution? Why can't the Water Improvement Commission be assumed to act prudently, in abating pollution, as the language of the law says it must, if the Clean Waters act is passed?

Until the facts are presented, the people are bound to wonder if our rivers will ever be cleaned up. And they are likely to put more credence in the testimony of the Pennsylvania expert than in the dismal death chants of industries that are practicing pollution.

Lewiston Evening Journal  Editorial  March 14

BREWER POLLUTION BILL

The Augusta hearing Tuesday before the legislative Natural Resources Committee on the "clean waters" measure introduced by Rep. Stanley Brewer, Caribou Republican, produced pro and con arguments reminiscent of those heard in previous years. As usual representatives of industrial opposition to the proposed legislation, which is a watered down version of the Pennsylvania anti-pollution law, adopted an almost 100% negative approach to the problem.

This failure on the part of industry to recognize its own responsibility to the people of Maine in efforts to clean up the most seriously polluted rivers in the state is difficult to understand.

One industrial spokesman, in speaking against the Brewer measure, proceeded to emphasize that under the present law the Water Improvement Commission would have to convince the Legislature that any upgrading of a river's classification was warranted. This particular emphasis indicates the weakness of the current law. Under it the Water Improvement Commission will have to prove its case for reclassification of any stream, and the same industrial group that has so resolutely resisted efforts at improvement may be expected to battle with equal tenacity against any reclassification that would result in "cease and desist" orders from the WIC.

The Brewer "clean waters" measure may possibly be too stringent. Perhaps some modifications should be included in it to guard against peremptory and too hasty action by the WIC, under the powers provided for the commission, against both municipalities and industries. The bill as written would enable the commission to order an immediate end to pollution by sewage or industrial waste in instances where the commission considers continued discharge "injurious to the public health, animal or aquatic life, or to the use of the water for domestic or industrial consumption or recreation."

The foregoing powers obviously are broad. Common sense indicates that a number of our larger rivers must retain an "industrial river" classification. Yet such a classification does not mean that any river should be as heavily polluted and as
obnoxious as the local example—the Androscoggin. There is no need for any scientific classification of the Androscoggin from Rumford to its confluence with the Kennebec at Merrymeeting Bay. The smell alone during hot summer weather is sufficient proof of the intolerable amount of pollution in this river.

If the Brewer bill would afford the Water Improvement Commission with too much power, then it must be concluded the present law does not give the commission enough authority. If some limitation is needed in the Brewer bill to permit industries and municipalities to work out an orderly program for cleaning up the more serious instances of stream pollution, then the present law should be tightened to speed up the state's anti-pollution program.

The 98th Legislature should give the state's pollution problem the most serious attention. The reason a bill has been introduced with as many teeth in it as the Brewer bill at this session of the Legislature is due to the fact there has been little disposition shown by the major industrial polluters of the state's rivers to undertake progressive abatement of pollution.

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Lewiston Daily Sun  Letters to the Editor  March 16

CLEAN MAINE'S RIVERS

To the Editor:

A vote of approval, from the taxpayer, on your Clean Waters editorial. If the people of Maine could become aware of the facts in this matter, in terms the layman could understand, I sincerely believe that public approval would force passage of this bill.

As you suggest, let us know just what has been done about the pollution of our rivers, and what progress, if any, is being made. In other words, let us have actual figures, instead of vague statements from both sides involved here.

It would seem to me that in this case ignorance is not bliss. Ignorance is living in a condition of filth, not only offensive to eye and nose, but a menace to health as well.

Let's inform our voters, and let them decide whether Maine is different. Let's keep Maine a vacation land of beauty, our rivers clean. We wouldn't dump our garbage on our lawns, why allow similar disposal in our streams.

Ruth Ann Maxwell
Wilton, Maine  March 14, 1957

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Lewiston Evening Journal  March 21

CHARGE HILLCREST
VIOLATING LICENSE
ON WATER POLLUTION

by Edward C. Schlick

AUGUSTA -- The Maine Water Improvement Commission has found an apparent violation of the water pollution license granted the Hillcrest Poultry Co., and has asked the company to comply with
Hillcrest treasurer Maurice Stein said the pollution situation would definitely not lead to closing the plant or a cut-back on work "unless the Commission comes out with a definite order."

"It's up to them," he said.

Raeburn MacDonald, chief engineer of the WIC, said a license permitting the company to discharge waste into the Androscoggin River through Lewiston Sewers was granted in Nov., 1955.

"However," he said, "the license was subject to the provisions that primary treatment be provided to allow solids to settle so they would not be discharged into the waterway."

"NEVER HEARD"

An inspection made on February 20 this year showed the engineers that Hillcrest is discharging solid waste, such as feathers, blood and parts of chicken carcasses, into the river, he said.

The second provision under which the license was granted was that the company submit plans for the treatment of waste before starting operations at the plant.

"We have never heard from them," said MacDonald.

The recent inspection of the Androscoggin River showed the sanitary engineers solids were being discharged and an inspection of the plant indicated that "apparently" the facilities for waste treatment have never been installed.

"After the recent inspection I wrote the company calling attention to the fact that we did not find facilities for waste treatment," said MacDonald.

WANTS COMPLIANCE

"I asked them to correct this impression if it was a mistaken one," he said.

MacDonald said the commission is only interested at the present time in getting Hillcrest to comply with the provisions under which the license was granted.

"They knew the license existed and they knew the provisions of it before they started to build," he said. "If they didn't like it, why didn't they come to us before they started to build, instead of forcing this situation?"

MacDonald said the attitude of the Commission is to give the company plenty of time to answer the letter and start complying with license. He said if nothing is done the engineers would then make another inspection of the plant.

DOING THE MOST

Stein said he would prefer not to comment on the letter from the Commission, but added that the company will answer it within a few days.

"We are presently doing more to take care of pollution than any other similar plant in the State," he said. "Apparently this is a form letter they send out because I know other companies have received one."

The Hillcrest treasurer said the probable attitude of the company in answering the Commission's letter would be that the company "will make changes to the best of our ability as soon as possible."

Asked what the Water Improvement Commission could do if the company doesn't comply with the license over an extended period
of time, MacDonald said the Commission could obtain an injunction against the company to prevent it from dumping solid waste or could turn the whole matter over to the Attorney General.

TWO TANKS

The plans for facilities to remove the waste will be up to Hillcrest, said MacDonald. He pointed out that the license only requires that the fluid be held at least two hours to allow the solids to settle.

Two tanks, one for use while the other was being cleaned, could cover the license provisions.

Lewiston Daily Sun

March 22

WIC SAYS HILLCREST VIOLATING LICENSE

AUGUSTA -- The Hillcrest Poultry Co. has been asked in a letter from the Maine Water Improvement Commission to start complying with the provisions under which a pollution license was granted.

A recent inspection by WIC engineers turned up alleged violations of the license provisions.

Hillcrest treasurer Maurice Stein said the pollution situation would definitely not lead to closing the plant or a cutback on work "unless the Commission comes out with a definite order."

"It's up to them," he said.

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"We are presently doing more to take care of pollution than any other similar plant in the State," he said. "Apparently this is a form letter they send out because I know other companies have received one."
City Corporation Counsel Philip M. Isaacson told the Lewiston Public Works Board last night the Union Water Power Co. is ready to give the city an easement to use the mill pond for the outfall of the Oak Street storm sewer.

He said the company is satisfied with the conditions met prior to giving the easement. The PWB gave it the green light, and Isaacson also took the matter before the Board of Mayor and Aldermen for final approval.

Isaacson said the company's agreement to the city using the pond amounts to a saving of about one-third of a million dollars.

Two of the conditions which had to be met before the firm granted the land usage were that the city had to get the consent of all six mills using the mill pond and canals, and also obtain a waiver of an archaic law which prohibits dumping water into the river above Androscoggin Falls.

The approval has already come from four mills, and approvals from the remaining two are forthcoming, said Isaacson. A bill to waive the old law has been entered in the Legislature, has been through a committee hearing and seems certain of passage, he added.

**EASEMENT REQUESTS**

Reading parts of the easement to the board, the counsel said the UWP Co. will permit the use of its facilities providing it has the right to construct or maintain any buildings over the sewer canal or over the pond. The firm also reserved the right in the future to fill in the mill pond or do other construction work and ask the city to extend its pipe to the falls.

Isaacson said buildings over the pipe or outlet were structurally feasible, and that the city should go along with the second request as other easements were similar.

In other matters concerning the sewer project, a letter to the board from William B. Skelton, UWP Co. treasurer, requested that an apron be built under the sewer outlet into the mill pond. The letter said the outfall might loosen the bank underneath, causing damage to a masonry wall. The letter was referred to the city engineer and Stewart Associates' engineers.

A bill of $14,896.97 from construction and engineering firms working on the Oak Street sewer project was approved by the board. Board member Frank J. Bussiere questioned paying the engineers for inspecting work, and said the inspections could be done by the city engineer.

**QUESTIONS RULING**

PFD Director George J. Maher said the contract had been let
out calling for an inspector, and the contract would be broken, causing possible penalties if the city did the inspecting. Bussiere felt the city could save some money if the city inspected the work.

New board member Fred E. Spencer asked if previous bills had been approved and when told they had been, moved this bill be approved.

Lewiston contractor and building developer Joseph Bushey questioned the board's ruling of last week that he pay the full cost for sewer extension work on Bushey Circle and Russell Street Extension.

Bushey said the streets had been accepted. He said they had been used for travel prior to the effective date of the new ordinance, and these projects were continuances from before the ordinance went into effect Jan. 13. Bushey Circle was accepted by the city on Jan. 17, but Bushey had petitioned for acceptance last October.

Corporation Counsel Isaacson, asked to interpret the ordinance, said that when a new ordinance is adopted there is bound to be trouble because some projects are continued on a day-to-day basis.

WANTS PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Bushey Circle sewer project is 218 feet and the one on Russell Street Extension is 188 feet. The costs are estimated at $845 and $820. Bushey wants the city to pay half the cost.

Bushey was told to submit a petition for the sewer extensions at the board's next meeting, and the PWB also will be given a chance to think over a decision on these borderline projects. "We have to draw the line somewhere," said board member Phil H. Roy.

During organizational proceedings at the start of the board meeting, Joseph E. Croteau was elected board chairman, Bussiere objected to the election since senior board member Joseph Fortin was not present.

Roy said Fortin had declined the position. Croteau said he would take the job until Fortin returns from vacation, and would leave the matter up to the board at that time. Fortin was elected secretary.

Bussiere also opposed setting up the one public meeting the first Monday of each month, and stated that all meetings should be open to requests from the public. "I'm willing to give my time," he said.

"I appreciate your point of view," Roy said, but he added that he had not heard any complaints about the way the board is operating now. Croteau said, "Let the ruling stand. If a man has an urgent complaint, he can come in anytime."

"You're playing the field. I'm working for the board," Roy told Bussiere. "I'm a public servant, and you are too," said Bussiere.

Some objected that the board sessions would be too lengthy if all were public. Maher said the city charter calls for only one public meeting.

Bussiere voted in opposition to Roy's motion that the PWB continue its meetings as usual, and hold one public meeting the first Monday of each month unless otherwise called by the chairman. This motion was passed, and Bussiere's later motion for all public sessions failed for lack of a second, and was dropped.

The PWB adopted its current working rules, also over Bussiere's objections. Referring to one rule, the argumentative member said PWD employees should not be suspended by the director
prior to review by the board.

EXTEND WASTE SERVICE

He said the employes should be allowed to work until the action is brought before the board. Roy said letting the man work four or five days until the board meets "is not fair." Bussiere said, "The union may step in, and we will have trouble."

He also objected to the rule that information or a statement concerning the PWD to the press or radio may be made only by the director. All the rules were adopted to continue until amended, with Bussiere voting in the negative.

Appearing before the board, Joseph Blais requested a water service extension on Charles Street. The extension would run 175 feet, and Blais said he was willing to pay the added expense for extending the line beyond 100 feet in order to get the service to the house. The job was approved by the board. Blais also asked that road repairs for Stuart Street be investigated.

Assistant Director Lucien L. Bilodeau reported the requested waste collection extension on Old Greene Road would mean an added mile for 11 houses. He said it would be feasible in the summer, but the trucks would have no place to turn around in the winter. The board granted service from April 1 to Dec. 1 according to the weather.

ASKS FOR ORDINANCE

Maher told the PWB that an ordinance was needed to compel building wrecking crews to put masonry plugs in the sewers before they start tearing down structures. He said the considerable dirt caused by the wrecking was giving the city sewer trouble. The board agreed.

