

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

AS PASSED BY THE

Eighty-fourth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1929

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PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Eighty-fourth Legislature

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prints and photographs taken or caused to be taken by sheriffs as provided in section one shall be forwarded to the chief of the state highway police.

Approved April 13, 1929.

Chapter 326.

An Act Relative to Clerk of County Commissioners.

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

R. S., c. 83, sec. 6; relating to clerk of courts to be clerk of the commissioners, amended. Section six of chapter eighty-three of the revised statutes is hereby amended by striking out the whole of said section and by substituting in place thereof the following:

'Sec. 6. Deputy clerk provided for. The clerk of the judicial courts in each county shall be the clerk of the county commissioners; and in counties having a deputy clerk or deputy clerks, such deputies shall each be a deputy clerk of the commissioners and in the absence of the clerk shall have the same powers and duties as those of such clerk. The clerk of the county commissioners shall be known as the county clerk, and each deputy clerk of the county commissioners shall be known as a deputy county clerk. When a clerk and his deputies are in attendance at any other court the clerk may appoint a clerk pro tempore to the commissioners for whose doings he is responsible. Such clerks shall be sworn and shall make a daily record of the doings of the county commissioners and said commissioners shall examine such records and when correct shall certify them and they shall be copied into the records of the county commissioners by the stated clerk.'

Approved April 13, 1929.

Chapter 327.

An Act Relating to the Use and Operation of Motor Vehicles on the Highways.

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

Sec. 1. (a) Accident reports provided for. The chief of the state highway police shall prepare and shall on request supply to police and sheriffs' offices and other suitable agencies forms of accident reports calling for sufficiently detailed information to disclose with reference to a highway accident the cause, conditions then existing and the persons and vehicles involved.

(b) Reports to be tabulated and analyzed. The chief of the state highway police shall receive accident reports required to be made by law and shall tabulate and analyze such reports and may publish annually or

at more frequent intervals statistical information based thereon as to the number, cause and location of highway accidents.

(c) **Driver involved in accidents resulting in injuries or death to any person must forward report to chief of highway police.** The driver of any vehicle involved in an accident resulting in injuries or death to any person or property damage to an apparent extent of fifty dollars or more shall, immediately forward a report of such accident to the chief of the state highway police, or forthwith deliver the same to some state highway police officer, who shall so forward the same to said chief. The chief may require drivers, involved in accidents, to file supplemental reports of accidents upon forms furnished by him whenever the original report is insufficient in the opinion of the chief. Such reports shall be without prejudice, and the fact that such reports have been so made shall be admissible in evidence solely to prove a compliance with this section, but no such report or any part thereof or statement contained therein shall be admissible in evidence for any other purpose in any trial, civil or criminal, arising out of such accident.

Sec. 2. Breaking or tampering with part or parts of any vehicle a misdemeanor. Any person who shall individually, or in association with one or more others, wilfully break, injure, tamper with or remove any part or parts of any vehicle for the purpose of injuring, defacing or destroying such vehicle, or temporarily or permanently preventing its useful operation, or for any purpose against the will or without the consent of the owner of such vehicle or who shall in any other manner wilfully or maliciously interfere with or prevent the running or operation of such vehicle shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Sec. 3. Penalty provided. Whoever is found guilty of a misdemeanor as defined in section two of this act, shall be punished by a fine of not more than two hundred dollars, or by imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months, or by both fine and imprisonment; and whoever is convicted the second time for a violation of said sections shall be punished by a fine of not less than two hundred dollars and not more than five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment for not more than eleven months, or both.

Sec. 4. Motor vehicle showing evidence of serious accident or having been struck by bullet to be reported. The person in charge of any garage or repair shop to which is brought any motor vehicle which shows evidence of having been involved in a serious accident or struck by any bullet shall report to the nearest police station, to some one of the state highway police, or to some sheriff or his deputy, immediately after such motor vehicle is received, giving the serial and engine number, registration number and the name and address of the owner or operator of such vehicle.

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Sec. 5. P. L., 1921, c. 211, sec. 7; relating to vehicles shall keep to right of center at intersection, repealed. Section seven of chapter two hundred and eleven of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one is hereby repealed.

Sec. 6. P. L., 1921, c. 211, sec. 27; relating to secretary may appoint deputies in convenient places, amended. Section twenty-seven of chapter two hundred and eleven of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 27. Secretary may appoint and deputize agents, examiners and inspectors. The secretary may appoint and deputize agents, examiners and inspectors, stationed at convenient places in the state, to receive applications for registration and licenses, and to conduct examinations when ordered by the secretary.'

