

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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POLITICAL PARTY PLATFORMS

STATE OF MAINE

1952 - 1958

CITIZENSHIP CLEARING HOUSE

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BOWDOIN COLLEGE

BRUNSWICK, MAINE

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Introduction

Although political parties are voluntary associations, Maine law requires them to hold biennial conventions at which the delegates of each party "shall formulate and adopt its declaration of principles, or platform, for the state election next ensuing." This bulletin contains recent platforms of the two major parties in Maine. In 1952, the Republican Party of Maine was unable to agree on a platform and succeeded in winning the election without one. To fill the void here the 1952 statement of principles adopted by the Young Republicans is included.

This publication continues the effort of the Citizenship Clearing House to attract college students to politics. This organization assumes that knowledge of public affairs invites interest. By making these state party platforms available the Citizenship Clearing House hopes to further thought and analysis of the contrasting approaches the Republican and Democratic parties of Maine bring to the problems of today.

These platforms cannot be understood without knowledge of the composition, organization and aspirations of the political parties which adopted them. Accordingly it is hoped that students of politics will use these texts as a basis for analysis. Among the questions that might be considered are these: (1) In what ways do these platforms express compromises within a political party? (2) Have these platforms reflected the ideas of the party nominees for state office in the different years? (3) On what points do the two parties consistently agree and disagree? (4) In which platforms have entirely new ideas been adopted? (5) To what extent have the two party delegations in the state legislature followed the pledges in the respective platforms?

I wish to thank Kenneth Carpenter, Mrs. Clifton Burrowes and Miss Pauline Caron for assistance in preparing this bulletin.

Clement E. Vose

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	i
Democratic Platform (1952)	1
Democratic Platform (1954)	4
Democratic Platform (1956)	8
Democratic Platform (1958)	13a
Young Republican's Platform (1952)	14
Republican Platform (1954)	16
Republican Platform (1956)	19
Republican Platform (1958)	25a

DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM (1952)

We, the Democratic Party of Maine, in state convention assembled this 22nd day of March, A. D. 1952, do hereby recommend to the people of Maine, the following platform, which shall control our administration of the affairs of this State in the event such administration shall be entrusted to our care.

PLATFORM:

First, our first concern will be greater utilization of our state's resources, human and natural. Toward that end we will work for the following:

1. Those measures which will promote uniform and improved standards of education throughout the state and which place more emphasis on professional and vocational training. We advocate a salary schedule for teachers which will raise them at least to the level of the employees with similar skills and responsibilities in private employment.

2. Those measures which will make available for useful service all our water and mineral resources. We particularly support development of the international Passamaquoddy Tidal Power project and maximum development of our river valleys. Maine should be ready to cooperate with other New England states and the Federal Government to bring about full development of our hydro-electric power potential if private industry is unable or unwilling to do so. We advocate repeal of the Fernald Law.

3. Those measures which will conserve, protect and expand our forest and soil resources.

4. Those measures which will attract sports-loving and vacation bound people throughout the Nation to our state, but which will, at the same time, insure that our natural beauties and vacationland assets will be conserved for the enjoyment of posterity.

5. Those measures which will bring about acceleration of our road building program with due consideration for rural areas.

6. All other measures which will attract new industries and encourage present industries to expand, encourage the development of new products, search out new markets for our products, and otherwise create those opportunities which will attract young, capable and enthusiastic people who, alone, can insure the future prosperity of our state. The present program and facilities of the Maine Development Commission are wholly inadequate. We favor an expansion of the Maine Development Commission program with greater emphasis on industrial development and with sufficient personnel to assist cities and towns in their industrial programs.

Second, our next concern will be to strive to eliminate those conditions which breed crime, diseases of the mind and body, divorce and broken homes, dependent and poverty-stricken old age. To provide for those who are now the victims of those conditions, we propose to support the following:

1. Those measures which will provide adequate care and rehabilitation for those eligible to seek the assistance of our state institutions.

2. Those measures which will provide increased grants to those of our aged, who are in need with a minimum of red tape.

3. Those measures which will insure the distribution of ADC funds on an equitable and efficient basis, by: (a) more strict enforcement of the liability of those legally bound to support dependent children; and (b) more local supervision and control of ADC cases.

4. Those measures which will further improve the social security program.

5. Those measures which will indicate our State's appreciation and recognition of service rendered by veterans of all wars, including the Korean conflict.

6. Those measures which will more adequately protect the rights of workers under the Workmen's Compensation Law. We particularly support: (a) an increase in minimum benefits to \$15 per week; (b) an increase in maximum benefits to \$28 per week; (c) provision for medical and legal counsel of the worker's own choosing at the expense of the employer.

7. Those measures which will improve our unemployment compensation program. We particularly favor increasing the weekly benefits and benefit period with additional benefits for dependents and support extension of coverage to all employees.

8. A wage-hour law conforming to the provisions of the Federal law.

Third, our next concern will be to administer the affairs of the State within the ability of our citizens to pay for government. In order to achieve this goal and at the same time implement the first two planks of this platform, we are convinced that we must support the following propositions:

1. The number of state agencies and departments must be reduced by eliminating overlapping and unnecessary functions.

2. Personnel policies must be reviewed to insure the procurement of personnel on the basis of ability and training, rather than political background and to insure efficiency in the use of available personnel.

3. Purchasing and inventory policies must be overhauled to insure better control or expenditures.

4. Wasteful practices such as the highway betterment fund, and notorious road resolves, whose only justification is their political usefulness, must be eliminated.

5. We deplore the action of the Republican-controlled 95th Legislature for imposing a sales tax on the people of the State of Maine without their consent by declaring an emergency when none existed. We propose repeal of the sales tax and the enactment of a personal income tax based on ability to pay to produce needed revenue.

Fourth, our next concern is to insure a working, two-party system of government for the State. Then, and only then, can our people hope for economy and efficiency in the administration of their affairs. Toward this end we advocate:

(Dem. 1952)

3.

1. Elimination of the Gerrymandering of legislative districts.

2. Bi-partisan representation of legislative committees, state commissions, and the judiciary.

3. Election of Governor's Council by popular vote.

4. Elimination of the separate September election.

Portland Sunday Telegram, March 23, 1952

DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM (1954)

We, the Democratic Party of Maine, in state convention this 27th day of March, 1954, do hereby adopt the following platform with these as our aims:

1. To strengthen our party so that it may give effective leadership to the many people of Maine who believe in it.
2. To bring to the government of the State of Maine the wholesome effects of strong competition, which, in affairs of state as well as in business, is the only guaranty of honesty, efficiency, and continuing progress.
3. To bring about, on the part of the legislative and executive branches of our state government, a keener awareness of the challenging duties of their trusteeship in developing and preserving the human and natural resources of the state.
4. To insure that Maine shall keep in step with the economic progress of the nation and shall no longer be discounted in national planning because of its safe and sure domination by one political party.

CONSTITUTION

1. Reapportionment. Special session of the legislature to enforce compliance with Constitution.
2. Revision. A preparatory commission followed by a Constitutional Convention to revise the Constitution, (to include changes here set forth).
3. Election Date. Elimination separate dates for state and national elections.
4. Governor's Council. Abolition of Governor's Council.

CONSERVATION

1. Reorganization. Creation of Department of Conservation to have jurisdiction of forestry, inland fish and game, sea and shore fisheries, mineral, water, and other natural resources; to administer anti-pollution program, to be adequately staffed by career personnel.
2. Legislation
 - a. Anti-pollution law, tested by experience elsewhere, together with necessary positive legislation to combat problems of industrial and sewerage pollution.
 - b. Legislation to insure adequate fishways.
 - c. Regulations to stimulate intelligent cutting practices and reforestation.

