

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE.

No. 198

STATE OF MAINE.

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

AN ACT amendatory of and additional to chapter sixty-two
of the Revised Statutes, relating to divorces.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 62 of the Revised Statutes is hereby
2 amended by adding thereto the following sections:

‘Sect. 18. No divorce libel shall be in order for hearing
4 at the term at which it is entered, but shall be in order for
5 hearing at any subsequent term, the return day of which
6 is not less than ninety days from the day the libel was en-
7 tered. A stenographic report shall be taken in all divorce
8 hearings, the same as in the trials of civil or criminal cases.

‘Sect. 19. In all libels in which a criminal allegation or
10 the charge of adultery is made, the county attorney shall

11 represent the libellee, unless otherwise represented by coun-
12 sel, and procure and present all necessary evidence to fully
13 inform the court thereof. If any divorce is granted on the
14 grounds of adultery, the county attorney shall present the
15 evidence on which such divorce was granted, to the grand
16 jury at its next sitting or session.

‘Sect. 20. No divorce shall be granted on ex-parte evi-
18 dence nor unless the libellee is represented in court. If no
19 attorney of record appears during the three days following
20 the entry of a libel, the court during the term, shall appoint
21 some attorney at law to procure the evidence on behalf of
22 the libellee and present the same to the court, at the time such
23 libel is heard. Such appearance shall be solely as amicus
24 curiae.

‘Sect. 21. A sum not exceeding \$25, at the discretion of
26 the court, shall be allowed in full payment of the services
27 of any attorney appointed and acting under the foregoing
28 section, the same to be paid out of the county treasury, when
29 not otherwise provided for. The court may order the libel-
30 lant or libellee to pay into court, the aforesaid sum or a
31 larger amount at its discretion, in lieu of or in additon to the
32 aforesaid \$25, before the libel shall be heard or granted
33 and enforce the same by appropriate decrees.

‘Sect. 22. No parties to a divorce hereafter granted in
35 this State, shall re-marry under one year from the date of
36 granting such divorce. Such marriage shall be null and
37 void.

‘Sect. 23. This act shall take effect when approved.’

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Augusta, Feb. 16, 1909.

Tabled pending reference to a committee by Mr. BIGELOW
of Portland and ordered printed.

E. M. THOMPSON, *Clerk.*