Several sidewalk repair jobs were referred to the sidewalk committee. They were at 10, 12 and 14 White St., 58 Rosedale St. and 400 College St. Bussiere also asked that sidewalk repair at Beacon and Walnut streets be investigated. There were street light requests for Upper Main Street and Charles Street.

A request came from the city fathers asking the PWB for recommendations on the present status of roads near the turnpike for discontinuance or acceptance. This was referred to the street committee and the director for investigation. Bussiere requested that "two bad holes" on Walnut street be repaired. Maher said temporary patches could be put in. Maher also said a faulty catch basin on Nichols Street would be repaired.

Chairman Croteau made the following committee appointments: Streets, Bussiere and Spencer; sidewalks, Roy and Fortin; street lights, Croteau. The PWB voted to take weekly inspection tours of PWD projects.

Lewiston Daily Sun

March 22

SEWER EASEMENT FROM UWP CO.
TO CITY OKAYED BY ALDERMEN

A big technical obstacle in the construction of the $285,000 Oak Street relief sewer project was surmounted last night when the Lewiston Board of Mayor and Aldermen approved an easement allowing the city to dump runoff water into the Union Water Power Co.'s mill pond.
The easement, a lengthy document explained by City Corporation Counsel Philip M. Isaacson is dated back to November to eliminate any possible legal entanglements involving trespassing on the part of the city. Samuel Aceto & Co. construction workers already have laid the 66-inch pipe across UWP Co. land off Chapel Street Alley.

The agreement, described as "reasonable" by the corporation counsel, was approved earlier in the evening by the Board of Public Works.

It contains two major conditions. One is that the company reserves the right to construct a building on land atop the pipe at any later date. Should the pipe be in the way, it would have to be moved at city expense.

The easement requires the city to alter the location of the pipe across the company land, also at city expense, if conditions should warrant such measures at some future date. In explanation, Isaacson said that suppose the company filled in the mill pond at some time? Then the city would be required to extend the pipe across the floor of the pond to a spot where it could dump into the river.

Isaacson also told the board that legislation aimed at surmounting a law passed in 1880, making it illegal to dump sewerage above the falls, is expected to win approval.

The only legal entanglements remaining to be ironed out in connection with the big sewer project involve the obtaining of permission to use mill pond and the canal waters for a dumping off point from six mills using the waters. Permission from four has been received, he said, and the other two have assured him the green light will be forthcoming in the near future.

Lewiston Evening Journal

MUSKIE SIGNS EMERGENCY LEWISTON BILL ALLOWING WATER DUMPING IN RIVER

An emergency measure allowing the City of Lewiston to dump excess water into the Androscoggin River above the Lewiston Falls—prohibited by an 1880 State Law—has been signed by Gov. Edmund S. Muskie.

Gov. Muskie signed the bill on March 1, but the action had escaped attention until today. The emergency clause in the bill authorized it to go into effect as soon as it was signed.

If the bill—which allows the city to extend a 66-inch surface water relief drain pipe to the river, making its entrance at the Union Water Power Co., mill pond off Chapel St.—had not passed the city might have been held up in the construction of the Oak St., relief sewer system.

And several thousands of dollars of work have already gone into the project. The Chapel St., portion of the drain has been completed and the Samuel Aceto Co., of Portland, the contractor, is now working on the section which takes the drain under Main St.

The bill provides for the authorization for the city to "lay and maintain a 66-inch surface water relief drain in such a fashion that the contents of same shall be discharged into said river above the dam at Lewiston Falls in the Mill Pond of the Union Water Power Company."
The measure was presented to the Legislature by Rep-Mayor Georges Rancourt.

If the bill had not passed and received the governor's signature, it could have necessitated the construction of a sewer system all the way down Maine St., to a point below the falls.

The old laws were initiated because of the fact that ice cutting operations above the dam in the late 1880's were hampered by the pollution of the water and refuse thrown into the river.

No ice has been cut in that area for several years now.

Lewiston Daily Sun

GONYA MISQUOTED
ON POLLUTION REPORT

OXFORD CO. COUNSEL GAVE VIEWS
ON PENALTIES, NOT ABATEMENT

AUGUSTA, March 24 AP -- Theodore E. Gonya, Oxford Paper Co. counsel, said today he was talking about penalties for violations, and not about pollution abatement itself, in statements opposing the proposed "clean waters act."

Gonya was quoted as telling the legislative Natural Resources Committee March 12:

"If this law took effect, I can't see how any management that is approaching the problem of pollution abatement could do anything but close their plants."

He was quoted further: "I don't believe the officers of any company would subject themselves to a jail sentence."

The quotation by The Associated Press contained words which were incorrect.

These were Gonya's words, recorded mechanically:

"Section 25, the penalties, on the face of them are probably what the proponents are hoping this Legislature might enact. They are such penalties that if this law goes into effect I cannot see how any management of any company in Maine that is approaching a problem of violation could do anything but close their plant.

"Now certainly when you get up to periphery questions under this law no officer or board of directors of my company or any other company are going to subject themselves to the possibility of a jail sentence. I think I know the management of large industries in the State of Maine well enough to know that. They will stop long before that and if they have to stop production they will stop production, but they are not going to play around with penalties of this kind."

Lewiston Daily Sun

INDUSTRIES FAVOR PLAN
ON POLLUTION

PROVIDES FUND TO AID MUNICIPALITIES
CURB SEWAGE NUISANCES

GET FEDERAL AID
AUGUSTA, March 27 AP — A bill to provide more than $800,000 in state aid for abatement of municipal sewage pollution was unopposed today in public hearing.

It was the key measure in what would be, if adopted, the state's first program of actual pollution reduction. The proposals came from the Maine Municipal Assn. and were introduced by Rep. Browne (R-Bangor).

Two companion measures providing machinery and funds for state aid in planning surveys and design of sewage systems were opposed by engineers and architects, but only on the ground they might encroach on private enterprise. The principle of state aid was not challenged.

The grants in aid would be tied into a federal aid program. Under the bill the state would provide 20 per cent, the municipality or sewer district 50 per cent and the federal government 30 per cent of the cost of interceptor lines, treatment plants and outfall.

Maine's present pollution program consists chiefly of classifying waters according to their present pollution load and policing against additions to the load. Classification work is nearly finished, and the next step in the program could be a clean-up effort.

Frank O. Chapman, executive secretary of the MMA, told the legislative Appropriations Committee the $418,000 a year the main bill would provide would mean a total expenditure of around $2,100,000 on sewage pollution abatement.

"I believe if this were passed, all the money under this and the federal bill would be taken up," he said.

The federal portion would be $627,000 a year.

He said the two million would solve "a very small part" of the problem. Augusta alone, for example, could spend 3½ million, he said.

The federal legislation contemplates a 10-year program, but appropriations are for one year at a time. If the money is not used it might be cut off, he said, and "a golden opportunity would be lost to us."

Walter H. Martin put the Associated Industries of Maine behind the measure.

A town which pays for sewage treatment is helping downriver towns more than itself, he said, and thus "it is in the realm of justice for the state to participate."

The two other measures would provide $100,000 in state funds for planning surveys and for technical assistance and advice to the communities and districts.

Chapman said the towns or districts to obtain this aid would have to give evidence they planned to carry out abatement.
Lewiston Evening Journal

UNANIMOUSLY OPPOSE MEASURE
TO PERMIT SAVINGS BANKS TO
ENGAGE IN INSURANCE BUSINESS
(in part)

Rep. Quinn's bill to suspend accumulation of penalties during appeals from conviction of water pollution violations was endorsed by the Natural Resources Committee. For some such offenses, the law provides that each day of violation is a separate infraction.

Lewiston Daily Sun

"CLEAN WATERS"
BILL FINDS NO MAJOR PROTESTS

GUILFORD SELECTMAN SAYS
ALL TOWNS EVENTUALLY TO
HAVE SEWAGE PLANTS

CRAM URGES CAUTION

AUGUSTA, April 9 AP -- Piecemeal objections were raised today to a bill to classify some 12,000 miles of Maine waters as to permissible pollution content.

But no speakers before the legislative Natural Resources Committee objected to all to the bill or its principles.

Although the hearing was called primarily to hear opponents, Donald Campbell, Guilford selectman, told the committee he favors it and that "every town in Maine" someday will have a sewage treatment plant "because the public is going to demand it."

Industial Consultant Bartlett Cram told the committee, however:
"If we allow this sort of classification to run unchecked, many towns might as well put up signs saying, 'We can't take a lot of new industries.'"

He advocated that any town that wants it be allowed a "D" classification for streams running through. This classification means that the water is used primarily for transportation of waste, short of nuisance conditions.

Many of the industries most desirable for Maine--metal working and electronics--have metal plating processes, he said. It is so expensive to purify their processing water that they wouldn't come to Maine if the law required this, Cram said.

REFERS TO S. PARIS TANNERY

He said the world's most modern tannery would never have been built in South Paris had the owners known the Little Androscoggin River would be upgraded there, Cram said.
Rep. Brewer (R-Ft. Fairfield) noted that Maine tanneries are competing successfully with those elsewhere subject to more stringent pollution laws, Cram said this is so, but that the cost still is a major factor here.

"Don't you think industry owes something to Maine to keep its house in order?" asked Chairman Butler (R-Farmington).

"Yes, if it is within economic possibility," Cram said.

The bill being heard would add some 400 specific waters to the 17,000 miles already classified by the Water Improvement Comm. and the Legislature.

The majority of the classifications would be "B-1" or "B-2", suitable for recreational purposes or drinking, after proper treatment.

John H. Barclay of Livermore Falls spoke for the Maine Federated Labor Council in a general discussion of pollution control. He said the federation is "unalterably opposed to any legislation which will disrupt the present established and orderly program of pollution control through stream classification."

Today's hearing was on classification of the Penobscot, Kennebec and Androscoggin River watersheds excluding the lower reaches of the rivers.

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Lewiston Evening Journal Editorial April 10

UNSOUND POLLUTION ARGUMENT

Industrial Consultant Bartlett Cram declared at a hearing before the legislative Natural Resources Committee Tuesday that any town so desiring should be permitted a Class D rating for streams running through it. If this recommendation is followed, the present classification system designed to provide the State of Maine with clean waters will be completely valueless.

In support of his contention, he stated that failure to provide such leniency inevitably would cause outside industries interested in moving to Maine to lose that interest. Specifically he declared: "If we allow this sort of classification to run unchecked, many towns might as well put up signs saying 'We can't take a lot of new industries.'"

Let's take a look at what Class D represents. The statutes on this read in part as follows:

"Class D waters, the lowest classification, shall be considered as primarily devoted to the transportation of sewage and industrial wastes without the creation of a nuisance condition and such waters shall contain dissolved oxygen at all times . . ."

The logical question follows: "Do Maine towns generally desire to approve stream conditions of this type?" To do so amounts to accepting the principle of an open sewer running through a community, with nuisance conditions readily resulting in periods of slack water, high temperatures and loss of oxygen.

Many Maine industries have supported the classification system, preferring this approach to meeting the state's pollution problem to more stringent regulations of the type now prevailing in many states. Mr. Cram's argument suggests some industries are unwilling to go along with the very plan they approved.

Obviously a classification system will mean nothing if the upgrading of badly polluted waters is to be disapproved.
"CLEAN WATERS" PROPONENT TO ADDRESS ENGINEERS SATURDAY

"Industries in Clean Waters" will be the subject of an address by Walter H. Martin, assistant to the director of the Associated Industries of Maine, at Saturday's joint meeting of the Maine Section, American Society of Civil Engineers and the Maine Association of Engineers, at the Elm Hotel in Auburn. His address will be preceded by dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Martin has a wide background in the editorial and public relations field, having served as Associated Press editor at Portland, Boston, Pittsburgh, and as State House correspondent at Augusta.

A registered Maine guide more than 17 years, he also served as a member of the 97th Legislature. He was a member of the Natural Resources Committee which made recommendations on pollution bills. In addition, he has done some free-lance writing.

The meeting announcement was made by Clyde N. Manwell, public relations committee, Maine Section, ASCE.

Lewiston Daily Sun

WHO WANTS POLLUTED RIVERS?

In the excellent Bowdoin College bulletin, "Maine Economic Development and the Community Survey," which we commented on recently, there is this reference to pollution of the State's water resources:

"The importance of water as a natural resource has already been indicated... Recently there has been added concern for our river resources as a potential source of clean water, a situation that does not now exist. The attainment of this necessary condition for our long-term industrial and resort growth is one that demands the greatest cooperation between industrial firms, local communities, the State and the Federal Government..."

