

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty-Seventh Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 131.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED
AND NINETY-FIVE.

AN ACT to provide for the Investigation of the causes of
Fires, and the Publication of Statistics relating to the
same.

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

SECTION 1. When property is destroyed by fire, it
2 shall be the duty of the board of aldermen in cities and of
3 selectmen in towns, to make investigation of the cause,
4 circumstances, and origin thereof, and especially to exam-
5 ine whether it was the result of carelessness or of design.
6 The investigation shall be commenced within six days of
7 the occurrence of the fire, not including the Lord's day.
8 They shall have the powers vested in trial justices to com-

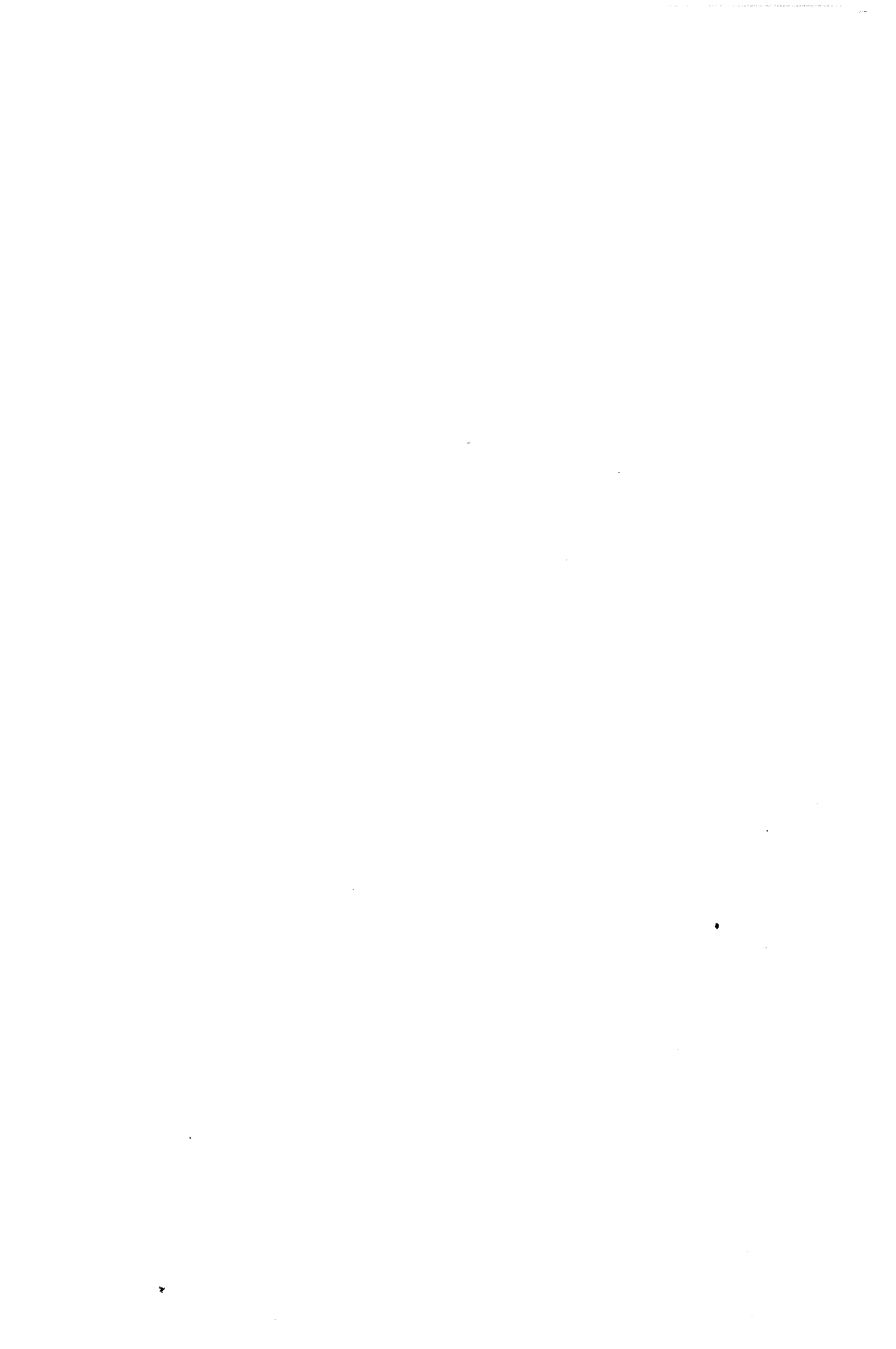
9 pel the attendance of witnesses to testify before them
10 upon such inquest.

SECT. 2. They shall present to the city or town clerk,
2 for record by him in a book provided by the insurance
3 commissioner, a written statement of all the facts relating
4 to the cause of such fire, the kind, value, and ownership of
5 property destroyed, and of such other particulars as may
6 be called for in the form provided, and of any other facts
7 which to them seem pertinent; and such record shall be
8 made within two weeks of the occurrence of the fire.

SECT. 3. The clerk shall make a transcript of such fire
2 record upon a blank form provided by the insurance com-
3 missioner, for each six months preceding, and forward the
4 same to the insurance commissioner within fifteen days
5 from the first day of July and the first day of January in
6 each year. He shall also transmit to the insurance com-
7 missioner at any time, upon his request, a copy of the
8 record as to any particular fire, or any facts concerning it.

SECT. 4. Any officer neglecting or refusing to perform
2 any duty required of him by the provisions of this act shall
3 be fined not exceeding two hundred dollars.

SECT. 5. The insurance commissioner shall classify and
2 tabulate the statistics so obtained and shall publish them in
3 his annual report.



STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
February 15, 1895. }

Reported by Mr. WHITTEN of Carmel, from Committee on Mercantile Affairs and Insurance, and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*