JOBS AND PAYROLLS

1. Credit Unions and Cooperatives. More active leadership by state government in aiding farmers and fishermen to organize credit unions and cooperatives for production, merchandising and marketing.
2. Milk Control. Repeal of price fixing of milk above the producer level.
3. Maine Development Commission. More emphasis on industrial activities of Maine Development Commission to achieve balance with recreational efforts.

4. Seaports. Recognition by State Government of importance of Port of Portland and other seaports to statewide economy; increased facilities and promotion.

5. Deflation Insurance. Leadership by State Government through the Department of Labor and Industry in aiding communities to take prompt advantage of any federal public works program enacted to forestall depression.

HIGHWAYS

1. Investigation. Immediate and exhaustive inquiry into purchasing and contracting practices of the State Highway Commission, to be directed by a bipartisan committee.

2. Reclassification. No reclassification of highways without adequate financial safeguards for sparsely populated areas.

3. Pork-barrel. Abolition of system of highway pork-barrel appropriations.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

1. Problems of the Aged. Continuation and financial support of existing state Committee on Aging.

2. Aid to Institutions. Increased appropriations for state institutions, including Pownal, State mental hospitals, T. B. sanatoriums.

3. State Aid Programs. More realistic level of benefits and financial responsibility requirements for relatives of recipients of state aid in terms of the value of today's dollar. Aid to physically handicapped through administrative program rather than through special resolves of the Legislature

LABOR

1. Unemployment Compensation.

a. Coverage enlarged to include all employees.
b. Increase of benefits and benefit period, and additional benefits for dependents.

2. Industrial accidents.

a. Coverage enlarged to include small firms.
b. Increase of benefits to reflect lower purchasing power of dollar.

c. Rehabilitation program for disabled workers.

3. Minimum Wage Law for intra state firms.

PUBLIC UTILITIES

1. Rate-making law. Re-examination of rate-making law to prevent inflated values entering into base for utility rates charged to consumers.

2. Public Utilities Commission Staff. Increase of Public Utilities Commission technical staff to be more equipped to evaluate requests for rate increases and decreases.

3. Passamaquoddy. Aggressive continuing support of Passamaquoddy tidal power project together with Federal development of the undeveloped potential power of the state where practicable, on a multiple purpose basis.

EDUCATION

1. Increased state aid to remove discrimination against communities under present law.
2. Adequate recognition and support of state teacher training schools.
3. Adoption of six year legislative program for progressive increase in minimum salaries for teachers, with appropriate state participation.
4. Increased support of University of Maine.

LOBBYING

Requirement that lobbyists file reports of compensation and expenses which shall be available for public inspection.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

Support of newly formed Judicial Council and serious consideration of its recommendations.

TAXATION

1. Revision of Tax structure. Complete reappraisal of state tax structure by adequately financed independent Citizens' Committee.
2. Specific tax legislation, including:
 - a. Elimination of unjust features of sales tax, tax on water consumption, and other inequities.
 - b. Adequate tax provisions for land owners in unorganized territories.

ECONOMY IN GOVERNMENT

Creation of a state Commission for the reorganization of the Executive Branch of the Government, consisting of legislators and citizens of both parties, and aided by an adequate technical staff, to study the Executive Branch and make recommendations, including the following areas.

- a. Personnel procurement policies.
- b. Personnel workloads.
- c. Inventory policies.
- d. Purchasing policies and procedures.
- e. Budget control methods.
- f. Overlapping of functions.

CALL TO ACTION

We stand ready and willing at all times to commend the opposition party for any and all acts of a constructive nature which it may accomplish in the best interests of the large majority of the people of our state. These, we feel, have been all too few for decades of uninterrupted control. But we also reserve the privilege and accept the responsibility of condemning majority control of our public affairs for its omissions and failures in serving our people which we feel have been too many.

The greatest of these has been the lack of imaginative legislative and executive action to meet the challenges of a modern society in this atomic age. The declining, or, at best, static population, the emigration of Maine youth, the "down at the heel" condition of too many phases of the economy of Maine, educational and social welfare programs, and in institutional services and properties are grave indictments -- free of technical defects -- against the majority party control of the affairs of our state.

MAINE NEEDS A CHANGE

Portland Press Herald, April 14, 1954

DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM (1956)

Here is a complete text of the platform adopted Saturday by Maine Democrats at their State convention at Brewer:

This platform is the result of the free discussion of State problems by hundreds of people from every corner of Maine. It reflects their thoughtful concern with our human and economic resources, and their proposals for governmental reforms to conserve and to develop these resources in the interests of the common good.

It salutes the boldly imaginative leadership of Gov. Edmund S. Muskie for his initiation of far-reaching legislative action. It applauds the loyal civil servants and friends of responsible government who have helped to broaden the narrow vision of our state government after years of uninterrupted one-party control.

As a means of strengthening further an effective two-party system of government for our State, the Democratic Party of Maine, in State convention assembled this twenty-fourth day of March, 1956, hereby adopts the following platform of ideas and ideals:

GOVERNMENTAL REFORM

"To strengthen the position of the chief executive of our State as a responsible leader of the majority of the people, we urge:

"The abolition of the Executive Council; the provision of a four-year term for the Governor; the institution of annual sessions of the Legislature; the creation of a cabinet of department heads appointed by the Governor to serve concurrently with him; and the confirmation of gubernatorial appointments by the State Senate.

"To increase the efficiency of our State government, we recommend the revision of our State Constitution; the elimination of separate dates for State and National elections, with the gubernatorial election being held in a non-presidential year; the creation of a Board of Pardons to handle probation and parole cases, and to recommend to the Governor cases for executive clemency; the prohibition of all State employees from participating in State political activities; in view of the recognized public interest in lobbying activities, a requirement that lobbyists file full statements of their fees and expenses; and the formation of a Department of Conservation to include supervision of all our natural resources. We recommend that the survey of State Government, initiated by Governor Muskie, serve as the basis of future legislative and administrative action.

HUMAN RESOURCES

"Reaffirming our belief that the full development of the human resources of the State rests finally on its system of education, from the elementary school to the university

and adult community, we urge:

"Increased appropriations for teachers' salaries by the State to enable communities to meet successfully the competition for their teachers; continuing scrutiny and revision of the formulas governing state subsidies to towns and cities for education, including the cost of new school buildings.

"Immediate Federal Aid to education in full confidence that such aid can be received without federal interference in teaching and learning.

"Aggressive and systematic improvement of facilities of State teachers' colleges and increased salaries for staffs.

"Steady strengthening of our University of Maine and increased appropriations to enable it to lower its tuition to make opportunity for study there available to a larger number of Maine youth.

"Commendation of the creation of a permanent Advisory Committee on Education, provided with necessary funds, to study continuously the problems of education in the State, together with problems of departmental organization, and to recommend solutions to these problems in order of their importance and critical urgency.

"Increased Old Age Assistance from the present maximum of \$55 a month to such amount as is necessary to approach the increase in the cost of living; the liberalization of old age assistance requirements for eligibility and dependency; and the inclusion of convalescent homes in the hospital insurance program.

"In order that more attention be given to treatment and rehabilitation of patients, we urge increased support for all State Institutions of Welfare to enable them to attract and to retain adequately paid, decently housed, and professionally trained personnel.

"Carrying out of Governor Muskie's long-range building program to meet institutional and educational needs, providing necessary capital through accepted business financing principles.

