

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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PUBLIC DOCUMENTS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

BEING THE

REPORTS

OF THE VARIOUS

**PUBLIC OFFICERS
DEPARTMENTS AND
INSTITUTIONS**

FOR THE TWO YEARS

JULY 1, 1930 - JUNE 30, 1932

STATE OF MAINE

REPORT

OF THE

Attorney General

for the calendar years

1931-1932

PAUPER SETTLEMENTS

April 1, 1931

To Grube B. Cornish, Secretary
Department of Public Welfare

Answering yours of March 25, I am of the opinion that the question of "settlement" is a matter of procedure rather than of substance. Our court has held that "settlement" is not a "vested status", *Augusta v. Waterville*, 106 Me. 394.

If this is so it would follow that the new law takes effect in all cases superseding the old law. The children about whom you inquire would therefore, take the mother's settlement under the new law.

PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOTS FOR COUNTY
COMMISSIONER

April 16, 1932

To Hon. Edgar C. Smith
Secretary of State

I have your inquiry as to the arrangement of the primary ballot in a county where nominations are to be made for more than one county commissioner. The problem as you fully appreciate, is not without difficulties.

You refer to P. L. 1880, ch. 239, sec. 32, now incorporated into the revision of 1930 as ch. 92, sec. 2.

You also refer to the fact that when later the primary law was passed, no express reference to the method of nominating county commissioners was made, the first section of the primary law, now R. S. ch. 7 sec. 1, merely making a general provision.

It is unfortunate that the primary law, or the subsequent revisions of the statutes which have included both the above sections, did not resolve the ambiguity, as was done in the case of United States Senators, by R. S. ch. 7, sec. 7.

I understand that in practice your office has placed together in one bracket on the primary ballot those filing nomination papers for long term county commissioner as candidates against each other for the nomination for that term, and similarly in another bracket those filing for a short term. Your office has requested those who file nomination papers in such cases to specify which term they are seeking. Consistently, on the election ballot in September you have classed as separate offices each county commissioner vacancy with one nominee from each party in each case.

This practice conforms to the practice expressly provided for in the case of United States Senators, and is consistent with a legal theory that each county commissioner holds a different office, i. e.,