

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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State of Maine

Annual Report
of
Maine Civilian Defense



For Year 1944

STATE OF MAINE
CIVILIAN DEFENSE CORPS
STATE HOUSE, AUGUSTA

December 31, 1944

The Honorable Sumner Sewall
Governor of Maine

Your Excellency:

I have the honor to submit the third annual report of the activities of the Maine Civilian Defense Corps for the period January 1, 1944 to December 31, 1944.

**THE
IMPROVEMENT
IN THE
MILITARY
SITUATION**

By the beginning of the year it was reasonably clear that the tide of battle was slowly turning in our favor; as the year progressed and this apparent tendency became a certainty, the Military Authorities have more and more relaxed their control of civilian defense along the Atlantic Seaboard. The Executive Orders issued by Your Excellency and by this Office have been designed to keep pace with the intent of the Army while, at the same time, taking no step which would endanger the State, since each step in the relaxation of military control merely increased the responsibility of the State to provide for its own safety. Furthermore, on July 28, 1944, the War Department authorized the suspension, until otherwise ordered, of civilian defense rehearsals and drills in the States of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, which order was made effective in this State on August 15, 1944 by our General Order No. 16. On October 20, 1944, the Commanding General, Eastern Defense Command, further clarified the War Department order by stat-

ing that "The Commanding General is of the opinion that the air raid protection regulations should be continued until the final outcome in the European Theater is in sight." The Commanding General, consequently, declined to acquiesce in any disbandment of civilian defense organizations and, as a result, local units of the Maine Civilian Defense Corps have been maintained on a "stand-by" basis, though, in most instances, with reduced personnel. At the close of the year 1943 there were approximately forty-seven thousand persons in the Protective Services of the Corps; although exact figures are impossible to obtain at the present time, it is estimated that the present list of active members of the Protective Services throughout the State numbers some thirty thousand, with no persons in training at the present time.

REHEARSALS AND DRILLS

Except for a few local rehearsals held last Spring, only two State-wide rehearsals were held during the year. A third had been scheduled for the month of January but was cancelled by the Military Authorities. One of the two rehearsals held was a daylight drill, and the other a blackout drill. In May, the Staff of these Headquarters participated with the Staff of District No. 1, First Service Command, and the Staff of the State Guard, in a Command Post exercise conducted from the Lewiston Armory. This exercise covered the entire State, and while no troops or other personnel were actually used in the field, the Staffs concerned had valuable experience in meeting various types of emergencies which could arise in the event of any form of enemy action. Members of General Miles' Staff from the First Service Command acted as umpires and conducted the critique.

TRAINING PROGRAM

Some additional instruction in gas defense was given in several parts of the State although it was not possible, without more Federal assistance, to carry it beyond the elementary stages even in those localities where it was available.

The fire schools continued to operate through the Summer months under Civilian Defense auspices, but the future of such instruction from now on must lie, as I suggested in my last report, in the hands of existing State agencies rather than in an emergency organization such as the Maine Civilian Defense Corps. There can be no doubt that the fire instruction program carried on during the past three years has been of marked benefit to Maine firemen. Again, I should like to express the hope that the progress which has been made will be permanent, and that regular instruction in up-to-date methods of fire fighting will become a regular part of the State program under appropriate auspices.

**ABOLITION
OF
DISTRICT
WARNING
CENTERS**

With the approval of the Military Authorities, all District Warning Centers and sub-District Warning Centers were discontinued on June 11, 1944 in accordance with your Executive Order No. 34. In order to provide for the security of the State, Maine was organized under a single Warning Center located at Headquarters, Maine State Police, Augusta, and designated by the Military Authorities as "Maine District Warning Center". Through this Center messages were disseminated throughout the State by means of direct communication with County Sheriffs and those larger municipalities having organized Police Departments. The County Sheriffs were responsible for warning smaller towns within their jurisdiction by calling previously designated telephone numbers. In the event that telephonic communication is disrupted, the police short-wave radio network could be utilized. When tested, the communications network functioned fairly well in spite of the unfamiliarity of certain local officers with the changed procedure. At present, the State Operations Center would function during an emergency at Headquarters, Maine State Police (i. e., the Maine District Warning Center.) The local public alarm system remains unchanged.