"The establishing of State-wide preventive and psychiatric programs to reduce the growing number of mental patients now requiring hospital care.

"The setting up of an institution for the treatment and rehabilitation of patients suffering from alcoholism, perversions, and other maladjustments.

"The appointment of two deputy commissioners: one for penal institutions, and one for psychiatric institutions.

"A continuance of the gradual process of encouraging Indians to take their places in general society as first-class

citizens of the State without destroying the values of tribal organization for those who prefer to remain on their reservations.

"As a means of achieving the ends of justice and of improving the service of rehabilitation, we urge the establishment of a permanent Board of Pardons, Parole, and Probation to handle cases of parole and probation, and to recommend to the Governor cases for executive clemency.

"The reactivation of the Judicial Council as a permanent organization with an adequate staff and budget to consider such changes in our judicial system as the establishment of district courts and courts of domestic relations, and to recommend improvements in rules governing judicial proceedings.

"Systematic continuance of the merit increase program for all state employes.

"Recognizing that the labor which produces and contributes to the economic resources of the State is a precious element of our human resources, the Democratic Party urges:

"The enactment of a State labor relations law.

"The enactment of a minimum wage law.

"An act to require the Maine Industrial Accident Commission to publish its rules of procedure, and to provide that reasonable counsel fees be paid by the employer in disputed cases arising out of claims for compensation by workmen injured in industrial accidents; and revise the law to reduce to 4 the minimum number of employes required for industrial accident coverage.

"A legislative resolution against discrimination in industrial employment to protect elderly employees.

"Revision of the unemployment compensation law so as to remove the inequities of the present laws governing disqualification.

"We recommend that the State Park Commission be given the status of a park authority to acquire and develop more recreation and camping areas and historic sites, with power to issue its own bonds.

ECONOMIC RESOURCES

"To protect the interests of the farmer and to encourage the consumption of fluid milk and milk products, the Democratic Party recommends revision of the law fixing the price of milk to embody the successful experience of states comparable to Maine.

"Legislation to lighten the financial burdens of the farmer by expanding Federal aid and exploring further sources

of State aid in spreading a lower interest rate over a longer period of time.

"Support of the concept of a Federal Farm Program to protect the interests of the family farm. We urge that the products of the Maine farmer should be considered in all Federal Farm legislation.

"To encourage Farmers' Cooperatives we urge the assignment of a qualified State Agent to act as consultant to cooperatives in management and marketing techniques.

"Commendation of the steps taken by the farmers in Aroostook in establishing a successful self-help plan of cooperative sales promotion, and methods of marketing.

"Recognizing that a critical situation exists as a result of the failure of the seven-year accelerated program, and believing that Maine's economy has a great stake in the road system, from the smallest farm-to-village road to the greatest super-highway, the Democratic Party recommends the formulation of an adequately financed plan with stricter controls of construction schedules and costs, and an improved method of rural-road assistance.

"The Democratic Party commends the advances made by the Department of Industry and Commerce, established under Governor Muskie's leadership, in stimulating a more effective program for economic resources, including forests, minerals, and recreation, by means of improved research, promotional methods, and public relations.

"A program to increase the availability of capital at a low rate of interest for industrial development by exploring Federal and State assistance.

"Revision of the rate-making law to prevent inflated values entering into the base for utility rates. Mindful of the vigorous support which the Democratic Party has always given the Passamaquoddy Tidal Project as a source of inexpensive power, and commending the Democratic Congress for enacting into law the Passamaquoddy Tidal Power Survey Bill, we urge the appropriation of \$3,600,000 by Congress as called for by the Bill in order that the survey can be made.

"Legislation to achieve the full development of the hydro-electric potential of our great river systems with due regard for the preservation of existing recreational resources.

"Appropriate steps to realize our atomic energy potential in the public interest.

"Review by a committee to be appointed by the Governor of all legislation affecting sea and shore fisheries and a public report of its findings.

"Increased appropriations to provide additional coastal wardens and more effective promotion of sea foods in State and out-of-State markets; and increased federal appropriation for more adequate Coast Guard protection, and the improvement of harbors and navigation facilities.

"Creation of a Department of Conservation with jurisdiction of inland fish and game, mineral, water, and other resources, as well as sea and shore fisheries.

"Strengthening the present State laws controlling water pollution to prevent any increase in the present level of pollution and to provide a deadline for the start of pollution abatement, with a flexible time limit to prevent unreasonable hardship during clean-up operations in complex cases of contamination.

"Legislation to insure adequate fishways.

"The Democratic Party urges a complete reappraisal of the tax structure of the State.

"We commit ourselves to work to bring out the increased services set forth in the foregoing platform, and we recognize our responsibility to provide sufficient revenue to meet these needs.

"In view of the economies possible through further use of line budgeting initiated by Governor Muskie, the savings resulting from the consolidation of overlapping departments described in the reforms advocated in this platform and a history of increasing revenues from existing sources, we believe that no tax increase or additional tax should be put into effect until there is a demonstrated need for such revenue. Should this need be proved, we reaffirm our conviction that the ability-to-pay principal be paramount in any tax program.

ADDENDUM

"The Democratic Party urges a complete reappraisal of the tax structure of the State.

"We commit ourselves to work to bring about the increased services set forth in the foregoing platform, and we recognize our responsibility to provide sufficient revenue to meet these needs.

"We recognize that there are economies possible through further use of line budgeting initiated by Governor Muskie, that there would be savings resulting from our proposed consolidation of overlapping departments, and there is a history of increasing revenues from existing sources.

"We also recognize that these factors may not be enough to provide for the minimum needs that spell progress.

"Any additional revenues should be based on the ability-to-pay principle, whether this be achieved through a graduated income tax or an increase in the sales tax with additional exemptions covering the necessities.

"We believe that the people of Maine, in the light of these needs, will support such a tax program."

March 26, 1956

DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM (1958)

We, the Democratic Party of Maine, have undertaken exhaustive survey and analysis of the goals which the people of Maine seek to achieve and of the problems they confront in their strivings towards these ideals.

We are proud of our record which demonstrates that the major portion of our last platform has already been realized. This has been accomplished through the vigorous and inspiring leadership of Governor Edmund S. Muskie, the wholehearted support of the Democratic legislative delegation and the competitive spur of a strengthened two-party system.

We dedicate ourselves to the basic ideal of progress as measured by the betterment of the lives of all our people in every facet by which living becomes satisfying and ennobled.

In this spirit, the Democratic Party in State Convention assembled this 22nd day of March, 1958, does hereby adopt the following platform:

THE GOVERNMENT OF MAINE

THE PUBLIC'S RIGHT TO KNOW

We believe that the objective of good government will be more speedily and effectively realized from the point of view of more efficient organization and better service to our people if the operations of government, its policies and the decisions which are made in all branches are fully exposed to public view and openly and frankly discussed by public officials, the people, and the newspaper, radio and television media.

EXECUTIVE RESPONSIBILITY

The Democratic party is dedicated to the principle that the executive branch of our government would be a more effective instrument of service to our people if the Governor were in fact the center of executive authority and responsibility. We acknowledge the adoption of the four-year term for governor, long recommended by the Democratic Party as an important step toward the implementation of this principle. We believe that the full realization of this goal will be achieved by the enactment of the following proposals:

1. Abolition of the Executive Council.
2. Annual sessions of the Legislature.
3. Ratification of gubernatorial appointments by the Senate.
4. Provision for an adequate administrative staff for the Governor.
5. Appointment of the Secretary of State, Attorney General, Commissioner of Agriculture and State Auditor by the Governor; abolition of the office of State Treasurer and transfer of its functions to the Department of Finance which is fully equipped

to perform them.