Sec. 7. P. L., 1921, c. 211, sec. 31; relating to chauffeurs, amended. Section thirty-one of chapter two hundred and eleven of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one is hereby amended by striking out in said section the following: "The word 'chauffeur' as herein used shall mean any person employed for the purpose of operating a motor vehicle, and whose principal duty it is to operate such vehicle," and substituting therefor the following: "The word "chauffeur" as herein used shall mean any person who operates a motor vehicle other than his own, and who, directly or indirectly, receives compensation for any work or services in connection therewith,' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

'Sec. 31. Special licenses to chauffeurs. Special licenses to operate motor vehicles shall be issued to chauffeurs subject to the same general requirements governing the issuance of an operator's license as is provided in the preceding section; but no such license shall be issued to any person less than eighteen years of age. An operator's license shall not entitle a person to drive a motor vehicle as a chauffeur as defined in this section.

Chauffeur's badge. The secretary shall furnish every licensed chauffeur with a suitable metal badge with distinguishing number or mark assigned to him thereon without extra charge therefor. Said badge shall thereafter be worn by such chauffeur affixed to his clothing at all times while he is operating or driving a motor vehicle, and shall be valid only during the term of the license of the chauffeur to whom it is issued.

Fee of \$5.00. Every application for a chauffeur's license shall be accompanied by a fee of five dollars; provided, however, that if such applicant already holds an operator's license the accompanying fee shall be three dollars.

Failure to exhibit license. Failure of an operator or chauffeur to ex-

hibit his license to any magistrate, motor vehicle inspector, police officer, sheriff or other authorized official, on demand, shall be prima facie evidence that such person is not duly licensed.

Exemption to chauffeur registered in state of residence. A chauffeur who is registered under the provisions of law of the state or country of his residence, shall be exempt from license under this section, provided he shall wear a badge or carry a license certificate assigned to him by the jurisdiction of his residence.

Word "chauffeur" defined. The word "chauffeur" as herein used shall mean any person who operates a motor vehicle other than his own, and who, directly or indirectly, receives compensation for any work or services in connection therewith; but as used elsewhere generally in this act with respect to the use and operation of motor vehicles, the word "operator" and "driver" shall include the word "chauffeur."

Temporary licenses. Temporary licenses without fees may be issued to chauffeurs in the employ of the state, or any municipal corporation, to terminate when their employment ends.'

Sec. 8. P. L., 1921, c. 211, sec. 34; P. L., 1927, c. 161 and c. 200; relating to registration and operation of motor vehicles, amended. Section thirty-four of chapter two hundred and eleven of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one as amended by chapter one hundred and sixty-one and chapter two hundred of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-seven, is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 34. Registration of motor vehicles, tractors and trailers. The provisions of this act relative to the registration of motor vehicles, tractors and trailers, and the granting of operators' licenses shall not apply to a motor vehicle, tractor or trailer owned by a non-resident, other than a foreign corporation doing business in this state, or to a non-resident operator other than the operator of any such vehicle belonging to a foreign corporation doing business in this state, provided that the owner of such vehicle and its operator have complied with the provisions of law of the state or country of his residence relative to the registration of such vehicles, and the granting of operators' licenses. But this exemption regarding operators' licenses shall not apply to any operator resident in any other state or country whose laws do not require such operators' licenses. Nothing in this act shall be construed to permit a non-resident vehicle having a weight in excess of or equipped contrary to that allowed a similar resident vehicle, to be operated on the ways of this state.

(b) **Non-residents engaged in business of livery or hire.** No vehicle owned or operated by a non-resident shall be operated on the public ways of this state as a vehicle engaged in the business of livery or for hire, or

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as a jitney, within this state, and no motor truck or trailer owned or operated by a non-resident, shall be operated on the highways of this state, except and until it has been registered under the laws of this state and made to comply with the by-laws and ordinances of municipalities wherein it is operated, in the same manner as may be required of like vehicles owned, operated and registered in this state. Provided, however, that any truck or trailer having a rated carrying capacity of one and one-half tons or less, which is duly registered according to the laws of another state or country which grants like privileges to such truck and trailer registered in this state, and to the operators thereof, shall not be required to be registered in this state.

(c) **Special permit for certain vehicles.** The secretary may issue to public utilities operating in this state for a nominal fee, a special permit for vehicles engaged in emergency repair work in this state provided such vehicles are registered in some other state and have attached thereto registration plates and are driven by persons licensed to operate in this or some other state.'