During the past three years the communications network of the Corps has been the very heart and soul of the entire organization. I cannot conclude my final report to you without paying

the highest tribute to the Controllors and their loyal and devoted staffs who have contributed so largely to the reputation of the Corps in the opinion of other States and of the Military Authorities and who, by the unselfish performance of their too-often thankless task, have probably done more to enable Maine to cope with any foreseeable emergency than any other single group of men and women in the State. I should also like to add that the high degree of speed and efficiency achieved by the several District Warning Centers has been fully maintained by the cooperation and equal devotion of the Maine State Police, upon which now falls the full responsibility for maintaining State-wide emergency communications.

Too much credit, likewise, cannot be given to the Telephone Company which, three times during the past eighteen months, has been obliged to change the organization of the communications network. In each instance the shift was made without friction and with the minimum of delay, and messages continued to be dispatched with the same celerity no matter what the plan under which they were operating. I hope that Mr. C. H. Bauer, Communications Liaison Officer, will be able to convey some measure of our appreciation to his personnel.

WATER DISTRICTS

As the Maine Civilian Defense Corps presumably approaches the end of its active period of service, I should like to say a word of appreciation for the cooperation which the Corps has received from the various Maine Water Districts and Water Companies under able leadership of the State Water Coordinator, Mr. J. Elliott Hale. The various Water Districts, through the Maine Water Utilities Association, had already devised a plan for emergency action before the Maine Civilian Defense Corps came into being. With the completion of the organization of the Corps, however, and its necessary division into Warning Districts for the purpose of speedy action, it was soon apparent that it would be necessary to coordinate the highly important function of water supply with the general scheme of defense organization. With the completion of the State-wide "Mutual Aid" plan in October, 1942, the emergency

water supply scheme was set up in conformity with the "Mutual Aid" plan and, so far as tests and rehearsals are an indication, has demonstrated its ability to function satisfactorily in conjunction with other defense activities. For this, great credit must be given to individual companies, to the Maine Water Utilities Association, and to Mr. Hale.

**EMERGENCY
MEDICAL
SERVICES**

Of all branches of the Maine Civilian Defense Corps, the one which has altered least and whose personnel, save for the demands of military service, has maintained its strength, is the Emergency Medical Services. It is the policy of the Federal Government, and

of the State as well, to make no change in that branch until the day and hour of the conclusion of the European War can be predicted with reasonable certainty. The Red Cross, although abiding by the joint agreement between the Office of Civilian Defense, the Red Cross, and the Federal Security Agency, made in June, 1942, is preparing to revert to its former peacetime organization so far as this country is concerned and, in many instances, is enrolling members of the Emergency Medical Services of the Corps in local Red Cross organizations. Until, however, the present State laws are altered, thereby releasing the Corps from its responsibility, or until the European War ends, the Emergency Medical Services will continue to function under the aegis of Civilian Defense.

**REDUCTION
IN
STATE
PERSONNEL**

In conformity with the idea that the Maine Civilian Defense Corps is a temporary organization, and that the expenses of its maintenance should be reduced in proportion to the seriousness of the emergency which called it into being, the events of the Spring and Summer of 1944 resulted in a drastic

curtailment in the number of paid members of the State Staff. In April, Mr. Robert W. Hudson, Administrative Officer and Personnel Officer of the Corps, went off the salary list; in August, Mr. R. G. Webber, In Charge of Publicity and Fire Instruction did likewise. Mr. Hudson, although he has continued to give part-

time service on a volunteer basis, returned to full duty with the Central Maine Power Company which had generously lent him to the Corps for as long as his services should be required. As of October 1st, Mrs. Donald M. Payson and Mrs. Allan P. Stevens, Director and Deputy Director respectively of the Citizens Service Corps, went on a volunteer basis, and as of December 31st Mr. C. H. Arber, earlier Chief of the Training Division and, during 1944, Executive Secretary of the War Recreation Committee of the Corps, resigned.

The willingness of these Staff members to continue to work for the good of the State on a volunteer basis after they no longer felt that the expense of their salaries was justified by the nature of the emergency, puts the people of Maine deeply in their debt. We have been extremely fortunate in the loyalty and service of all the members of the Staff.