6. Legislation to provide that terms of department heads coincide with that of the Governor.

7. A Consistent effort toward greater consolidation of state departments and toward the creation of an advisory cabinet of department heads.

JUDICIAL REFORM

To ensure that respect for law upon which our society ultimately rests, the Democratic Party reaffirms its belief that our judicial system must be ever responsive to the expanding knowledge of human behavior and must be geared, continually, to dispense justice, amidst the increasing complexities of modern living, with promptness and efficiency.

To this end, the Democratic Party has urged a State Probation and Parole System which has been established under the leadership of Governor Muskie, and the Party now favors:

1. Enlargement of the powers of the Judicial Council, as a permanent body, continually to study and survey the operation of our judicial system, as well as to evaluate, criticize, recommend and sponsor proposed legislation affecting the judicial system; and revision of the structure of the Judicial Council, with necessary financial resources, to enable it more effectively to exercise such enhanced powers.

2. Replacement of trial justices and Municipal Courts by a system of district courts, with civil and criminal jurisdiction enlarged over that presently conferred upon Municipal Courts, including jurisdiction over all matters relating to domestic relations; the judges of the district courts to serve full time, with compensation equivalent to Superior Court justices and to be appointed by the Governor in the same manner as are Superior Court justices.

3. Complete revision of the laws pertaining to juvenile offenders to eliminate the inconsistencies, overlappings and deficiencies which have resulted from patchwork legislation and to achieve the greatest benefit from presently established corrective and treatment institutions in relation to juvenile offenders.

4. Providing adequate facilities by which delinquent children, who must be confined pending ultimate disposition of their cases, shall not be kept in jails but shall be given secure custody appropriate for children and for the commencement of an immediate treatment program.

THE PEOPLE OF MAINE

EDUCATION

We believe that the development of a first rate educational system, extending from the elementary school to the university and adult community, is indispensable to the future of our State.

The Democratic Party salutes Governor Muskie's leadership of the successful effort to enact school legislation making feasible larger school administrative units; we acknowledge this legislation to be a major advance toward the attainment of high quality education in the public schools of Maine. We believe that the other educational improvements made during Governor Muskie's administration, in raising teachers' salaries and in the physical facilities and faculty salaries at the teachers' colleges and the University of Maine, are also indispensable to the achievement of our educational goals.

In order to stimulate continued improvement of our schools, we propose that the legislation facilitating school consolidation be utilized to the fullest extent and that the following supplementary steps be taken:

1. So that our schools will be equipped to meet the challenge offered by recent scientific and technological advances and so that each student may progress as far and as fast as his abilities will allow, local school boards and the State Department of Education should re-examine elementary and high school curricula, with the expectation that curricula of top flight quality will be devised, emphasizing not only mathematics and science but also English, foreign languages, history and government.

2. In order to increase the number of Maine high school graduates attending college, a long-range program should be adopted to provide strengthened guidance departments in school systems throughout the state; state scholarships for able students; reduction of tuition at the University of Maine for Maine students; and continued expansion of the facilities of the University of Maine, including the use of the State's credit to encourage low interest financing of university buildings.

3. The improvement of Maine Vocational Technical Institute should be continued and additional vocational institutes should be established as soon as funds are available.

4. In order to secure high calibre teachers for Maine's elementary and secondary schools, progress must be continued in two areas: the upgrading of teachers' salaries and the improvement of academic standards, physical facilities and faculty salaries at the teachers' colleges.

5. The Governor's Advisory Committee on Education should be continued and properly financed so that it can promote with maximum effectiveness citizen interest and support of improved education at every level in Maine and so that it can determine the possibilities of improving adult education programs and programs for gifted and retarded children.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

Although the Democratic Party prizes initiative and self-reliance, we recognize that it is often necessary for our government to protect and provide for those people who are incapacitated by circumstances beyond their control. We commend the advances made in this field under Governor Muskie's leadership: the inauguration of the nursing home program; elimination of the

citizenship requirement for Old Age Assistance; increased public assistance grants; continued expansion of the treatment program for alcoholics; and the recent improvements made in the facilities of state hospitals and correctional institutions.

We recommend that the following measures be considered essential to the development of a plan designed to provide for the needs of the people of Maine:

1. Increase payments for Old Age Assistance, Aid to Dependent Children, Aid to the Blind and Aid to the Disabled to such amount as is necessary to approach the increase in the cost of living.

2. Establishment of the Committee on Aging as a permanent part of state government so that it can continue to stimulate and coordinate local efforts to formulate programs for elderly people.

3. A two-fold effort to provide an effective program designed to aid the prevention of juvenile delinquency.

- a. A study of the need and practicality of established child guidance clinics on a county, regional or district basis.

- b. Expansion of the services of the Division of Child Welfare of the Department of Health and Welfare to make possible the early detection and treatment of children with problems.

4. The development of a comprehensive and integrated mental health program of prevention, cure and care, centered about a separate Department of Mental Hygiene.

5. Provision of psychiatric services for the correctional institutions and the Department of Probation and Parole.

6. Enlargement of the program for direct services for counseling, education and some clinic care for alcoholic rehabilitation.

7. Direction of special attention to raising living standards on the Indian reservations and to providing educational and vocational opportunities that will encourage greater participation in community life.

8. Continuation and improvement of the nursing home program.

STATE EMPLOYEES

1. Provision of additional classifications and pay analysis experts to the Personnel Department so that the efficiency and competency of the personnel system may be increased.

2. Development of a carefully planned program designed to readjust the salary scale of state employees so that Maine will be in a better position to compete with the other New England states for professional employees.

3. Systematic continuance of the merit increase program for all state employees.

LABOR

To strengthen the employment opportunities and to improve the living standards of the working men and women of Maine and to promote that respect and understanding between working people and their employers essential to the welfare of our state, the Democratic party favors:

1. Continuance of the present state policy which permits employers and employees, by mutual agreement, to condition employment on membership in a union.
2. Legislation to provide for immediate review by the highest court of the state of the granting or denial of any temporary injunction in a labor dispute.
3. A state minimum wage law prescribing a minimum wage of one dollar per hour.
4. Legislation to protect elderly persons against discrimination in employment because of their age.
5. Legislation to provide time off from work for voting.
6. Legislation authorizing the Industrial Accident Commission, in disputed cases, to award reasonable counsel fees on behalf of an injured employee.
7. Legislation to furnish additional unemployment compensation based upon family dependents; to revise inequities in the present disqualifications for benefits; and to extend the benefit period.

HIGHWAY SAFETY

We favor:

1. Legislation requiring that all persons between the ages of 15 and 17 complete an accredited driver-education course before they can be issued a license to operate motor vehicles, with appropriate exceptions allowing limited licenses in special cases such as farm work or need incident to employment.
2. Further promotion by the state of driver-education courses.

ATOMIC SAFETY

To protect the people of Maine from the dangers of atomic radiation which may result from the increased use of atomic energy in medical research, industry or military operations within the state, we urge immediate enactment of a Safety Code governing the use of radioactive materials in the State of Maine.

THE RESOURCES OF MAINE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Democratic Party believes that it is a proper function of state government, in partnership with private initiative and enterprise to stimulate economic activity within the State and that upon such stimulation rests our State's future. We commend the advances made by the Department of Economic Development, established under Governor Muskie's leadership, in stimulating a more effective program for economic development in Maine, and we hail the creation of the Industrial Building Authority as vital to our industrial progress.