Sec. 9. Minors under eighteen years shall have application signed by parent, guardian or employer. The secretary shall not grant the application of any minor under the age of eighteen years for an operator's license unless such application is signed by the father of the applicant, if the father is living, and has custody of the applicant, otherwise by the mother or guardian having the custody of such minor, or in the event a minor under the age of eighteen years has no father, mother or guardian, then an operator's license shall not be granted to the minor unless his application therefor is signed by his employer.

Sec. 10. Owner of motor vehicle responsible for minor. Every owner of a motor vehicle causing or knowingly permitting a minor under the age of eighteen years to drive such vehicle upon a highway, and any person who gives or furnishes a motor vehicle to such minor, shall be jointly and severally liable with such minor for any damages caused by the negligence of such minor in driving such vehicles.

Sec. 11. Duplicate licenses and badges. In the event that an operator's or chauffeur's license or a chauffeur's badge issued under the provisions of this act shall be lost or destroyed, the person to whom the same was issued may obtain a duplicate or substitute thereof upon furnishing proof satisfactory to the secretary that such license or badge has been lost or destroyed and upon payment of the fees required by law.

Sec. 12. Reckless operation of vehicle. Whoever upon any way, or in any place to which the public has a right of access, operates any vehicle

recklessly or in a manner so as to endanger any person or property shall be guilty of reckless driving and upon conviction shall be punished as provided in section three of this act.

Sec. 13. P. L., 1921, c. 211, sec. 43; relating to registration and what application shall contain, amended. Section forty-three of chapter two hundred and eleven of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one is hereby amended so that said section shall read as follows:

'Sec. 43. Form of application for registration. No motor vehicle or trailer shall be operated, or remain upon, any way unless the same is registered and equipped in accordance with the provisions of this act. Application for such registration may be made by mail or otherwise to the secretary upon blanks prepared under his authority. The application shall be signed by the applicant and shall contain such particulars as may be required by the secretary, including the name, residence and address of the applicant, with a brief description of the vehicle, the name of its maker, the motor and serial numbers, the character of the motive power and the amount of such power, stated in figures of horse power, and the actual weight of the vehicle, and its load capacity, if intended for commercial use. The applicant shall state in his application the kind of lens used in the headlights upon his motor vehicle, and shall specify whether he has complied with the rules and regulations of the commission, framed, published and in effect. In case said applicant has not given satisfactory answers, the secretary shall refuse to register such vehicle, or to issue a license for its operation.'

Sec. 14. P. L., 1921, c. 211, sec. 57; relating to dealers to notify secretary of state of sale or transfer of motor vehicles, amended. Section fifty-seven of chapter two hundred and eleven of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one is hereby amended by striking out the words "name of make, if possible" in the fourth line thereof and substituting the words 'motor and serial number,' and by striking out the words "horse power" in the fourth line, so that said section shall read as follows:

'Sec. 57. Motor and serial number must be given. Whenever a manufacturer or dealer sells or exchanges a motor vehicle or trailer, he shall immediately notify the secretary that the vehicle has been sold or exchanged, giving a description of the vehicle, name of maker, motor and serial number, and name and address of the vendee.'

Sec. 15. P. L., 1921, c. 211, sec. 59; relating to registration certificate not transferable, amended. Section fifty-nine of chapter two hundred and eleven of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one is hereby amended by adding to said section the following words: 'including its

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motor and serial number,' so that said section, as amended, shall read as follows:

'Sec. 59. Upon transfer of ownership secretary of state must be given written notice; motor and serial number. Upon the transfer of ownership of any motor vehicle or trailer, its registration shall expire and the person in whose name such vehicle or trailer is registered shall forthwith return the certificate of registration to the secretary with a written notice containing the date of the transfer of ownership and the name, place of residence and address of the vendee, and a description of the vehicle, including its motor and serial number.'

Sec. 16. P. L., 1921, c. 211, sec. 62; relating to rate of speed, amended. Section sixty-two of chapter two hundred and eleven of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one is hereby amended to read as follows:

'(a) Careful and prudent speed. Any person driving a vehicle on a way shall drive the same at a careful and prudent speed not greater than is reasonable and proper, having due regard to the traffic, surface and width of the highway and of any other conditions then existing, and no person shall drive any vehicle upon a way at such a speed as to endanger the life, limb or property of any person.

