

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)

Acts and Resolves

As Passed by the

Seventy-Eighth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1917

Including Acts and Resolves of the Special Session of the
Seventy-Seventh Legislature held in 1916.

Published by the Secretary of State, in accordance with the Resolves of the Legislature approved June 28, 1820, March 18, 1840, and March 16, 1842.

THE LEWISTON JOURNAL CO.
LEWISTON, MAINE
1917

PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Seventy-Eighth Legislature

1917

[supplied from page 1 of volume]

CHAP. 49

loaded, and otherwise safe for transportation; provided further, if the corporations cannot agree upon the times at which, or the rules and conditions under which, cars shall be drawn, or the compensation to be paid, the public utilities commission shall upon petition of either party and notice to the other and after hearing the parties interested, determine the rate of compensation and fix such rules, conditions and periods, having reference to the convenience and interests of the corporations and of the public to be accommodated thereby. Any agreement entered into between any two or more such corporations under this section, or any order of the public utilities commission hereunder, shall at all times be subject to annulment, alteration or modification by said commission after notice and hearing.

Sec. 3. Auxiliary service, only, intended. Steam railroad car to be returned to junction from which received. The duties imposed upon carriers and the authority conferred upon the public utilities commission by this act shall extend only to an auxiliary service by electric railroads, and said commission shall not be authorized to require any physical connection or service herein provided for in any case where there are existing steam railroad facilities which can be with reasonable convenience used by the persons who desire the above named electric railroad service. Whenever any steam railroad freight car is hauled onto the rails of any electric railroad company, such car shall be returned to the steam railroad at the same junction point where taken without other use than that for which such car was taken. It shall be the duty of said commission in making any order for physical connection and the service herein provided for to reasonably protect each steam railroad company from "short hauling" itself. Nothing herein contained shall be construed as requiring any common carrier to give the use of its tracks or terminal facilities to another carrier engaged in like business.

Sec. 4. Terms defined. The term "steam railroad" or "steam railroad company" as used herein shall be construed to mean any railroad or terminal company, however chartered, using steam as its motive power. And the term "electric railroad" or "electric railroad company" as used herein shall be construed to mean any railroad or terminal company using electricity as its motive power.

Approved March 16, 1917.

Chapter 49.

An Act to Amend Section Forty-eight of Chapter Fifty-six of the Revised Statutes, Relating to Inspection of Railroads.

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

R. S., c. 56, § 48, relating to annual examination of railroads, and reports thereon, amended. Section forty-eight of chapter fifty-six of the revised statutes is hereby amended by striking out all of said section and substituting therefor the following:

'Sec. 48. Commission may appoint competent person to make examination. Inspection to be made annually, date not specified. The public util-

CHAP. 50

ities commission, or one member thereof, or some competent person by said commission duly appointed, annually, and at any other time on application or whenever they think necessary, shall carefully examine the tracks, rolling-stock, bridges, viaducts, and culverts of all railroads; and shall annually make a report to the governor of their official doings, therein stating the condition of the road and rolling-stock, with such facts as they deem of public interest or which he may require; and all persons managing railroads shall give the commission such information as they at any time require.'

Approved March 19, 1917.

Chapter 50.

An Act Requiring the Placing of Warning Signs at Grade Crossings.

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

Sec. 1. Warning signs to be placed at grade crossings. Within six months from the passage of this act there shall be placed and thereafter maintained warning signs on every highway or other way within the state approaching a crossing at grade of such highway or other way and the tracks of a railroad. Such signs shall be placed on each side of such crossing at such distances as shall be determined upon by the public utilities commission and the state highway commission which two commissions are hereby required and vested with the authority of causing to be located and maintained such warning signs; provided, however, that in the compact parts of cities and towns where the conditions mentioned in revised statutes chapter fifty-seven, section seventy-nine, exist and are observed and at all other places where in the judgment of the two above named commissions such signs are unnecessary, no such warning signs need be erected.

Sec. 2. Specifications and location. Such signs shall consist of a disc twenty-four inches in diameter, the field thereof to be white with a black border line one inch wide, and with black perpendicular and horizontal cross lines two and one-half inches wide; the reverse side of such disc to be colored black. In each of the upper quarterings shall appear in black the letter "R" five inches high, three and one-quarter inches wide, lines one inch stroke. Such signs shall be placed in conspicuous locations beside the highway at a distance of not less than three hundred feet from the nearest rail of such crossing unless local conditions in the judgment of the two commissions named in section one hereof make it reasonable to cause such sign to be located at a lesser distance from said nearest rail.

Sec. 3. Motor Vehicles to decrease speed when approaching. The person controlling the movement of any self-propelled vehicle upon passing any such warning sign located more than one hundred feet from a grade crossing shall reduce the speed of such vehicle so that within a distance of one hundred feet from the nearest rail of such crossing such vehicle shall not proceed at a greater speed than ten miles per hour upon