

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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March 16, 1938

Mr. Herbert W. Thompson
Mapleton, Maine

Dear Mr. Thompson:

I have read with a good deal of interest your letter of March 8th.

As you know, the State within the past few years has shown considerably increased interest in town government and finances. Several towns are being deorganized and returned to the wild land form of government. Certain others are going back to the plantation form and the Emergency Finance Board is handling the affairs of four of the towns of the State.

Mr. Holley, the State Tax Assessor, and I have spent many hours discussing the possibility of establishing some State system as outlined in your letter, and we both believe that if it were possible to consolidate towns like your own with some of the surrounding small towns into a district with a manager, or agent, to supervise and conduct the affairs of all of the towns so united, it would result in much better and more economical government and save a good many of the towns of the State who are now in financial difficulties from the necessity of giving up their charters and returning to a wild land status.

We have had in mind for some time that we would attempt to secure sufficient support for this plan so that we could present to the next legislature an act which would permit such consolidation for under the present state of our statutes such union would be impossible.

I read your letter to Mr. Holley this morning. He

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is greatly interested in it, and if you want to come to Augusta sometime and discuss the matter we would be very pleased to sit down with you. It would also be a fine idea if you would sound out the sentiment of the people in your town and the two other towns which you have in mind and, later in the summer when the traveling improves, we have in mind holding a meeting of interested people and attempt to get some unity of sentiment on this proposition.

The plan, in my opinion and that of Mr. Holley, has a good deal of merit, and we are both very pleased that you have become interested in it.

Very truly yours,

Franz U. Burkett
Attorney General

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