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DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1856.

PART SECOND.

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THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No. 18.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SIX.

AN ACT more fully prescribing the power and duties of agricultural and horticultural societies.

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

SECTION 1. The treasurer of state is hereby au-2 thorized and directed to pay to the treasurer of any 3 agricultural society, whenever any such treasurer shall 4 apply for the same in conformity with the conditions 5 hereinafter specified, a sum equal to that raised and 6 actually received by any such society within the next 7 preceding year, and not exceeding in cases where 8 there are three such societies in a county, one hun-9 dred and fifty dollars to each of them; where there

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10 are two, and only two, two hundred dollars to each 11 of them, and where there is only one such society in 12 a county, three hundred dollars; in case a society is 13 made up of parts of two counties, one hundred and 14 fifty dollars; and to one horticultural society in each 15 county, one hundred dollars.

SECT. 2. None of the aforesaid payments shall be 2 made until the treasurer of such society shall file with 3 the state treasurer a certificate, on oath therein speci-4 fying the amount raised and actually paid in to said 5 society, and also a certificate from the secretary of the 6 Board of Agriculture, that said society has complied 7 with all the requirements of section fifth of this act.

SECT. 3. Every agricultural and horticultural soci-2 ety which shall receive the said allowance from the 3 state treasury, shall award annually by way of pre-4 miums, or shall apply otherwise, at their discretion, 5 for the encouragement or improvement of agriculture, 6 horticulture or manufactures, a sum not less than the 7 amount annually received from the state.

SECT. 4. It shall be the duty of every agricultural 2 and horticultural society, applying for the bounty of 3 the state, to require of all competitors for premiums 4 to fill up the blanks furnished by the secretary of the

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5 Board of Agriculture for such purpose, by answering 6 all the questions therein proposed, to the best of 7 their knowledge and belief, and present the same to 8 the several awarding committees, with their applica-9 tion for premiums; and said committees shall file all 10 such returns with their list of awards, and return the 11 same to the treasurer of such society; and no such 12 treasurer shall pay any such premiums that may be 13 awarded by such committees which are not accom-14 panied by such returns as above specified.

SECT. 5. It shall be the duty of the treasurer of all 2 agricultural and horticultural societies, within seven 3 days after receiving the returns from the several 4 awarding committees, as provided for in the fourth 5 section of this act, to place the same in the hands of 6 the secretary of such society, with a list of the pre-7 miums awarded by such committees, so far as practi-8 cable, the amount of such premiums, together with 9 such other expenditures as may be made in conformity 10 to section third; and said secretary shall annually, on 11 or before the third Wednesday in November, forward 12 to the secretary of the Board of Agriculture said list, 13 blanks and returns thereon, retaining copies thereof 14 for the use of said society, except those relating to

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15 field crops and fruits, which shall be returned on or 16 before the first Wednesday of December, in each 17 year; and the secretary of the Board of Agriculture 18 on the receipt and examination of such lists, blanks 19 and returns thereon, shall furnish the treasurer of such 20 society with a certificate required in section second 21 of this act; and no society failing to comply with the 22 conditions above specified, shall be entitled to draw 23 any money from the state treasury.

SECT. 6. All incorporated agricultural and horti-2 cultural societies may, by their officers, define and fix 3 bounds of sufficient extent for the erection of their 4 cattle pens and yards, and for convenient passage 5 ways to and about the same, on the days of their 6 cattle shows and exhibitions, and also for their plow-7 ing matches and trial of working teams, within which 8 bounds no person shall be permitted to enter or pass 9 unless in conformity with the regulations of the 10 officers of said society respectively.

SECT. 7. If any person shall, contrary to the regu-2 lations of the said officers, and after notice thereof, 3 enter or pass within the bounds so fixed, he shall for-4 feit a sum not exceeding five dollars, to be recovered 5 on complaint in behalf of the state, in any court com-

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6 petent to try the same, for the use and benefit of such7 society.

SECT. 8. The foregoing provisions shall not au-2 thorize such societies to occupy or include within the 3 bounds which they shall fix for the purposes aforesaid, 4 the land of any person without his consent, nor to 5 occupy any turnpike or public highway in any such 6 manner as to obstruct the public travel.

SECT. 9. The officers of any such society may 2 appoint a sufficient number of suitable persons, in-3 habitants of the county, to act as constables at cattle 4 shows and exhibitions, and they shall have and exer-5 cise all the powers of constables in relation to the 6 preservation of the public peace and enforcing the 7 rules and regulations of said society within the 8 towns, respectively, where such shows and exhibitions 9 may be held; and they shall exercise their office from 10 twelve o'clock at noon the day preceding the com-11 mencement of such shows and exhibitions, and until 12 twelve o'clock at noon of the day succeeding the 13 termination thereof, and no longer.

SECT. 10. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent 2 with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.



STATE OF MAINE.

House of Representatives, February 14, 1856.

ORDERED, That 350 copies of this Bill be printed.

DAVID DUNN, Clerk.