In order to secure continued expansion of our efforts in this direction, we recommend:

1. Continued improvement of the engineering, scientific and business schools of the University of Maine with emphasis on research facilities.
2. Establishment of a marketing research engineering division within the department of Economic Development to protect and improve marketing of our products of land and sea.
3. Provision of necessary facilities to the Department of Economic Development to enable it to undertake a more vigorous program by which communities will be induced to utilize to the fullest extent the Industrial Loan Act and to join forces with neighboring communities for the development of industrial parks.
4. Vastly increased advertising of Maine's year-round vacation and travel facilities and expansion of research into Maine's recreational opportunities with emphasis on winter sports.
5. Strengthening of economic ties with Canada by such means as maintaining tourist and industrial information bureaus in Canada.
6. Broader authority for the Maine Port Authority in its efforts to modernize and expand facilities at the major ports of Maine.

AGRICULTURE

1. Adjustment of unfair freight rates for Maine and New England.
2. Revision of milk price control at the retail level to make possible cash and carry and volume discounts, resulting in lower consumer prices, with the ultimate aim of easing the transition to a free, uncontrolled milk market.
3. Legislation to provide that the Milk Commission be composed of three consumers, a milk producer, a milk dealer, and a milk producer-dealer.
4. Encouragement of farm cooperatives by assigning qualified state agents to cooperatives as consultants in management and marketing techniques.
5. Rigid enforcement of the Maine potato branding law and encouragement of private group action in the production and marketing of quality potato products.

WATER RESOURCES

Noting the advances to date in stream classification and in furtherance of the program to abate water pollution, the Democratic Party favors:

1. Annual improvement of classification in every watershed in the state to assure progress in a continuing undertaking of long-range activity. Such improvement is to be consistent with the pollution problems confronted, the state of the technology bearing upon the solution of the problems, the cost of corrective measures and the resources available to meet that cost.

2. Continuation of the Federal-State matching funds program for the construction of sewage-disposal plants.

3. Stronger action than ever before in support of authorization and appropriations for the construction of an economically feasible Passamaquoddy project.

4. A program to attain the full development of the hydro-electrical potential of our great river systems, with particular attention to the development of multi-purpose projects, having due regard to the conservation of recreational resources.

SEA AND SHORE FISHERIES

To further the growth of the commercial fishing industry as a significant segment of our state's economy, the Democratic Party recommends:

1. Continuation of the present vigorous program of preservation and restoration of clam flats.

2. Expansion of the marketing program for lobsters by the Sea and Shore Fisheries Department.

3. More effective promotion of sea foods in state and out-of-state markets.

4. Increased federal appropriations for more adequate Coast Guard protection and for the improvement of harbors and navigation facilities.

STATE PARKS

We believe that the continued development of our parks and recreation areas is essential if we are to meet the great demand from Maine residents and visitors for opportunities to enjoy Maine's unequalled scenic splendors and outdoor recreational opportunities. This program should be implemented as rapidly as available funds permit and should focus on the following two objectives:

1. Progressive expansion of state parks and camp sites to provide attractive facilities in various parts of the state, so that opportunities for outdoor recreation will be available to all.

2. Acquisition of land for additional park and camp site purposes so that desirable sites in appropriate locations are obtained soon at reasonable prices for current and future developments.

FORESTS

In order to continue and strengthen our programs designed to make the best possible use of our forests, probably our greatest natural resource, we recommend:

1. A comprehensive survey of the forest resources of the State of Maine, to provide needed facts and figures concerning forest lands, an appraisal of the tax potentialities of wildlands, and information concerning the possibility of the development of forest recreational areas.

2. Continued expansion of the farm forestry service program to provide guidance to woodland owners concerning good forestry practices.

PUBLIC UTILITIES

The Democratic Party notes with satisfaction the revision of the rate-making law to prevent inflated values entering into the base for utility rates.

In support of a further program to permit the public utilities of Maine to perform their duty to the public successfully, consistent with the household budget of every citizen and the competitive position of industries in the State, we propose:

1. Legislation to promote and encourage the organization of non-profit Power Districts qualified to obtain low-interest, long-range loans from the Federal Rural Electrification Administration in areas where power is now unavailable.

2. Appropriate action to urge the retention of low-interest rate loans to Rural Electrification Cooperatives and Power Districts by the Rural Electrification Administration.

HIGHWAYS

The Democratic Party:

1. Endorses the proposition that a modernized and expanded highway system, capable of serving all areas of the State however remote, consistent with the magnitude of the highway program as currently envisioned, is essential to the progress and prosperity of Maine.

2. Recognizes that implementation of the foregoing objective demands realistic and prompt attention to the problems of additional highway financing.

3. Acknowledges that the results of the study authorized and required by the 98th Legislature are essential to intelligent planning for this program.

4. Recommends that additional revenue measures be such as will equitably distribute the burden among highway user groups in accordance with the benefits which they derive from use of our highways and that the results of such study be considered before definite conclusions in this respect are reached.

IMPACT OF NATIONAL ISSUES

The Democratic Party specifically endorses the following positions which result directly from the impact of national issues upon the people of Maine:

1. Continuance, without diminution and indeed with expansion, of Federal programs of proven value such as urban renewal, school-lunch, vocational training, public assistance, anti-pollution, hospital construction, agricultural conservation tree planting, rural electrification, and general aids to small business.

2. Legislation to remove the burden of artificially high cotton prices from the textile industry.

3. Strengthening and making permanent the Small Business Administration and enabling the SBA to provide additional technical and consulting personnel to community development organizations.

4. An effective wage-producing program for areas hard hit by changing technology, markets and foreign trade patterns.

5. Expansion of conservation reserve under the Soil Bank to include land which may not have been regularly used for crop production, thus stimulating needed reforestation.

6. Increased experiments in forest management and wood products utilization.

7. A fair and workable national farm policy which does not discriminate against non-support farm and poultry products or small Maine farms.

8. A more realistic Rural Development Program to develop more fully the total resources of rural communities.

9. A greater effort to spread federal contracts among small businesses and in depressed areas.

10. A Federal program of education assistance to meet the long-standing need for aid for school construction under a formula that recognizes average per capita income as an important factor in determining need, and to provide for supplementary aid for the liberal arts as well as for scientific education.

11. Extension of programs to provide adequate federal schooling in areas where Government installations have overburdened local facilities.

12. Establishment of adequate federal standards for the amount and duration of unemployment compensation benefits.

13. An expanded public works program geared to local needs, such as public housing, rivers and harbors projects, schools and public buildings.

The Democratic Party is profoundly mindful of the national economic recession and of its impact upon the government, the people and the resources of Maine. Most immediately the effect is to create an uncertainty regarding the revenues to be anticipated from existing sources. It likewise is clear that the people of Maine cannot be asked, in the near future, to bear burdens of increased taxation.

Under these circumstances, the Democratic Party points to its record of progress and commits itself to a continuation of progressive government for the benefit of all the people.

In the light of our record, we believe that the citizens of Maine will have confidence that the Democratic Party will fulfill the pledge it now renews: to achieve, as quickly as possible and as effectively as the resurgence of our economy will allow, the programs presented in this platform.

