

Mining Prospects Seen Bright

AUGUSTA, Maine UPI — State geologist Robert Doyle said Monday the potential development of a possible open pit mining operation in the Jackman area could be expected to have a significant impact on the economy of north central Maine.

In outlining the status of mining explorations in the area, Doyle said the discovery of ore deposits in the area "is considered to have caused a distinct change in geological thinking regarding the mining potential of the northeast."

He said that "while the Cathart Mountain deposit is insufficiently developed to permit a full assessment, there is adequate positive information to indicate there exists both a favorable and the characteristic mineralization necessary of a major ore body.

The Scott Paper Co. reported last month that a Canadian mining firm working on Scott lands had located a copper-molybdenum deposit five miles south of Jackman.

Doyle said the deposit is in an environment similar to those previously found only in Nevada, Arizona, Utah and British Columbia.

Scott said early work done by the East Range Co., a subsidiary of Noranda Mines, Ltd., of Toronto, indicated that about 20 million tons of low grade copper and molybdenum at the site.

Doyle said test drillings are expected to continue through the year.

The Cathart Mountain discovery lies in the center of what Doyle termed the "north mineral belt" and said that other prospects have been located in this belt. They are being explored by Canadian and U.S. mining companies.

Doyle said enough positive evidence has been presented by one of the firms, Spooner Mines and Oils, Ltd., of Toronto, to indicate at least three areas present "very attractive exploration targets."

These are the environs of Jackman, the region west of Millinocket and the region east of Mt. Katahdin.

*Bangor Daily News
April 8, 1968*

Scars On Maine's Scenery

We are glad to learn that the National Resources Council of Maine is concerned about what surface mining is doing to the state's countrysides.

Some 36,000 acres have been uncovered in mining operations. This is a tiny area in comparison with the size of the state, but it has produced a lot of eyesores. Most of it has been in the removal of gravel and sand for highway and other construction projects.

What is usually left is an ugly pit for tourists and other passing motorists to see.

The problem arises when privately owned land is used for mining purposes. The state can control such operations on public lands but so far lacks authority over practices on private land. But the eyesore is just as bad regardless of whether ownership is public or private. Beauty and soil conservation suffer.

We'd like to see some effective legislation presented to the incoming 104th Legislature next January, having in mind that Maine's scenery is a prime asset.

THE WOODSMAN

By MAYNARD CONNERS OF FRANKLIN

17 APRIL 1968 ELLSWORTH AMERICAN

Another problem that was brought to my attention the other day is the laws pertaining to open pit mining or what is called strip mining. This type of mining here in Maine is very much on the increase and our laws are very inadequate at the present to have any control over it. Now is the time to have a law passed in Legislature making it compulsory for the mining company to reclaim the land after the mining operation. Eleven of our states already have these laws on the books and they do the job. This would be a big step forward in keeping thousands of acres of our land in this state from being a wasteland.

Open Mines Are Object Of New Bill

(C) New York Times News Service
WASHINGTON — The administration has proposed to Congress a bill aimed at regulating all current and future surface mining to prevent damage to land, air and water resources.

The measure, sent to Congress Wednesday by Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall, would give the states two years to establish surface mining control programs. The federal government would provide up to 50 per cent of the cost of developing adequate plans and administering and enforcing regulations. The federal government would step in with regulations if the states failed to act.

Udall said more than three million acres of land had been affected by surface mining in past years and less than one-third of this acreage has been partly reclaimed.

"We now have some 20,000 active surface mines helping to supply our essential mineral and fuel requirements," he said. "These operations affect more than 150,000 acres of land each year. Clearly, it is imperative that we provide measures to prevent needless damage to our land and other natural resources."

Bangor Daily News
April 3, 1968

Tel. 942-4881

Survey On Mining Laws Is Started

AUGUSTA (AP) — There will be mining in Maine's future, says Marshall Burk, executive secretary of the Natural Resources Council, and the state needs laws to prevent spoiling the land.

Although Maine isn't noted as a mining state, the council announced Tuesday the start of a survey of legislation to govern strip and surface mining.

Some 36,000 acres have already been uncovered by extraction of minerals, the NRC said. Nearly 10,000 of that is in lightly populated Piscataquis County, Burk said.

A major problem, he added, is the lack of any requirement that privately owned land which is torn open for minerals be reclaimed or restored to acceptable appearance and drainage.