At the time of my last report, there were twenty-six persons on the payroll at these Headquarters; as of December 31st of this year there are five full-time people with a quarter-part of the time of the State Property Officer, Mr. George Griffiths, whose other activities have been transferred to the Headquarters of the Adjutant General. (For figures showing the reduction in operating costs, see Table on page 19)

The numbers of volunteer personnel in towns and cities throughout the State is impossible to estimate accurately since, with the inactivation of so many services and the placing of others on a "stand-by" basis, it is difficult to state just what is meant by the term "active" membership in the Corps. However, as I have suggested above, it would be safe to count on approximately thirty thousand persons, any or all of whom could be relied upon to resume their jobs on call should an emergency in any part of the State make it necessary for them to do so.

**FEDERAL
CD
EQUIPMENT**

The Federal equipment tabulated in my report for 1943 still remains in the communities to which it was allocated, with the exception of four 500 g.p.m., trailer pump units which have been recalled by the Federal Government for shipment overseas.

Communities having Federal equipment which they consider no longer necessary for their needs are required to report the fact to the Federal Government which will then either withdraw the equipment for assignment elsewhere, or else authorize these Headquarters to call in the equipment for later use within the State. This does not apply to fire pump units which, when declared surplus, are withdrawn by Federal authority for assignment to the Army and Navy.

FILM SERVICE

In order to give greater service to thousands of volunteers being trained for active service in the home front army, the Maine Civilian Defense Corps purchased a 16 mm. sound moving-picture projector and screen in January, 1942. Using films given by the Office of Civilian Defense, Washington, D. C., and others purchased from various film concerns, a film library service was made available to all units of the Civilian Defense Corps as well as to schools, churches, men's and women's clubs, Boy and Girl Scout organizations, Granges, and other civic-minded bodies. Our Office also worked closely with war industries in regular showings of films to war workers.

This film service was an invaluable asset in (1) training, (2) public information, (3) maintaining morale, and (4) assisting government agencies in getting their messages to the public. We cooperated actively with the Office of War Information, Red Cross, War Loan Drive Committees, and the United States Army and Navy in preparing the minds of our people for the job at hand. We believe that by means of this visual education a great deal was accomplished in a short space of time for a great number of people.

Since January, 1942, we have tried to keep this film service up-to-date. Bookings for these films reached the peak during the first three months of 1944, with an average of between fifty and fifty-five showings per month. Attendance at these showings ranged anywhere from twenty-five persons to one thousand persons per day. Our service had several prints of the films most in demand in order to more nearly fill the many requests that

came in, especially for scenes from the fighting fronts where Maine boys were in action. Our projection equipment was used almost entirely for meetings which were directly connected with local Civilian Defense activities.

With the curtailment of the activities of this Office, the film service has been suspended with the end of the 6th War Loan Drive. The films remaining in our possession have been given to the Central Film Library, University of Maine, Orono, and to State Police Headquarters, Augusta, where they continue to be of service. O.W.I. films are to be returned to Washington, D. C.

**CIVILIAN
WAR
SERVICES**

During the year 1944, that branch of the Maine Civilian Defense Corps which probably contributed most to the war effort of our people was the Citizens Service Corps under the able leadership of Mrs. Donald M. Payson and Mrs. Allan P. Stevens. At the peak of the Civilian Defense organization in Maine, that is in the autumn of 1942, there were five hundred and seventeen women serving as County and Town Citizens Service Corps Chairmen. By October, 1944, three hundred and fifty-two of the original appointees were still serving and the replacement of those who, for one reason or another, had resigned, has brought the total of active leaders in Civilian War Services to four hundred and twenty-eight as of the close of the year.

From the beginning, the primary object first, of the Women's Division and, later, of the Citizens Service Corps, has been to further the war effort of our citizens by assisting Federal and State agencies in any war activities where a volunteer organization in over four hundred communities could be effective.

