

## House OK's Allagash Bill, Bugged By Senate And Votes Down Cross Rock Power Project

By ROBERT M. CROCKER  
**AUGUSTA (AP)**—The Maine House favored the Allagash Wilderness Waterway proposal Wednesday, rejecting a Senate-approved plan to refer both that and the Cross Rock power proposal to a new study committee.

The House then voted 78-44 to reject the Maine Power Authority bill, under which the \$250 million Cross Rock power dam could be financed and built on the upper St. John River.

Gov. REEB said in a statement he was "amazed and disappointed" by the Senate's preference, and that the matters have had all the study they need.

He reiterated that he is for passage of the Allagash Waterway bill at this session of the

legislature and also urged immediate congressional action to build the Passamaquoddy tidal power project and a St. John River development at Dickey.

Either the Allagash waterway or the Dickey dam, or both would rule out the Cross Rock project.

The government said he had every reason to think that the Allagash bill would be approved by all concerned, including federal agencies interested in the area.

With disagreement between the branches, the Allagash bill favored in the House by only 70-62 on roll call the prospects of passage of any legislation seemed dim, however.

**MEN. SIDNEY D. MAXWELL, D-Jay, cosponsor of the Allagash bill with Sen. Dwight A. Brown, R-Eliot, said there may be a chance of its passage but he was openly doubtful.**

Meanwhile, four members of the advisory committee to the Allagash River Authority which devised the waterway proposal said they favor rejection of the measure because of what they regard as deficiencies.

Clinton B. Townsend of Skowhegan, president, and Robert W. Patterson of Bar Harbor, past president, of the Natural Resources Council set their objections to the Senate and House leaders George Emerson Jr. and Weston S. Evans also served the letter.

They objected particularly to omission of Tidal and Chamberlain Lakes from the preserve area, said the proposed

300-foot buffer strip along the waterways is too narrow and added that measures to secure this strip lack enough permanence.

The Advisory Council of the Fish & Game Department went on record with a statement of opinion to move about in the Cross Rock dam. It said a flowage lake with three times the acreage of Moosehead would be a "great threat to the fish and wildlife of the Allagash" region. Some Allagash development is probably inevitable, the council said, but the Cross Rock plan is not the right type.

**THE ISSUES were these:**  
 An interim study committee proposed an Allagash Wilderness Waterway under state control to preserve for public recreation. On Page 7; 5th Col.

## Gemini 4, Astronauts Are Cleared For Epic Flight At 10 A.M. Today

**CAPE KENNEDY, Fla. (AP)**—Gemini 4 was cleared Wednesday for lift-off on a mission flight that will carry Edward H. White II to a lonely rendezvous with fate in the black still vacuum of space launch time 10 a.m. EDT Thursday.

Officials of the Gemini space program in the green light at a conference Wednesday after-

lumbus Kraft Jr. "looks to be about as good as you could hope for at this point in the countdown flight that will carry Edward H. White II to a lonely rendezvous with fate in the black still vacuum of space launch time 10 a.m. EDT Thursday.

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will be awakened at 4:10 a.m. and after brief final physical checks, will breakfast at 4:30 on tomato juice, sirloin steak, eggs, strawberry gelatin and coffee.

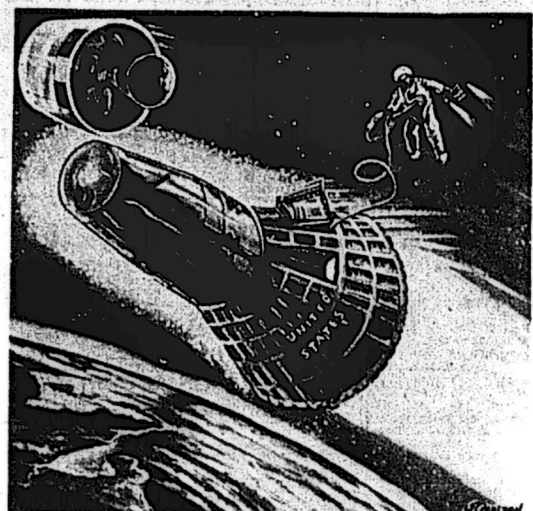
They were to leave at 3:28 for the ready room and to depart from there for the launch pad at 4:30.

If the launch goes on time, Divitt will pilot the spacecraft

to a high noon rendezvous with the spent second stage of the Titan booster rocket over the eastern Pacific.

White, protected by a pressure suit, was strapped and linked to the world of man only by a thick golden tether. He will step into the void. He will become a human satellite orbiting the earth.

