

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

ENACTED BY THE

Seventy-Seventh Legislature

1915

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PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Seventy-Seventh Legislature

1915

[supplied from page 1 of volume]

Piscataquis county, for clerks in the office of register of deeds, five hundred dollars; for clerks in the office of register of probate, two hundred dollars; for clerks in the office of clerk of courts, five hundred dollars. CHAP. 338
—Piscataquis.

Sagadahoc county, for clerks in the office of register of deeds, three hundred twenty-five dollars; for clerks in the office of register of probate, three hundred twenty-five dollars; for clerks in the office of clerk of courts, four hundred dollars. —Sagadahoc.

Somerset county, for clerks in the office of register of deeds, five hundred dollars; for clerks in the office of register of probate, one hundred fifty dollars; for clerks in the office of clerk of courts, six hundred dollars. —Somerset.

Waldo county, for clerks in the office of register of deeds, seven hundred eighty dollars; for clerks in the office of register of probate, one hundred dollars; for clerks in the office of clerk of courts, five hundred dollars. —Waldo.

Washington county, for clerks in the office of register of deeds, five hundred twenty dollars; for clerks in the office of register of probate, five hundred twenty dollars; for clerks in the office of clerk of courts, five hundred twenty dollars. —Washington.

York county, for clerks in the office of register of deeds, one thousand six hundred dollars; for clerks in the office of register of probate, one thousand dollars; for clerks in the office of clerk of courts, seven hundred fifty dollars. —York.

Section 2. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed. —Inconsistent acts repealed.

Approved April 2, 1915.

Chapter 338.

An Act to Amend Chapter Eighteen of the Revised Statutes, Relating to State Board of Health.

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

Section 1. Section two of chapter eighteen of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by striking out all of said section which follows the word "shall" in line nineteen, and inserting in place thereof the words, 'as soon as practicable after the close of each year which is indicated by an odd number, report to the Governor and Council of their doings, investigations and discoveries during the biennial period just ended, with such suggestions as to legislative action as they may deem necessary,' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

Ch. 18, Sec.
2, R. S.,
amended.

CHAP. 338

Duties of the Board of Health.

—study vital statistics.

—make sanitary investigations.

—shall investigate diseases among domestic animals.

—shall advise as to drainage, water supply, etc.

—shall issue biennial report.

Ch. 18, Sec. 3, R. S., amended.

Meetings of Board, when held.

—quorum.

—choose president and adopt rules and by-laws.

—may conduct investigations.

‘Section 2. The State Board of Health shall have the general supervision of the interests of health and life of the citizens of the State. They shall study the vital statistics of the State, and endeavor to make intelligent and profitable use of the collected records of deaths and of sickness among the people; they shall make sanitary investigations and inquiries respecting the causes of disease and especially of communicable diseases and epidemics, the causes of mortality, and the effects of localities, employments, conditions, ingesta, habits and circumstances on the health of the people; they shall investigate the causes of disease occurring among the stock and domestic animals in the State, and the methods of remedying the same; they shall gather such information in respect to all these matters as they may deem proper for diffusion among the people; they shall, when required, or when they shall deem it best, advise officers of the government, or other boards within the State, in regard to the location, drainage, water supply, disposal of excreta, heating and ventilation of any public institution or building; they shall from time to time examine and report upon works on the subject of hygiene for the use of schools of the State; they shall have general oversight and direction of the enforcement of the statutes respecting the preservation of health; and they shall, as soon as practicable after the close of each year which is indicated by an odd number, report to the Governor and Council of their doings, investigations and discoveries during the biennial period just ended, with such suggestions as to legislative action as they may deem necessary.’

Section 2. Section three of chapter eighteen of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by striking out the whole of said section and substituting therefor the following:

‘Section 3. The Board shall meet quarterly and at such other times as they may deem expedient. Their meetings may be held in Augusta or in such other places as the exigencies or circumstances of their service may require. Suitable accommodations for the meetings of the Board, and office room for its secretary shall be provided at the State Capitol. A majority shall be a quorum for the transaction of business. They shall choose annually one of their number to be their president, and may adopt rules and by-laws subject to the provisions of this chapter. They may send the secretary, or a representative of the Board, to any part of the State, when deemed necessary to conduct an investigation within the scope of their prescribed work, and they may send the secretary or other representative of the Board to places outside of the State when it may be deemed necessary for the purpose of making investigations or of con-

ferring with other state or municipal public health authorities at meetings or conventions when said meetings convene for the consideration and discussion of measures for the improvement of the public health.' CHAP. 338

