

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.

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PUBLIC LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Seventy-Eighth Legislature

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FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

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'Sec. 81. Donation to be made by Maine Library Commission, instead of state librarian. The Maine Library Commission shall donate to any town having no free public library owned or controlled by the town, books purchased for that purpose, not exceeding fifty per cent. in value of the books and documents purchased by said town for the purpose of founding a free public library therein; said donation in no case to exceed one hundred dollars. No town shall be entitled to the benefits of this provision, until its legal voters, at a regularly called town meeting, have raised and appropriated not less than one hundred dollars for the purchase of books, and have provided for the care, custody and distribution of its own books, and of those to be donated by the state.'

Approved March 29, 1917.

Chapter 124.

An Act to Amend Section Seventy-five of Chapter Four of the Revised Statutes Relating to Free Public Libraries.

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

R. S., c. 4, § 75, relating to foundation of free public libraries by village corporations. Section seventy-five of chapter four of the revised statutes is hereby amended by striking out, after the word "therefrom" in the fourth line thereof, the words "for the foundation and commencement of such library, a sum not exceeding two dollars and," so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

'Sec. 75. Stipulation as to amount to be assessed for establishment eliminated. Any village corporation located in a town where no free library exists, may establish a library within its limits for the free use of all its inhabitants; and may levy and assess a corporate tax and appropriate therefrom for its maintenance and increase annually a sum not exceeding one dollar for each ratable poll within the limits of such village corporation in the year next preceding. Village libraries established under this section shall be subject to all the duties and entitled to all the privileges prescribed by the laws relating to free public libraries in towns.'

Approved March 29, 1917.

Chapter 125.

An Act to Amend Section Eighty-two of Chapter Four of the Revised Statutes, Relating to Instruction of Librarians.

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

R. S., c. 4, § 82, relating to instruction to librarians at state library, amended. Section eighty-two of chapter four of the revised statutes is hereby amended by inserting before the word "The" in the first line thereof the words 'On application to the state librarian or the Maine Library Commission,' and by inserting after the words "state library" in the second line

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thereof, the words 'or at their own library,' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

'Sec. 82. Application to be made to state librarian or Library Commission. Instruction may be had at own library. On application to the state librarian or the Maine Library Commission, the librarian or trustees of any free public library may receive instruction at the state library or at their own library, in cataloguing, and any other matters pertaining to the maintenance or administration of the library.'

Approved March 29, 1917.

Chapter 126.

An Act to Amend Section One of Chapter One Hundred and Thirty of the Revised Statutes, Relating to Offenses against the Public Health, Safety and Policy.

Preamble. Whereas the peace, health and safety of all the citizens of our State make it wise to guard with extreme care the sources of water supply within the limits of the state, and,

Whereas, the present laws do not provide adequate punishment for those who may offend in this respect, and,

Whereas, the legislature deems the provisions of the following act to be an emergency requiring the passage of said act immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, now therefore,

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 130, § 1, relating to corruption of water supply, amended. Section one of chapter one hundred thirty of the revised statutes is hereby amended by striking out the word "one" in the ninth line thereof and substituting therefor, the word 'five' and by striking out from the tenth line thereof the words "not exceeding one year" and substituting therefor the words 'for any term of years', so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

'Sec. 1. Penalty increased. Whoever knowingly and wilfully poisons, defiles or in any way corrupts the waters of any well, spring, brook, lake, pond, river or reservoir, used for domestic purposes for man or beast, or knowingly corrupts the sources of any public water supply, or the tributaries of said sources of supply in such manner as to affect the purity of the water so supplied, or knowingly defiles such water in any manner, whether the same be frozen or not, or puts the carcass of any dead animal or other offensive material in said waters, or upon the ice thereof, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars, or by imprisonment for any term of years.'

Sec. 2. Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this act shall take effect when approved.

Approved March 29, 1917.

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