

TOM DAFFRON AND TIM WOODCOCK

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I bumped into Tom and asked if the Scott Paper thing was worth looking into. It turned out that it wasn't. "It was a matter of some internal dispute in the office as to whether we should do anything for them. I think they were jerking us around. I didn't take seriously their threat to leave. But with unemployment as bad as it is, we didn't think we ought to take the chance. Maine is like two states now. The southern part is optimistic-- 'everything is going to be fine.' The middle part is going along OK-- in Kennebec County, you have the state government, and that keeps the economy going pretty well. But north of Kennebec you have 16% unemployment. Those people need a lot of help. The irony is that where the people are well off is where the Democrats are strong and people are hurting the most in the traditional Republican areas."

Says they'd love to run with George Bush in 1984--"local Kennebec is not big, wouldn't hurt us a bit." So, the subject is not out of his mind.

Bumped into Tim Woodcock and we discussed how hard it is to figure out the process. I said I thought you had to work your way through a bill or two before you understood it. He agreed. "When I worked as an LA in the Senator's office I knew nothing about the legislative process. Now that I've been staff director for the Committee for a year and a half I'm beginning to understand it. You have to actually guide a couple of bills through. When I was an LA I held the naive belief that human nature was not very important. On the committee, you see that so much of it is exactly that. Personalities and personal conflicts count for so much. That's just as true on the staff level as it is among the Senators."

A very common kind of comment.