During the past year the Citizens Service Corps has participated in forty-one war projects and, in many of these, it has borne by far the larger part of the burden of carrying them to a successful conclusion. The assistance given by the CSC in these projects covered two hundred and seventy-five Maine towns and cities. From this it is obvious that the State of Maine has a

general record of volunteer participation in essential war projects of which it can be justly proud. In her annual report Mrs. Payson has pointed out that the women who serve as County and Town Chairmen of the Citizens Service Corps have been, in large measure, responsible for this outstanding record; I, myself, should like to add that the other indispensable ingredient in this success has been the untiring and inspiring leadership of Mrs. Payson herself.

The Neighborhood Plan (house-to-house contact) which was fully explained in my 1943 report, has continued to be invaluable, especially in smaller communities. Without such an organized plan it would have been far more difficult to carry on the campaigns for the sale of War Bonds, the War Chest, salvage, the recruiting of essential labor, etc. In those towns which have been unable to set up a Neighborhood Plan, the CSC Chairman has worked through local organizations, church groups, the Boy Scouts, 4-H Clubs, the Grange, and any other available means, with surprisingly good results. The State Staff has been delighted and encouraged at the various methods used by Town Chairmen to carry through a given project, and we are thoroughly convinced that "rugged individualism" and "Yankee ingenuity" are by no means dead in the State of Maine!

COMMUNITY CANNING CENTERS

As heretofore, the Citizens Service Corps has cooperated with the Director of Home Economics Education, of the Department of Education, and the University of Maine Extension Service in promoting community canning and, in addition, has been solely responsible for other canning centers. Apart from those under the supervision of other agencies, three thousand, five hundred and sixty-four persons rendered volunteer labor in community canning centers for which CSC was responsible, contributing a total of thirty-nine thousand, six hundred and fifty hours of service. These figures do not constitute a complete service report, as time given to preliminary organization work has not been included, and many of the daily and weekly Chairmen kept no record of time given to maintaining a flow of produce and workers into the centers. The following table shows more graphically than any

general statement the vital importance of the work done or promoted by the Citizens Service Corps in this aspect of war service:

**COMPARATIVE REPORT FOR THE THREE YEARS
OF COMMUNITY CANNING CENTER OPERATION:**

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of Centers</i>	<i>Total Pints</i>		<i>Sch. Lunch and Emergency Use</i>		<i>Home and Family Use</i>	
1942	43	197,087	197,087	100,361	100,361	96,726	96,726
1943	50 (summer)	356,162		80,334		275,828	
	(fall)	61,080		18,860		42,220	
			417,242		99,194		318,048
1944	36 (summer)	211,260		59,124		152,136	
	(fall)	66,059		26,018		40,041	
			277,319		85,142		192,177
			891,648		284,697		606,951
						School Lunch and Emergency Use.....	284,697
						Home and Family Use	606,951
						GRAND TOTAL FOR THREE YEARS.....	891,648 pints

It is interesting to note that, based on present ceiling and market prices, the value of the 891,648 pints canned in the centers measured in terms of dollars would reach at least \$178,329.60. Approximately 10,000 volunteers have rendered labor service during this period.

While on this general subject of nutrition, it is worth noting that the Extension Service of the University of Maine requested the assistance of CSC in the promotion of its 1944 nutrition project, "Food Fights for Health", by broadening the base of its classes through recruiting non-Farm Bureau women as members. CSC offered a certificate to all participants who completed the course, and during the current year two thousand, five hundred and forty-nine women received such certificates.

The United States Employment Service through its Rural Industries Supervisor, Mr. Thibodeau, endeavored to check the results of the CSC campaign to provide cannery labor. As a result of his investigation at Rockland, he wrote to thank the local Chairman "for the splendid assistance rendered by your organization in your recent recruiting drive to fill the labor needs of

the local canning industries. While it is impossible to indicate the actual number of persons recruited, we can state that within ten days following your recruitment, canning factory workers increased by seventy-five."

Apart from canning centers and the canning industry itself, the Citizens Service Corps has been active, in cooperation with Mr. McIntire, Director of the Emergency Farm Labor program, in recruiting emergency farm labor, particularly in the Counties of Cumberland, York, Oxford, Kennebec, Androscoggin, Sagadahoc, Knox, Franklin, and certain sections of Penobscot. A total of forty-five towns in thirteen counties participated in farm labor recruiting under this program.

