

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE.

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REPORT

OF THE

ATTORNEY-GENERAL

FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDING

NOVEMBER 30, 1908.

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WATERVILLE

SENTINEL PUBLISHING COMPANY

1909

STATE PRINTING.—UNIVERSITY OF MAINE AND  
MAINE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION.

*Hon. Thurston S. Burns, Member of Executive Council,  
Augusta, Maine:*

DEAR SIR:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your oral request for an examination of the statutes relating to State printing, and an expression of views as to the nature and amount of printing for the University of Maine and the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station which should be paid out of the appropriation made for State printing.

R. S., chapter 3, section 24, as amended by chapter 138, of the Public Laws of 1905, reads as follows:

“Section 24. The number of copies of the following named reports to be printed hereafter at the expense of the state shall be determined by the governor and council but shall not exceed the following numbers \* \* \* \* The report of the University of Maine, fifteen hundred copies annually; the report of the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station, one thousand copies annually; \* \* \* \* Of the above named reports seventy-five copies may be retained by the binder for public documents and at least six hundred and seventy-five copies shall be delivered to the state librarian by the binder for exchange library use and general distribution, and the balance of the number of each report shall be delivered to the head of the department or institution where it originated and was prepared for publication.”

R. S., chapter 3, section 25, was also amended by chapter 138 of the Public Laws of 1905, so as to read as follows:

“Section 25. The reports, catalogues and compilations of all state departments, bureaus, commissions and institutions, other than as enumerated in the preceding section, may be printed and bound, but the number and the styles in which the same shall be so printed and bound, at the expense of the state, shall be determined from time to time by the governor and council, who shall also fix the number of the same which shall be delivered from the bindery or printing office to the librarian of the state library.”

R. S., chapter 3, section 26, was also amended by chapter 52 of the Public Laws of 1905, so as to read as follows:

"Section 26. Each department, bureau and institution may have printed at the expense of the state, bulletins and circular letters of inquiry and information, at such times and in such numbers as the officer in charge thereof may consider necessary, such order for printing to be subject to the approval of the governor and council.

Except as hereinbefore provided, no reports, catalogues or compilations shall be printed, stitched or bound by any department, bureau, commission or institution of the state, at the expense of the state, unless by virtue of special legislative provision therefor."

From the various sections thus cited it would appear that the annual reports of the University of Maine and of the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station are to be printed at the expense of the State, but the number of reports in each case is to be determined by the governor and council within the limits indicated by the amendment, to wit, not exceeding fifteen hundred copies annually of the report of the University of Maine and not exceeding one thousand copies annually of the report of the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station.

The second group or class of printing, comprised under the terms "reports, catalogues and compilations," may in the discretion of the governor and council, also be printed and bound at the expense of the State but the number and styles shall be determined by the governor and council. The natural order of procedure, therefore, would seem to be, that application be made to the governor and council, the number and styles of the "reports, catalogues and compilations" be determined by them and any necessary order for printing and binding then be given.

A third group or class of printing, comprised under the terms "bulletins and circular letters of inquiry and information," may also be printed at the expense of the State and here also the natural order of procedure would seem to be that application be made to the governor and council, that the order for such "bulletins and circular letters of inquiry and information" be approved by them and any necessary order for the printing then be given. It would seem as if the method or course here suggested would make all these matters definite and certain, and tend to avoid misunderstanding and confusion.