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Today's Space Mission

Drawing shows astronaut Edward H. White II holding spacegun and umbilical cord after exiting into space from the orbiting Gemini 4 spacecraft. White's waits in weightlessness is slated to take him close enough — and possibly touch — the Gemini's booster rocket, top left, on an early orbit Thursday.

## House OK's \$4.8-Billion Slash In Excise Taxes

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—The House passed Wednesday, 401-4, legislation for a \$4.8-billion slash in excise taxes that would bring prices down on a wide array of goods from automobiles to typewriters.

If the Senate follows suit, as is expected, this would be the second major tax cut in as many years. Income taxes were reduced last year by an amount now estimated at \$1.4 billion.

The reductions provided by the House-passed bill would not be complete until Jan. 1, 1969, but a major portion would go into effect in just four weeks — July 1.

Moreover, the initial three percentage point cut in the automobile excise tax, an average of about \$75 for a passenger car — and the repeal of the 10 per cent tax on air conditioners would be retroactive, applying to all sales after May 14.

Other repeals taking effect July 1 would be those of the 10 per cent retail taxes on furs, jewelry, luggage, toilet prepara-

tions, and the manufacturers' taxes, most of them at 10 per cent, on a variety of other goods, including appliances, cameras, business machines, radio, phonograph and television sets.

**PRESS HERALD BUREAU WASHINGTON** — Reps. Stanley R. Tupper and William D. Hathaway Wednesday voted among 461 members of the House for the excise tax reduction bill. Only six congressmen voted against it.

The two Maine members said the reduction "should do much to stimulate Maine's economy." Wednesday's House action should prove tremendously beneficial in terms of industrial expansion and increased jobs, they added.

Business and most sporting goods, and most other goods on Dec. 31 the tax on cigars and theater, sporting events and other admissions would go into effect, to be followed on Jan. 1 by repeal of excise tax, including another batch of excise, including those on club dues, passenger automobile parts and sales of stocks and real estate. Also on Jan. 1 the 10 per cent telephone tax would be cut to 3 per cent, the first step in a gradual elimination to be complete Jan. 1, 1969, and the automobile tax would be cut one more percentage point in a similar phasing.

President Johnson recommended excise tax slashes, but the House went beyond his recommendation by voting to wipe out the automobile tax entirely, although by stages. Johnson had recommended a cut from 10 per cent to 5. However, the cuts were so spaced that the revenue effect for the fiscal year beginning July 1 will be the same as Johnson estimated in his recommendations — \$1.75 billion.

**DOUBLE GROUND**  
 Johnson advocated the cuts on the double ground of keeping the economy rolling at its present clip and making the tax structure more equitable. U.S. Continued on Page 34; 3rd Col.

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## Democratic Legislative Leaders Start Carving Budget In Closed-Door Session

By DONALD C. HANSEN  
 State House Reporter  
**AUGUSTA**—The Maine Democratic Legislative leadership Wednesday began carving up the budget in a closed-door session.

The behind-closed-doors process will determine which of the 15.5 million in bills on the Senate's special appropriations table will be enacted into law.

There's money available only to finance about \$17 million of the total \$5.5 million requested by individual legislators.

Senate Pres. Carlton D. Reed Jr., D-Woolwich, said Wednesday the majority of the decisions have been made, although what proposals have been approved by the leadership and which rejected won't become known until the Senate begins clearing the table, probably on Friday.

**REED SAID THAT** "about \$1 million still remains to be cut," but said he was hopeful the final cuts could be made late Wednesday night or early Thursday.

Hangings in the balance will be close to 200 individual measures ranging from minor claims against the state for damage to private property to several major appropriations items.

**INCLUDED ON THE SPECIAL** appropriations table on step short of enactment are proposals for:

- \$125,000 to create a new state department of rehabilitation.
- \$470,000 for establishing regional technical and vocational centers throughout the state.
- \$171,000 to increase pensions of elderly teachers.
- \$121,000 for a new ferry landing at Peaks Island.
- \$179,000 to establish a school for the mentally retarded in Northern Maine.
- \$30,000 to establish the office of state archivist.
- \$15,000 to create a state transportation commission.
- \$241,000 to increase the pay of the governor, legislators, court justices and some department heads.
- \$400,000 for construction of a span on the Westport Bridge.

**THOSE NINE ITEMS** alone total nearly \$1.8 million, or more than the money available for appropriations table items.

While there's \$1.6 million available in general fund surplus—money the state didn't anticipate collecting, but did during the last two fiscal years—for appropriations table items, Reed said Wednesday another \$174,000 had been discovered in the general fund itself that will be made available. When the Senate begins clearing the table, probably on Friday.