**CSC
COOPERATION
WITH OTHER
AGENCIES**

During the year, CSC has served as the recruiting agency for emergency volunteer workers in a full third of the War Price and Rationing Boards, and also found approximately one hundred and fifty out of a total of four hundred and ten regular volunteers and Price Panel Assistants. Similarly, CSC was responsible for a house-to-house canvass in seventy-two towns and assisted in such a canvass in fifty-six additional towns for the 4th War Loan Campaign. For the 5th War Loan Campaign, CSC was used in one hundred and fifty-six communities, and materially assisted in securing additional amounts, especially in rural areas. In connection with paper collections last summer, Mr. Darroch, Executive Secretary of the Maine Salvage Committee, wrote concerning CSC assistance: "The collection of salvage, especially paper, has been greatly stimulated by CSC in Franklin, Piscataquis and Somerset Counties. This rise in interest is due to the cooperation of CSC personnel in these three counties in undertaking an experimental house-to-house campaign in July. It has proved so successful that we would like to request CSC assistance in other counties." CSC immediately undertook additional work in Waldo, Lincoln, and Knox Counties, and is extending its activities further as time permits. In Piscataquis County, four carloads of paper were taken out of one area, where only one had ever been collected before.

From the beginning the Citizens Service Corps has been active in promoting community and Victory Gardens; perhaps the most important part of their work in that connection during the past year was the holding of three Garden Institutes in Portland, Bangor, and Presque Isle with a view to stimulating interest in bigger and better gardens.

One aspect of the work of CSC which has been little known is its cooperation with Army Service Forces recruitment. Mr. Steele, Chief, Recruitment and Placement Branch of the Office of the Surgeon General, Army Service Forces, sought the assistance of the Citizens Service Corps in his efforts in this State, and wrote concerning their help as follows: "The complete cooperation of all possible agencies was obtained. This is particularly true of groups like the Citizens Service Corps, as individualized contact and follow-up was found to be far the most effective method of recruitment."

I have thought it desirable to call to your attention and to the attention of the people of Maine only a few of the many and varied activities of the CSC and of the admirable work which that branch of the Maine Civilian Defense Corps has done, not only in the way of service to the citizens of the State, but as a positive and invaluable contribution to our war effort. Lack of space prevents any further elaboration of their activities in this report, but the items mentioned above may serve to acquaint our people with the importance of their patriotic efforts.

SOCIAL PROTECTION

The State Committee on Social Protection has continued to function effectively during the year. Closest cooperation has been maintained with the Division of Venereal Disease Control of the State Bureau of Health, and Dr. McCloskey rendered valuable leadership as well as assistance in the program. His transfer will leave a gap in the State plan which will be hard to fill. Mrs. Stevens, Deputy Director of the Citizens Service Corps, has continued to serve on the Advisory Committee appointed by Dr. Roscoe L. Mitchell.

The State Committee has prepared and published a pamphlet on "Techniques in Social Protection" which has been widely distributed in the State and requested by the regional Federal Security Agency for distribution to the twelve regional directors of the Social Protection program. A reprint may be found necessary.

The status of the program as of September, 1944, is both encouraging and discouraging. Troops sent to Maine show an increase in infection and, upon transfer to other New England states, show a decrease, which would seem to indicate a high rate of infection in the civilian population of Maine. Better reporting of cases has been noted and locating contacts has been excellent, averaging 71 per cent as contrasted with the 56 per cent average for New England. In diagnosis of contacts reported, Maine has an average of only 55 per cent, as against the New England average of 66 per cent and the New Hampshire average of 80 per cent. Expansion of the facilities of the State Laboratory and keeping technicians up-to-date on procedures, which Dr. Mitchell, at the committee meeting on August 17, 1944, indicated would be done, ought to make possible a higher average in diagnosis, and thus bring under treatment infectious cases now menacing community health.

Beginnings have been made on an industrial program, but progress has been slow.

