

No. 111, S.]

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CHAPTER 439.

AN ACT to amend sections 450, 451, 452 and 452a of chapter 27 of the statutes of 1898, relating to common schools; to amend section 496a of the statutes of 1898 relating to free high schools; to add three new sections, numbered 450a, 450b, and 450c, relating to the certification of teachers; to provide special state aid for graded schools; to authorize the state superintendent to appoint two state school inspectors; and to make an appropriation therefor.

The people of the state of Wisconsin represented in senate and assembly do enact as follows:

Additional branches required for county certificates; duration of first and second grade certificates extended. SECTION 1. Section 450 of chapter 27 of the statutes of 1898 is hereby amended, so as to read when so amended, as follows: Section 450. Every applicant for a certificate shall be examined in the subjects hereinafter mentioned, for the several grades respectively as follows: For the third grade, in orthoepy, orthography, reading, penmanship, arithmetic, English grammar, geography, the history of the United States, the constitution of the United States, the constitution of the state of Wisconsin, physiology and hygiene, with special reference to the effects of stimulants and narcotics upon the human system, the theory and art of teaching, and after January first, 1902, in the "manual of the elementary course of study for the common schools of Wisconsin," and in the elements of agriculture, for the second grade in all the foregoing and also in algebra, physical geography, and after July first, 1902 in American literature and English composition; for the first grade, in all the foregoing and also in physics and plane geometry, and after July first, 1902 in English literature and English history. If found qualified, said applicant shall receive the certificate appropriate to his grade. A third grade certificate shall entitle the holder to teach for such period, not more than one year as may be specified therein, in any town in the superintendent district in which he is examined except that it may be limited by the county superintendent to one town or school district therein. A second

grade certificate shall entitle the holder to teach in any town in such superintendent district and be in force three years from its date. A first grade certificate shall entitle the holder to teach in any town in such superintendent district and be in force five years from its date; provided, that no such certificate shall be issued to any person who has not taught successfully for one school year in the public schools of Wisconsin. Whenever a person has taught successfully for one year on such a limited first grade certificate, the county superintendent shall, upon the presentation of satisfactory evidence of such successful teaching, issue to the holder of the limited certificate a first grade certificate good for five years from the date of issue of the limited certificate.

Transfer and renewal of certificates unlawful. SECTION 2. Chapter 27 of the statutes of 1898 is hereby amended by inserting a section to be known as section 450a, as follows: Section 450a. It shall not be lawful for any county superintendent to endorse a certificate issued by any other county superintendent, nor to extend the life of any certificate beyond the limits fixed by law. The papers written in any examination shall not be used as the basis for issuing a second certificate, which shall have the effect of extending the life of the certificate first issued thereon. But in any examination for a second certificate, when the applicant has taught successfully in the superintendent district for one school year on a certificate previously issued by him, the superintendent may, in his discretion, accept standings on papers written by the applicant in the preceding examination not to exceed five in number, in lieu of a re-examination in the subjects for which standings are so accepted.

Preservation of examination papers. SECTION 3. Chapter 27 of the statutes of 1898 is hereby amended by inserting a section to be known as section 450b, as follows: Section 450b. It shall be the duty of every county superintendent to preserve on file in his office during the life of every certificate issued by him or his predecessors, the examination papers, both questions and the answers thereto examined by him or his predecessors, and upon which the certificate was issued; provided, that this section shall not prevent the transfer of papers to the state superintendent, as provided in section six of this act.

Issue of certificate on transfer of papers. SECTION 4. Chapter 27 of the statutes of 1898 is hereby amended by inserting a section to be known as section 450c, as follows: Section 450c. If any person holding a certificate desires to teach in any county or superintendent district other than the one for which his cer-

tificate was issued, the county superintendent of that county or district may request the county superintendent who issued the certificate to transfer to him the papers in his possession upon which the certificate was issued, whereupon it shall be the duty of the county superintendent so requested, to transfer the papers, if any. If these papers and standings are found satisfactory by the county superintendent to whom they were transferred, he may issue a certificate upon them of the same grade as the original certificate and coterminous with it, or one of a lower grade to be in force a shorter time, and he shall preserve the papers on file in his office. If the papers are found unsatisfactory, and the certificate is denied, he shall return the papers to the county superintendent from whom he received them.

Standard of attainment in branches required for certificates.

SECTION 5. Section 451 of chapter 27 of the statutes of 1898 is hereby amended so as to read when so amended as follows: Section 451. Each county superintendent shall establish for his county; subject to the approval of the state superintendent, the standard of attainment in each branch of study which must be reached by each applicant before receiving a certificate. The standard so established shall be uniform in the county or superintendent district and no certificates shall be issued until the standard is established. The standard in the branches of study common to the third grade and the second grade certificates shall be higher for the second than for the third grade certificate, and the standard in the branches common to the second grade and the first grade branches shall be higher for the first grade than for the second grade certificate. The county superintendent may demand an examination in such additional branches as the applicant may be required to teach, and whenever he shall deem it necessary he may require a re-examination of any teacher in his county or superintendent district for the purpose of ascertaining his qualifications to continue as such teacher.