But when the Natural Resources committee held a hearing on classification of the Androscoggin, Kennebec, and Penobscot watersheds in Augusta on Tuesday, Bartlett Cram, an industrial consultant once connected with the old Maine Development commission, arose to protest.

Remember that the classification bills only attempt to stabilize pollution at its present level. They are not intended to clean up rivers that are now clogged with waste; the intent is merely to keep the situation from becoming any worse. Yet Mr. Cram, who should have learned differently when he was trying to attract industry here as an MDC agent, said that if rivers are classified, their towns might as well put up signs saying that "a lot of new industries" can't be accommodated.

We are confident that Mr. Cram speaks only for the pollutionists of Maine, and they are relatively few in number. But he ought to be challenged to name the metal-working or electronics company which he said wouldn't come to Maine if it had to conform to an anti-pollution law. He ought to be challenged to obtain from A.C. Lawrence & Company at South Paris confirmation of his statement that the big tannery never would have located there had
it known the river nearby would be upgraded.
What he does is to impute to some existing and potential Maine industries a callous disregard of the public welfare which we are not convinced exists.

Lewiston Evening Journal
April 15

CLAIM 'CLEAN WATERS'
DRIVE HAS CREATED
HARDSHIP FOR INDUSTRY

Members of the Maine Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers and Maine Association of Engineers were told Saturday evening that the "clean waters" drive has created hardships for industry.

The speaker was Walter H. Martin, assistant to the director of the Associated Industries of Maine. Speaking at the Elm Hotel he said the paper companies were experiencing hardships as a result of the river nuisance abatement program operated by Dr. Walter A. Lawrance of Bates College.

He said the program is not working out too well. Dr. Lawrance, as rivermaster, tells the firms when they can manufacture wood pulp during the summer months.

He explained that in the past 10 years the U.S. paper production has doubled while the pollution load has been cut in half.

Lewiston Daily Sun
April 17

INDUSTRIES CRITICAL
OF POLLUTION BILL

CONTEND WIC "CIRCUMVENTS"
INTENT OF ANTI-POLLUTION LAW

AUGUSTA, April 16 AP -- A spokesman for the Associated Industries of Maine said today his group believes the Water Improvement Commission has "circumvented the clear provisions and intent" of the anti-pollution law in its current water classification proposals.

Sanford L. Fogg, counsel for the AIM, spoke to the legislative Natural Resources Committee today, following a meeting earlier of the organization's Stream Improvement Committee.

He said the WIC in its new proposal "recommended upgrading of many waters x x x without including in its recommendations any direct information relating to methods, costs and the setting of time limits for compliance x x x."

These are required by the classification law, and are necessary before the Legislature can evaluate the legislation and its implications, Fogg said.

The committee chairman, Sen. Butler (R-Farmington), referred to the WIC detailed report, however, and asked Fogg whether he understood that many of the "upgrading" proposals actually reflected only the present conditions of the water.

"I don't think we could quarrel," Fogg said, "if the recom-
mended classifications corresponded with the present quality and use of the water."

Fogg said in his statement, however, that the approximately 390 proposed classifications include 108 which the Stream Improvement Committee believes constitute upgrading over the present quality of the water.

The law contemplates classification of all Maine waters as to permissible degree of pollution.

If the WIC recommendations are adopted, Fogg said, "you are making outlaws of all persons and entities on those streams where upgrading is recommended, immediately when this law takes effect."

Although the WIC spoke of these classifications as goals for the future, he said, once they are in effect the WIC has no choice but to enforce them.

Lewiston Daily Sun

WASHINGTON, MERRY-GO-ROUND

SHERIM ADAMS TRIED TO BLOCK ANTI-POLLUTION FUND;
ONCE MANAGED WASTE-DUMPING PULP-PAPER FIRM

by Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON -- In the current scramble to cut the budget, the House almost chopped off the annual $50,000,000 grant to American communities to keep waste and sewage out of their drinking water. Behind the close vote is an untold story of industrial lobbying and pressure direct from the White House.

Opposition to the grant came from the powerful chemical, pulp and paper manufacturers which dump their factory waste into the nation's streams. Federal aid to clean up municipal pollution, they feared, would eventually focus attention on industrial pollution.

As a result, these firms launched a virtual let-them-drink-sewage campaign that reached all the way into the White House. No less than Assistant President Sherman Adams pulled strings to kill the anti-sewage appropriation. Adams used to be manager of the Parker-Young Co., now the Franconia Paper Co., one of New England's important pulp and paper producers. He is also a life director of the Northeast Lumber Manufacturers Association, before which he spoke in Boston last week.

Adams worked through Republican leaders on Capitol Hill to line up a majority of Republicans against the $50,000,000 matching funds which the federal government would extend to cities to help them build sewage-disposal plants. It's interesting to note that during the 1956 campaign, Republican literature took credit for this $50,000,000-a-year program "to purify streams and other water sources which otherwise," they said, "might endanger the health of the public."

TEXAS SABOTAGE

Actually, the program was authored by Minnesota's Congressman John Blatnik, a Democrat, though many Republicans voted for it.
Thanks to White House pressure, however, a large majority of Republicans went back on their campaign boast and voted in favor of continued sewage dumping in the nation's rivers.

The victorious amendment to kill the appropriation, however, was not introduced by Republicans but by two Texas Democrats—O. Clark Fisher of San Angelo and Omar Burleson of Anson. Ironically, their districts are collecting almost half of the federal money allotted to Texas right now to clean up drinking water.

In Burleson's district, the Sweetwater sewage system was so antiquated and overloaded that raw sewage seeped into a tributary of the Brazos River. This supplies drinking water for Abilene and Dyess Air Force Base. In Sweetwater, itself, the water is no longer sweet but contaminated by the town's own sewage.

However, this is now in the process of being remedied, thanks in part to funds voted for Texas by the federal government. Water is so scarce in Fisher's district that his constituents want to irrigate with the discharge from the San Angelo sewage treatment plant.

Of the $1,700,000 allotted to Texas for sewage treatment this year, Burleson's district is receiving $500,000 and Fisher's will get $266,200. However, their pollution problems are on the way to being solved by the program the two congressmen fought so hard to sabotage in Washington.

These two Texans, fronting for coalition, succeeded in defeating sewage disposal on an unrecorded or teller vote. This is a vote whereby congressmen merely file past a teller who records the number voting but does not record the names.

Later, Speaker Sam Rayburn who has been doing more to pass important items in the Eisenhower budget than any Republican, required a roll-call, or recorded vote. This time, Republicans did not want to vote for sewage—publicly. Enough switched over to the Democrat-Eisenhower side to reinstate the $50,000,000.

Lewiston Daily Sun April 24

HILLCREST REPLACES MACHINE TO SOLVE POLLUTION TROUBLE

AUGUSTA -- The Hillcrest Poultry Co. has straightened out its difficulties with the Maine Water Improvement Commission.

The commission, after an inspection of the grounds of the plant and the Androscoggin River, recently came to the conclusion that the company was not meeting the terms under which a pollution license was granted.

Hillcrest Official John J. Maloney Jr. met recently with the commission and said that the solid material being discharged into the sewer and river was the result of the failure of machinery within the plant. He showed the commission a telegram from the manufacturer of the machine saying a replacement was on the way. "The new unit is now at the plant and is being installed," Maloney said last night.

The machine separates the solid chicken waste from the liquid. The feathers go into one truck and the other solid waste into another. The solids are sold for nitrate and are used in fertilizer.

Maloney said the machine is similar to that being used in other modern poultry processing plants in Maine and is guaranteed by the manufacturer.
Hillcrest was not aware that the device was operating in a faulty manner until it heard from the commission, he said.

The pollution license granted to the firm before the plant was constructed in Lewiston stipulated that a certain amount of the solids be removed from the discharge and that the company notify the commission of the manner in which it planned to do this.

Lewiston Evening Journal

SAIDS MAINE HAS MADE
GREAT PROGRESS ON
POLLUTION PROBLEM

BIDDEFORD AP-- An assistant to the director of Associated Industries of Maine said today Maine has made "remarkable" progress in the control of water pollution and that Maine municipalities and industries are not "dragging their heels" in progress toward clean waters.

Walter H. Martin told Biddeford-Saco Rotarians, that Maine, in six years, will have classified approximately 90 per cent of her surface waters compared with 50 per cent in 10 years in New Hampshire.

Martin criticized what he called "a few zealous people who are trying to high pressure the legislature and the Water Improvement Commission into adopting unwise and unrealistic methods which would not speed up pollution control but would injure the state seriously."
AUGUSTA AP -- The Maine House today defeated by a 95-23 standing vote the "clean waters" bill to speed a clean-up of polluted waters.

The vote for indefinite postponement of Rep. Brewer's (R-Caribou) bill came after nearly an hour's debate, in which Brewer said progress in pollution abatement "has been spectacular, but perhaps not in the right direction."

Several opponents of the measure said the bill might work against the state's efforts to attract new industry and hold those already here.

"You can't tax them on the one hand and suddenly take away important privileges on the other," said Rep. Heald (R-Union).

HEALD OPPOSED

Heald was one of eight signers of an "ought not to pass" report from the Natural Resources Committee. Brewer and Rep. Burnham (R-Kittery) signed a minority favorable report.

Brewer told the House his "clean waters" bill would "gently but firmly lead the way out of our present mess."

"The present (classification) law," he said, "is ineffectual, unfair and subject to extreme pressures from industry. Relatively small amounts spent over the next 10 or 15 years under the guidance of the clean waters act would repay the state in many ways.

"It would remove a health problem, provide clean waters for industry and for municipalities, and would offer recreation areas closer to home and improve the value of land along our waterways."

REPORTS PROGRESS

Rep. Williams (R-Hodgdon) said progress against pollution is being made under the present law and Water Improvement Commission had made a "commendable showing." He said the present approach is "the orderly way to correct a situation which has been building up for a hundred years."

Heald said the clean waters bill is a copy of a Pennsylvania law and it is "folly" for Maine to try to copy that, with its price tag in that state of six million dollars.

He said the Maine Municipal Assn. State Chamber of Commerce, industry and organized labor oppose the measure.

Rep. Allen (R-Chelsea) said the bill would be damaging to cities and towns and would give the WIC too much power over local spending.

The House did not reach the point of taking action on another bill which would classify some 15,000 more miles of Maine waters.

The committee favored that bill 9-1.

Brewer stood alone in opposition to the redrafted classification bill, sponsored by Saunders and written by the Water Improvement Commission.

The redraft downgraded a number of streams from the classi-
The "clean waters" bill would in effect declare all pollution a nuisance and demand immediate steps to abate it.

Lewiston Daily Sun

CLEAN WATERS BILL "WATERED;"
LEGISLATORS DIDN'T KNOW IT

by Edward C. Schlick

AUGUSTA -- The House yesterday bought a pig in a poke when it approved a redraft of a bill classifying about 12,000 miles of Maine streams.

An attempt to keep the original bill alive was defeated by a vote of 34 to 39 and probably the most outstanding feature of the vote was that few, if any, of the legislators on either side knew what they were voting on.

The redraft was reported out of committee late last week, turned up on the calendar this morning and was promptly accepted by the House. Most legislators freely admitted they had made no detailed comparison between the original bill and the redraft before voting.

The present pollution law, passed in 1953, requires the Water Improvement Commission to make recommendations to each Legislature on classifying Maine waters "based on reasonable standards of quality and use."

Since then the Legislature has classified about 17,500 miles of streams—most of them clear wilderness streams involving no pollution problems. The bills considered at this session include about 4,000 miles of streams where industrial, private, institutional and municipal pollution is a problem.

Industry lobbyists said that streams could not be classified above their present condition but the attorney general has pointed out that the Legislature can legally ungrade the streams and the WIC effect gradual clean-ups.

However, the redraft of the classification bill not only avoids any controversial upgrading but in many cases puts a "letter" on the stream that would allow additional pollution.

DOWNGRADING

In the original bill, the WIC recommended that the present grade of the stream or coastal water be accepted in most cases. One hundred five streams or parts of streams were recommended for improvement.

After the bill was rewritten in committee, it accepted about 37 of the upgradings, rejected about 43 of them and in about 25 cases asked for a downgrading of the section of the stream.

While most of the House members aren't aware of it, they yesterday voted approval of a bill which in some cases will permit the dumping of more pollution than is being dumped now.

To give a few examples:

The present condition of the Lake Auburn outflow ranges from B-2 to C and the WIC and the original classification bill recommend that the outflow be placed in a class of B-1. This would have required private sewage disposal units for about 30 buildings.
MECHANIC FALLS

The redraft, as approved by the House yesterday, not only turns down the recommended B-1 class but puts the entire outflow in Class C—thus downgrading sections of it from the present B-2 to C.

