

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

OF THE

FORTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1868.

Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 28, 1820,
February 26, 1840, and March 16, 1842.

AUGUSTA:
OWEN & NASH, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.
1868.

PUBLIC LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1868.

SECT. 9. He shall annually, at the earliest practicable date after the returns are received from the several insurance companies and agents, make report to the legislature of the general conduct and condition of the several insurance companies in this state, and also as far as he may be able, of companies located out of the state and doing business therein, with such suggestions as he may deem expedient, and in connection therewith shall prepare an abstract of all the returns and statements made to him by insurance companies and agents as aforesaid. Such report shall be printed on or before the first Wednesday of January, annually.

CHAP. 221.

Examiner to make annual report to the legislature.

SECT. 10. Any provision of law requiring the appointment of two bank commissioners, is hereby repealed.

Approved March 7, 1868.

Chapter 221.

An act to increase the efficiency of the state supervision of common schools.

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

SECT. 1. The governor and council shall appoint a state superintendent of common schools, who shall be duly sworn and continue in office three years, or during the pleasure of the executive ; and when a vacancy occurs, a new appointment shall be made for a like term.

State superintendent of common schools, appointment and term of office.

SECT. 2. An office shall be provided for the state superintendent at the seat of government, where he shall preserve all school reports of this state and of other states which may be sent to his office, the returns of the superintending school committees of the various towns, and such books, apparatus, maps, charts, works on education, plans for school buildings, models, and other articles of interest to school officers and teachers as may be procured without expense to the state.

To have an office at the capital.

Duties of State Superintendent.

SECT. 3. The duties of the state superintendent shall be as follows :

Duties of superintendent.

First—To exercise a general supervision of all the public schools of the state, and to advise and direct the town committees in the discharge of their duties, by circular letters and personal conference, devoting all his time to the duties of his office.

To exercise general supervision of public schools in the state.

Second—To obtain information as to the school systems of other states and countries, and the condition and progress of common school education throughout the world ; to disseminate this information, together with such practical hints upon the conduct of

To obtain and disseminate information relating to school systems, &c.

CHAP. 221. schools and the true theory of education as observation and investigation shall convince him to be important, by public addresses, circulars, and articles prepared for the press; and to do all in his power to awaken and sustain an interest in education among the people of the state, and to stimulate teachers to well directed efforts in their work.

To take necessary measures for holding of state educational conventions.

Third—To take such measures as he may deem necessary to secure the holding of a state educational convention once each year, with a view of bringing together the teachers, school committees and friends of education generally, for the purposes of consultation with reference to the interests of common schools and the most approved method of instruction.

May hold county institutes.

Fourth—In case sufficient encouragement is afforded by the citizens, to hold in each county once during each year a public meeting or institute for teachers and educators.

To publish abstract of proceedings of such conventions.

Fifth—To prepare and cause to be printed and distributed such portions of the proceedings of county and state institutes or teachers' conventions as he may deem important in the furtherance of the interests of education.

To prescribe studies to be taught.

Sixth—To prescribe the studies that shall be taught in the common schools of this state, reserving to town committees the right to prescribe additional studies.

To be superintendent of normal schools.

Seventh—To act as superintendent of the state normal schools, and perform the duties imposed upon the superintendent of common schools by the ninth section of the act establishing normal schools.

To make report to governor and council annually.

Eighth—Annually, prior to the session of the legislature, to make a report to the governor and council of the result of his inquiries and investigations, and the facts obtained from the school returns, with such suggestions and recommendations as in his judgment will best promote the improvement of common schools.

Salary.

SECT. 4. The annual salary of the state superintendent shall be eighteen hundred dollars, exclusive of travelling and other necessary expenses incurred in the discharge of his duties, for which he shall receive such sums as he may actually expend, to be approved by the governor and council, not, however, exceeding five hundred dollars, to be paid quarterly, on the first days of April, July, October and January.

SECT. 5. Sections sixty-two to sections sixty-nine, inclusive, of chapter eleven of the revised statutes, providing for the appointment of a superintendent of common schools, and all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act, are hereby repealed.

SECT. 6. This act shall take effect when approved.