The Maine Mining Bureau has considerable conservation authority on public lands, Burk said.

Most of the activity is in the extraction of sand and gravel. There is or has been some mining of granite, limestone, copper and other minerals.

Copper Find Reported At Jackman

JACKMAN — Scott Paper Company announced Tuesday that company geologists have found a copper-molybdenum deposit about seven miles south of here. The deposit was discovered on Scott land after surveying was done through an agreement made in 1965 with East Range Company, a subsidiary of Noranda Mines Ltd.

Arthur J. Haug, Northeast Division vice president of Scott Paper Company, drilling is being continued to obtain more information as to the extent and grade of the deposit. But, he said, results to date indicate a supply of about 20 million tons of low grade material.

Feasibility studies will be necessary to determine if it can profitably be mined by open pit methods and to determine the commercial significance of the deposit, he said.

If Scott exercises its option, under present contract, it could have a participation of 44 per cent.

Molybdenum is an iron-like metal which can also be used in the making of steel.

BANGOR DAILY
MAR 20, 1968

Francis M. Greene
Vail Road
Poughkeepsie, N. Y. 12603

16 Apr 1968

Dear Albert;

Thank you for your letter of 8 April and the enclosed copies of correspondence. I have read them with interest but had a bit of a second thought about the \$30,000 offer.

As you know I have a tendency to suspect voluntary offers by business and politicians. Would it be possible that Callahan doesn't feel too secure in its position with regard to "no obligation". Could they possibly be hurrying through an agreement of some sort to avoid future state legislation or, in the absence thereof, Federal legislative provisions requiring reclamation?

I don't have any clear idea of how to find out but would be interested in your thoughts on the subject. It appears obvious that Callahan has sold this idea

to the Governor's office and is in the process of selling it to the town council. Possibly a three-way agreement could relieve Callahan of a much more expensive obligation forced on them by future legislation.

Certainly Speed never loses an opportunity whenever he appears to announce that Callahan has "No obligation". We think the Lady doth protest too much!

Have you any thoughts on this?

Yours,
Frank Greene

P.S. I sincerely hope your daughter is now well over the pneumonia.

F. G. M. S.

Px 2 Did you notice the spread on Surface Mining on the March issue of the NRC Convention Bulletin; or did I already mention this in my last letter.

The Ellsworth American

ELLSWORTH, MAINE 04605

667-2545

April 15, 1968

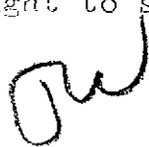
Albert:

Your paintings are sensational. I wouldn't let the Kennedys have any of them.

This summer I will peer over your shoulder and watch them in progress.

You're right. The world is a mess. Probably get worse this summer. The thing you are talking of has no connection to Civil Rights, except that it increases in the general turmoil. You might try using a camera instead of a gun. Would that work? No doubt you will end up on Cape Rosier, a tattered and quaint starving artist who was unable to meet the strain of urban life. Thassaway it goes. Either that or get hauled in on a shooting charge. I am told there are lots of artists in the state pens, so you may find interesting company. Fear not. And of course they will slip a copy of the Ellsworth American between your bars every week, so you really shouldn't complain.

What is Sneed's address? I have my notes of that meeting. If he has a complaint, he should be adult enough to speak to me directly about it.



Jack Wiggins

Francis M. Greene
Vail Road
Poughkeepsie, N. Y. 12603

3 April 68

Dear Albert;

Please excuse my delay in writing following my trip to Portland. We got back Sunday evening to receive a call from very dear friends in the Army who annually drive up North with their children to meet us skiing.

Gen Murphy on three weeks leave from Viet Nam and his wife insisted we meet them in Vermont which we did leaving the following noon and spend two days with them mostly talking (Skiing was impossible). An interesting experience to talk with someone who knows something but who not knowing the answers could give a sane picture of the problem.

Then after getting settled back home I had to spend two days starting Monday in Washington attending meetings.

So, that's why I haven't written sooner! We arrived in ^{Brunswick} Portland Friday night the 22nd and spend the evening with friends; they are very close friends and

They have visited our area and know the problem and he is quite active in politics in Brunswick and on the state level. He is an enthusiast and offered to get legislation introduced if we could get it passed. He attended the meeting with me and introduced Francis and me to a multitude of politicians. Incidentally the meeting was well represented by the breed which is definitely encouraging. Also present was a strange mixture of stony eyed garden clubbers, school teachers, serious minded practical conservation minded people. The politicians were very active circulating.