## Firm Bids To Buy Northeast Airlines

**BOSTON (UPI)**—Storer Broadcasting Co. which operates a group of radio and television stations across the nation, announced Wednesday that it had obtained a 30-day option to purchase a controlling interest in Northeast Airlines.

Storer and Northeast announced execution of an agreement under which Storer would acquire 55 per cent of Northeast's capital stock for \$4,122,123.

George B. Storer Sr., chairman of the board of Storer Broadcasting, said the purchase was contingent on the "clean-up" of Northeast's debts, which total \$40 million.

The option agreement was announced jointly by Storer and attorney Louis J. Hecker, a trustee representing Hughes T. Co. "Toole" which is a majority stockholder in Northeast.

Under the option, a total of 973,728 shares of Northeast stock, turned over to Storer as trustee in October 1964, would be purchased by Storer at \$9.30 a share.

Northeast stock closed on the American Stock Exchange today at 9 1/2, up three-fifths.

Storer said he would seek the help of local financiers in liquidating Northeast's debt before the option agreement expires July 1. He said it was possible the debt might be cleared up within two weeks.

Among the airline's principal creditors are General Dynamics Corp., General Electric Co. and United States Steel Corp. Continued on Page 16; 5th Col.

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## 7,000 See UM Award Largest Class Degrees

**Free Press News Service BANGOR**—About 1,100 seniors, the largest graduating class in University of Maine history, were awarded degrees in ceremonies Wednesday on the campus of Bangor. The graduates were urged to recognize not only the necessity of freedom, but also its dimensions.

Colby College president Dr. Robert E. L. Strider, principal speaker at the university's 124th commencement exercises, also urged the graduates to live constructively within the pattern imposed by those limitations.

The ceremonies in Bangor Municipal Auditorium marked the end of the university's 100th academic year and were attended by more than 7,000 friends and relatives of the graduates.

Northern graduates were conferred on Fay Island, retiring professor of botany; Ralph A. Wilkins, board chairman of a Massachusetts paper company and Maurice Jacob, Philadelphia publisher.

"Neither the tilt at this particular windmill, it is at least possible for human beings to ponder these cosmic limitations and learn to live with them. The order of the universe that higher education makes apparent to any student will make this limitation rationally ascertainable."

The Colby leader, who was awarded an honorary doctor of humane letters degree by the University of Maine at the June, 1963, graduation program, noted that "another kind of limitation upon our freedom has to do with the nature of man himself."

**THERE ARE CERTAIN** things that human beings cannot possibly do, bounded as they are by temporal and spatial necessity. But there are also ways in which human beings can transcend time and space.

Continued on Page 8; 6th Col.

## News, Features On The Inside

**The Weather**  
 Clearing, warmer today; cloudy cool Friday.  
 Full report Page 2.

**A GROUP OF SOUTHERN BAPTISTS** favoring racial reconciliation survives a convention challenge, Page 9.

**SEN. MUSKIE** halls reports presented on Maine's water pollution problems, Back Page.

Alvarez 15 Deaths	2 Horoscope 34 Sports 21-23
Classified Doyle 23 Jumble 34 Television 8	
37-39 Editorials 20 Landers 26 Theaters 6	
Clearing Financial 28 Letourneau 23 Town, City House 28 Gramham 34 Letters 20 News 30-31	
Crimes 18 Green 24 Living In Women's 18	
Crowdard 3 Heloise 29 Maine 28 Page 29	

## Prayer For Today

Dear God, deep down in our hearts we know that to do Thy will is the only road to justice in the world and to peace in our hearts. We confess that our wills are often rebellious, often simply lazy, and that we drift afar from Thy way. Feed us daily by Thy Spirit so that we may do gladly that which Thou dost command; for the sake of Christ, our Brother and Lord, Amen.

—Miss N. Lopez St. Paul, Minn., president, Lutheran Theological Seminary.



**Welcome Rain!**  
 Although Wednesday's rainfall totaled only a third of an inch Cape Elizabeth market gardeners Peter, left, and Jack Rich welcomed it with open arms. It was the first day in six weeks they didn't have to run the irrigation sprinklers on their lettuce and other crops, they said. Last month was the driest May on record. (By Staff Photographer Curran)

## Today's Chuckle

There are two forms of government, the short form and the long form.

**"SILVER LODE"**  
 Blazing Western Barring  
 JOHN PAYNE  
 LIZABETH SCOTT  
 9:30 • TONIGHT  
 Channel 13  
 STRAW HAT THEATER

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