

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty-Ninth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 363

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to amend Section four of Chapter two hundred sixty-six of the Public Laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-seven and to amend Section five of Chapter two hundred sixty-six of the Public Laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-seven relating to the Board of Agriculture.

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

Section 1. Section four of chapter two hundred sixty-six
2 of the Public Laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-seven is
3 hereby amended so as to read as follows:

‘Sect. 4. The board, by its secretary and one of its mem-
5 bers, shall hold annually, two farmers’ institutes in each
6 county, and as many more as it deems expedient or finds
7 practicable with the means at its disposal which shall be
8 devoted to the public discussion of topics relating to hus-

9 bandry, either independently or in connection with any
10 organization devoted to the same general object and it may
11 employ expert lecturers and a reporter to enhance the use-
12 fulness of said institutes to the public and, so far as is prac-
13 ticable, aid and encourage agricultural societies and associa-
14 tions in their efforts. The members shall receive no com-
15 pensation for time and services but shall be reimbursed for
16 expenses incurred in the discharge of their duties in attend-
17 ance at institutes and at the annual meetings two dollars a
18 day for subsistence and six cents a mile for travel. The
19 whole expense under this section shall not exceed two thou-
20 sand dollars annually.'

Sect. 2. Section five of chapter two hundred sixty-six of
2 the Public Laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-seven is
3 hereby amended so as to read as follows :

'Sect. 5. The secretary of said board shall be its chief
5 executive officer and on or after January first nineteen hun-
6 dred and one shall be chosen biennially at the first session of
7 the legislature, by the joint ballot of the senators and repre-
8 sentatives in convention, for the term of two years.

When a vacancy happens in the office of secretary of the
10 board of agriculture during the recess of the legislature the
11 governor, with the advice and consent of the council, shall
12 appoint a suitable person to act as secretary of the board of
13 agriculture until one is elected by the legislature and the
14 person thus appointed shall have the compensation provided
15 by law for said office. The secretary of said board shall by
16 personal observation, investigation, and correspondence
17 acquaint himself with the methods and wants of practical

18 husbandry, the means of fertilization and the adaptation of
19 various products to the soils and climate of Maine, also with
20 the progress of scientific and practical agriculture elsewhere
21 with a view to the more complete development of the natural
22 resources of the State and shall perform such other duties
23 as the board may prescribe. He shall annually by the third
24 Wednesday in January present to the governor and council
25 a report of the doings of the board and the result of his own
26 labors and investigations together with useful communica-
27 tions, suggestions and recommendations. Not more than
28 seven thousand five hundred copies of said report shall be
29 printed, to be bound as the governor and council may direct,
30 fifteen hundred copies for the legislature and the remainder,
31 after reserving a suitable number for foreign exchanges, for
32 distribution under the direction of the board among the agri-
33 cultural associations and the people of the State.'

Sect. 3. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith
2 are hereby repealed.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Augusta, March 15, 1899.

Reported by Mr. BEAL of Bangor, from Special Committee on Reports of the several Departments and in relation to continuing the office of Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*