Range Brook and its tributaries in Mechanic Falls and Poland is presently at a B-1 to C level of pollution. The WIC and the original bill recommended a class of B-1 which would have required control of sources of private and hotel pollution "for the benefit of the Mechanic Falls water supply."

The redraft accepted yesterday slaps a C classification on the entire stream, thus downgrading sections of it from B-1 to C.

Wilson Stream, main stem, from the outlet of Wilson Pond to Annabassacook Lake, presently ranges from class C to D. The original bill recommended a classification of C. This would have required treatment of felt mill waste. The redraft of the bill puts the stream entirely in class D—thus downgrading sections of it from C to D.

REJECT IMPROVEMENT

Similar examples of downgrading in all parts of the State are scattered throughout the redraft.

In many of the cases where the upgrading was crossed out in the redraft and the present level of pollution authorized, it would probably be difficult for the committee to justify it.

To give a few examples:

Sevenmile Stream (Jay) is now at C level of pollution. The WIC and the original bill recommended a B-2 class which would require the installation of private sewage disposal systems for about 20 houses in North Jay. The redraft of the bill rejects this and retains the C classification.

FEW CHANGES

Sabattus River from Sabattus Lake to the limits of the Lisbon urban area now has class C pollution. The WIC recommended class B-2 which would require control of sewage discharges at Sabattus Village. The redraft retains the C classification.

Similar examples are scattered throughout the redraft.

Of the about 37 cases of upgrading or improvement recommended about 10 represent no improvement at all. These are streams which are "naturally" polluted from soil conditions. Nothing can be done about this and the "upgrading" is merely to prevent future man-made pollution which would make the streams extremely offensive.

Some of the other upgradings would require improvements in pollution caused by the VA Hospital at Togus, Loring Air Force Base and the Maine State Prison. Others involve a few small towns and private homes along streams.

LITTLE INDUSTRY

The only industry involved in the upgrading is apparently several woodworking plants near Anson, a canning factory and tannery near Hartland, and a slaughterhouse near Caribou. Some minor adjustments would be required in seepage from several canning factory waste screenings.

If the redraft of the classification bill passes, the legislators will have a hard time convincing the voters next year that they did anything to improve the condition of Maine's streams. There was no roll call vote on the bill.
LEGISLATORS UNINFORMED

The Maine House has approved a redraft of a measure covering classification of some 12,000 miles of Maine streams. The vote was 84-39.

In the original bill the Water Improvement Commission recommended the present classification of most streams and coastal water be maintained. In 105 instances the Commission urged upgrading of streams or sections of streams.

The redrafted measure made a travesty of the WIC recommendations, which are the result of studies made by presumably competent engineers. Here is what the redraft did to the WIC suggestions on upgrading: rejected 43, accepted 37 and requested lower classification or downgrading in 25 instances.

This lowering of classification occurred with respect to Lake Auburn's outflow, which is currently rated between B-2 to C. The original recommendation of the Commission was that this be upgraded to B-1. The redraft advocated a downgrading to a flat C level.

What is particularly distressing about the vote in the House is the fact that contact by a representative of this newspaper after the voting revealed many of the legislators did not know what they had been voting on other than that it pertained to classification of Maine streams. They were totally unaware the redrafted bill included numerous downgrading changes.

Thus the House voted approval of a measure which in no way will advance Maine in its effort to secure clean waters, and which will encourage greater pollution in some waters.

The saying "ignorance is bliss" is not a happy one when it involves a state Legislature. We believe legislators ought to know what they are voting on before approving or disapproving a measure of real importance. The action of the House on the water classification bill makes us wonder just how much information on other key measures state legislators will have as they cast their votes.

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TWO ANTI-POLLUTION
BILLS ARE REJECTED

HOUSE ACCEPTS REDRAFT OF
WATER CLASSIFICATION BILL

AUGUSTA, May 7, AP -- The Maine House today spurned two efforts to speed up the state's anti-pollution program and accepted a redrafted water classification bill containing little, if any, upgrading.

Rep. Brewer's (R-Caribou) "clean waters act" was rejected for the second time in two years, this time by a 95-23 standing vote, a wider margin than in 1955.

The House also voted against Rep. Saunders' (D-Bethel) attempt to revive the original water classification bill, which would have upgraded numerous streams.

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The House also voted against Rep. Saunders' (D-Bethel) attempt to revive the original water classification bill, which would have upgraded numerous streams.

It accepted a redraft which the Natural Resources Committee
recommended by a 9-1 vote, with only Rep. Brewer dissenting.

Classification places waters in one of five classes ranging from drinking water purity to that suitable only for transportation of waste.

Saunders, who had signed the favorable report on the re-draft, urged substitution of the original bill in a move that took most of the House by surprise.

he said the committee had felt it was "necessary to do away with some of the more serious objections" to the original, and had downgraded some of the stream classifications the Water Improvement Commission had proposed.

Then, he said, other WIC recommendations were thrown out, "just because some of the members did not feel it was necessary to upgrade to prevent pollution."

Saunders charged that several WIC recommendations made to protect public water supplies were disregarded.

In northern Maine, he said, a tuberculosis sanatorium "empties sewage into the upper branches of a city's water supply. The water is chlorinated, but it is possible for germs to exist with this amount of chlorination."

Upgrading would take place over a period of years, he said, but "it is necessary to start planning in order to eventually reach a goal."

Rep. Heald (R-Union) said the committee upgraded where "no one would be hurt too much, and where we got objections from municipalities and industry we did not upgrade."

Saunders' motion to substitute the original bill for the committee report failed by an 84-39 margin.

The bill would complete the classification of about 90 percent of Maine's 35,000 miles of waters.

Brewer's "clean waters" bill would declare all water pollution a nuisance and give the WIC authority to order abatement. The bill said gradual abatement was the intent, however, and that no municipality or industry should be subjected to serious financial injury.

Lewiston Daily Sun

SEN. BRIGGS FIGHTS FOR POLLUTION BILL

HOPES TO RESCUE ORIGINAL WATER CLASSIFICATION MEASURE

AUGUSTA, May 8 AP -- Sen. Briggs (R-Caribou), foe of water pollution and those who cause it, said today he will try to rescue the original water classification bill from oblivion when it reaches the Senate.

The House passed to the engrossment stage today a re-draft which downgraded many of the classifications proposed in the original by the Water Improvement Commission.

Rep. Saunders' (D-Bethel) effort to substitute the original bill for the report was beaten yesterday and the House today refused an amendment by Rep. Brewer (R-Caribou) to revise upon the proposed classification of parts of the Aroostook River and the Caribou Stream.

The bill would establish classifications—according to the
permissible amount of pollution—on some 15,000 more miles of Maine streams. This would complete the classification of about 90 per cent of the state's 35,000 miles of rivers, streams, lakes, and ponds.

Briggs said he was "very disappointed in the new draft," There remains only a "limited time to come out of the Legislature with any favorable action on water pollution abatement at all," he said.

He said he will try to persuade the Senate to take the action the House refused to take yesterday at Saunders' request—substitution of the bill for the report.

The House defeated by a 73-61 roll call vote Brewer's attempt to raise the Caribou Stream classification from D to C and that of the Aroostook River section above the town from D to B-1. Class D is the "transportation of waste" classification.

The stream is Caribou's drinking water supply, Brewer said, and the river runs through the town.

Rep. Heald (R-Union) said upgrading to B-1 would force large expense on industries using these waters, and Rep. Jalbert (D-Lewiston) said if one amendment were adopted there certainly would be more seeking upgrading or downgrading.

Lewiston Daily Sun

Editorial

May 9

MAINE'S BIG STEP BACKWARD

If a visiting psychiatrist were to attend some Maine legislative hearings and watch the voting in House and Senate on various bills, he would probably be forced to render a diagnosis of acute schizophrenia, or split personality. Surely his diagnosis would be bulwarked by what the House of Representatives did on Tuesday regarding anti-pollution.

In the first place here is a State that has fallen behind its sisters in economic progress, for a number of reasons, some controllable and some not. The result is that we are far down the list in a number of economic indices—average factory wage, per capita income, plant investment per worker, and others. It is now State policy to redress the balance, and toward that end a new Department of Economic Development is in operation, the Governor is seeking a larger budget for it, especially its industry-attraction phase, and a pending constitutional measure aims to establish a $20-million factory-building authority for companies willing to settle in Maine. Local communities are also trying to attract new industry, and large sums are spent annually to promote an outstanding asset, Maine's scenery and climate. Like a spinster trying to get a man, we are collectively trying to primp up and make ourselves irresistible.

* * * * *

Now, that is one phase of what is going on at Augusta, and in many of the State's cities and towns—one half of the Legislature's schizophrenic personality.

The other half was exhibited on Tuesday when the House not only refused to accept Rep. Brewer's step-by-step "clean waters" bill, but enacted instead a water classification law that legalizes increased pollution of Maine streams and rivers and lakes. It was the most horrible example of legislative incompetence, and genuflection to lobby pressure, we have seen in many a day.
So here we are, beckoning to tourists and industries on one hand, and also telling them that they are invited to a State deliberately sanctioning additional pollution of what should be one of our most valuable assets. The House action is such a glaring negation of everything that right-minded people of Maine hoped might be achieved when they twice elected Edmund S. Muskie as Governor that we don't see how he can remain silent.

Lewiston Daily Sun

BROWN CO. TERMS WATER SHORTAGE "MOST SERIOUS" SINCE DROUGHT OF 1941

BERLIN, N.H. -- The most serious shortage of industrial water since 1941 threatens this area and its largest industry, officials of Brown Company, leading pulp, paper and forest products manufacturers, warned Wednesday as they issued orders for a strict drive on water wastage in plants here and in adjoining Gorham.

Less than normal precipitation for the last eight months has resulted in there being only about 64% of the normal amount of water behind the dams which control the flow in the Androscoggin River, said A.E.H. Fair, president of Brown Company. The Brown Company mills, Fair explained, depend on the flow from a watershed extending from the Canadian border down through Lakes Kennebago, Asiscoos, Mooselookmeguntic, Rangeley, Richardson and Umbagog. This water is fed into the Magalloway and Androscoggin Rivers through a series of dams at Errol, and at Mooselookmeguntic, Asiscoos and Richardson lakes.

"Water level at all the dams is at an alarming low level," said Fair. "It has already slowed down our log drives because of low water. Continuance of the water shortage could cause curtailment of some of our operations.

"We have therefore ordered a strict economy program of water usage in all our plants, with especial vigilance being centered on any possible waste.

"We need about eight inches of rain in the North Country to bring our water supply back to normal. Fortunately, we have a new steam generator which has recently been put into service with which we are able to augment our usual hydro-electric power generation. In addition, we are purchasing about all the commercial power available to us.

"Studies of the present situation indicate the weather pattern, at least in this portion of the country, seems to be following that of 1941, when this area experienced its worst drought period."

Lewiston Evening Journal

HOUSE MAY GET ANOTHER CHANCE

by Edward C. Schlick

AUGUSTA -- The House may get another chance on Tuesday to vote on the redraft of a bill classifying about 12,000 miles of
Governor Muskie yesterday threw his weight into the antipollution struggle and said he continues his support of the original bill which carries out the recommendations of the Water Improvement Commission and upgrades about 105 streams.

The water classifications of the original bill represent "reasonable goals" for the Legislature to accept and the Water Improvement Commission to work toward, he said.

The redraft is now on the table in the House and Tuesday a vote will be asked on an amendment to prevent downgrading of Caribou's water supply.

The redraft of the original bill was accepted in the House last Tuesday and contains about 25 examples of downgrading of streams, including one affecting the Mechanic Falls water supply.

Rep. Addison C. Saunders (D-Bethel) was unsuccessful in a move to get the House to accept his original bill with the higher grades. This bill had the direct support of Governor Muskie and was printed on the list of bills backed by the Governor.

If support appears to be strong enough, reconsideration of the House's action will be asked Tuesday, said Rep. Stanley Brewer (R-Caribou). Acceptance of the original bill rather than the redrafted one would mean upgrading 105 streams rather than allowing additional pollution on some important streams and making no improvement on most others.

Governor Muskie said he doesn't have the technical details available to comment on the redraft of the classification bill but he feels that the goals set in the original bill could be accepted and implemented over a reasonable period of time by the WIC without working a hardship on anyone.

The House may still continue to support the redraft which downgrades streams but supporters of the original bill may at least accomplish a roll call vote which was not taken when the House acted this week.