I attended from well before the start until the last salute and felt it was worth while. There was definitely no opportunity to use your photos. You were very well represented on the pin up boards already and Burke was on the fly the entire time. Goose pond was most prominent due to you but it was not an occasion to sit down and propagandize. She was willing to do but need explain the problem and make friends for the

future.

The main speaker Brower from Sierra Club was disappointing to see. I was obviously a red speech he has made many times. Heavy with attempts to sell their various publications and loaded with quips and cliches. His main theme was generally stop cutting trees, stop increase in population, stop expansion and competition of all sorts; in other words move back to the good old days. All of this please me but not without some suggestion of how we can go about changing the character of the human beast. That's enough on him except to say the crowd enjoyed him and then I feel certain went on their various ways feeling they had contributed their part by attending.

The most interesting speaker was a young (and very intelligent) legal member of the Staff of the State Atty. General for whom he substituted. He brought the meeting down to earth with a review of the legislative situation with regard to pollution (water). The net effect was that while

48

The state has laws to clean up the rivers
it will be a long time being accomplished.
For small a staff, too little testing and
supervision and last the inability
to get a court of equity to rule decisively
against an industry that is pouring
up the water. The key phrase is
"balancing the equities". The court will
never rule so as to seriously affect
an industry and affect the jobs
of the people employed. This is "balancing
the equities."

There are state laws setting standards
but written into the law is ~~at~~ a
period of, as I remember ten years from
the start of action, ending in 1976 or 7,
before the pollution has to stop and it
was implied that even then the
"equities" would still be important.

He was great and was
precise in his statements, careful
in his replies, and therefore had
devastating in his impact. People
were quite aroused about the problem.

When Townsend opened the meeting
he included in his presentation a
brief statement on the swimming problem

5
and the impact was that it was not
yet a serious problem but we must
get started because we must look to the
future. I was quite disturbed by
the general tone of what he said
or perhaps the emphasis. In any
event I looked him up and had
a brief talk with him; reminded him
of my correspondence with him; his
inability to attend the union last
September and my interest ~~in~~ in
the problem of action on the legislative
end. With that he seemed to warm
up and asked if I would work
on the problem. I assured him
I would and he said he would
appoint a committee shortly. He
asked if I would give time this
summer and I promised I would.
I don't know what will come
of it but I am going to write
and confirm the offer and also
write Burke about it.

What I would like to do is to
explore the subject and perhaps the

6

Columbia School of Mines and set
low best to get contact with the
best in mining legislation dealing with
restoration, bonding, licensing etc.

I am about to write Burk as
a further lead in on this and hopefully
to get their permission to explore in
their name.

I was introduced to two writers
who I think are interested in visiting
and writing on the subject this
summer both of whom promised
to let me know in advance. Incidentally,
I said I was sure you would
let them use your pictures.

My political friend is very
anxious to get going on legislation
and introduced me to the Republican
leader in the legislature with
whom I had a short talk but
my friend says he is strong on
this type of legislation and would
work on it if we made the call.

This is probably an over-
optimistic picture I have painted

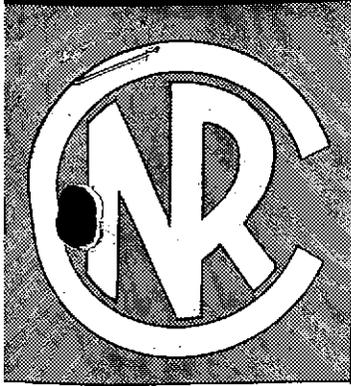
but it reflects my reaction and
as you know I am realistic generally.
I'm sure we haven't accomplished
much but the way may be opening
to make a start.

You will be amused that I
looked up the Callahan crowd.
Bark told me they were coming
as you had. And I didn't want
to have them disappointed! I kidded
them a bit and we parted apparently
friendly. Young, Speed and the
new local manager. They were
most solicitous and friendly. Speed
sure feels bad about Wiggins quote!

That about covers what I have
to say. It may have been worth while
what we learn from here or will
tell. May I keep your pictures for
a little longer. If you need them
let me know and I'll mail them
immediately.