(b) Prima facie lawful speed. Subject to the provisions of subdivision (a) of this section and except in those instances where a lower speed is specified in this act, it shall be prima facie lawful for the driver of a vehicle to drive the same at a speed not exceeding the following, but in any case when such speed would be unsafe it shall not be lawful.

1. Passing a school. Fifteen miles an hour when passing a school during school recess or while children are going to or leaving school during opening or closing hours;

2. Approaching intersection of ways. Fifteen miles an hour when approaching within fifty feet and in traversing an intersection of ways when the driver's view is obstructed. A driver's view shall be deemed to be obstructed when at any time during the last fifty feet of his approach to such intersection he does not have a clear and uninterrupted view of such intersection and of the traffic upon all of the ways entering such intersection for a distance of two hundred feet from such intersection;

3. Business section or built-up portion where traffic is controlled. Twenty-five miles an hour on any way in a business district or built-up portion, as defined herein, when traffic on such way is controlled at intersections by traffic officers or stop-and-go signals;

4. On other ways in such sections. Twenty miles an hour on all other ways in a business district or built-up portion, as defined herein;

5. In residence district. Twenty-five miles an hour in a residence

district or built-up portion, as defined herein, and in public parks unless a different speed is fixed by the municipal officers and approved by the state highway commission and duly posted;

6. **Thirty-five miles an hour.** Thirty-five miles an hour under all other conditions.

Prima facie unlawful speed. It shall be prima facie unlawful for any person to exceed any of the foregoing speed limitations, except as provided in subdivision (c) of this section. In every charge of violation of this section the complaint shall specify the speed at which the defendant is alleged to have driven, also the speed which this section declares shall be prima facie lawful at the time and place of such alleged violation.

(c) **When municipal officers may regulate.** Municipal officers in their respective jurisdictions are hereby authorized in their discretion, but subject to the approval of the state highway commission, to increase the speed which shall be prima facie lawful upon through ways at the entrances to which vehicles are required to stop before entering or crossing such through ways. Municipal officers shall place and maintain upon all through ways upon which the permissible speed is increased adequate signs giving notice of such special regulations. There shall also be placed and maintained upon each and every way intersecting any said through way, appropriate stop signs as required by chapter one hundred and thirty-eight of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-seven, as amended.

(d) **Compact portions defined.** The compact or built-up portions of any city, town or village, shall be the territory of any city, town or village contiguous to any way which is built up with structures devoted to business or where the dwelling houses are situated less than one hundred fifty feet apart for a distance of at least one-quarter of a mile. Municipal officers may designate such compact or built-up portions by appropriate signs.'

Sec. 17. P. L., 1921, c. 211, sec. 64; P. L., 1927, c. 125; relating to rate of speed to be regulated by traffic, repealed. Section sixty-four of chapter two hundred and eleven of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one, as amended by chapter one hundred twenty-five of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-seven, is hereby repealed.

P. L., 1921, c. 211, secs. 72 and 73; relating to reckless driving, further amended. Sections seventy-two and seventy-three of chapter two hundred eleven of the public laws of nineteen hundred twenty-one, as amended, are hereby further amended by striking out the whole of said sections and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Sec. 72. Operating recklessly; going away without stopping, etc.; penalty; investigation. Whoever operates a motor vehicle upon any way recklessly, so that lives or safety of the public are in danger, or whoever

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goes away without stopping and making himself known after causing injury to any person or property, or uses a motor vehicle without authority from its owner, shall be punished by a fine of not more than two hundred dollars, or by imprisonment for a term of not exceeding three months, or by both fine and imprisonment; and if any person be convicted the second time for a violation of this section, he shall be punished by a fine of not less than two hundred dollars and not more than five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment for not more than eleven months, or both.

If any person so drives a motor vehicle in a reckless manner or goes away without stopping and making himself known after causing injury to any other person or property or operates a motor vehicle while apparently under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs, it shall be the duty of every officer who is charged with the enforcement of law and of every citizen, to forthwith report the same to the secretary, giving the register number of the vehicle, the state registering the same, and the name and residence of the operator, occupants or owner if known. Upon receipt of such complaint the secretary shall forthwith investigate the case and may suspend or revoke the license of such operator, or, if a non-resident, his right to operate in this state, and annul the registration of any vehicle so operated, for such time as he shall deem advisable.'