Lewiston Evening Journal Editorial May 13

MUSKIE ON POLLUTION

It is encouraging that Gov. Edmund S. Muskie gave his support Friday to the original water classification measure that embraced recommendations of the Water Improvement Commission. The Maine House last week approved a redraft of this bill. The net result of this action was a vote in favor of some 25 downgradings of various streams, instead of going along with the Commission's suggestion that 105 waterways be upgraded.

Muskie emphasized the desirability of the goals set by the Water Improvement Commission in the original classification bill. Carrying these out, he said, seemingly could be accomplished without working any undue hardship on any industry or community.

If the governor's support of the original bill does nothing else, it is possible it will secure reconsideration by the House on a roll call vote basis. This would serve to separate the sheep from the goats on the pollution issue.

The governor is to be commended for his forthright stand. The matter of pollution is one of the most controversial at such biennial session of the Legislature. Muskie's approach has been both constructive and positive.
"HOT" MILK, WATER, ALPHABET
SOUP MAKE INDIGESTIBLE FARE

BY EDWARD C. SCHLICK

AUGUSTA -- (In part)

POLLUTION PROBLEM

Frank Foster of Mechanic Falls, a lawyer and member of the House at the last legislature, is trying without much success to stir up a little interest in cleaning up the Mechanic Falls water supply.

He approached several House members yesterday to explain the problem which is affected by the statewide water classification bill which comes up in the House today.

The original classification bill called for Range Brook and its tributaries to be classified B-1 to protect the Mechanic Falls water supply. The redraft of the bill, which has been accepted by the House, would make the brook class C. The B-1 classification would require the control of hotel and private sources of pollution.

Foster told legislators the Poland Spring House is dumping sewage from the hotel on the shores of Range Pond which adversely affects the Mechanic Falls water supply. The pond is also the hotel's source of water supply and the hotel beach is located less than a mile from the sewer outlet on the pond bank.

Just digging a trench of sufficient size would probably handle the problem and a tank and filter bed would not be needed, said Foster.

Sen. Alton A. Lessard (D-Lewiston) said he will offer an amendment to the bill, if changes are not made in the House, to protect the Mechanic Falls water supply.

NEW BATTLE ON
WATER CLASSIFICATION

AUGUSTA AP -- The sponsor of the water classification bill served notice today he will attempt to revive his original measure—or approximate it—amending the less stringent new draft.

Rep. Saunders (D-Bethel) presented an amendment to the new draft which he said is "in the nature of a substitute." As such, it had to be tabled for printing.

The new draft had been passed to be engrossed earlier despite objections from Saunders and others that it would forestall any progress in ridng these waters of pollution and in some cases would permit more pollution than now exists.

The measure would classify some 12,000 miles of waters as to degree of pollution permitted. The original would have raised the classification in more than 100 of the approximately 350 streams regulated by the bill.

The redraft would make few, if any, upgradings and in some cases would fix classifications below the actual present conditions of the waters.

Now debate on the issue is expected tomorrow.
Lewiston Daily Sun

POLLUTION BILL AMENDED
BY MAINE HOUSE

REFUSED TO RETURN TO ORIGINAL DRAFT;
SOME STREAMS RECLASSIFIED

IS SENT TO SENATE

AUGUSTA, May 14 AP -- The Maine House refused today by a 68-63 margin to return to the original version of the water classification bill.

But it amended the new draft to raise the classification of several individual streams, and again passed the redraft to the engrossment stage.

In its original form, the bill which came from the Water Improvement Comm. would have set minimum purity standards for some 12,000 miles of Maine waters, about one-fourth of them higher than the present quality.

The redraft, which the House accepted last week, downgraded these proposed ratings and lowered some of them even below present quality.

SAUNDERS SOUGHT ORIGINAL BILL

Rep. Saunders (D-Bethel) made a second try today to get back to the original recommendations. He offered an amendment which in effect would substitute the WIC's original proposal for the redraft. "These recommendations are part of your governor's program," he told the House.

"I am sure Gov. Muskie would not want to drive one single industry out of business. And it is not the wish of anyone to hurt any municipality by putting a heavy burden on it all at once."

Muskie himself commented later in a news conference that if all the members understood the WIC thinking, "I don't think they'd be disturbed."

UPGRADING LONG PROJECT

Saunders told the House upgrading may take 10 or 15 years. Any delay in starting will just mean that much more time to complete it, he said.

Rep. Totman (R-Bangor) said the House already had voted once on the original bill and turned it down in favor of the redraft. Rep. Williams (R-Hodgdon) said the redraft "won't hurt anyone too much and for those on the other side, it probably won't do anyone much good. But it will peg these rivers and enable the WIC at least to keep them at their present grade."

Saunders read a WIC statement saying the original proposals called for "successive steps through a program which can be applied without an irretrievable setback to any existing industry or person concerned."

AMENDED DRAFT SENT SENATE

After the 68-63 vote against Saunders' amendment, the House adopted amendments raising the proposed classification for a few waters in Aroostook and Kennebec counties, one of them the Caribou drinking water source. The amended redraft then passed to be engrossed for the second time and was sent to the Senate.
LEWISTON DAILY SUN

POLLUTION BILL
FAILS IN SENATE

AUGUSTA AP -- The Senate turned back today, as the House had done yesterday, an attempt to go back to the original Saunders bill on stream classification.

The vote was 21-10 against Sen. Briggs (R-Caribou), who tried to substitute the original, in the form of a Senate amendment, for a redraft brought out by the Committee on Natural Resources.

This redraft, Briggs said, had cut upgradings from about 105 to about 37 and actually downgraded the classification of "26 or 27" streams.

The bill sponsored by Rep. Saunders (D-Bethel), originated by the Water Improvement Commission, would fix minimum standards for purity for some 12,000 miles of waters. It would complete classification of about 95 per cent of Maine's 35,000 miles of waters. The redraft would classify the same 12,000 miles, but with revised classifications for some.

Sen. Butler (R-Farmington), chairman of the committee, said:

CLASSIFYING FOR FIRST TIME

"We're not downgrading anything; we're classifying for the first time."

Butler said the committee was being "realistic" and he believes its worked "in line with the best interest of all."

Briggs, referring to water pollution as a "creeping paralysis," commented that the classification program is:

"xx xx more or less of a study and stall proposition on which polluters can beat the rap at every turn."

Supporting Butler, Sen. Farley (D-Biddeford) noted that the committee had the attention of "a lot on Monday morning quarter-backs" on its pollution endeavors. "But they don't come to the committee hearings," he added.

After Briggs' motion was knocked down, the Senate passed the redraft to the engrossment stage as amended by the House. These amendments raise the classifications of several individual streams.

LEWISTON DAILY SUN

SENATE KILLS
CLEAN WATERS BILL

AUGUSTA AP -- The Senate joined the House today in killing Rep. Brewer's (R-Caribou) "clean waters" bill to put more teeth in the anti-pollution laws.

The indefinite postponement motion was made without comment by Sen. Briggs (R-Caribou), a sponsor of the bill and sponsor of virtually the same measure two years ago.
SENATE REFUSES BILL
SETTING UP LIQUOR AGENCIES

MINIMUM PAY MEASURES TABLED;
STATEWIDE PLAN FOR PROBATION FAVORED

'CLEAN WATERS' SUNK

AUGUSTA, May 16 AP -- (In part)
CLEAN WATERS BILL SUNK
Rep. Brewer's (R-Caribou) "clean waters act" went down the
drain when the Senate followed the House lead in voting indefinite
postponement. The bill would put more teeth in the state's anti-
pollution laws.

Lewiston Evening Journal

SENATE EXPECTED TO FACE ORDER TO RECALL
STREAM BILL FOR AMENDMENT ON SACO RIVER

AUGUSTA AP -- (In part) Approaching an unprecedented 22nd
week in session, the 98th Maine Legislature yesterday adjourned
its record-breaking session until Monday.

On the 72nd Legislative day of the current biennial ses-
son, leaders talked of getting through next Wednesday. The
longevity record was broken last Tuesday.

Among measures probably to be faced by the Senate Monday
will be an order to recall from the governor and amend the stream
classification bill, which has been enacted but not signed.
Rep. Brewer (R-Caribou) said yesterday he had learned that
New Hampshire plans to have the Saco River enter Maine in B-1
condition, meaning the water may be used for recreation and
drinking when suitably treated.

The 1957 classification bill tags the Saco at the Boundary
in Class B-2, the third highest class, although the Water Improve-
ment Commission recommended B-1.
PRESS COMMENTS
June, 1957

Lewiston Daily Sun  Editorial  June 1

THE LEGISLATURE'S FAILURES (In part)

Two other conspicuous failures of the Legislature were its refusal to approve a State minimum wage of 75¢ an hour, and its passage of a truly horrible water classification bill that actually invites more pollution of Maine streams and rivers.

Lewiston Daily Sun  June 21

MOWER AVENUE PAIR COMPLAIN ABOUT ANDROSCOGGIN STENCH

That river stench has been raising Cain in Lewiston during the heat wave, and the Board of Mayor and Aldermen got first-hand information about what it's been like from a couple of Mower Avenue residents last night.

John J. Mynahan and Alphonse Gardiner, who live next door to each other, complained of the smelly situation and asked if the city couldn't do something about it.

Mynahan said he woke up yesterday morning and "found the paint on our house was almost off." The "unsanitary condition" of the Androscoggin River is making things "very unhealthy," he went on.

Gardiner, whose house paint also has begun to show the effects of the stench, declared the responsible parties should be liable for the damage, even if it means the paper mills in New Hampshire.

The city fathers decided to ask the Maine Water Improvement Commission to look into the matter.

Lewiston Evening Journal  Editorial  June 21

THE ODIFEROUS ANDROSCOGGIN

The complaint of two Mower Avenue residents about the smell of the Androscoggin River and the effect of nauseous gases emanating from it upon the paint of their houses serves to highlight once again a familiar situation. The complaints of the two Lewiston residents were made to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen. The board has decided to ask the Maine Water Improvement Commission to investigate.

It requires no investigation to determine readily the fact the Androscoggin is seriously polluted. The first hot spell of the year produced ample nasal evidence of this for those crossing the North and South Bridges, the Canal and those living near the river. Although chemical treatment has tended to reduce the amount of odor from that which was common during the 1940's, it has represented something less than a satisfactory stopgap.

We know any thorough investigation of conditions along the
Androscoggin from Rumford down to its juncture with the Kennebec at Merrymeeting Bay will disclose areas of water polluted to the extent of dropping the river's classification below the lowest Class D rating.

The law covering the operations of the Water Improvement Commission includes a section covering "standards of classification." This is what the law says in part about Class D:

"Class D waters, the lowest classification, shall be considered as primarily devoted to the transportation of sewage and industrial wastes without the creation of a nuisance condition and such waters shall contain dissolved oxygen at all times. . . ."

There is adequate proof that sections of the Androscoggin fall below a Class D rating. The strong odor prevailing in some areas in hot weather certainly must be deemed a "nuisance condition."

What is the answer to this problem?
The best possible answer is for citizens living along the Androscoggin River valley to rise up in wholesale protest against a continuation of such conditions. They should demand that industry and municipalities located on the river make a start at lessening pollution.

Admittedly the problem cannot be conquered in a span of a year or two. It is time for public pressure to force initial action designed to rehabilitate the Androscoggin River.

Lewiston Daily Sun       June 22

PUTS NITRATE IN
ANDROSCOGGIN

LAWRENCE DUMPS TEN TONS; MILLS
CUT BACK ON AMOUNT OF WASTE

SEES IMPROVEMENT IN POLLUTION SOON;
RIVER FLOW LOW; ONE MILL CLOSED ONE DAY

About 10 tons of nitrate were dumped in the Androscoggin River yesterday to help lessen the odor which two Mower Avenue residents complained about to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen.

Dr. Walter A. Lawrance, who was named rivermaster under a 1948 court decree designed to abate pollution in the river, said repairs on the boat he uses delayed the start of the nitrate dumping.

Under the 1948 decree, Lawrance dumps nitrate when necessary and limits the amount of sulphite liquor which can be put in the river by the upstream paper mills. The Court required that the oxygen content of the river cannot fall below a certain point. Monthly reports on the oxygen content of the river are still being filed with the Maine attorney general's office, said Lawrance.

In addition to putting more oxygen in the water through the use of nitrate, the mills have cut back the amount of sulphite waste dumped from 4,000 tons a week

MILL CLOSED SUNDAY

"This led to the closing of one mill last Sunday," he said.

