

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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August 2, 1920

To Hon. Frank W. Ball, Secretary of State
Re: Late Filing of Nomination Papers

Your inquiry of the thirty-first, submitting the following question,

"Can the Secretary of State accept nomination papers for independent candidates which reach this office after July 10th?"

has been received, and has had my consideration.

Section 33 of Chapter 6, R. S., as amended by Section 2 of Chapter 16 of the Public Laws of 1919, specifically provides that nomination papers for independent candidates must be filed with the Secretary of State on or before July 10th. In my opinion, this statute is mandatory, and failure to file within the statutory period deprives an independent nominee of his right to have his name printed upon the ballot, and you are not authorized to accept such nomination papers, and have no lawful right or authority to print his name upon the official ballot for the September election.

Guy H. Sturgis
Attorney General