Sec. 2. P. L., 1921, c. 211, sec. 74; relating to penalty for operating motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drug, amended and renumbered. Section seventy-four of said chapter, as amended, is hereby further amended by striking out the whole of said section, re-numbering it section seventy-three and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Sec. 73. Penalties for operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicants or drugs; revocation of license. Whoever shall operate or attempt to operate a motor vehicle upon any way, or in any other place when intoxicated or at all under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs, upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars or by imprisonment for not less than thirty days nor more than eleven months, or by both fine and imprisonment. Any person convicted of a second or subsequent offense shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than three nor more than eleven months, and in addition thereto, the court may impose a fine as above provided.

Whoever shall operate or attempt to operate a motor vehicle upon any way, or in any other place when intoxicated or at all under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs, when such offense is of a high and aggravated nature shall be deemed guilty of a felony and on conviction thereof

shall be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars or by imprisonment of not less than sixty days nor more than two years or by both fine and imprisonment. Any person convicted of a second or subsequent offense of the same gravity shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than three months nor more than three years, and in addition the court may impose a fine as above provided. The license of any person convicted of violating the provisions of this section shall be revoked immediately by the secretary upon receipt of an attested copy of the court records, without further hearing.

If any person convicted of any violation of the provisions of this section of the act shall appeal from the judgment and sentence of the trial court, his license and right to operate a motor vehicle in this state shall be suspended during the time his appeal is pending in the appellate court, unless the trial court shall otherwise order, or unless the secretary, after a hearing, shall restore the license or permit pending decision on the appeal. The license of any person against whom probable cause is found and who is held under bail pending the action of the grand jury for the violation of the foregoing provision shall be suspended until the final disposition of the charge.

No person whose license or permit to operate a motor vehicle has been revoked upon conviction of violating the provisions of this section shall be licensed again or permitted to operate a motor vehicle for three years, except that, after the expiration of one year from the date of such revocation, he may petition the secretary for a license or permit, who, after hearing and after his determination that public safety will not be endangered by issuing a new license may issue such license or permit with or without conditions thereto attached; upon a second conviction of a violation of the provisions of this section, such person, whose license or permit to operate a motor vehicle has been revoked again by reason of such conviction, shall not be licensed again or permitted to operate a motor vehicle in this state for five years from the date of conviction, provided however, that after two years from the date of such last revocation, he may petition the secretary for a license or permit and the secretary, after like hearing and determination, again may issue a license or permit to the petitioner, with or without conditions; upon any subsequent conviction for a similar offense, the license or permit shall terminate and no subsequent license or permit shall be granted to such person; for the purpose of this section, in case a person has been convicted one or more times prior to the date this act takes effect, of a violation of the provisions of this section, such previous conviction or convictions shall be construed as one conviction. A copy of sections seventy-two and seventy-three shall be printed on every operator's license.'

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Sec. 18. P. L., 1921, c. 211, sec. 75; relating to neutral zone, repealed. Section seventy-five of chapter two hundred and eleven of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one is hereby repealed.

Sec. 19. (a) **Passing another vehicle.** The driver of any vehicle overtaking another vehicle proceeding in the same direction shall pass at a safe distance to the left thereof, and shall not again drive to the right side of the highway until safely clear of such overtaken vehicle.

(b) **Not to pass without audible warning.** The driver of an overtaking motor vehicle not within a business or residence district as herein defined shall give audible warning with his horn or other warning device before passing or attempting to pass a vehicle proceeding in the same direction.

Sec. 20. (a) **Not to overtake and pass on hill or curve.** The driver of a vehicle shall not overtake and pass another vehicle proceeding in the same direction, upon the crest of a grade or upon a curve in the way, where the driver's view along the way is obstructed within a distance of three hundred feet.

(b) **Not to pass at railway crossing or intersection.** The driver of a vehicle shall not overtake and pass any other vehicle proceeding in the same direction at any steam or electric railway grade crossing nor at any intersection of ways unless permitted so to do by a traffic or police officer.

Sec. 21. (a) **Shall give way to passing vehicle.** The driver of a vehicle upon a way about to be overtaken and passed by another vehicle approaching from the rear shall give way to the right in favor of the overtaking vehicle on suitable and audible signal being given by the driver of the overtaking vehicle, and shall not increase the speed of his vehicle until completely passed by the overtaking vehicle.

(b) **Motor trucks shall not closely follow another truck.** The driver of any motor truck when traveling upon a way outside of a business or residence district shall not follow another motor truck within one hundred and fifty feet, but this shall not be construed to prevent one motor truck overtaking and passing another.