Section 3. Section eight of said chapter, as amended by section two of chapter forty-eight of the Public Laws of nineteen hundred nine and as further amended by chapter one hundred forty-nine of the Public Laws of nineteen hundred thirteen is hereby still further amended by striking out the words "or typhus fever" in line five of said section, and inserting in place thereof the words 'typhoid fever or other dangerous, infectious, or contagious disease' and also by striking out the words "when death results from any infectious or contagious disease" in line thirty-four so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

'Section 8. The more effectually to protect the public health the State Board of Health may establish such systems of inspection as in its judgment may be necessary to ascertain the actual or threatened presence of the infection of Asiatic cholera, smallpox, diphtheria, scarlet fever, plague, typhoid fever or other dangerous, infectious, or contagious disease; and any duly authorized agent or inspector of said board may enter any building, vessel, railway car or other public vehicle, to inspect the same and to remove therefrom any person affected by said diseases; and for this purpose he may require the person in charge of any vessel or public vehicle other than a railway car to stop such vessel or vehicle at any place, and he may require the conductor of any railway train to stop his train at any station or upon any side track and there detain it for a reasonable time; provided, that no conductor shall be required to stop his train when telegraphic communication with the dispatcher's office cannot be obtained or at such times or under such circumstances as may endanger the safety of the train and passengers; and provided further, that any such agent or inspector may cause any car which he may think may be infected with any of said diseases to be sidetracked at any suitable place and there be cleansed, fumigated and disinfected. And the said board of health may from time to time, make, alter, modify or revoke rules and regulations for guarding against the introduction of any infectious or contagious diseases into the State, including rabies, or hydrophobia of animals and men; for the control and suppression thereof if within the State; for the quarantine and disinfection of persons, localities and things infected or suspected of being infected by such diseases; for guarding against the transmission of infectious and contagious diseases through

Ch. 18, Sec. 8, R. S., as amended, further amended.

State Board of Health may establish system of inspection.

—inspector may enter any building, etc.

—may stop vessels, etc.

—may detain trains and side track infected cars.

State Board of Health may make rules and regulations for guarding against introduction of diseases.

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the medium of common towels, common drinking cups and other articles which may carry infection from person to person; for the sanitation of railway service and that of other common carriers, for the transportation of dead bodies; for the speedy and private interment of the bodies of persons who have died from said diseases; and, in emergency, for providing those sick with said diseases with necessary medical aid and with temporary hospitals for their accommodation and for the accommodation of their nurses and attendants. And the said board may declare any and all of its rules and regulations made in accordance with the provisions of this section to be in force within the whole State, or within any specified part thereof, and to apply to any person or persons, family, camp, building, vessel, railway car or public vehicle of any kind.'

—rules and regulations, when to be enforced.

Ch. 18, Sec. 30, P. III, R. S., amended.

Section 4. Paragraph III of section thirty of chapter eighteen of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by striking out all of said paragraph following the word "diseases" in line sixteen of said paragraph and inserting in place thereof the words, 'occurring within the limit of its jurisdiction and shall report to said board every case of such infectious or contagious diseases as the rules and regulations of said board shall require. Those diseases which the rules and regulations of the State Board of Health may require to be reported shall be known, under the terms of this act, as notifiable diseases. Diseases which the State Board of Health may promulgate as those which shall be quarantined or isolated shall be known as quarantinable diseases,' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

Each local board of health shall guard against contagious and infectious diseases.

'III. Guard against the introduction of contagious and infectious diseases, by the exercise of proper and vigilant medical inspection and control of all persons and things coming within the limits of its jurisdiction from infected places, or which for any cause, are liable to communicate contagion; give public notice of infected places, by displaying red flags or by posting placards on the entrances of the premises; require the isolation of all persons and things that are infected with, or have been exposed to, contagious or infectious diseases, and provide suitable places for the reception of the same; and furnish medical treatment and care for persons sick with such diseases who cannot otherwise be provided for; prohibit and prevent all intercourse and communication with, or use of, infected premises, places and things, and require, and if necessary, provide the means for the thorough cleansing and disinfection of the same before general intercourse therewith, or use thereof, shall be allowed. And it shall report to the State Board of Health promptly, facts which relate to infectious and epidemic diseases

—report to State Board of Health.

occurring within the limit of its jurisdiction and shall report to said board every case of such infectious or contagious diseases as the rules and regulations of said board shall require. Those diseases which the rules and regulations of the State Board of Health may require to be reported shall be known, under the terms of this act, as notifiable diseases. Diseases which the State Board of Health may promulgate as those which shall be quarantined or isolated shall be known as quarantinable diseases.'

