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## Governor Frederick G. Payne Announces Intention to Run for U. S. Senate

WLBZ Radio

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## University of Maine Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections Department

Transcript of a sound recording in MS 608, WLBZ Radio Station Records, Bangor, Maine, 1931-1973

Title: Governor Frederick G. Payne's Announcement, Seeking Republican Nomination for U. S. Senate

Date: February 26, 1952

Recording number: D 16.64; CD 17, track 2

Length of recording: 4:02

[transcript begins]

FREDERICK G. PAYNE: During my service as governor, the conviction which influenced me to set forth this position remains unchanged. The decision was conceived in the belief that the people of Maine, in honoring me by election to the governorship, desired a regime unhampered by involvement in a campaign designed to further my political service. In increasing numbers, many of these self-same people, over a considerable period of time, have urged me to reconsider this decision in order to offer myself as a candidate for the Republican nomination to the United States Senate. As a result of carefully and fully weighing these demands that I reconsider and finding them to be both genuine and sufficient, I am today announcing my willingness to enter my name in the Republican primary election for United States Senate and to permit the circulation of nomination papers throughout the state. These generous and unsolicited offers of support I've greatly appreciated [inaudible]. In reaching this decision, it should be fully understood that my duties as Governor will come first. Nothing will be permitted to interfere with the faithful disposition of my gubernatorial duties during the remainder of my term. It has always been my aim to advance the welfare and opportunity of our state. In view of the fact that great numbers of our people have indicated their wish that I endeavor to continue these objectives on the national level, my decision has been reached.

PHIL JOHNSON, RADIO COMMENTATOR: And with Governor Payne's announcement of his candidacy for the Senate post, the Maine Republican race for the nomination now includes the aspirations of three GOP candidates. They are the present senator, Owen Brewster of Dexter, who indicated long ago that he intended to seek his third term as the U. S. Senator from Maine, and the more recent entry in the field was Ralph A. Dyer, a Bangor insurance man. Mr. Payne has been mentioned frequently of late as a potential candidate when it became known that the chief executive was being urged to enter the Senatorial race. Mr. Payne withheld definite comments until yesterday, when he told reporters that he would make his decision during the evening [record skips a few times]. You have just heard his announcement of that decision. Sumner Pike of Lubec, former U. S. Atomic Energy Commission chairman, has also considered running in opposition to Senator Brewster. It may be presumed now that Governor Payne has agreed to make himself a candidate, that Mr. Pike will throw his support behind Frederick G. Payne. Mr. Payne was a newcomer to state political office when he was elected governor in 1948. He was re-elected in 1950, and earlier Mr. Payne was mayor of Augusta, from 1935 to 1941, State Finance Commissioner and Budget Officer, and appointed office from 1930 to 1942 when he entered military service. During January of this year, the governor expressed his preference for General Dwight

Eisenhower in the race for Republican presidential nomination. He was subsequently named head of the Eisenhower organization in this state. Now, with his term as governor expiring at the end of 1952, Frederick G. Payne of Waldoboro has expressed his intention to enter the national political scene by seeking the Republican nomination for the U. S. Senate. His announcement of this intention was especially recorded through the facilities of WRDO in Augusta for release at this time. This is the Maine Broadcasting System.

[transcript ends]

For more information about this transcript, audio recording, or other materials in Special Collections at the University of Maine, contact:

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