YOUNG REPUBLICAN'S PLATFORM (1952)

Maine Young Republicans adopted this platform at their convention here today:

Supporting a goal of a 100,000 Republican majority for Maine in 1952 to set the trend for a nation-wide Republican victory in this crucial election, and believing that the realization of this goal demands a clear, concise, and positive statement of policy,

We, the Young Republicans of Maine, in convention assembled, hereby adopt the following statement of policy:

STATE:

1. Increased efforts by a Republican administration to encourage and assist industries now operating in the state.
2. Increased efforts by every possible means to attract new industry to the state.
3. Re-examination of the state sales tax by the next legislature with special consideration to the possibility of limiting the receipts to taxes actually collected, and a re-consideration of the resale provisions.
4. Creation of a State Liquor Department under a single administrative head.
5. Re-examination by the next Legislature of the Fernald Law to determine if any benefits might accrue to the State through repeal.
6. A four-year term of office for governor, with limitation that he may not succeed himself.
7. Annual legislative sessions limited to ten weeks.
8. Endorsement of the proposed so-called "Little Hoover Commission" study of the organization and administration of state government.
9. Re-examination by the senior organization of our party of statutes and customs relating to party structure on state, county and municipal levels with the view of revitalizing these elements into a more effective party organization.

NATIONAL:

1. Application of principles of general economy to cut down all unnecessary cost of government, working toward a balanced budget.
2. Raising the moral fibre of government through elimination of favoritism and graft.

3. Expression of at least as much concern for the economically depressed and underdeveloped areas of our own Country as is now being shown for similar conditions abroad.

INTERNATIONAL:

A positive foreign policy that recognizes our position of inescapable world leadership, our responsibilities to free peoples everywhere, and the interdependence of the United States and other free nations.

Portland Sunday Telegram, March 2, 1952

REPUBLICAN PLATFORM (1954)

It being the duty of a political party to proclaim to the people its basic principles, we, the Republicans of Maine, assembled in convention in this centennial year of our party, do adopt the following platform.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

We pledge our whole-hearted support to President Eisenhower and his Republican Administration in the paramount effort to attain a lasting peace in a free world. We endorse the firm Republican foreign policy which has brought an armistice in Korea, has developed collective security in Europe, is giving aid to Indochina, and is strengthening our ties with our South American friends. Above all, this policy discards appeasement and encourages the United States and its Allies to openly and courageously fight the battle against Communism.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

We also acclaim the leadership of President Eisenhower in national affairs. We recognize his achievement in eliminating corruption in government, instituting economy and efficiency in governmental expenditures, ending controls, reducing taxation and making progress toward a balanced budget. We pledge our support to the President's legislative program and emphasize the vital importance of a Congress loyal to the President and ready to cooperate in the objectives of his administration.

STATE AFFAIRS

State Constitution

We believe that the Maine House of Representatives should be reapportioned in accordance with the Constitution and judicial decisions pertaining thereto.

We recognize that the arguments in favor of a limited four year term for Governor warrant trial by experience and therefore we believe that the Constitution should be amended to provide this change.

We commend the action of the Legislature in initiating constitutional amendments that will grant to the Indians full voting rights and that will adjust the municipal debt limitation to a realistic level. We believe that each of these questions should be affirmatively supported on the September referendum ballot.

Development

We believe that the industrial development of Maine merits equal attention with the advancement of our recreational interests. Our state government should press the study and development of all of Maine's natural resources, notably the state's mineral deposits. We commend our congressional delegation in its sponsorship of the federal study of Passamaquoddy tidal power project.

We pledge our active cooperation to those seeking broader markets for Maine products by the unrelenting promotion of Maine goods, services and facilities. We further pledge support to legislation that will aid in the aggressive development of the expanding market for our products of sea and shore.

We believe that the struggle to free our waters from pollution should continue. We hope that prompt and beneficial results will be obtained through cooperation among industries, municipalities, and the state, and we urge remedial legislation whenever necessary to supplement cooperation.

AGRICULTURE

We favor voluntary producer groups, dedicated to improved marketing and promotion of our agricultural crops. We believe a successful agricultural economy must depend upon producer initiative. We commend the Eisenhower administration for its stand against all inflexible price supports for products of agriculture.

LABOR AND INDUSTRY

We commend both Maine labor and industry for the part each plays in continuing to give the State of Maine the excellent labor management relations for which it is noted.

We believe that the Legislature should enact a fair labor relations law and an equitable minimum wage law.

EDUCATION

We pledge our support to a combined state and community effort that will continue the present trend toward better educational opportunities. We commend the progress made in the construction of modern schools and the substantial improvement in teachers' salaries.

We promise continuing legislative study of the allocations of state funds for education so that distribution to communities may be made on the most equitable basis.

INSTITUTIONS

We commend the successive legislative steps that have made substantial appropriations for the capital needs of state institutions and we pledge an orderly program of plant improvements.

WELFARE

We believe that the state welfare program should be expanded to include provisions for aid to the disabled.

HIGHWAYS

We pledge continuance of the accelerated highway construction program, placing special emphasis on the needs of

farm-to-market and state aid roads. We favor continuation of the enlarged town road improvement fund.

FINANCE

We are proud of the excellent financial condition of the state. Under successive Republican administrations the functions of state government have been efficiently performed and always with balanced budgets. We believe that the general state tax structure is now adequate to support desirable state services. We oppose any attempt, within and without the Republican Party, to promise increased services and decreased taxes, a policy that must lead to deficit financing in state government.

CONCLUSION

The Republican Party commends Governor Cross and the members of his administration for their efficient and industrious attention to affairs of the state.

While recognizing that change is inherent in all institutions, we of the Republican Party do not advocate change for the sake of change, nor do we believe that long established institutions should be lightly curtailed or abolished.

Portland Press Herald, April 15, 1954

REPUBLICAN PLATFORM (1956)

1. STATEMENT OF REPUBLICAN PRINCIPLES.

The Republican Party of Maine affirms the following as its basic principles:

1. Government exists to serve the people, not the people to serve government; it follows that-

2. The freedom and welfare of the people are primary concerns of government. These objectives cannot be attained unless -

3. Freedom of opportunity and freedom of economic activity are to be protected from unnecessary restrictions, interferences or control of governmental authority. Only clear and convincing evidence of the necessity of governmental regulation justifies its imposition or continuation. The Party stands squarely opposed to any form of totalitarianism, communism, socialism, or welfare state under whatever name such doctrine or system may be disguised.

4. Those responsibilities, on the other hand, which have been entrusted to civil authorities such as education, the highway system, the care of the aged, the mentally ill or retarded, the handicapped, the underprivileged children and proper law enforcement, should be the primary concerns of our State and municipalities. Each of these fields must be adequately financed and completely staffed, and with full recognition of these duties -

5. All governments should run efficiently, honestly and economically. For current needs, the revenue from taxation should equal appropriations, while appropriations must be limited to such taxation as may be reasonably and equitably imposed upon the taxpayers. As to future needs, bonded indebtedness should be commensurate with the value to be received in the years to come as well as limited by a justifiable method of repayment.

6. It is the further responsibility of government to maintain a sound currency and to protect its people from the hidden theft of inflation.

7. It is the duty of the Party and its members to choose as candidates for public office, under whatever method the choice is made, such men and women as are committed to the foregoing principles and have proved themselves competent as well as honest, courteous and sympathetic in the performance of duty.

2. AGRICULTURE.

On the national level we support the present administration policies which are designed to promote a realistic balance between markets and productive capacity. Among these are:

1. Encouragement of foreign trade and investment.

2. Expanding the program of research to improve marketing, reduce costs and encourage new uses of agricultural products.

3. Continuation of a program of flexible price supports.

4. To encourage and assist producers to keep supplies in balance with demand through the use of marketing quotas when adopted by said producers.