Cooperation with recreation committees, with the Malt Beverage Industry and the State Liquor Commission, public and private health and social welfare groups, law enforcement agencies, interested citizens, and the medical profession, has forwarded the purposes of the committee. The State Social Protection Committee will continue its work in the future under the State Department of Health and Welfare, with Mrs. Langdon T. Thaxter remaining as Chairman.

**WARTIME
CHILD
CARE**

Critical labor areas, established as such by the War Manpower Commission, have continued to be studied and visited by local Citizens Service Corps Chairmen, as well as by other members of the committee. Investigations have been conducted in twenty-two Maine

communities, but in a number of these communities it was difficult to establish the need for Child Care as a war necessity. Particularly in communities which had long been industrial in nature, it was found that the need for Child Care facilities was of long standing and that the apparent need for a Wartime Child Care program was brought about simply through the aggravation of a long-standing problem.

Several factors have contributed to the lack of demand for nursery schools or Day Care Centers: unfamiliarity with this type of care, increased earnings of the men, difficulties of transportation, cost to the mothers, the twenty per cent withholding tax, seasonal and irregular employment. The burden of house-keeping added to a day's work in industry has deterred many women with children from seeking war employment, and has thus reduced both the need and the demand for this service so far as Maine is concerned.

The program will be kept active by the State Departments of Education and of Health and Welfare, with Mrs. Stevens remaining as Chairman. Recommendations will be referred to the proper Department and the same working relationship with the Federal Works Agency will be maintained.

CORN BORER ERADICATION

A good example of the assistance which the Citizens Service Corps has been able to render to the Department of Agriculture is to be found in our efforts to assist that Department and the University of Maine in checking the increase of the European corn borer within the State. The enormous increase in home and Victory Gardens, many of which were cultivated by amateurs who know little or nothing about care of the land and who neglected their plots during the autumn of 1943 in spite of existing laws, was in large measure responsible for the increase in the corn borer during 1944. Since those Victory Gardens had been promoted by the Civilian Defense Corps, it was only reasonable that our best efforts should be directed towards eradicating the pest which they had served to increase. Accordingly, letters were sent to all County Co-

ordinators, Municipal Chairmen and the local Town Chairmen of the Citizens Service Corps, bringing to their attention the problem and urging them to make use of their local organization in order to inspect and insist upon the clean-up of all gardens which had not been properly managed. Each community in Maine was covered by this campaign and more than two hundred of them reported that they had carried out the inspection and the procedures recommended by this Office, in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture and the Extension Service. In this connection, it is not without interest to note that the only State Department which has an organization in practically every community in the State and which is accustomed and willing to carry through State-initiated programs is the Maine Civilian Defense Corps. The effectiveness of the organization has been demonstrated many times, not only in connection with the Protective Services, but also in connection with such less publicized but equally important projects as the one I have just mentioned.

**WARTIME
RECREATION
PROGRAM**

The advent of military personnel into many Maine communities in 1941 and the increase in numbers of servicemen stationed in the few cities accustomed to their presence forced attention to the necessity of a program of recreation. Local Defense Recreation Committees were formed to cope with the problem.

The Reverend E. Milton Grant, Chairman of the active and successful Defense Recreation Committee in Presque Isle, had been asked by this Office to attend the National Recreation Conference in Cleveland, Ohio, as early as October, 1942, with the purpose of bringing back a resume of national thinking on the subject, and plans for a program adaptable to Maine conditions. Mr. Grant was subsequently named Chairman of the State War-time Recreation Committee, the purpose of which was stated as follows:

“The purpose of the War Recreation Committee is to provide an adequate, diversified program of recreational activity for all groups regardless of age, race, creed, or

economic status, thereby building health, stimulating good citizenship, moulding character, decreasing delinquency and eliminating accidents; and, more specifically, making the fighting forces more efficient, reducing absenteeism and labor turnover, and keeping morale on the home front at a high level."

At the Maine State Wartime Recreation Conference on April 28, 1943, in the House of Representatives at Augusta, Maine, four panel discussions covered Wartime Recreation for the Military, for Defense Workers, for the normal civilian population and the mobilization of volunteer leadership. An attendance of more than two hundred people from fifty communities, from Aroostook to York County, attested the interest in recreation. Mark A. McCloskey, of the Federal Security Agency, Washington, D. C., struck an encouraging and optimistic note at the sessions.