Sec. 22. (a) **Right and left hand turns regulated.** Except as otherwise provided in this section, the driver of a vehicle intending to turn to the right at an intersection shall approach such intersection in the lane for traffic nearest to the right-hand side of the way, and in turning shall keep as closely as practicable to the right-hand curb and when intending to turn to the left shall approach such intersection in the lane for traffic to the right of and nearest to the center line of the way, and in turning shall

pass beyond the center of the intersection, passing as closely as practicable to the right thereof before turning such vehicle to the left.

For the purpose of this section the center of the intersection shall mean the meeting point of the medial lines of the ways intersecting one another.

(b) **Buttons, markers, etc., may modify foregoing.** Municipal officers in their respective jurisdictions may modify the foregoing method of turning at intersections by clearly indicating by buttons, markers or other direction signs within an intersection the course to be followed by vehicles turning thereat; and it shall be unlawful for any driver to fail to turn other than in a manner as directed when such signs are so installed.

Sec. 23. (a) Leaving vehicle standing upon traveled portion of any way, prohibited. No person shall park or leave standing any vehicle, whether attended or unattended, upon the paved or improved or main traveled portion of any way, outside of a business or residence district, when it is practicable to park or leave such vehicle standing off of the paved or improved or main traveled portion of such way; provided in no event shall any person park or leave standing any vehicle, whether attended or unattended, upon any way unless a clear and unobstructed width of not less than ten feet upon the main traveled portion of said way opposite such standing vehicle shall be left for free passage of other vehicles thereon, nor unless a clear view of such vehicle may be obtained from a distance of three hundred feet in each direction upon such way.

Sec. 24. (a) Coasting prohibited. The driver of a motor vehicle when traveling upon a down grade upon any way shall not coast with the gears of such vehicle in neutral.

(b) **Yielding right of way.** The driver of a vehicle entering a public way from a private road shall yield the right of way to all vehicles approaching on such public way.

Sec. 25. Municipalities have no power to alter speed regulations; exceptions. Municipalities shall have no power to alter any speed limitations or to enact or enforce any regulations contrary to the provisions of this act; except that they may by ordinances or by-laws regulate traffic by means of signal devices or other appropriate methods on any portion of the way where traffic is heavy or continuous, and prohibit other than one-way traffic upon certain ways. The speed of vehicles in public parks may be regulated in like manner provided there shall be erected at all entrances to such parks adequate signs giving notice of any such special speed regulations.

Sec. 26. (a) Owner of rented motor vehicle jointly liable with renter. The owner of a motor vehicle engaged in the business of renting motor

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vehicles without drivers, who rents any such vehicle without a driver to another, otherwise than as a part of a bona fide transaction involving the sale of such motor vehicle, permitting the renter to operate the vehicle upon the public ways shall be jointly and severally liable with the renter for any damages caused by the negligence of the latter in operating the vehicle and for any damages caused by the negligence of any person operating the vehicle by or with the permission of the person so renting the vehicle from the owner, except that the foregoing provisions shall not confer any right of action upon any passenger in any such rented vehicle as against the owner, but nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent the introduction as a defense of contributory negligence to the extent to which such defense is allowed in other cases.

Sec. 27. Record of identity of person to whom vehicle is rented to be maintained. Every person engaged in the business of renting motor vehicles without drivers who shall rent any such vehicle without a driver, otherwise than as a part of a bona fide transaction involving the sale of such motor vehicle, shall maintain a record of the identity of the person to whom the vehicle is rented, including a record of his license, and the exact time the vehicle is the subject to such rental or in possession of the person renting and having the use of the vehicle, and every such record shall be a public record and open to inspection by any officer, and it shall be a misdemeanor for any such owner to fail to make or have in possession or to refuse an inspection of the record required in this section. If the secretary of state prescribes a form for the keeping of the record provided for in this section, the owner shall use said form.

Sec. 28. Penalty for misstatement of fact. Whoever shall make any material misstatement of fact upon his application for license to operate a motor vehicle or for registration thereof, shall be subject to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars or to imprisonment not exceeding ninety days or both.

Approved April 13, 1929.

Chapter 328.

An Act to Provide for the Appointment of a Commission to Recommend Changes in the Sunday Law.

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

Sec. 1. Commission on revision of the Sunday laws provided for. The governor, with the advice and consent of the council, shall appoint five citizens of the state representing the business and religious interests thereof as a commission to be known as the "Commission on Revision of the Sunday Laws." Said commissioners shall serve without pay but shall be reim-