

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

N I N E T Y - F O U R T H L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 230

S. P. 171

In Senate, January 28, 1949

Referred to the Committee on Library, sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

Presented by Senator Varney of Washington.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-NINE

AN ACT to Clarify the State Library Law.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 38, § 3, amended. Section 3 of chapter 38 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows :

'Sec. 3. Admission to library. The librarian shall keep the library open from 9 in the morning until ~~12 noon on every day except Sundays and public holidays, and from 1.30 to~~ 4 in the afternoon on every day, except Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays; and the superintendent of public buildings and his assistants shall see that no one is admitted to the library rooms out of library hours or that any book is taken therefrom without the consent of the librarian.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 38, § 11-A, additional. Chapter 38 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to be numbered 11-A, to read as follows :

'Sec. 11-A. Public library services. The state librarian, with the approval of the governor and council, may also make any regulations necessary to enable the state to comply with the provisions of any law of the United States, heretofore or hereafter enacted, intended to promote public

library services. The treasurer of state shall be custodian of any money that may be allotted by the federal government for general public library services.'

Sec. 3. R. S., c. 38, § 21, amended. Section 21 of chapter 38 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 21. Published records of vital statistics to be purchased. Whenever the record of the births, marriages and deaths of any town in the state, previous to the year 1892, beginning at the very earliest date, shall be collected from church records, church registers, records of clergymen, family Bibles, public records and other available sources, and shall be printed and verified in the manner required by the standing committee of the Maine Historical Society, under the editorship of some person selected by said committee, whose services shall be rendered free and without any compensation, and the work shall appear to them to have been prepared with accuracy, the librarian of the state library shall purchase ~~250~~ 150 copies of such record at a price not exceeding 20 per page: provided that the written copies of the town records shall become the property of the state, and shall be deposited in the office of the registrar of vital statistics: and provided further, that not more than \$3,000 shall be expended by authority of this section in any one year ~~and provided further, that on and after August 1, 1937, all projects to be undertaken within the provisions of this section shall first be listed with and approved in writing by the state librarian and the state historian.'~~

Sec. 4. R. S., c. 38, § 26, amended. Section 26 of chapter 38 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 26. Towns may unite in establishment and maintenance of libraries; entitled to same benefits as single towns. Two or more ~~adjacent~~ towns may unite in establishing and maintaining a free public library with branches thereof in each town for the free use of all the inhabitants of said towns and may each raise and make appropriation for that purpose annually, and such towns shall be subject to all duties and entitled to all the benefits prescribed by the laws relating to free libraries.'

Sec. 5. R. S., c. 38, § 29, amended. Section 29 of chapter 38 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 29. Duty to keep custody of public documents furnished by state librarian; duty to report list of books purchased with state stipend. In every town and city where a free public library exists, the librarian of the state library shall transmit to such library all laws, Maine reports, and

other documents which the town or city is by law entitled to receive from the state, except as provided in sections 18 and 19, and the same shall be constantly kept in such library for the use and benefit of all the citizens; and the officers of said library, on or before the 1st day of May of each year, shall send to the librarian of the state library a report containing a list of all books and documents purchased with the state stipend for the preceding year ~~and of all books and documents received from the state in said library.~~ The aid from the state, provided by section 27, shall be withheld from any city, town, or village corporation until the report herein required to be made ~~on or before the 1st day of May of each year~~ shall have been received by the librarian of the state library; and the same shall also be withheld unless said report shall show that the laws, Maine reports, and other documents furnished ~~to said town or city~~ by the state are kept in said library as required by this section.'

Sec. 5. R. S., c. 38, § 30, repealed and replaced. Section 30 of chapter 38 of the revised statutes is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

'Sec. 30. Donation of books and gifts to assist in foundation of library. Whenever a municipality shall purchase books to aid in the establishment of a free public library, the librarian of the Maine state library shall make a gift of money or new books to such library; the gift to equal 50% of the value of the books purchased by said municipality for said purpose, and in no instance to exceed \$100.'