Two training institutes for recreation leaders were held in May, 1943, in Bangor and Portland. One hundred and forty-seven potential leaders from forty towns attended. A check-up in September disclosed that sixty towns had organized and carried on a summer recreation program.

In September, Mr. Grant resigned the chairmanship because of his transfer from the State. To continue the very able leadership established by him, Malcolm E. Morrell of Brunswick was appointed Chairman and Mr. C. H. Arber, Executive Secretary to the Committee. Mr. Arber has done much field work in assisting local committees to plan a program and to secure the consultant and technical services available through the Federal Security Agency and other sources.

On May 9, 1944, the second conference on recreation was called by you and attracted an attendance of more than three hundred. "Community Recreation through Group Cooperation" was the theme, with emphasis on recreation for youth and industrial workers. At the close of the meeting a resolution was presented to the Governor calling on "Governor and Council and/or State Legislators to make necessary provisions in the

present State Laws to permit inclusion of a community recreation division or state recreation division”.

At your request, the Committee has outlined a plan for the transferral of its activities to the supervision of an existing State Department so that continuity of the program may be assured when the Civilian Defense organization ceases to exist. The plan has been submitted to the Attorney General and translated into a bill for presentation to the 1945 Legislature. This plan provides that the State Park Commission shall add a division of Community Recreation to its existing organization. This will consist primarily of an Advisory Committee on Community Recreation composed of five members, no more than three of whom shall be men. The Commissioner of Education and the Commissioner of Health and Welfare shall be members ex officio of the Advisory Committee. A budget has been prepared and presented to the Legislature's Budget Committee. An Enabling Act granting authority to cities and towns to establish Recreation Commissions and to make appropriations for recreation work has also been prepared for presentation at the 1945 legislative session.

Two training institutes for leaders were held in Portland and Bangor in September, 1944, and one at Presque Isle in November, 1944, with a training expert from the National Recreation Association staff and the Director of Boston's Community Recreation Service to head the courses. One session at the Maine State Teachers' Conference was devoted to the subject of recreation, with speakers furnished by the State Wartime Recreation Committee.

Sixty-five towns now report programs in operation. Thirty-five towns have "teen-age" centers with four others in the process of organization. During October and November, 1944, eleven new towns have requested help in developing a plan of recreation.

The future of the program rests with the incoming Administration, since it can no longer be regarded as an emergency war measure and, therefore, should not continue under Civilian Defense control or sponsorship.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

The tribute which I endeavored to pay to the various Law Enforcement agencies, both permanent and volunteer, in my 1943 report, is equally applicable to the year 1944. To that, however, should be added the fact that they, especially the State Police, now bear a heavier burden than ever before in that they are wholly responsible for the Maine Warning Center, and that the dissemination of emergency messages of all sorts rests upon County and Municipal Police Departments as a result of the disbandment of the District Warning Centers. They have, with few exceptions, shouldered the added burden uncomplainingly and effectively, and Acting-Chief Upton's staff at Headquarters, Maine State Police, is constantly alert to the defense needs of the State. Maine is indeed fortunate in the caliber of its Law Enforcement officials and of the Wardens of the Inland Fish and Game Department and the Sea and Shore Fisheries who have been given police powers by your order.

FOREST FIRE FIGHTERS SERVICE

The Forest Fire Fighters Service has continued to function successfully along the lines indicated in my report for 1943. Approximately the same number of persons are included in the Service and the success of its efforts has been even better than had been hoped. Indeed, the success of the organization has been so marked that the Commissioner proposes to retain this organization, which had its origin in the national emergency, into the postwar period as a necessary and important service in the conservation of one of Maine's greatest assets. This is a good example of what I have long advocated: that worthwhile aspects of the emergency measures undertaken because of the war be retained as permanent advantages to the State under an existing State agency when Civilian Defense as such shall cease to exist.

**SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES FOR CIVILIAN DEFENSE
CORPS**

From January 1, 1944 to December 31, 1944

PROTECTION SERVICES

State, County and General Over-all Expenses	\$24,622.28
Protection Services Instruction	960.36
Printing and Postage	4,248.62
Warning System Communications	5,437.79
Insignia and Equipment	20.14
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	\$35,289.19

CITIZENS SERVICE CORPS

State, County and General Expense	23,666.36
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TOTAL *\$58,955.55

* This total represents a net figure; a credit of \$3,440.55, which was received by the State from the sale of equipment, conference tickets, salvage, film rental, etc., has already been deducted.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF MONTHLY EXPENSES

1943-1944

1944		1943	
January	\$ 7,516.18	January	\$10,614.95
February	6,574.38	February	9,050.33
March	6,749.17	March	10,452.39
April	5,523.59	April	9,446.20
May	6,134.78	May	10,738.45
June	9,306.31	June	15,397.58
July	5,212.04	July	8,731.12
August	3,179.51	August	9,232.64
September	2,963.51	September	9,654.67
October	1,804.06	October	8,911.94
November	2,175.69	November	8,419.57
†December	3,000.00	December	10,571.71
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TOTAL	\$60,139.22	TOTAL	\$121,221.55

† Charges for December have been estimated.

SUMMARY

From the foregoing you will note that not only have the Protection Services been inactivated and war services activities curtailed, but the paid staff has been reduced to such an extent that it is barely sufficient to take care of necessary Federal Property accountability, orders, records, reports, mailings and office routine.

As the year closes, we are authoritatively warned from Washington that robot bombs are a possibility. Enemy action along our coast has not altogether ceased, as will be abundantly clear when the story can be told. We still have the possibility of sabotage on a disaster scale. We still have the responsibility for protecting areas adjacent to ports of embarkation where large quantities of munitions are stored and shipped. Heavy war industry within the State is not alone the worry of the Federal Government. These, coupled with the apparent prolongation of the European War, I believe, require the retention of a protection organization capable of being reactivated. This is in accord with the expressed desire of the Military Authorities.

Although for the moment our war services organization has no specific task other than the routine of furnishing auxiliary volunteers to various Federal and State war activities, as will be noted from our 1944 experiences additional tasks are certain to arise in 1945.

The Maine Civilian Defense Corps still remains an organization which we believe will meet the above conditions. Owing to the apparent prolongation of the European War, it is possible that there may be need for a larger paid staff to reanimate some of the activities which are now being carried on with volunteers. The growing apathy of the public toward participation in various war services, and the public's trend toward anticipating the end of the war may make the task confronting the State of Maine exceedingly difficult. Chapter 305 of the Public Laws of 1941, approved January 21, 1942, empowers and directs the Governor "to provide for the security, health and welfare of the people of the state, including the civilian defense of the state, and to cooperate with the federal government and with other state govern-

ments” and likewise “to establish and organize a civilian defense corps to be known as ‘Maine Civilian Defense Corps’, which shall be under his direction and control . . . and which shall be governed by rules and regulations promulgated by him.” The future activities of the Corps, consequently, depend by law upon the opinion of your successor as to the need and desirability of continuing those activities. And his opinion will presumably be governed by recommendations from Military Authorities and by the progress of war in the European Theater.

Before closing I would be remiss if I did not express my sincere gratitude and acknowledge the great obligation of the State to Deputy Director Edward A. Whitney. Since the early part of 1942 he has served as second in command. At the same time he has served as head of the Citizens Defense Corps (Protection Services). Through his wise counsel and able assistance he has contributed greatly to the splendid record of the Maine Civilian Defense Corps.

Likewise this report, made to you at the conclusion of your term of office, would be absurdly inadequate without making clear to the people of this State the extent to which you, yourself, have been responsible for the effectiveness of their civilian defense organization. Your constant thought for the safety and wellbeing of our citizens, your willingness to accept responsibility, sometimes at cost to yourself, your vision of an alert, integrated, cooperative army of responsible civilians for the furtherance of Maine’s war effort and for the protection of her people, the wise counsel and steady encouragement which you have unfailingly given to your subordinates—these qualities of leadership in you, coupled with the patriotism and spirit of the citizens of this State, have made possible such success as the Maine Civilian Defense Corps has achieved.

Respectfully submitted,

F. H. FARNUM,
Director