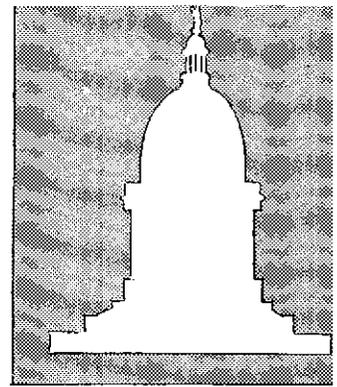
Sincerely

Frank Green



CONSERVATION BULLETIN

a service of the
NATURAL RESOURCES COUNCIL
of MAINE



116 State Street

MARCH 1968

Augusta, Maine 04330

Clinton B. Townsend, President

Marshall F. Burk, Exec. Sec'y.

SURFACE MINE RECLAMATION

The article on "Open Pit Mining in Maine" by F. N. Greene and A. E. Sandecki which appeared in the NRC January 1968 bulletin has created interest in the reclamation of future, present and past mining projects in Maine.

Past Maine strip and surface mines are estimated to have disturbed a total of 36,044 acres of our state's land area. This figure does not include mill tailings or dumps from underground mining but does include all land known to have ever been disturbed by surface mining and mine spoils plus all access roads developed to facilitate this mining.

The 36,044 acre figure is based on data obtained from the Soil Conservation Service on land disturbed prior to January 1, 1965. Since that time, new sand and gravel surface mines have been opened and commercial mining for heavy metals started. In reviewing the figures county by county and the different mineral commodities being mined it is interesting to note their variety. Garnet, coal (Bituminous), clays, copper, diatomite, gold, iron ore, nickel, peat, beryl, feldspar, mica, sand and gravel, limestone, granite, trap rock, marble sandstone, quartzite, slate, sulfur, (and pyrite) and loam are the materials listed as having been obtained from strip and surface mining.

Piscataquis County has had the most activity with 9,961 surface acres disturbed while York County has had the least with a total of only 152 acres according to the SCS estimates. Of interest is the fact that 12 acres of Maine's land area was altered for gold mining. Sand and gravel operations were by far the leading mined commodity that has been obtained with a state wide total of 28,238 acres.

Little of this acreage has been reclaimed and there appears to be no effort or activity presently. Maine, which has little major mining history today faces new problems because of lack of controls, new methods for obtaining ore from low quality rock, labor problems in other states, low wage scales and the wish of many political leaders for any new industry. Many mining companies are taking a look at our state. In the past ten years many areas have been investigated and some reported promising. The recent news releases about possible economic deposits in Somerset and Knox counties and the official starting on February 17, 1968 of the open pit mine at Cape Rosier should give citizens with an interest in maintaining a quality environment for Maine cause for concern.

To bring us up to date on the status of present Maine Statutes relative to mining, we need to review Title 10, Chapter 401, Sections 2101 to 2111.

Section 2101 establishes the Maine Mining Bureau. The last sentence of this section states, "The jurisdiction of the bureau shall be confined to land owned or held in trust by the State." There is, therefore, no control by the Bureau over mining on privately owned lands.

Other states do not make this distinction between types of ownership over which control is exercised, except that some states specifically prohibit mining on state-owned lands. West Virginia has such provisions.

Kentucky statutes have provisions whereby the state may acquire by eminent domain, lands which have been mined for the purpose of restoration.

Kentucky and West Virginia statutes specify that prior to the start of a mining operation, the operator must post a bond to assure the state that the land will be reclaimed following the mining operation. This bonding requirement varies from state to state. However, generally the amount of the bond varies according to the complexity of the restoration work. A maximum of \$500.00 per acre for the entire area mined plus the area on which spoil is placed is common. Further, the operator is required to file a plan for restoration with the bond and such plan must be approved prior to the start of operations.

An interesting point in both the West Virginia and Kentucky statutes is the provision that if a mine operator forfeits a bond, he cannot receive a mining permit for another area until the former area has been reclaimed by him in the manner called for in the reclamation plan.

Presently 11 states have laws regulating surface mining operations and the U.S. Congress has two bills under consideration which would help control this problem. Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin has introduced S. 3126 titled "Mined Lands Conservation Act of 1968", and with two other Senators has also introduced S. 3132 titled "Surface Mining Reclamation Act of 1968". Both of these documents were introduced this past month and the NRC will be obtaining copies to review along with the various existing state regulations with the intent of making recommendations for consideration by Maine's 104th. Legislature.

