

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty-Eighth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 293.

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to establish traveling libraries.

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

Section 1. Under such rules and regulations as the Governor and Council may prescribe the State librarian is hereby authorized to lend books and documents from the State library to any responsible citizen of the State, on written application therefor and on payment of all express and carriage charges; but books and documents in the library for reference and library use only, shall not be so loaned.

Sect. 2. On the written application of the officers of any free library within the State or any association composed of five or more persons residing in a town destitute of a free

4 library, and on the payment of ten cents per volume in
5 advance, to cover express and other charges, the State libra-
6 rian may loan to such library or association for a period not
7 exceeding six months, sets of books selected and kept for
8 that purpose, not exceeding fifty volumes at any one time.
9 Said books are to be loaned free of charge to the patrons
10 of such free library and to the citizens of the town where
11 such association is located, under such rules as the free
12 library commission may prescribe.

Sect. 3. Any person or persons, who on his own request
2 or written application therefor receives the loan of any books
3 or documents from the Maine State library, shall be held
4 liable for the full value thereof to the State librarian, and if
5 he shall neglect or fail to return the same to the library
6 within the prescribed time or shall return the same in an
7 injured or mutilated condition, after due demand and notice,
8 said State librarian may maintain an action at law against
9 such person for the full value of such books or documents.

Sect. 4. The Governor, with the advise and consent of the
2 Council, shall appoint four persons as library commission-
3 ers in manner following: One person for the term of one
4 year, one for the term of two years, one for the term
5 of three years, and one for the term of four years and there-
6 after one person yearly for the term of four years. Said com-
7 missioners shall serve without pay and it shall be their duty
8 to encourage the establishment of free public libraries, to
9 select the books to be purchased for traveling libraries and
10 to advise the State librarian in reference thereto.

Sect. 5. The State librarian shall be ex-officio a member
2 of the library commission and secretary thereof. It shall
3 be his duty to purchase the books for traveling libraries,
4 to cause the same to be catalogued and placed in proper
5 cases for transportation and use, and to keep accurate
6 accounts of all matters relating to the expenditures of
7 money, the transportation of libraries and such other sta-
8 tistics as the commission may require.

Sect. 6. All expenditures of money shall be made with the
2 sanction of the Governor and Council, and the commis-
3 sioners shall make to them a yearly report.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
March 12, 1897.

Reported by Mr. FLOYD of Brewer, from Committee on Library, and
ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*