

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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February 12, 1941

The Attorney General

Governor Sewall

The County of Cumberland has two requests for extradition for non-support. The respondent in one case is in New Brunswick and the other is in Kentucky. In both cases, I am told, the deserted wife is putting up quite an argument demanding that her husband be brought back and punished.

I have just received a letter from Mr. Weatherbee, County Attorney of Penobscot County, in which he says that he has such a case involving a man who is now in Durango, Colorado. This man formerly lived in East Millinocket and a warrant was issued in Bangor Municipal Court on September 14, 1939 charging non-support. He deserted his wife and three small children.

What is to be the attitude of the Executive in regard to asking for the extradition of such men as these? I might say that different Governors in the past have taken different attitudes. I believe Governor Baxter used to refuse to ask for the extradition of men wanted for non-support because the results had a way of proving so unsatisfactory. Some Governors have asked that the people asking for extradition, in certain cases, pay a part of the cost.

Of course, if the counties involved are going to pay the cost we are not particularly interested, but if the State is going to pay the cost, we are. Do you want to insist that in cases like the above the counties themselves should bear the expense?

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Attorney General