Future mining in Maine is going to happen, like it or not. The regulation and control of what happens particularly from a reclamation point of view is going to be left to those citizens who care for our state's natural values. (M.F. Burk)

PENOBSCOT RIVER - KEY TO A MODEL RIVER

From Forestry Facts publication of the Maine Cooperative Extension Service, Lewis P. Bissell, Extension Forestry Spec.

A plan to restore Maine's historic Penobscot River to maximum potential for Atlantic Salmon and designed to serve as a model for projects on other northeastern watersheds was prepared a year ago by Dr. W. Harry Everhart of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Game and Richard F. Cutting of the Maine Atlantic Sea Run Salmon Commission. Copies of this 21 page illustrated plan, entitled "The Penobscot River - Atlantic Salmon Restoration: Key to a Model River" were soon exhausted. It is my feeling that this publication can have even greater impact than simply a plan to bring back salmon. This plan points the way to improvement of this fine river for all residents, regardless of their interest in salmon, and suggests what can be done on other rivers.

The Penobscot County Conservation Association has sponsored a new printing of the Penobscot River as an effort in conservation for the public good. Copies should be available for readers by the time you see these words. For a free copy of the Penobscot River, write Extension Forester, Orono, or to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Game at Augusta.

WATER POLLUTION AND INSUFFICIENT DOLLARS

President Lyndon B. Johnson on March 3, 1968 gave a significant conservation message to the Congress and called for a "Reviewing of the Nation."

After spelling out the overwhelming needs for waste treatment plant construction the President called for the expenditure of from \$1.5 Billion to \$2 Billion in fiscal 1969 including the Federal appropriation for the year. He said it would be done in two ways:

"First, I recommend an appropriation of \$225 million for grants under the Clean Water Restoration Act. This should generate about \$500 to \$600 million of plant construction.

"Second, I recommend legislation to allow the Secretary of the Interior to make annual installment payments in addition to the lump sum grants as is presently the practice. This would permit the Federal Government to make construction commitments up to a total of \$475 million in fiscal 1969.

"Under this new financing method, the \$475 million would generate a total of about \$1 to \$1.4 billion of construction. Communities would be able to build many of their urgently - needed plants without delay and get them into the fight against pollution now."

Reviewing some statistics of what has happened in this area, shows that for the fiscal year 1968 the Congress authorized 450 million and funded 203 million, only 45% of the authorization. Maine's estimated allocation of the \$203 million is \$1.8 million. For fiscal year 1969 Congress authorized \$700 million and the President's Budget asked for \$225 million, which is only 32% of the authorization and would only produce for Maine an estimated allocation of \$1.9 million.

These figures show that the present program of treatment plant construction is suffering a set-back, that is, if it is assumed to be tied to available aid. For Maine part of this set-back is cushioned by the 103rd. Legislature's recent authorization for "pre-funding" of federal funds, however the pre-funding was limited and was understood to be for funding 9 existing projects which have been only partially funded and for funding 6 additional high priority projects which have had formal applications on file for some time.

Monies immediately necessary to satisfy funding of current Maine projects requiring grant supplements and new projects on file are approximately 7 millions of dollars.

Another recent development in the area of Pollution and Dollars is shown in figures presented by Prof. Otis J. Sproul of the University of Maine's Engineering Department and reported in the Kennebec Journal of March 23, 1968. Professor Sproul is reported as saying it would cost industry only pennies per product to clean up water pollution. Figures stated in the news story were that "Clean up by paper mills would cost an estimated \$3 per ton of finished paper." "Potato processing plant clean up would cost 45 thousandths of a cent per 12-ounce package," and leather tanning plant clean up would cost, he estimated \$2.70 per thousand pounds of hides tanned, or about five cents per pair of shoes.

It is interesting to note that at the NRC Annual Meeting of March 23, 1968 the featured speaker, David R. Brower, Executive Director of the Sierra Club, called for the addition of the cost of pollution treatment facilities to the price of the product to be borne by the ultimate consumer.