CHAP. 338

--notifiable
and quar-
antinable
diseases.

Section 5. Section thirty-three of chapter eighteen of the Revised Statutes as amended by section twelve of chapter seventy-eight of the Public Laws of nineteen hundred nine is hereby further amended by striking out the whole of said section and substituting therefor the following:

Ch. 18, Sec.
33, R. S., as
amended,
further
amended.

'Section 33. Whenever any householder knows or has reason to believe that any person within his family or household has smallpox, diphtheria, scarlet fever, cholera, typhus or typhoid fever, cerebro-spinal meningitis, measles, membranous croup, so-called, whooping cough, or any other disease which is made notifiable by the rules and regulations of the State Board of Health, he shall within twenty-four hours, give notice thereof to the health officer of the town in which he resides, and such notice shall be given either at the office of the health officer, or by letter or telephone, the communication to be mailed or delivered to him within the time above specified, and in case there is no health officer, to the secretary of the local board of health, either at his office or by communication as aforesaid.'

Health
officers of
towns shall
be notified
of exist-
ence of
any infec-
tious dis-
eases.

Section 6. Section thirty-four of chapter eighteen of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by striking out the words, "above mentioned diseases" in line two of said section and inserting in place thereof the words, 'any of the notifiable diseases,' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

Ch. 18, Sec.
34, R. S.,
amended.

'Section 34. No householder in whose dwelling there occurs any of the notifiable diseases, shall permit any person suffering from any such disease, or any clothing or other property to be removed from his house, without the consent of the board, or of the health officer, and the said board or health officer, shall prescribe the conditions of removal.'

Infected
persons
shall not
be removed
from any
house with-
out permis-
sion from
board.

Section 7. Section thirty-six of chapter eighteen of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by striking out the whole of said section and substituting therefor the following:

Ch. 18, Sec.
36, R. S.,
amended.

'Section 36. Whenever any physician knows or has reason to believe that any person whom he is called upon to visit, has or is infected with any of the notifiable diseases such physician

Physician
shall give
notice to
local board.

CHAP. 338 shall forthwith give notice thereof to the secretary of the local board of health, or the health officer of the town in which such person lives.'

Ch. 18, Sec. 38, R. S., amended.

Section 8. Section thirty-eight of chapter eighteen of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by striking out the word "cholera" in line two of said section and inserting in place thereof the words, 'other quarantinable disease,' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

Persons having or having been exposed to any quarantinable disease shall not mingle with public

'Section 38. No person affected with smallpox, scarlet fever, diphtheria or other quarantinable disease, and no person having access to any person affected with any of the said diseases, shall mingle with the general public until such sanitary precautions as may be prescribed by the local board of health shall have been complied with.'

Ch. 18, Sec. 39, R. S., amended.

Section 9. Section thirty-nine of chapter eighteen of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by striking out the word "cholera" in line two of said section and inserting in place thereof the words, 'other diseases for which disinfection may be required by the State Board of Health,' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

Convalescents and nurses shall have health certificate before leaving premises.

'Section 39. Persons recovering from smallpox, scarlet fever, diphtheria or other diseases for which disinfection may be required by the State Board of Health, and nurses who have been in attendance on any person suffering from any such disease shall not leave the premises until they have received from the board of health or health officer a certificate that they have taken such precautions as to their persons, clothing and all other things which they propose bringing from the premises as are necessary to insure the immunity from infection of other persons with whom they may come in contact, and no such person shall expose himself in any public place, shop, street, inn or public conveyance without having first adopted such precautions.'

--shall use precautions.

Ch. 18, Sec. 40, R. S., amended.

Section 10. Section forty of chapter eighteen of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by striking out the word "cholera" in line two of said section and inserting in place thereof the words 'or other quarantinable disease,' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

--disinfection of bedding, etc.

'Section 40. Nurses and other attendants upon persons sick with smallpox, scarlet fever, diphtheria or other quarantinable disease, shall adopt for the disinfection and disposal of excreta, and for the disinfection of utensils, bedding, clothing and other things which have been exposed to infection, such measures as may be ordered in writing, by the local board of health.'