On the state level we will support measures calling for the expansion of research projects designed to improve the marketing of farm commodities, to reduce the cost of production, and to seek new uses and increase utilization.

We commend the agricultural industries for their efforts which broadened their markets and which have given Maine products new prestige among consumers. We will support the efforts of the potato industry to get a continuation, on a permanent basis, of the present diversion program, and to have this commodity included in any national support program.

We recognize that dairy farming is a major segment of our state's agricultural economy, that milk is an essential food, and that supply and demand fluctuate greatly and are slow to adjust to each other. We believe the consequences to our dairy farmers and to milk consumers of changing the existing system of milk control are intricate and difficult to predict. Hasty and ill-considered action could be detrimental to all concerned.

We urge continued study by the legislative research committee and by the milk commission itself of the complex problems of supervision and control of the milk business. Until such time as ample evidence indicates that a change in the methods of milk control will provide lasting benefit to dairy farmers and consumers, we believe no radical alterations should be made.

3. EDUCATION.

Maine faces a continuing crisis in education. Only two-thirds as many of all Maine's youth are going to college as from the rest of the nation. Our ranks of qualified teachers are constantly raided by well-financed out-of-state school agencies. We have been unable to attract enough young people to enter the teaching profession. Despite the commendable efforts of the local communities and the Maine School Building Authority in enlarging and increasing school facilities, the pressing need is still urgent with the peak load yet to come.

We commend the action of the last legislature for initiating the survey of educational organization and finance which is being conducted by the Legislative Research Committee.

We recommend that the state substantially increase its contributions to the cities and towns through an equitable formula.

We urge that the legislature and local communities continue their efforts to bring Maine teachers' salaries into a better competitive position with those of other states.

We recommend an immediate and extensive expansion of facilities and adequate staffing of Teachers' Colleges for the double purpose of meeting the standards for accreditation and attracting more young Maine people to the teaching field.

We urge an increased appropriation to the University of Maine with the view ultimately of the lowering of tuition of our Maine students.

We favor Federal Aid to education limited to aid to school building construction only.

4. ELECTION LAWS.

The State's election laws are a patchwork enacted at various times and scattered through the statute books. These should be codified and clarified by removing inconsistencies, consolidating and simplifying regulations so that these vitally important rules may be easily available and capable of being understood by the public and election officials.

5. HIGHWAYS.

We commend the actions of the 97th Legislature whereby substantially increased appropriations were made for the rural highway needs of Maine.

We recognize the need for improved highways and believe the state should take advantage of all federal grant-in-aid funds for highway construction during the next biennium.

We favor continuing the program of construction of farm-to-market roads, and the aid for town road improvement within the scope of finances available.

We are proud of the Maine Turnpike and its new extension. We advocate immediate studies of route and feasibility of its extension.

We believe the State Highway Commission should continue to authorize construction projects on the state highway system and federal secondary system, based on need as determined by continuous sufficiency rating studies.

We also recognize that adequate main highway construction program must be continued and must be so integrated as to take full advantage of whatever may be the Federal Road Program now before the Congress. Following positive Congressional action on this essential legislation, we urge an immediate special session of the legislature to consider such timely legislation as will insure the adequacy of state matching funds.

6. HIGHWAY SAFETY.

We urge:

1. That the Citizens Committee on Highway Safety be made a permanent standing committee.
2. That the driver training program be further encouraged.

3. That additional state police be added to cope with the ever-increasing traffic on our highways.

7. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

We commend the Republican Legislature for its part in making possible the creation of the Department of Development of Industry and Commerce and urge that adequate funds be appropriated to assure the accomplishment of its purposes.

We particularly urge the encouragement of opportunities in Maine for the manufacture of equipment in connection with the use of atomic energy.

We advocate the expansion of the geology division of this department for the purpose of mineral exploration and development.

8. INSTITUTIONS.

The proper and adequate care of our mentally ill and retarded is a most solemn responsibility of our state; the adequate custody of criminals and the guidance of juvenile delinquents is an undebatable duty. It is therefore recommended that competent personnel in state-operated institutions be increased, with salaries sufficient to guarantee their tenure in office. Additional buildings and equipment are necessary. For those who can benefit by it, treatment and rehabilitation must be recognized as of the greatest good both to the individual and to our people as a whole.

9. LABOR.

We are proud of the excellent relations which exist between labor and management, and urge upon all parties concerned continuous cooperation to maintain and promote our excellent labor-management relations.

Defects or inequities which may exist in the Unemployment Compensation Law affecting either management or labor should be carefully studied and such defects or inequities removed.

We recognize the fundamental justice inherent in the principle of the minimum wage and endorse it without reservation.

The attachment or trusteeing of wages has been employed by the unscrupulous in such a manner as to require restrictions on its application. The Party records itself as favoring the use of the trustee process as to wages only after judgment has been rendered.

10. OUR OLDER CITIZENS.

Every possible consideration should be given to the aged. We favor a continuation of the work of the present Committee on

Aging and recommend its report to the legislature as a basis for a program for furthering the welfare of our older citizens. We favor the removal of the present citizenship requirement for old age assistance, thereby only limiting such assistance to aliens with five-year residence who otherwise qualify.

11. PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS.

We view the provision and maintenance of adequate state parks, camping sites, picnicking areas and other recreational facilities as essential to both the enhancement of the tourist industry of Maine and the well-being of our own citizens.

We do honor to former Governor Baxter for his great generosity in giving the state about 200,000 acres of land for Baxter State Park at Mount Katahdin, and also commend the legislature for establishing other State Parks. We believe that additional camping and picnicking facilities should be established in the Moosehead and Rangeley regions, and that the existing facilities of Songo and Reid State Parks should be expanded. We also suggest that a major ocean-side state park with a full range of recreational facilities in the vicinity of the large population centers of southwestern Maine be established as soon as conveniently possible and believe that adequate provision should be made at state expense for the highway approaches to and police protection for such a park in order to impose a minimum of burden upon the town or towns involved.

12. PASSAMAQUODDY.

We commend our congressional delegation on their long and faithful work in bringing about the Passamaquoddy research. We urge the early commencement of the necessary studies.

13. PUBLIC UTILITIES.

Probably no state agency exercises as great power in economic matters involving all citizens of Maine as the Public Utilities Commission which regulates the electric and telephone companies, bus lines, motor carriers, express companies, water districts and companies, gas companies, and in certain respects the railroads. Practically all problems concerning public utilities can be solved by adequate, competent personnel in the Public Utilities Commission with salaries commensurate with its functions to administer our existing utility laws efficiently and equitably. The controlling objective of our state's administration should be to obtain for service as members of the Commission the ablest and best qualified persons available, regardless of Party, and the Legislature should make available to the Commission a substantial increase in funds to employ additional trained and competent rate engineers, accountants, attorneys, and other technical staff.

14. SEA AND SHORE FISHERIES.

We recognize the vital importance of the fishing industry. The Legislative Research Committee is now studying the subject of sea and shore fisheries. We recommend the continuance of the study, and that the committee report receive serious consideration.

15. TAXATION.

(a) We reaffirm the basic traditional Republican principles of economy as well as efficiency in government declared in our declaration of principles. Every effort should be made to accomplish these objectives.

(b) We believe that urging increased expenditures for purposes vital to citizens of the state, while refusing to recognize that revenue will be required to pay for such promised benefits, is not keeping faith with the people.

(c) We recognize that home and property owners in the towns and cities cannot bear the burden of a state imposed property tax.

(d) The Republican Party firmly opposes adding an income tax to the sales tax. Such dual taxation would be expensive to operate, unduly burdensome, and detrimental to the industrial development which we are seeking.

