

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

OF THE

FORTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1869.

Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 28, 1820,
February 26, 1840, and March 16, 1842.

AUGUSTA:

SPRAGUE, OWEN & NASH, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1869.

PUBLIC LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1869.

CHAP. 74.**Chapter 74.**

An act establishing County Teachers' Institutes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows :

Teachers' institutes to be held annually in each county on request of twenty-five teachers.

SECTION 1. It shall be the duty of the state superintendent of common schools on the written request of twenty-five teachers in any county, to hold therein annually a teachers' institute, to continue at least ten days, Sundays excepted, to give due notice thereof to all teachers, and persons proposing to become such, and invite their attendance. The state superintendent, or some person designated by him, shall attend and have charge of each convention, and employ suitable instructors and lecturers, to give instruction and addresses, with the view to aid teachers in qualifying themselves for a more successful discharge of their duties. An examination of teachers shall be held the closing day or days of the session, and certificates of scholarships and qualifications shall be granted by the examining committee, of such form and grade as may be deemed best by the state superintendent.

Institutes, how conducted.

SECT. 2. To defray the expenses of these institutes the sum of four thousand dollars shall be annually appropriated, to be expended by the state superintendent, who shall render an account thereof to the governor and council, to be examined and audited by them.

Expense of institutes.

SECT. 3. This act shall take effect when approved.

Approved March 13, 1869.

Chapter 75.

An act for the establishment of county supervisorships for schools.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows :

County supervisors to be appointed.

SECTION 1. The governor and council shall appoint for each county, on the recommendation of the state superintendent of common schools, one person as county supervisor of public schools for each county, whose term of office shall continue three years, unless he be sooner removed by the governor.

Their duty.

SECT. 2. It shall be the duty of the county supervisor to visit the schools of his county as often as practicable, to note at such visits in a book provided for the purpose, to be designated the "Supervisor's Visiting Book," the condition of the school buildings and out-houses, the efficiency of the teachers, the method of instruction, the branches taught, the text-books and apparatus used, and the discipline, government and general condition of each

school. He shall give each such directions in the science, art, and method of teaching as he may deem expedient, shall distribute promptly all reports, forms, laws, circulars and instructions which he may receive from and in accordance with the direction of the state superintendent, and in general shall act as the official adviser and constant assistant of the school officers and teachers in his county.

SECT. 3. He shall assist the state superintendent in the organization and management of county institutes, and labor in every practicable way to elevate the standard of teaching and improve the condition of public schools in his county, by organizing town and county associations of teachers, and by personal efforts with pupils, school committees, teachers and parents.

SECT. 4. No county supervisor shall act as agent for any author, publisher or bookseller, nor directly or indirectly receive any gift, emolument or reward for his influence in recommending or procuring the use of any book, school apparatus or furniture of any kind whatever in any public school in the state; and any one who shall violate this provision shall be removed from office, and shall further forfeit all moneys due him from the state for salary and travelling expenses.

County supervisors not to act as agents for sale of books, or receive any consideration for recommending the same.

SECT. 5. The state superintendent and the county supervisors shall constitute a state board of education, of which the state superintendent shall be *ex officio* secretary, and said board shall hold a session at the capital of the state at least once a year during the session of the legislature, for the purpose of conferring with the legislative educational committee on matters pertaining to the common schools of the state, and to mature plans of operations for the following year, and in general to devise ways and means to promote and elevate the public schools of the state.

Board of education established.

SECT. 6. The county supervisor shall receive three dollars per diem for service actually performed in the discharge of his duties, and also reimbursement for travelling expenses necessarily incurred; said services and travelling expenses to appear in his "working report," rendered quarterly to the state superintendent for his inspection, and thence transmitted to the governor and council for their examination and approval; *provided* that the total annual expense for county supervisorships shall not exceed the sum of sixteen thousand dollars.

Compensation of county supervisors.

SECT. 7. This act shall take effect when approved.