

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

**This document is from the files of the Office of
the Maine Attorney General as transferred to
the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference
Library on January 19, 2022**

210

May 1, 1944

To Samuel H. Slosberg, Revisor of Statutes
From Abraham Breitbard, Deputy Attorney General

Your memorandum of April 28th, to which is attached a letter from William D. Hayes dated April 27, 1944 requesting that he be furnished by you as Revisor of the Statutes with a copy of the 1943 Session Laws, without cost, has been considered by this department. Mr. Hayes in his letter bases his demand on paragraph 3 of Section 2 of Chapter 210, P. L. 1931, as amended by Chapter 266, P. L. 1933.

Prior to the amendment, as the law existed in 1931, it was the duty of the Revisor to cause the public laws passed at each session to be printed within thirty days after the close thereof by the publishers of "each" newspaper, on good paper, in good non-parallel type; and each such printer who published and distributed the laws to its subscribers within the State was entitled to receive \$10., "besides \$2. for every hundred copies so distributed within the state."

By the amendment of 1933, Section 3 was eliminated and in substitution therefor it was enacted as follows:-

"After each session of the legislature, to cause the public laws enacted thereat to be printed on good paper and in suitable type and to distribute the same within the state to all citizens thereof making a request therefor."

It is apparent that this change eliminated the payment to the publishers of the newspaper for the distribution by the publishers, and provided for the distribution by the Revisor. It is also to be noted that this provision refers to the public laws, and not the laws of the session as requested by Mr. Hayes. We are informed by your office that subsequent to the amendment in 1933 it was the custom of the Revisor to purchase from the publishers of the Kennebec Journal the supplement to the paper which formerly it distributed to its subscribers. We believe that no more than that was required under the amended provision of 1933, and that compliance with Mr. Hayes' request would be met if you would forward to him such a supplement, if you have any left.

The distribution of the bound volumes of the session laws, which include not only the public laws, but the private and special laws indexed as required by law, is dealt with by Chapter 333, Laws of 1943. By that act, the State Librarian distributes these, free of cost, to the various departments and persons therein described, and no others. Prior to that time, the duty devolved on the Secretary of State to make that distribution: Resolves of 1820, Chapter 25; Resolves of 1840, Chapter 80; Resolves of 1842, Chapter 60.

Abraham Breitbard
Deputy Attorney General

AB:c
cc: William D. Hayes