MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Seventieth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 307

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT to amend sections twenty-eight and thirty-five of chapter eleven of the Revised Statutes relating to the Free High School year.

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

Section 1. Section twenty-eight of chapter eleven of 2 the Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter two hundred 3 and sixteen of the Public Laws of 1893 is hereby further 4 amended as follows: by striking out the word "December" 5 in the tenth line of said section and inserting in lieu 6 thereof the word 'January;' by striking out the word "June" in the twelfth line of said section and inserting in 8 lieu thereof the word 'July;' and by striking out the word "December" in the thirteenth line of said section and

10 inserting in lieu thereof the word 'January;' so that said 11 section as amended shall read as follows:

Any town which establishes and maintains a 13 free high school as provided by this section and the seven 14 following, for at least ten weeks in any one year, shall, 15 on complying with the conditions hereinafter set forth, 16 receive from the state one-half the amount actually ex-17 pended for instruction in said school, not exceeding two 18 hundred and fifty dollars; provided, that no town shall 19 receive such state aid unless its appropriation and expen-20 diture for such school has been exclusive of the amounts 21 required by law for common school purposes. 22 shall be paid from the state treasury on and after the first 23 day of each January, upon certification by the governor 24 and council as provided by section thirty-five. But when-25 ever a town or precinct desires to draw its state aid semi-26 annually, it shall be paid on and after the first days of 27 July and January; provided, that the superintendent of 28 such town makes, semi-annually, before said days, the 29 report required in section thirty-five.'

Sect. 2. Section thirty-five of chapter eleven of the 2 Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter two hundred 3 and sixteen of the Public Laws of 1893, is hereby further 4 amended by striking out the word "June" in the second 5 line of said section and inserting in lieu thereof the word 6 'July,' so that said section as amended shall read as fol-7 lows:

'Section 35. Superintendents shall, annually, before the 9 first day of July, make returns under oath to the State 10 Superintendent, on blanks prepared and sent by him, of 11 the amount appropriated and the amount expended by

12 each town or precinct for instruction in such free high 13 schools during the current year; also of the amount appro-14 priated and the amount expended for common school pur-15 poses by each town maintaining the same; the number of 16 weeks during which such schools have been taught; the 17 wages paid each teacher; the number of pupils registered; 18 the average attendance; the number of pupils in each 19 branch of study pursued, and the amount received for tui-If the State Superintendent is satisfied that the pro-21 visions of the seven preceding sections have been com-22 plied with, he shall certify to the governor and council 23 the sum which each town or precinct is entitled to receive 24 from the State. Any town or precinct, dissatisfied with 25 his decision, may appeal to the governor and council. 26 The governor and council shall issue a certificate to the 27 treasurer of the town or agent of the precinct, for such 28 amount as they adjudge such town or precinct entitled to 29 receive from the State treasury. Any person connected 30 with the management of such free high schools, either as 31 teacher, agent or superintendent, who in any way aids or 32 abets in defrauding the State into the payment in support 33 of said schools of more than is contemplated by this 34 chapter, shall forfeit not less than five hundred dollars, 35 or be imprisoned in the county jail not less than one year.'

STATE OF MAINE.

In House of Representatives,
Augusta, March 6, 1901.

Reported by Mr. WALLS of Vinalhaven, from Committee on Education, and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, Clerk.