

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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



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

**This document is from the files of the Office of
the Maine Attorney General as transferred to
the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference
Library on January 19, 2022**

August 23, 1938

Mr. Ray S. Foster
Dennysville, Maine

Dear Sir:

The problem of limiting the vote on the local option questions to be voted on at the State Election to residents of the town affected in cases like your own where voters from the unorganized territory are entitled to vote, has been under discussion by this office and the Secretary of State's office since the ballots were printed.

We have all agreed that the voter coming into a town from the unorganized territory should not be permitted to vote on these questions. Probably the statute should have provided that the local option questions should be on a separate ballot on different colored paper, and limited only to residents. However, the ballots for this year were printed on white paper and in addition to the three local option questions, carried a chance to vote on a Constitutional amendment having to do with the length of time necessary to acquire the right to vote, and this last question, of course, is one on which the qualified voters in the unorganized territory have a right to cast their ballots.

The Secretary of State has decided today on a method of procedure and will issue instructions to all of the election officials in those towns where voters from adjoining unorganized territory are expected to vote, which will definitely outline a method of procedure which will effectively limit the balloting on these local option questions to residents of a town. While the problem in your particular town is, perhaps, more pronounced than in any other particular place, on account of the situation which you have outlined in your letter, there are some 150 towns similarly but to a lesser degree affected.

I am very sure you will find the method worked out by the Secretary of State effective.

Very truly yours,

Sanford L. Fogg
Deputy Attorney General