It is also significant to note that only \$225 million was budgeted by the President for the entire United States for waste water treatment plant grants and we still have political leaders wishing to spend \$218 to \$380 million of Federal money on the controversial Dickey-Lincoln Dams on the St. John River here in Maine. (M.F. Burk)

MISS DOROTHEA M. MARSTON RECOGNIZED
AS STATE CONSERVATIONIST FOR 1968

At the 1968 NRC Annual Meeting held March 23rd. in Portland Council President, Clinton B. Townsend on behalf of the NRC recognized an Augusta resident and native of Hallowell, Miss Dorothea M. Marston, as State Conservationist.

Miss Marston, a graduate of Wellesley college, and a long time teacher in New Jersey has been active in the out-of-doors all her life. Always keenly interested in nature she knows the Maine woods well and when ever possible has participated in Appalachian Mountain Club activities. Upon her retirement she returned to Maine and began a very active life in various phases of conservation.

These included the Josselyn Society and the Conservation Education Foundation. It was Miss Marston who called a small group, including Rachel Carson, together in 1957 to consider establishing a Maine Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. She is still serving as its dedicated secretary. Through the Maine Chapter she has provided Colby College with a unique kettle hole bog of 21 acres for the use of its botany and geology students.

Two years ago she made possible the key parcel to add to the 70 acres the Augusta Rotary Club had been acquiring as a natural area. Upon receipt of this parcel the Nature Conservrance deeded it, with a reverter clause, to the Augusta Nature Club. This made possible the establishment of the Augusta Nature Science Center.

Since the inception of the Natural Resources Council of Maine in 1959 she has been a dedicated and hard working member of our Executive Committee.

NEW COUNCIL OFFICERS

Following is a list of officers and directors from the individual membership elected at the March 23rd. Annual Meeting.

- President - Clinton B. Townsend of Skowhegan
- Vice President - Dr. Robert G. Mohlar of Augusta
- Secretary - Stephen Clark of Winslow
- Treasurer - Donald J. Bourassa of Augusta

Directors at Large

- 3 Yrs.
- Spencer Apollonio - Boothbay Harbor
- Charles P. Bradford - Manchester
- Miss Dorothea M. Marston - Augusta
- Robert W. Patterson - Bar Harbor

- 2 Yrs.
- Ezra James Briggs - Caribou
- George Gormley - Winthrop
- Dr. John E. Mudge - Farmington
- John McKee - Brunswick

- 1 Yr.
- Mrs. Lucy Apoleby - Skowhegan
- Raymond L. Bond - East Winthrop
- William E. MacDonald - East Winthrop
- Dana A. Little - Brunswick

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'FAIRLY MINOR' ECONOMIC IMPACT IS SEEN
BECAUSE OF HIGHWAY BEAUTIFICATION ACT

(Reprinted from the February 1968 THE MAINE TRAIL
official publication of the Maine Good Roads Association.)

The overall economic impact of the Federal Highway Beautification Act of 1965 "should be fairly minor, though certain groups will experience a more pronounced effect", according to two economists for the U. S. Bureau of Public Roads. The economists spoke at a session on public attitudes toward highway improvement at the annual meeting of the Highway Research Board in Washington.

The beautification act provides for control of outdoor advertising and junkyards along the federal-aid primary highway system, and for landscaping and rest and recreation areas along primary and secondary highways.

BPR economists Floyd Thiel and John Yashowsky noted that in passing the legislation, Congress obviously felt that the benefits would outweigh the costs, but requested further study of the beneficial and adverse effects of the program. This request led to 25 economic impact studies in various states throughout the nation; the report was based on findings of the studies and the Bureau's summary and analysis of them.

Here are some of the findings, as described by Thiel and Yasnowsky:

- a) Outdoor advertising companies may experience some losses (perhaps 30 to 40 percent of annual income) during the time of adjustment to the act. Motorists will experience increased pleasure, comfort, convenience and safety; very few motorists will experience problems in locating highway services.
- b) Highway-oriented businesses will, in some cases, lose trade and in others gain, since billboard controls should have little effect on the total demand for gas, food and lodging.
- c) Some landowners will experience land value increases (for example, from sign or junkyard removal nearby), though some sign site owners will lose rentals (typically, \$30 to \$40 per year per site).
- d) Junkyard control will be felt primarily by owners of junkyards which need to be relocated; screening will have little effect, though some benefits may accrue to screened junkyards and property nearby.
- e) Scenic enhancement effects will be felt by motorists - in the form of increases in property values near scenically enhanced highways.

