

Sixty-Seventh Legislature.

SENATE.

No. 7.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to provide for the incorporation and control of Telegraph Companies and Telephone Companies.

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

SECTION 1. Telegraph companies and telephone com-2 panies, and companies for the operation of both telegraphs 3 and telephones, may be organized under the provisions of 4 sections sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen and twenty 5 of chapter forty-eight of the Revised Statutes of this state 6 and acts amendatory thereof and additional thereto, and 7 all the provisions of said sections and acts are hereby made 8 applicable to such corporations.

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SECT. 2. The certificate provided by said section 2 eighteen to be prepared and filed in the secretary of state's 3 office, shall set forth, in addition to the statements required 4 by said section, the general route of telegraph or telephone 5 lines proposed to be constructed by such corporation and 6 the points to be connected thereby.

SECT. 3. Corporations organized under the provisions 2 of this act shall have authority to construct, maintain and 3 operate its lines upon and along the route or routes and 4 between the points stated in its certificate of incorporation.

SECT. 4. Such corporations may, subject to the condi-2 tions and restrictions provided by the statutes of this state, 3 construct its lines along, over, under and across any of 4 the roads and streets and across or under any of the waters 5 upon and along its route or routes, with all necessary 6 erections and fixtures therefor; provided, however, that 7 the same shall not be so constructed as to incommode the 8 use of such roads and streets for public travel, or interrupt 9 the navigation of such waters; and provided, further, that 10 no such corporation shall injure, cut down or destroy any 11 fruit tree, or any tree or shrub standing and growing for 12 the purposes of shade or ornament within the limits of any 13 road or street; and provided, further, that this act shall 14 not be so construed as to authorize the construction of any 15 bridge across any of the waters of the state.

SECT. 5. Any such corporation, by vote at a meeting 2 of its stockholders called for the purpose, may issue

3 coupon or registered bonds to provide means for con-4 structing its lines, funding its floating debt, or for the 5 payment of money borrowed for any lawful purpose, and 6 may mortgage or pledges, as security for the payment of 7 the principal and interest of such bonds, a part or all of 8 its property and franchise. Such bonds may be issued in 9 sums not less than one hundred dollars each, payable at 10 periods not exceeding twenty years from the date thereof, 11 and bearing interest not exceeding six per cent a year, 12 payable annually or semi-annually, to an amount which, 13 including that of bonds previously issued, shall not exceed 14 in all the capital stock of the corporation actually paid in 15 at the time.

SECT. 6. Any such corporation shall be authorized to 2 connect its line or lines with those of any other like corpo-3 ration, and to sell or lease its lines and property, in whole 4 or in part, to any other like corporation, and to purchase 5 or lease the line, or lines, and property, in whole or in 6 part, of any like corporation, upon such terms as may be 7 agreed upon by the contracting parties.

SECT. 7. Such corporations may purchase, or take and 2 hold as for public uses, land necessary for the construction 3 and operation of its lines. Land may be so taken and 4 damages therefor may be estimated, secured, determined 5 and paid as in case of railroads.

SECT. 8. Section eleven of chapter three hundred and 2 seventy-eight of the Public Laws of eighteen hundred and 3 eighty-five as amended by section one of chapter eight of 4 the Public Laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-one, is 5 hereby repealed.

SECT. 9. This act shall take effect when approved.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, January 3, 1895.

Read, and on motion by Mr. SPOFFORD of Hancock, laid on the table to be printed.

KENDALL M. DUNBAR, Secretary.

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