Section 11. Section forty-one of chapter eighteen of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by striking out the words "measles, cholera, plague or pulmonary tuberculosis or consumption," in lines three and four of said section and inserting in place thereof the words, 'or other disease for which disinfection may be required by the State Board of Health,' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

'Section 41. No person shall give, lend, transmit, sell or expose any bedding, clothing, furniture or other article which has been used by persons affected with smallpox, scarlet fever, diphtheria, or other disease for which disinfection may be required by the State Board of Health, or from rooms which have been occupied by such persons, without first having said articles disinfected to the satisfaction of the local board of health.'

Section 12. Section forty-four of chapter eighteen of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by striking out the words, "specified in the preceding section," in line two of said section and inserting in place thereof the words, 'for which disinfection may be required by the State Board of Health,' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

'Section 44. When persons from houses or places which are infected with any of the diseases for which disinfection may be required by the State Board of Health, have entered any schoolroom, or when, from any other cause, the schoolroom has probably become infected, the teacher shall dismiss the school and notify the school officers and local board of health, and no school shall be again held in such schoolroom until the room has been disinfected to the satisfaction of the local board of health, and the school officers and board of health shall cause the room to be disinfected as soon as possible.'

Section 13. Section forty-eight of chapter eighteen of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by striking out the whole of said section and substituting therefor the following:

'Section 48. No person shall let or hire any house or room in a house in which any of the diseases have existed for which disinfection may be required by the State Board of Health, without having caused the house and the premises used in connection therewith to be disinfected to the satisfaction of the local board of health.'

Section 14. Section seventy-five of chapter eighteen of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by striking out from the end of said section the following words, "but no such hospital shall be within one hundred rods of an inhabited dwelling house in an adjoining town without the consent of its local board of health," so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

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Ch. 18, Sec.
41, R. S.,
amended.Use of bed-
ding and
clothing
until dis-
infected
prohibited.Ch. 18, Sec.
44, R. S.,
amended.School
houses,
when in-
fected shall
be closed
until dis-
infected,
—teacher
shall dis-
miss school
and notify
local board.Ch. 18, Sec.
48, R. S.,
amended.Houses
shall not be
let until
disinfected,
when
contagious
diseases
have been
therein.Ch. 18, Sec.
75, R. S.,
amended.

CHAP. 339

Hospitals for contagious diseases may be established.

Ch. 18, Sec. 76, R. S., repealed.

Ch. 18, Sec. 17, R. S., amended.

Physicians and others subject to hospital regulations.

Ch. 18, Sec. 82, R. S., amended.

—free vaccination shall be provided for by local boards.

'Section 75. A town may establish therein one or more hospitals for the reception of persons having the smallpox or other diseases dangerous to the public health; or its local board of health may license any building therein as a hospital, which shall be under the control of said board.'

Section 15. Section seventy-six of chapter eighteen of the Revised Statutes is hereby repealed.

Section 16. Section seventy-seven of chapter eighteen of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by striking out the word "inoculated" in line two of said section and inserting in place thereof the words, 'who are infected, infectious,' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

'Section 77. When a hospital is so established or licensed the physicians, the persons who are infected, infectious, or sick therein, the nurses, attendants, and all who come within its limits, and all furniture or other articles used or brought there, shall be subject to the regulations made by the local board of health.'

Section 17. Section eighty-two of chapter eighteen of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by striking out the words, "over two years of age," in line four of said section, so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

'Section 82. The board of health of each city, village, town and plantation shall annually on the first day of March, or oftener if they deem it prudent, provide for the free vaccination with the cow pox, of all the inhabitants within their respective localities, to be done under the care of skilled practicing physicians, and under such circumstances and restrictions as said authorities adopt therefor.'

Approved April 2, 1915.

Chapter 339.

An Act to Amend Section One of Chapter Forty-eight of the Revised Statutes as Amended by Chapter Twelve of the Public Laws of Nineteen Hundred Nine, Relative to the Employment of Clerks by the Bank Commissioner.

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

Ch. 48, Sec. 1, as amended, further amended.

Section one of chapter forty-eight of the Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter twelve of the Public Laws of nineteen hundred nine is hereby amended by striking out the word "one" in the fifteenth line of said section and substituting therefor the word 'two'; and by striking out in the sixteenth line of