MORE ON BILLBOARDS

Two nationally known resort areas Aspen, Colorado and Stowe, Vermont have taken action on their own to restrict billboards from distracting from the natural beauty of their regions. Aspen has established a sign mall to replace billboards on the state highways, while an area association of 67 lodges from Stowe has voted to remove all off-premises roadside billboards. Vermont has this month passed a law which will take effect on July 1, 1969 when all off-premise signs must be removed and a system of state owned and operated sign plazas and directional signs erected. Maine appears to be presently waiting to see what will happen as a result of the Federal Highway Beautification Act. The Senate passed a one-year extension of the act in 1967 but is still awaiting House action. President Johnson renewed his call for an extension of the 1965 legislation in a March 3 message to Congress on conservation, saying: "Transforming our highways into corridors of beauty through prompt action to continue the Highway Beautification Program and building new roadside parks for the traveling family."

OBSERVE ARBOR DAY AND HELP KEEP MAINE GREEN

By Joel W. Marsh, Supervisor, Information
& Education, Maine Forestry Department

Early next month Governor Kenneth M. Curtis will issue a proclamation setting apart the last Friday in April, or April 26, as National Arbor Day. He will commend its observance by the people of Maine in planting of trees, shrubs and vines, in the promotion of forest growth and culture, in the adornment of public and private grounds, places and way, and in such other efforts and undertakings as shall harmonize with the general character of the Day.

For those schools, organizations or communities wishing to observe Arbor Day this year we suggest you write the Maine Forestry Department in Augusta and request their Arbor Day leaflet and Arbor Day kit. This kit includes many materials which are suggestive in preparing an Arbor Day program.

20th Anniversary of Keep Maine Green

It was on March 24, 1948 that Maine had the first State Keep Maine Green meeting. This was promoted by the increased public interest in forest fire prevention following the disastrous 1947 fires.

Today we have County and State Keep Maine Green groups which, over the years, have been instrumental in helping to reduce annual losses from man caused fires.

This years Twentieth Annual Keep Maine Green Meeting will be held at the Capitol Grange in Augusta on Tuesday, April 16. We will honor those who were the original founders of Keep Maine Green in 1948. This will be a luncheon meeting starting at 12:00 noon and adjourning by 3:00 P.M. There will be forest educational materials posters and prevention materials available for distribution to those present.

We would welcome anyone interested to attend. Write immediately to the Maine Forestry Department in Augusta for a program and luncheon reservations.

WILDERNESS SOCIETY'S RESOLUTION OPPOSES DICKEY DAM

The most recent issue of "The Living Wilderness" publication of the Washington D. C. Based Wilderness Society reports on the Maine meeting last fall of the Society's governing Council. This was the first meeting of this organization in the Northeast and was held at Camp Phoenix, Nesowadnehunk Lake on the western edge of Baxter State Park. There were six resolutions adopted by the Society of major interest to Maine. These were on : Dickey-Lincoln School Dam, Motorized Devices On Public Lands, In Support of Wilderness In Baxter State Park, Great Northern Paper Company, Allagash Wilderness Waterway and Sonic Booms. Space here limits reprinting all of them, but the resolution on Dickey was that:

"The Wilderness Society is opposed to the proposed Dickey-Lincoln School Dam in view of the wilderness and free-flowing characteristics of the St. John River, and because alternate sources of power are available nearer to the prime markets in this region."

TV POLL ON DICKEY LINCOLN DAMS

On Wednesday evening March 27th. TV-WGAN Channel 13 in Portland asked as their daily question "Is the Dickey-Lincoln project desirable?" The results of the poll, made by the number of area residents phoning in to the station, were announced at 11:00 P.M. as 69% no and 31% yes. Last September 18th a similar question was asked "Should Congress approve funds to the Dickey-Lincoln Power Project?" Over one thousand viewers were reported to have phoned in at that time and the result was announced as 52% no and 48% yes. No number of calls was available for the March 27th. poll. The often used political comment "that all the people of Maine want the Dickey Project" appears to be questionable. (M. F. Burk)

POLLUTION ABATEMENT LEADERSHIP RECOGNIZED ?

One of the highlights of the NRC Portland meeting was the presentation of a citation by Dr. Robert M. Chute president of the State Biologists Association to Coast Guard Captain Eugene Walsh, port captain of Portland.

