

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*conf*  
*Judge McLaughlin*  
*1/12/47*

*JW*

December 24, 1947

To Dean Fisher, Secretary, Board of Barbers and Hairdressers  
Re: Electrolysis for the Removal of Hairs

Referring to your memo of October 22d in which you call my attention to Chapter 22, Section 208, R.S. 1944, the third paragraph, which provides as follows, "The use of electrolysis for the removal of hairs is prohibited." You further state that in the City of Portland telephone directory are two classified advertisements advertising that electrolysis is carried on:

Andre B. Croteau, Room 210, 10 Congress Square. Your inspector found that he has a room apparently devoted to this practice only and not connected with a beauty shop or hairdressing establishment.

Ruth M. Lang, 547A Congress Street, third floor, has a room immediately adjoining a beauty parlor, which has a connecting door and is operated by the same proprietor. Miss Lang apparently passes back and forth freely between the two establishments, although customers are asked to go out into the public hall and through the other entrance. At the time of the inspector's visit, she had a customer and was practising electrolysis. In 1933, when this law first went into effect, Miss Lang was practising and was investigated at the time, but she now claims that her attorney, Raymond Oakes, conferred with the Attorney General, with the result that she was allowed to continue practising.

On the above statement of facts you request an interpretation of the law. You ask:

"1. Does the quoted section of the law prohibit the use of electrolysis for the removal of hairs only when practiced in a shop otherwise devoted to the practice of hairdressing and beauty culture or barbering?"

Answer. As I read Section 208, the use of electrolysis for the removal of hairs is prohibited. It seems to me that it cannot be practised in this State at all.

"2. May a person owning a beauty parlor having a connecting door to a room in which electrolysis is practiced be considered as practicing electrolysis in a beauty parlor?"

My answer is in the affirmative.

"3. Does this section prohibit the use of electrolysis for the removal of hairs by any and all persons in the State of Maine?"

My answer to question 3 is, in my opinion, yes.

Ralph W. Farris  
Attorney General