Further cutbacks in production may be necessary if the amount of waste must be further reduced, he said. Some of the
sulphite liquor is being put into the special lagoons. Hot weather and the extremely low level of water in the river have aggravated the condition, said Lawrence. The flow of the river is close to a record low for June. The Bates College professor said the flow was down to 1,550 cubic feet a second at Berlin, N.H., and slightly above 2,000 cfs at Gulf Island Dam in Lewiston. "It's been lower and it will probably go lower this summer," said Lawrence. He said the river flow was lower than at present in 1941 and 1942. It was the offensive condition of the river in the early 1940's which led to court action against the paper companies and the court decree under which control is now enforced.

SHOULD IMPROVE

Two Mower Avenue residents complained Thursday night to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen that the condition of the river during the recent heat wave was unhealthy and offensive and is peeling the paint from their houses. The aldermen referred the matter to the Maine Water Improvement Commission. Since the river has never been classified, Lawrance said the WIC would have no control over pollution but that they might come over and take a look at the river.

"The combination of pollution surges and hot weather make it difficult," said Lawrance, "but with the cuts, lagooning and nitrate there should be improvement in about a week. It takes a little time for these things to show up."

To point out the low level of the river, he said that it has been necessary to draw water from the lake reservoirs in the Rangeley region.

DRAW ON RESERVOIRS

Paul W. Bean, river engineer for the Union Water Power Co., said that it was necessary to start using some of the reservoir water two weeks ago but that this is not too unusual for June.

The company is never able to supply the mills with all of the water they would like to have during the summer but Bean agreed that the under-capacity point was reached sooner than usual this year.

He described the river as "lower than normal."

Lewiston Evening Journal

June 24

RIVER SMELL GOES UP WITH TEMPERATURE

by Don Nason

The full aromatic powers of the Androscoggin River did battle with the sensitivity of Lewiston-Auburn residents today and won a smashing victory.

Infiltration began over the week-end when the more delicate along the river banks sensed that something was in the air. Scores beat a hasty retreat to outlying beaches, but duty brought them back to front line positions this morning.

WHIFFING

The river cleverly scheduled its main attack for today. Its
superior forces quickly overwhelmed the unfortunates found within whiffing distance. The advanced front spread throughout the business district and struck in many residential areas.

The battle raged throughout the day.

Some relief can be expected tomorrow. The weatherman has come to the rescue with reports that cooler temperatures are on the way.

The main ally of the river today was readings that marched into the high 80's and prolonged the attack.

Minor skirmishes are promised for this evening when thunder showers will go into the fray. The major target will be the humidity.

Tuesday may see a truce with the mercury dropping considerably. City dwellers have been warned, however, that hostilities are likely to break out again before the end of the summer season.

A similar war with the river is reported to have occurred back in 1938 when the thermometer hit 93 degrees. Residents relaxed in comparative safety in 1947 when the all-time low of 46 degrees was recorded.

Lewiston Evening Journal

RIVER FUMES ARE ACTING UP ONCE AGAIN

The invisible odor of the Androscoggin River has taken visible form at the home of Bernard V. Keough, of 79 Bradman St., Auburn.

During the past few nights the front of the house and a white fence along the side has been turning brown. Mrs. Keough said today that the house was only painted last year and it looks as if the job will have to be done again.

She added that this is the first such discoloration since the family moved there six years ago.

Lewiston Daily Sun

ASK ANDROSCOGGIN POLLUTION STUDY, WATER CLASSIFICATION

A pollution study leading to classification of the Androscoggin River was approved yesterday at a meeting of the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission.

The commission, which met at Wakefield, N.H., also discussed the pollution problems on many other interstate rivers and elected Stanley Brewer of Caribou as president of the commission. Brewer, who filed the "Clean Waters Act" at the last session of the Maine Legislature, was vice president of the group last year.

The Androscoggin River study will be carried out mainly through the work of the Maine Water Improvement Commission. The study will probably include public hearings in this area.

Lewiston PWD Director George J. Maher was one of the commission members present at the two-day meeting. Others attending from Maine were Dr. Dean Fisher, Maine commissioner of Health and Welfare, and Raeburn MacDonald, WIC engineer.
The commission is made up of five members from each of the New England states and New York state.

Among other business the commission considered the water classification of the Maine section of the Saco River as approved by the 98th Legislature. The commission accepted the classification which was recommended by the Maine Water Improvement Commission and passed by the Legislature but rejected classification of the parts of the stream where the Legislature adopted a lower classification than the WIC recommended.

The Saco was the subject of a last-minute hassle when the Legislature adopted lower classifications than those recommended, even close to the interstate border. Brewer finally got the higher classification of the border water approved by pointing out that the State was morally obligated not to classify the water at a lower grade than it was received from New Hampshire. However, the lower grades along parts of the river further downstream were given legislative approval.

The group of more than 40 members of the commission and technicians also heard a speech by Laurence Whittemore, chairman of the board of the Brown Company.

Whittemore spoke on the cost of clean-up to industry and urged an approach to the problem that would not hurt the mills or force them to close down. He told the group that recent limitations on waste disposal had forced the temporary closing of one mill and further restrictions could mean more production cutbacks.

Lewiston Evening Journal

MALODOROUS ANDROSCOGGIN IN THE HEADLINES
RECENTLY, NOT TO BE A NEWS-ANCE AGAIN

by Reggie Bouchard

The recent outbreak of river stench despite river pollution control activities wasn't without reason, and Dr. Walter A. Lawrance, river master, expressed doubt today, that it will re-occur this summer.

Controlling the river smell, however, is tricky business, and Dr. Lawrance said an unusual heat wave such as the one we've had could result in an unfavorable smell from the Androscoggin, at any time.

MOST INTERESTING

Several very interesting and quite startling facts were learned from the doctor which explains the reason for the unexpected stench.

For instance, very few people know that it takes water to run from a point about one mile above the Gulf Island Dam to the Lewiston-Auburn business district a good three days.

The time span is decreased to between one-and-a-half to two days for water to run from the dam itself to the business section.

DELAYED ACTION

Therefore, if sodium nitrate is dumped into the river from the dam, it'll take a few days to take effect in the downtown section, which is what happened last week.

Dr. Lawrance blamed the "extremely" low spring water level
and the extreme heat for the condition. The water temperature during that period reached 80 degrees at one time.

"A number of factors enter the picture in stench control," the doctor explained. "The waste load, weather and water temperatures are all considered in planning for stench control."

Warm water with chemical properties from the paper mills in the Rumford-Livermore Falls area and warm temperatures all tend to decrease the amount of oxygen in the water, creating the stench.

The addition of sodium nitrate in the water acts as something of a substitute for the oxygen.

"Actually, the sodium nitrate is a very minor factor in stench control," declared Dr. Lawrance. Controlling the amount of waste matter to be allowed in the river is really more important, he said.

Because of the low water level, pollution control was instituted earlier than usual this year. It actually began June 10, when Dr. Lawrance recommended a cutback of waste sulphite from the International, Oxford and Brown paper companies in the Livermore Falls, Rumford and Berlin, N.H. area, and the waste deposits were cut by 66% in these mills.

These three concerns, incidentally, assume the full financial responsibility for stench control on the Androscoggin River.

Dr. Lawrance said the mills cooperate fully in these matters and at a sacrifice of production volume.

SHUT ONE DOWN

"I had to shut down one mill completely when it was really bad on one particular Sunday," he explained.

Another method of control is the routing of the waste material to lagoons along the way and releasing these at a later date.

It takes the water 14 to 16 days to reach the Gulf Island Dam from Berlin, N.H., and the stench control crews must forecast weather conditions that much in advance to be prepared for a battle with the water before it reaches downtown Lewiston and Auburn.

The stench control is a steady process, with between 10 to 20 tons of sodium nitrate being dumped into the river each of five to six days a week.

A crew of nine works between seven and eight hours a day at this task, and additional personnel are employed to make periodical water condition checks during the day, along the river.

Normally, the nitrate is dumped into the river from a point one to one-and-a-half miles above the Gulf Island Dam from a 28 foot sea-going boat. During the past few days, however, dumping has been done from the dam itself, while the boat and dock are being subjected to a badly needed overhaul.

DOESN'T LAST LONG

The nitrate is shipped by freight to an Auburn warehouse, near the Turner line, and trucked from there to the wharf. One car load may last between two and three days.

This procedure is carried out from June 15 to Sept. 15 during a normal summer, but sometimes conditions necessitate an earlier start and later finish.

Stench control has been practiced since 1948 but periodic odors sneak through when unusual and unforecasted weather conditions prevail.

Dr. Lawrance cited the remarkable improvement in the river conditions as compared to the period in 1941 and 1942. At that time, the mills used hydrogen sulphide in their process and this
caused a stench of such intensity that it caused the discoloration
of houses in the Lewiston-Auburn area. (This year, however, there
was also a bit of discoloration of homes noted, especially in the
Bradman St. area of Auburn.)

The process has since been improved upon, and the waste
matter dumped into the river now is a combination of chemicals
which are considered quite milder.

WHY NOT CLOSER?

What about dumping the nitrate at a point nearer the busi-
ness area than the dam, when a heat wave strikes, we asked?

Dr. Lawrance, however, assured the interviewer that this
would not work because the chemical would merely "streak" down the
river and would not mix, remaining quite ineffective.

The sanitary sewer situation in Lewiston and Auburn does
affect an odor, but Dr. Lawrance said this is very mild as com-
pared to the sulphide stench.

As for the Bates and other local mills, the doctor assured
us that their waste matter is not as potent as the sulphide, and
its effect soon wears out as it is carried down-river toward
Brunswick.

The area below Lewiston and Auburn is not considered seri-
ous, he said, adding the Twin City section is the worst along the
river.

"As long as our crystal balling is successful in the weather
prediction, we'll keep the stench under control," Dr. Lawrance an-
nounced.

Lewiston Evening Journal Picture Caption June 29, 1957

AN ASSAULT ON THE RIVER STENCH

These two young men are part of a crew employed in keeping
the Androscoggin River in the Lewiston-Auburn area, free of the
unpleasant chemical odors. Bradford Churchill, left, and Gordon
Byrd Jr., are dumping sodium nitrate at the rate of 100 pounds per
bag. Between five and ten loads, such as the one shown at the
left, are dumped into the river every day to keep it free of
stench. The dumping is done at the Gulf Island Dam, like this,
or from a sea-going boat about one mile above the dam.
PRESS COMMENTS

JULY, 1957

CLOUDY AND COOL WEATHER
EXPECTED TO CONTINUE TONIGHT

A sky full of clouds moved in today in the wake of yesterday's big windblow to keep the temperatures lower than usual for the first day of July.

The day had all the indications of a real summery one but the clouds moved in rapidly shortly after the dawn to close out hopes of warm sunshine.

Perhaps the wind would be welcomed a little more today in view of THAT aroma winding its way into town from the Androscoggin River.

It wasn't very pleasant as the scent managed to get into business places and remain constant.

The temperatures for the past 12 hours have not varied very much and the biggest spread was only three degrees.

The weatherman says the cloudy and cool weather will continue into this evening and it will be fair and slightly warmer on Tuesday.

The record high for this day is 100 degrees, in 1913, according to the gatehouse of the Union Water Power Co.

WATER COMMISSION CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT RIVER STENCH

The Maine Water Improvement Commission has notified the Lewiston Board of Mayor and Aldermen that there just isn't anything it can do about the stench of the Androscoggin River and the resulting damage claims made by local residents.

In a letter to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen, the Commission stated that it can do nothing because of the fact that the river has not been classified.

The aldermen contacted the commission after having been approached last week by irate citizens whose houses--formerly white--had turned a muddy shade of brown because of the fumes from the river.

NO HELP FROM STATE ON RIVER NUISANCE

Lewiston's city fathers were informed yesterday by the Maine Water Improvement Commission that there is little the commission can do to alleviate Androscoggin River conditions causing a stench and damaging the paint on houses.

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen, at its June 20 meeting,
requested the commission investigate and correct the nuisance after two residents of the Mower Avenue area complained to the board.

The commission letter said the river was not classified, and also cited the "grandfather clause" of the waste discharge licensing act which allows the present pollution conditions. The board also was advised to contact Dr. Walter A. Lawrance of Bates College, Androscoggin rivermaster.

Lewiston Daily Sun

July 3

ONE WHIFF AND POOF

The next job of the Maine Water Improvement Commission will be classification of the main stems of the state's major rivers. Study and classification of the Androscoggin River has also been recommended by the New England Interstate Pollution Control Commission. This will mean public hearings. Those residents who are tired of the river's stench should start thinking about protesting and about making their wishes known to the next group of representatives sent to the Legislature.

Classification will mean nothing unless the Legislature adopts a grade high enough to enable the WIC to at least prod industry in the direction of clean up. The moderate classifications recommended to the last Legislature were rejected in most of the areas where pollution is a real problem, and lower grades that hamstring the commission were substituted.