The Associations commendation was for Captain Walsh's energetic and forthright action in the area of pollution control of Portlands' waterfront. This officer over the past year has exhibited an outstanding example of leadership and of what can be done in the pollution abatement field.

The Maine coast and Portland in particular has needed the services of such a capable career officer. It is with grave question we note that he has been transferred to command an icebreaker in the North Pacific. (M.F. Burk)

NEW ENGLAND FISHERMEN QUESTION OIL EXPLORATION

from CONSERVATION NEWS Feb. 15, 1968 publication of the National Wildlife Federation:

New England fishermen have asked the New England governors to throw their support behind a bill in Congress which would protect the world's richest fishing ground.

The New England Fisheries & Conservation Committee, meeting January 10, at the Statler Hilton in Boston, expressed concern that oil exploration on Georges Banks expected to resume in March, imperials a resource that produces forty percent of the fish eaten in the United States and twelve percent of the world's fish supply.

"In this age of population explosion -- when more than half of mankind goes to bed hungry every night -- endangering a resource that has fed men for five centuries seems foolhardy," said Hugh F. O'Rourke, chairman of the Fisheries and Conservation Committee.

The bill the Committee asked the governors to support is H.R. 11584, filed by Rep. Hastings Keith of West Bridgewater, and supported by Senators Kennedy and Brooke and U. S. Representatives Bates, Boland, O'Neil, and Conte. H. R. 11584 would recognize the value of the offshore fishing grounds for food production and recreation. It would in effect zone the area against mineral exploitation.

O'Rourke said that Committee members were concerned that an accident on an offshore oil field might cause pollution ruinous to New England commercial fisheries sport fishing and the recreation industry. "The Committee fears that an accident similar to the oil well blowout at Cook Inlet, Alaska, might occur on Georges Banks" O'Rourke said, According to the state of Washington Department of Fisheries, an oil well at Cook Inlet discharged an uncontrollable flood of oil for longer than a year. "Due to the ocean currents," O'Rourke said, "such a catastrophe on Georges Banks would wash oil along the coast of Maine and the beaches from Cape Cod to New Jersey, causing an inestimable loss to New England industries."

UNDERGROUND CABLES

Excerpt from TIDY'S TIDINGS a publication of the Cooperative Extension Service cooperating with the Keep Maine Scenic Division, State Park and Recreation Commission.

The American Telephone and Telegraph Company's nationwide efforts to replace the visual irritation of aerial lines with underground cable hit a 1967 milestone. More miles of cable were placed underground than in the air. The program is being aggressively promoted, too, in Maine.

PESTICIDE AUTHORITY TO SPEAK AT COLBY

Ecologist Dr. George M. Woodwell will speak on Contamination of the Environment with Toxic Substances at Lovejoy Auditorium, Colby College, Waterville on Wednesday evening April 17, 1968 at 8:00 P.M.

Dr. Woodwell a former Associate Professor at the University of Maine is now an Ecologist for the Biology Department at Brookhaven National Laboratory and a lecturer in Forest Ecology at Yale.

He has accomplished many research projects on gamma rays and pesticide (DDT) effects on animal and plant life. Results of his work have been published in "Scientific American" and many other scientific journals.

MAINE BEAR HUNTERS SUCCESSFUL IN 1967

A recent release from the Inland Fisheries and Game Department reported that 1967 was an excellent year for bear hunters.

Kenneth Hodgdon Chief of the Game Division, said that about 1,000 bruins were taken. This number is several hundred above the previous year's harvest and not much below the all-time record, established back during the days when bounties were paid on bear. He pointed out that now instead of the State paying people to hunt bear, hunters are coming here from all over the country and spending their money to take bear. He also noted that the removal of the bounty from the black bear was not only biologically sound but also economically sound.

The bear season this year will run from June 1 to December 31. All bears taken must be reported to the Fish and Game Dept. on cards available from all wardens.

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Note is also taken that in Vermont consideration is being given to limiting bear kills to one per hunter each year. Under the present law in Maine and Vermont there is no limit. The proposed one bear limit is reported to be to keep down the number of cubs killed each year. A Vermont Fish and Game Department spokesman has claimed that once hunters shoot a mother bear, and, if she has any cubs, will kill them also.

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