16. POLLUTION.

We commend the Water Improvement Commission for the progress made to date in classifying over one-half the waterways of Maine. It is recognized that stream pollution is a problem affecting our citizens throughout the state, and that abatement may place undue financial burdens on both municipalities and industry. We urge (1) that a State Fund be created whereby a fixed portion of abatement costs to municipalities be borne by the state, (2) that the present program of classification of the remaining waters which is well under way be promptly completed; and (3) that a sound up-grading program be carried out consistent with public interest, the maintenance of our industries, and the physical and financial ability of our towns and cities.

17. CONSTITUTIONAL PROBLEMS.

We believe that a number of constitutional issues under current discussion are worthy of the mature and intensive consideration which a constitutional convention could give them, free from the burdens and pressures of a legislative session.

At present there exists a grave legal doubt as to whether our State Constitution can be validly amended by the convention method. Although the legislature is expressly given

the power to call a constitutional convention, the State Constitution does not indicate what procedure should be followed for adopting the resolutions of such a convention. For this reason, we believe our State Constitution should be clarified as soon as possible by:

- (1) Providing that the legislature may call a constitutional convention to consider specific proposed revisions, and
- (2) Further providing, in order that the people of the state shall have the right to make the final decisions, that the proposals made by the constitutional convention shall be submitted directly to the people for ratification in the same manner as proposals made by the legislature.

After adoption of the clarifying amendment, we urge the legislature at its next session to call a constitutional convention for the purpose of giving consideration to amending the document in respect to the following issues, among others, which have recurred during the past several legislative sessions:

- (1) The length of the governor's term of office and his eligibility for reelection;
- (2) The creation of the office of Lieutenant Governor;
- (3) The length of the state senatorial term and the question of over-lapping membership;
- (4) The Governor's Council and method of choosing its membership;
- (5) The frequency of sessions of the legislature and its duties when such sessions should be convened;
- (6) Other changes in the legislative branch such as the size of the House of Representatives and the opening date of legislative sessions;
- (7) The method of choosing the Judge of the Probate Court, the Clerk of Courts, the Register of Deeds, and the Register of Probate;
- (8) The advisability of a domestic relations court, either as an independent court or combined with the Probate Court;
- (9) Problems concerning legislative reapportionment;
- (10) Changing the voting age.

18. EISENHOWER ADMINISTRATION.

We the Republicans of Maine, whole-heartedly commend our President, Dwight D. Eisenhower, as one of the very great chief executives in our nation's history. His keen insight and human understanding have been a source of strength to his country as well as of comfort to his fellow citizens during a perilous and trying period and have resulted in unprecedented economic progress. We endorse him as the Party's candidate for the presidency and pledge him our full support both in the state and national elections.

REPUBLICAN PLATFORM (1958)

1. STATEMENT OF REPUBLICAN PRINCIPLE:

We believe that the greatest benefit Government can provide is freedom and opportunity for its citizens to prosper by their own efforts.

We believe that the ability of the State to perform adequately these and other legitimate functions is dependent upon the prosperity of the citizens.

We therefore reject any concept of Government which promises everything for everybody and in the final analysis is detrimental to all.

We pledge honest, efficient government with a minimum of cost and interference in the lives of our citizens, and with increased opportunities for all.

2. ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTION REFORM:

To the end that our State Government function more efficiently, we favor:

- a. Consolidation or reorganization of Departments where it will achieve that objective.
- b. Less Federal and State control over the lives of our citizens.
- c. The certification of Primary Nomination Papers by Town Clerks.

3. EDUCATION:

To improve the Educational System in Maine, we recommend:

- a. State Scholarships for deserving students with exceptional aptitudes.
- b. More attention to Education for the Mentally Retarded.
- c. Increased opportunities for Vocational Training.
- d. Continued improvement in the methods and Courses in our public schools with emphasis on the exceptional child.
- e. Fully accredited Teachers' Colleges.
- f. Continued expansion of the facilities of our State University.

4. HIGHWAYS AND HIGHWAY SAFETY:

In order that Highway construction and Safety keep pace with the increased importance of Highway Use, we recommend:

- a. Continuation of scientific Highway Planning Methods.
- b. Acceleration of the Highway Safety Program.
- c. Expand student driver training programs.
- d. Enhancement of natural highway beauty by improved billboard legislation.

5. AGRICULTURE:

To improve the position of agriculture in Maine, we recommend:

- a. Continued State assistance for research, management and marketing.
- b. Encouragement of methods for processing and marketing farm products.
- c. The elimination of Potato Futures Trading.

6. SEA AND SHORE FISHERIES:

To further the prosperity of our coastal citizens, we recommend:

- a. Division of Fisheries within the Department of Economic Development for encouragement and assistance to the Maine Fishing Industry.
- b. The intensification of seeding programs.
- c. Equitable quotas for the importation of lobsters.
- d. That regulatory clam rights be granted by the Commissioner in towns which participate in approved conservation measures.

7. LABOR AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Recognizing that the State's prosperity and the welfare of its workers depends upon free enterprise which provides the livelihood of our citizens, and creates our tax dollars, we urge that every effort be made to insure full employment. To that end we recommend:

- a. Increased assistance by the Department of Economic Development for existing Maine Business and Industry in addition to efforts to attract new industry.
- b. Local cooperation with the Federal Government in the field of adult education and on-the-job training program to increase the earning capacities of Maine workers and provide higher standards of living.
- c. Legislation be enacted to prevent the unfair exploitations of skilled or unskilled labor in this State.
- d. Increased Vacation Travel advertising.
- e. That the advantages of the Industrial Building Authority be further promoted, and that it be given the right to guarantee loans for industrial park sites.
- f. Continuance and extension of the present cooperation between the State and Municipalities in the fields of planning, zoning and urban Renewal.
- g. A survey of the effect that the St. Lawrence Waterway will have on the economy of Maine.

8. FOREST AND SOIL CONSERVATION:

Believing that full and wise use of our Natural Resources will bring the greatest benefit to our citizens, we subscribe to the following policies:

a. Encourage increased participation by land owners and farmers in the activities of soil conservation Districts.

b. We commend the growth of the "Tree Farm" movement in Maine, and urge early completion of the Maine Forest Resources Survey by the United States Forest Service.

9. WATER CONSERVATION:

Believing that a continuation of our present system of Water conservation which has resulted in the classification of approximately 90% of our Inland Waterways is in the best interests of Maine, we recommend:

a. That classification of all waters be completed as rapidly as possible.

b. That upgrading and improvement of water conditions be accomplished wherever feasible.

c. That increased funds be made available for aid to municipalities for the survey and planning of sewerage systems.

d. Continuation of the existing system of Federal-State aid to municipalities for sanitary construction.

10. HEALTH, WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS:

Recognizing the obligation which we owe to the less fortunate, we believe that the following efforts be stressed:

a. Improvement of the Aid to Dependent Children Program.

b. Increased assistance to the elderly.

c. Aid to private hospitals to care for persons unable to defray their own expenses.

d. Establishment of a Youth Service Board to handle Juvenile Delinquents.

e. Additional support for State Institutions where necessary.

f. Increased emphasis on Rehabilitation Programs at Penal Institutions.

g. An exhaustive study and revision of all laws relating to juveniles.

11. TAXATION:

We firmly believe that there should be no increase in taxation under present economic conditions. The foregoing recommendations which require financial appropriations must be tempered with caution. Such services must be limited in scope to fall within existing revenues, or additional economies in State Government must be achieved.