Examples in other states show that means have been devised to control the various types of pollution existing in Maine. The question is what can industry afford? Unfortunately industry does not consider pollution control necessary in the same way it considers heating and lighting a plant necessary. The present chairman of the interstate commission has cited examples of new mills being constructed without any plans being made for the installation of control measures. Canners, tanners and poultry processing plants continue to feel that it is too much to ask them to follow such relatively simple measures as screening and settling waste.

When it comes to a cleaner Androscoggin, the cities should keep at least one thing in mind when the familiar cry of "payroll or pollution" is made. There is a cost to leaving the river the way it is as well as a cost to abatement. Not only are many industries looking for useable water near population centers but also the visiting industrialist who is thinking of moving both his industry and his family to the Twin Cities may think twice after he gets a whiff of the Androscoggin.

Lewiston Daily Sun

July 6

NOTES IMPROVEMENT IN RIVER SITUATION

A marked improvement in the Androscoggin River pollution situation in the last day or two was reported last night by Dr. Walter A. Lawrance, Androscoggin rivermaster.
Dr. Lawrance expected that further improvement should be noted in a few days. His workers have been dumping nitrates into the river every day recently at the rate of 16 or 17 tons a day.

He also stated that mills have cut their output drastically, and are now operating on a five-day weekly program. There has been good cooperation from the mills, Dr. Lawrance added.

By a combination of production cutbacks, putting sulphite wastes into lagoons, and dumping nitrates into the river, the problem can be controlled, he added.

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Lewiston Daily Sun

July 4, 1957

LAST MONTH ENDED UP HOTTEST JUNE IN THE LAST EIGHT YEARS

The month of June brought some hot days, and some cold ones, too, to the Twin Cities, but the average temperature for the month turned out to be the highest in eight years.

It was 65.5445 degrees, well above the 73-year average of 63.2206. The highest previous June was 66.007 in 1949.

Rainfall was below normal but not by too much. During June 3.13 inches of rain was recorded. The average for the past 83 years is 3.40 inches. The rainfall in June 1956 measured 2.34, and in 1953 was a meager 0.80 inches.

The most rain on any one day was the 1.03 inches on June 26.

The last five days of the month saw rain every day, and a total of 2.14 inches fell during that period.

The warmest day of the month was June 24 when the mercury averaged 78.292 degrees. This bested previous June readings back to the 78.833 in 1953. The coldest day last month turned out to be one of the higher ones. On June 3, the temperature averaged a mild 54.50 degrees.

The mercury reached into the 90's on two occasions to tie the maximum high for the month at 92. These readings were noted on June 16 and 23. A previous June high was 94 last year.

At the other end of the scale, the lowest temperature was 44 degrees on June 4 and 9. The 44 is the bottom single June temperature since 1950, but the mark has been equalled in four prior years since 1950.

The Union Water Power Co. report also noted the cloudy days overshadowed the clear ones, 18 to 12. And rain came down on 11 of those 18 days.

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Lewiston Daily Sun

July 25

ANDROSCOGGIN HAS BEEN WELL "SWEETENED" WITH CHEMICALS

The waste-clogged Androscoggin River, which earlier this summer gave off strong paint-tarnishing and stomach-turning odors when the weather got hot on several occasions, has been pretty well "sweetened up," and there's a good chance the repulsive aromas won't be bothersome any more this year.

Dr. Walter A. Lawrance of Lewiston, Androscoggin rivermaster, said last night the situation "is well in hand now and we hope to
He said that even if another heat wave hits the area the odor from the Androscoggin will not cause as much trouble as before because "of the better conditions existing now."

He credited the present good situation to production cutbacks by paper mills along the river, along with the dumping of about 370 tons of sodium nitrate to date. This chemical "keeps down" the formation of river odors.

Dr. Lawrence has ordered production cutbacks at some paper mills to ease the pollution situation in the low-running Androscoggin.

Dr. Lawrence said crews are continuing to dump the sodium nitrate in the river as the program continues. He said about 10 tons of the chemical is being used daily. Up to 20 tons daily had been deposited earlier this year.

Lewiston Daily Sun July 25

WATER SHORTAGE CAUSES CLOSING OF ONE SULPHITE MILL AT OXFORD PAPER CO.

RUMFORD — The Oxford Paper Co. announced on Wednesday a curtailment of its sulphite pulping operations in Rumford due to extremely low water conditions in the Androscoggin River. Effective July 29, the Island Division sulphite mill, one of Oxford's two sulphite mills, will be closed down until further notice.

Every year the production of sulphite pulp in Rumford is controlled and restricted by a State Court appointed administrator to avoid excessive pollution of the Androscoggin River. As a result of this control Oxford's two sulphite mills have been limited to operating only a few days a week during the summer months. This year, due to the lack of water, the restrictions are much more severe.

Paul Petzold, Oxford Mill Manager, said the Island Division sulphite mill shutdown has been caused by the reduced river flowage in the Androscoggin resulting from abnormally low rainfall during the past nine months. This lack of water has brought about the most stringent restrictions on the production of sulphite pulp in the history of Androscoggin River control. He said that under the circumstances it has become impossible to operate the two sulphite mills even on a limited basis and with only one mill in operation it will still be necessary under present conditions to severely restrict production.

The shutdown of the Island Division sulphite mill is expected to affect the jobs of about 50 employees many of whom have been with Oxford for a considerable number of years. Every effort will be made to place the affected employees in other operations but the indirect effect will be that about 50 junior employees will be laid off.

He said further that it is hoped conditions affecting pulp production will improve sufficiently during the next few months to permit resumption of production at the Island Division some time later this month.
DIRTIER AND SMELLIER

With summer not yet half gone, one of the outstanding sins of the 98th Legislature is being visited upon the people living along the Kennebec, the summer visitors staying at Ocean Park, near the mouth of the Saco, and earlier, residents along the banks of the Androscoggin.

There was a time, years ago, when dwellers in the Androscoggin valley—though they hardly bragged about it—thought they had a monopoly of pollution stench. The nuisance finally became so bad that it was forcibly abated by court decree, and the paper mills causing it were compelled to pay the annual cost of chemical treatment of the most offensive sections of the river. Briefly, this spring, the condition returned, but now the river-master has the situation in hand and the air hereabouts is as fragrant as a rose garden—almost.

We sympathetically observe that presently the Kennebec has acquired the title once held locally as the champion offender of the olfactory organ. And contamination from the Saco, caught in a revolving ocean current, is now ruining the attractions of a summer resort nearby.

The 98th Legislature, however, not only made it impossible to stabilize the present amount of pollution of Maine streams, but it gave polluters carte blanche to make them even worse. The outrageous argument was offered that unless Maine turned its rivers and streams into open sewers our industries would move elsewhere, and no new enterprises would settle here. The rights of the people of Maine were not considered, nor the habits of summer tourists, who surely are not going to return to a State which callously spoliates one of its most valuable resources. Yet the waters will become dirtier, and the stench will grow, until the people rebel and demand of the Legislature effective anti-pollution.
WE NEED RAIN

Vacationists who have been "treated" to briefly annoying showers almost daily may find it hard to agree, but the fact is we need rain.

The widespread drought has been less severe in Maine than in other parts of New England. But the dry spring and continued scarcity of any real, good, soaking rain are having their effect.

The low water conditions forced closing of one of the Oxford Paper Co. plants in Rumford. The company can only discharge so much sulphite liquor waste into the river, by court order. With the river flow down, the quantity of waste allowed became so low that the firm no longer could operate its two plants. Low water conditions also are responsible for cutbacks at the Millinocket mills of the Great Northern Paper Co., with the huge newsprint manufacturing concern unable to use power from other sources.

These cutbacks mean fewer jobs. The drought is hitting where it hurts the most—in the pocketbook.

ANDROSCOGGIN POLLUTION CURTAILED
BY EXPENSIVE CAMPAIGN OVER YEARS

by Milton F. Huntington

LEWISTON, Aug. 8—A look into the pollution situation of the Androscoggin River here today revealed two suspected factors—
(1) there is no economical solution to the expensive proposition of cleaning up Maine's saturated waterways; and (2) sewer districts are the only answer for towns who are borrowing to the limit with terrific school demands.

RIVER MASTER

These factors were pointed out by Dr. Walter A. Lawrance, chemistry department head at Bates College, and rivermaster of the once pollution-saturated Androscoggin.

The situation on the Androscoggin was so severe in 1941, that paint peeled off homes in Lewiston and Auburn, silverware turned brown overnight and the odor of the repugnant waters spread for 50 square miles.

Today the condition is greatly improved and still improving, but it cost the river's industries $1,000 a day to relieve the stench, through production cutbacks and chemical treatment of the river.

More and more dams were built on the river after 1926, resulting in a de-accelerated river that started a distasteful odor in 1937.
WAR EFFORT

In 1941, an all-time low-water period hit the Twin Cities, while, at the same time, industries increased production in an all-out war effort. Consequently the river became more than saturated, necessitating some type of immediate action.

Dr. Lawrence was made rivermaster by a Maine Supreme Court decree in 1947, authorizing him to call for reduced production in the river's three mills during the period from June 15 to Oct. 1 each year. The cutbacks were based on analyses made by groups of chemists under his direction who reported river conditions to him from Berlin, N. H., to Brunswick.

Through this method, over 4,000 tons of industrial waste was reduced each summer, forcing mills to operate on a five-day a week basis instead of their usual seven-day operation.

Dr. Lawrence, who is still rivermaster after nine years of co-operation between the three mills, expressed regret in the present situation which he called "appreciable unemployment and loss of summer salaries."

An agreement between the river's three paper mills, International Paper Co., of Livermore Falls; Oxford Paper Co., of Rumford; and Brown Co., of Berlin, N. H., was filed with the clerk of courts at the time of Dr. Lawrence's decree control. It set up the amount of waste to be discharged, treatment regulations and the share of expense.

Dr. Lawrence supervised the task of dumping tons of sodium nitrate into the Androscoggin in a battle against waste and warm weather. Industry paid the bill for the chemicals obtained from all over the United States and South America, and took care of the expense of depositing them into the river.

CHEMICALS

The sodium nitrate starts a chemical reaction, providing oxygen to feed natural bacteria in the river. Foreign matter introduced to the river eats up the oxygen that the natural bacteria needs to live on in order to handle river waste. Some bacteria live without oxygen, contributing to the odor. The oxygen released by sodium nitrate assists in subduing the latter.

Sodium nitrate to the amount of 70 tons a year cost the three mills $60,000 in 1948, and a like figure in 1952.

Another method employed on the river was to build lagoons in two separate locations, which caught river wastes during the summer, held them, and released them in the fall when high waters carried it to the sea.

Three inter-connecting lagoons were built in New Hampshire, costing a quarter of a million dollars, and another lagoon was built at Jay costing $200,000.

Meanwhile, the Brown Co. at Berlin, N. H., experimented with the Kraft process which is a sulphite to sulphate change in wastes. Summerizing, Dr. Lawrence remarked, "A clean river requires an ocean of money. A sewerage district is the only way out for towns borrowing deep into their debt limit. A treatment plant in Lewiston would cost from five to six million dollars, and one in Auburn would amount to three and a half million, and it would take $1,000 a week to operate it."

One of the costly items facing the whole of Maine is separating storm water runoff and sewage in antiquated collecting systems, he explained, because treatment plants are unable to handle a regular amount of affluent at one time and twice as much during heavy rain spells.
INDUSTRIAL CLIMATE!

What is a healthy industrial climate?
A vice-president of the Oxford Paper Co., T. F. Spear of Rumford, ventured to discuss the subject Friday in his capacity as president of the Associated Industries of Maine. Remarks attributed to him in his Poland Spring address failed to clarify just what composes a satisfactory industrial climate.

Among his statements on the matter, Spear declared: "Industrial climate is like the weather. You can't be a little bit for it (industry) today and a little bit against it tomorrow. Responsible management cannot risk the capital of stockholders upon such a blow hot, blow cold attitude."

Is the Rumford man right in his appraisal of a proper industrial climate? Certainly the press and the public has every right to oppose industry whenever industry is in error, even if Spear's statement suggests that no one at any time should contradict industrial practices. Surely industry is as capable of making mistakes as government, labor organizations or individuals.

The Associated Industries of Maine president mentioned a favorite AIM topic, when he spoke about what he termed anti-industry laws which were defeated at the last session of the Maine Legislature. As might be expected, he included the anti-pollution measure that was based on an operating pollution law in the State of Pennsylvania. Although the Pennsylvania law has worked out well in that state, Spear referred to the defeated bill as founded upon "unrealistic proposals for the wasting of millions upon doubtful methods of stream pollution . . . control."

