

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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May 29, 1941

Frank I. Cowan, Attorney General

William D. Hayes, State Auditor

I have your memorandum of May 16th in regard to various problems which I will take up in the order in which they are asked.

1. Interpretation of the exclusion clause in the last paragraph of Section 1, Article I of Chapter 216 of the Public Laws of 1931: The language seems to be clear. If any specific questions arise involving the interpretation of the law, I will be glad to endeavor to answer them.

2. Courts: I gave you an opinion on this subject in January. Since then, several trial justices have professed inability to understand what to do under certain circumstances. I placed the whole subject with one of my assistants about a month ago and asked him to give the subject careful study and make whatever modification of my hastily given opinion ~~was~~ his interpretation of the law warrants. He reported verbally that he found no errors in the opinion. I asked him to put the matter in writing for your benefit and haven't heard from him since. I assumed that he had give you a written statement.

3. Interpretation of Chapter 257 and Chapter 295 of the Laws of 1941: Both of these questions have been answered previously.

4. Interpretation of the law regarding Railroad Taxes: This has been taken care of by opinions from this office, based on an opinion of the Justices of the Supreme Court.

5. I don't seem to have on hand any questions in regard to interpretation of the laws concerning bonds.

In answer to your question, the 2nd sentence under 5, I will say that the last law governs, so that there should be no confusion in your interpretation of Section 5 of Article I, Chapter 216 of the Public Laws of 1931 and its correlation with other specific laws regarding bonds.