

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 817**

S. P. 293

In Senate, February 18, 1959

Referred to the Committee on Retirements and Pensions. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Parker of Piscataquis.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-NINE

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**RESOLVE In Favor of a Survivor Benefit Allowance for  
Otelia M. Race of Guilford.**

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**Otelia M. Race; survivor benefit allowance. Resolved:** That Richard J. Race, late of Guilford, be given credit for  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years of teaching service rendered in Vermont, so that Otelia M. Race of Guilford, his widow, may be eligible for a survivor benefit allowance based on  $17\frac{1}{2}$  years of teaching service by Mr. Race.

**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

The following is an outline of the teaching service of Richard J. Race of Guilford:

1929—1 year principal, North Danville, Vermont.

to 1 year Math. Instructor and assistant principal, Northfield, Vermont.

1940—9 years Supervising Principal (Principal of high school and Superintendent of town school, grades and high) Underhill, Vermont.

**11 Years**

1941—Instructor in Shop Math. at Quoddy Village, 5 months

1941—Employed by Maine Employment Service and U. S. Employment to Service for about 3 years

1944

1944—Teacher of Science and Dorm Master at Lee Academy, Lee, Maine  
to 1 year

1945

1945—Instructor in Sciences at Foxcroft Academy, Dover-Foxcroft, Maine  
to from 1945 to date of death, July 20, 1957

1957

A Master's Degree in Education was earned by attending five summer school sessions, viz., 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935 and 1940. Degree was awarded in 1946.

Upon leaving Vermont, the State Retirement contributions he had made were withdrawn by him according to Vermont State laws. These were contributions for the 11 years he was in Vermont.

In November 1953, after teaching in Maine for 9 years, and a total of 20 years in all, he started making payments to the Maine State Retirement System for the 11 years of Vermont teaching, which would make these years creditable at point of retirement. These payments were completed in November 1954. (\$827.50)

Mr. Race had 11 years Out-of-State, and 14 years in Maine, making a total of 25 years. Contributions have been made over the total 25 years.

Following her husband's sudden death, Mrs. Race was in a state of shock and it was impossible for her to work away from the home for several months. In March of 1958, she started work as temporary substitute clerk in the post office. She has earned about \$1,000 this year. Due to intense fatigue it seems improbable that she would be able to work longer hours there or elsewhere. Because her blood pressure has dropped steadily during the last year and because an anaemic condition has bothered her for many years, she finds it difficult to carry on full-time employment. She also has a goiter which seems to have increased in size, and an abdominal condition that may need surgery. With no sure income from one month to the next, she does not feel that she can have these ailments attended to.

Her father is 87 years old. Her only sister takes care of him and one son. She has no brothers. Her other nephew is married and has two small children, so there is no one to help her.

Her home is free of any mortgage and her taxes were \$156.80. It needs a normal amount of maintenance. The furnace is small and burns wood. She burns oil in the kitchen stove and in a small heater in the dining room in coldest weather. The upstairs is shut off in winter as she can't heat it. Her oil bill for 1958 is about \$110. Her wood for furnace was about \$54. Electricity is about \$60 per year and water is the minimum \$14. Added to this is a small amount she has to pay a boy for a few odd jobs at \$1 per hour.

These amounts are quoted in hopes of showing that she lives as economically as a person could. Her income doesn't begin to cover her needs.

She intends to work and help herself all she can for as long as she can, but a set income would eliminate much of the worry she now has from one month to the next.