Residents of the lower Androscoggin valley--below Rumford--who were forced to smell the stench of the river early this summer might take issue with Spear on this point. Would this be a hostile industrial climate in the AIM president's opinion? Probably so.

This newspaper has consistently urged that every effort be made to attract new industry to Maine. It has supported the efforts of the Maine Department of Economic Development and of boards and commissions seeking to bring new industry to the twin city area. It has stood behind the continuation of well established industries, as witnessed by its attitude on the Smith cotton textile bill.

Yet would this newspaper be classified by Spear as providing an unfriendly industrial climate because of its frequent and continued insistence that definite improvement is needed in the most seriously polluted Maine rivers?
PRESS COMMENTS
SEPTEMBER 1957

Lewiston Daily Sun

BROWN CO. CUTS OPERATIONS
DUE TO LOW WATER

CLOSE 4 WOODS CAMPS AND CURTAIL
BUYING; POLLUTION A FACTOR

NEED SOAKING RAINS


President A.B.H. Fair said four of the 13 woods camps in the Parmachenee and Lincoln Pond area of northwestern Maine have been closed and the company has temporarily curtailed purchases of wood from farmers and private woodlot owners in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont.

Fair said the curtailment, affecting some 300 woodsmen in the three states, is "due partly to business conditions, but principally to low water in the Androscoggin River, which necessitates curtailment of production in order to comply with pollution control requirements."

Fair added that, for some time past, the company's Burgess sulphite pulp mill, has been operating on a five-day week rather than the normal seven-day week, with the result that demand for wood at the mill has been reduced.

"It is difficult to predict," he said "when the present restrictions on production can be removed. However, our new magnesium cooking and recovery system which is due to start operation this year, replacing the present sodium base system, should substantially reduce the effect on Brown Co., of pollution restrictions."

Fair said that throughout the past year the amount of water running off into the lakes which feed the Androscoggin has been far below normal.

"Since the first of the year, the runoff has been only about 74 per cent of average," he explained.

"As a result of the restrictions controls on the Androscoggin, curtailment has been more drastic and longer lasting than at any other previous time.

"We need about four inches of soaking rain in the north country to bring our water supply back to normal."

Lewiston Daily Sun

WE NEED RAIN

Editorial

The current semi-drought in this part of the country is beginning to cost Maine and New Hampshire people money, as the story from Berlin, N.H. a day or so ago showed.
There the Brown Company has closed four of its lumber camps north of Aziscohos, meanwhile reducing pulpwood buying from farmers and others, because it has already had to put the Burgess sulphite mill on a five-day instead of a seven-day week. And the mill curtailment is forced by pollution-control measures requiring the company to apportion its sulphite liquor disposal to the amount of river flow available.

This rather complicated explanation hinges on the fact that there has been too little rain in the headwaters of the Androscoggin, and the Rangeley Lakes system. The lower the water, the less sulphite liquor the company can dump in the river. And the less liquor flushed away, the less paper produced and pulpwood consumed.

Pres. Fair of the big company says he would welcome four inches of soaking rain, and probably the even larger Great Northern, over Millinocket way, would settle for no less. The Great Northern has been running at reduced levels for some time, and the drought there cost it nearly a million dollars in net earnings this spring.

Although the Androscoggin and Penobscot are well regulated rivers, in terms of optimum use of their waters, the present shortage points to a problem which perhaps Maine, and certainly other States, will soon face in increasing degree. All over the nation water consumption is outstripping available supplies, and if the overall picture is not so bleak here, we have evidence that northern New England's water resources are not unlimited.

Lewiston Evening Journal

ONCE OVER BRIGHTLY by Ed Kisonak

RIVER SOLUTION

A cute but unsigned note from Grand Rapids, Mich., in the mail, along with a newspaper clipping, and the note reads like this:

"Would this help the odor (sic) from the Androscoggin? I was formerly a resident of L-A and know how it smells."

The picture in the clipping shows a highway truck being loaded with a liquid which is applied to Michigan roads to keep the dust down. What has this to do with river pollution and stench? Well—the caption explains: "The liquid once flowed into the Kalamazoo river and was a contributing factor in what experts four years ago termed "the nation's worst example of stream pollution."

The road binder liquid, it seems, is a byproduct of wood pulp paper making, and not so long ago it caused all the trouble in the river. After action in the courts, much like that which troubled paper makers along the Androscoggin River, a way has been found to remove "between 50 and 80 per cent of suspended solids . . . from waste water going into the river."

Free now, But--

Furthermore, the liquid has been available for free to the highway commission, but it won't be too much longer. A couple of adjoining counties are interested in the resulting
roadbinder, and before long, the paper making firms may be selling at a profit . . .

Not only is it an economical sub for salt brine formerly used on roads there, but--and it's important to car owners--the liquid doesn't eat away at mufflers, fenders, etc. So there . . .
PRESS COMMENTS
OCTOBER 1957

Lewiston Daily Sun Editorial October 14

MR. WHITTEMORE ON POLLUTION

Mr. Laurence Whittemore, board chairman of the Brown Company of Berlin, New Hampshire, delivered a thoughtful, constructive speech on the growing pollution of New England water supplies, at a recent Boston meeting of the Federation of Sewage and Industrial Wastes Association.

Water is now so valuable, he said, that its conservation is just as valuable as conservation of our forests. But not only are industrial plants guilty of contributing to the pollution load the region's streams are forced to carry off, but municipalities are equally culpable. More than 80 New England cities and towns still discharge sewage into nearby rivers.

Mr. Whittemore speaks with more than an academic knowledge of the problem. His own company, under injunction to limit its disposal of sulphite waste liquor into the Androscoggin river, is building a new pulp plant that will appreciably reduce the problem at Berlin. And in arguing there is "no sense" in forcing either an industry or a municipality to do too much too quickly, he offered an approach to pollution abatement that has much to recommend it.

* * * *

The Brown Company executive would like to see anti-pollution authorities set up on the various watersheds, their memberships made up of representatives of industry, cities and towns in the area, and the State and Federal Governments. Funds would be made available, perhaps on a matching or contributory basis—and we assume that borrowing or bonding authority would be included—for the correction of conditions that single communities or companies would find too expensive to tackle alone.

We recommend this approach for the study of the next Maine Legislature, which is certain to have the pollution problem thrust before it once again. It is an issue of major importance in this State particularly, and there is much evidence to show that, contrary to what the Legislature has accomplished, the people want a start made toward cleaning up our rivers.

A major obstacle has been the expense involved, but pollution is becoming so serious, in a State advertising an abundance of water, that the cost of delaying and not doing anything will eventually be larger than the cost of making a start.

Lewiston Daily Sun October 16

SAys RAIN DEFICIT ALARMING; MILLS KEEP POLLUTION CONTROL

Unless the Twin City area gets about eight inches of rain between now and Dec. 31, this year will be one of driest on record
in the last 83 years.

The lack of rain has led the paper mills along the Androscoggin River to a voluntary program of pollution control, according to Dr. Water A. Lawrance, pollution control supervisor for the river.

Figures released last night by Paul W. Bean, Union Water Power Co. river engineer, show that there is a "rain deficit" here of about 13 inches in the period from Jan. 1 to Oct. 1 of this year. This is the amount of precipitation by which this year's rainfall for the first nine months falls below the average rainfall of this period during the past 83 years.

Bean pointed out the record low rainfall during the 83-year period for an entire year is about 26 inches. The area could get enough rain in the next few months so that this year would not set a record low but it seems almost certain to be one of the driest years on record.

Under a court-decree, Dr. Lawrance has the power to control the discharge of sulphite liquor from the paper mills during the period from June 15 to Oct. 1. However, this year the level of the river has been so low that the mills have agreed to a voluntary program of control past the Oct. 1 deadline.

"I recommended that they keep the restrictions on for awhile and they agreed to do so," said Lawrance. "We are hoping that there will be enough rain soon so that the restrictions can be lifted."

Lawrance said that there is almost no appreciable runoff between Berlin, N.H. and Lewiston because the river flow is about the same at these two points.

The lake area has a rain deficit of about six inches so far this year, said Bean.

Lawrance said he feels the precipitation deficit in the river valley is "pretty alarming."

During the hot weather in the summer Lawrance and the nine college students working with him on the control program dumped about 636 tons of sodium nitrate into the river near Gulf Island Dam to help control the odor from the paper mill waste. This has been done annually since 1948. Lawrance has been connected with the program since 1943.

Lewiston Daily Sun

TO BUILD NEW ANDROSCOGGIN DAM AT ERROL

ESTIMATE COST AT $12,000,000; WILL RAISE LEVEL OF LAKE UMBAGOG 28 FEET, DOUBLE ITS SIZE; WILL AID FLOOD CONTROL, WATER SUPPLY; ABOUT 30 CAMPS WILL HAVE TO MOVE

A 12-million dollar dam is being planned across the Androscoggin River at Errol, N.H.

The plans for the project, which have been worked on for about five years and discussed for more than 20 years, were announced last night by William F. Wyman of Augusta, president of the Central Maine Power Co. and the Union Water Power Co.

The dam will expand Umbagog Lake to twice its present 11,000 acres and will raise the water level by about 26 feet.
Increasing the amount of water impounded in the lake will mean a more beneficial flow of the river, both in terms of use by the mills and in terms of flood control, said Wyman.

While the plans for the dam are engineered in outline, the legal and financial arrangements are still in the preliminary stages. Wyman said a group of six companies have made a tentative agreement to go ahead on the project. The group includes CMP Co., Union Water Power Co., and three of the major industries on the river.

Plans for the storage dam will be presented to New Hampshire Gov. Lane Dwinell and the Executive Council Nov. 19. Other problems of approval facing the group of companies will be obtaining financing and probably Federal approval.

Although the lake lies partly in Maine and partly in New Hampshire, Wyman said he does not believe that there will be any need to seek approval of the project by the Legislature of either State.

In addition to water control benefits, Wyman said expansion of the size of the lake will probably increase the potential of the area as a recreation center. The lake, after the dam is built, will be about half the size of Lake Winnipesaukee in New Hampshire and more than half of it will lie in Maine.

The companies benefiting from the dam will pay off the cost over a long period of time.

Near Present Dam

Ford W. Harris, of Auburn, CMP Co. chief engineer, said the new dam will be located "immediately downstream" from the site of the present dam which is about three-fourths of a mile above Errol, N.H.

The outline plans for the dam are completed. This work was necessary in order to present the project to the various agencies that will have to give approval.

"About 95% of the engineering for the dam was done here in the Lewiston office of the Union Water Power Co.," said Harris.

He pointed out that the project has a history dating back to the late 1930's when it was discussed and was the object of a newspaper feature story.

"The dam would assist to a considerable extent in flood control," said Harris.

The present dam has a head of about 15 feet of water. The new dam will have a head of water about 28 feet higher. Harris said it is not possible to say now whether the old dam will be torn down when the new one is completed or whether it will be flooded over.

Move Cottages

The new dam site will be on property owned by the Union Water Power Co.

Part of the proposed dam will be of concrete construction with steel gates, said Harris. The remainder will be of earth and rock fill.

Harris estimated that the sites of 25 to 30 cottages would be covered by the expansion of the lake. Several miles of road will have to be relocated. It is possible that most of the cottages could be moved to new sites which will locate them on the new lake shore.

A contour map of the area shows that the area of least expansion of the lake would be to the east. Raising the lake level about 28 feet would flood a large stretch of the Magalloway River which lies to the north and west of the lake. Much of the ground
to the west of the lake is low and there is a marshy area several miles long to the south and west of the lake in the vicinity of the Dead Cambridge River.

Harris said the proposed dam will not include facilities for generating hydro-electric power but that it will be designed so that such generators may be added later.

While there have not been severe floods in recent years to point up the need for improved water control, the low water conditions this summer and the cutbacks in mill production have made clear the advantages of increased water storage.

Caption underneath map accompanying above article

NEW ERROL DAM

Six companies in Maine and New Hampshire have completed plans for the construction of a new $12,000,000 dam to be located on the Androscoggin River directly below an existing dam, which is three-fourths of a mile above Errol, N.H. The dam will raise the level of the Umbagog Lake 28 feet and double its present 11,000 acres.

The heavy lines show the major rivers in the area and the present shores of the lake. The broken line indicates the area where there will be the greatest flooding. Several miles of the Magalloway River to the northeast of the lake will be flooded as well as a large area to the west of the center of the lake. There will also be a considerable increase in the lake area to the southeast near the Dead Cambridge River.