Appeal to state superintendent from markings by county superintendent. SECTION 6. Section 452, chapter 27 of the statutes of 1898, is hereby amended, so as to read when so amended, as follows: Section 452. Any applicant refused a certificate as teacher by the county superintendent, may apply to the state superintendent for a re-examination. The superintendent, upon demand, shall give any applicant refused a certificate a written statement of the reasons of such refusal, which shall be presented to the state superintendent by the person desiring re-

examination. If upon such re-examination the state superintendent shall be satisfied that such applicant is legally qualified, he shall issue a certificate of the proper grade, which shall entitle him to the same privileges as if it had been issued by the county superintendent. In the exercise of his powers of general supervision of the schools, the state superintendent is hereby authorized to call for the examination papers, both questions and answers, of any person to whom a certificate has been granted, and it is made the duty of all county superintendents to furnish such papers when so called for. If, upon examination of the papers, the state superintendent is satisfied that the person to whom the certificate has been granted is not qualified, he may annul the certificate.

Countersignature of high school diploma by county superintendent. SECTION 7. Section 452a of the statutes of 1898 is hereby amended so as to read when so amended as follows: Section 452a. The free high school board shall make out and deliver to each graduate of the high school at the time of graduation, a certificate of his standing in the branches pursued by him in such school, and if such graduate of a high school, having a four years' course, receive a first grade certificate from any county superintendent, and furnish to him or to any other county superintendent, a certificate from the free high school board that includes a satisfactory standing in theory and art of teaching, based on a study of this subject in a free high school for at least twelve weeks, and furnish also satisfactory proof of having taught successfully at least one school year, under such first grade certificate, such county superintendent may countersign his certificate of graduation or diploma at any time before the expiration of the first grade certificate, and affix the date of such signature thereto. The diploma so countersigned shall have for the period of five years thereafter, the force and effect of a first grade certificate. It shall be lawful for more than one county superintendent to countersign the diploma, but no counter-signature shall have the effect of extending the diploma as a first grade certificate, beyond the expiration of the five years immediately following the date of its first counter-signature.

Required studies in high schools for countersignature of diploma. SECTION 8. Section 496a of the statutes of 1898 is hereby amended so as to read when so amended as follows: Section 496a. The state superintendent shall prepare a course or courses of study suitable to be pursued in free high schools, publish the same and furnish the same upon application. He shall

exercise such personal supervision and make such personal inspection of the work of all such schools as they seem to require and the other duties of his office may warrant; he shall examine or cause to be examined all teachers of high schools, required by law to pass special examinations to qualify them for teaching in high schools, and grant certificates to such as pass examinations satisfactorily, which certificates shall be in such form and for such time as he may prescribe, and shall authorize the holder to teach in such special place or places, or in the whole state, as the qualifications of the candidate may warrant. Each free high school shall offer at least a twelve 'weeks' course of instruction each year in the theory and art of teaching; in the organization, management, and course of study of ungraded schools; and in the duties of citizens in the organization and administration of local school systems. Such a course of instruction shall be open to all students in this school and a satisfactory standing in the work of this course shall be a condition precedent to the countersignature of a diploma held by a graduate of the school as provided in section 7 of this act. Said superintendent shall furnish suitable blanks for annual and special reports for all such schools, which shall require returns as to the number, age and sex of all pupils enrolled, the number in each class or year in the course of study, the number of pursuing English branches only, the number completing the course of study each year and such other statistics as may be deemed necessary.

Districts which may receive state aid for graded schools. SECTION 9. The school board of any school district containing within its limits a graded school but no free high school nor a high school of a grade equivalent to a free high school, may receive special state aid as hereinafter provided, upon full compliance with the following conditions:

Classes. 1. There shall be two classes of state graded schools in Wisconsin, known respectively as first class, and second class; all state graded schools of three or more departments shall be in the first class, and all state graded schools of two departments shall be in the second class.

Length of school year; average daily attendance. 2. Schools shall be maintained in the districts receiving such aid, at least nine school months, including legal holidays, in each and every department. Each department shall have an average daily at-

tendance of not less than fifteen pupils for the entire school year to entitle the school to state aid.

Qualifications of teachers. 3. All persons employed in both classes of graded schools applying for state aid shall be competent teachers and shall hold the following grade of certificates. The principal of a state graded school of the first class shall hold some form of a state certificate. In each school of this class one assistant shall hold a third grade certificate, or a certificate of a higher grade, provided such assistant, if holding a third grade certificate, shall also have had one year's successful experience as a teacher in the public schools of Wisconsin; one assistant shall hold a second grade certificate, or a certificate of a higher grade, and all other assistants shall hold first grade certificates or certificates of a higher grade. The principal of a state graded school of the second class shall hold a first grade county certificate, or some form of a state certificate, and the assistant shall hold a third grade certificate or a certificate of a higher grade, provided such assistant, if holding a third grade certificate, shall also have had one year's successful experience as a teacher in the public schools of Wisconsin. The word "principal" is hereby interpreted as meaning the teacher of the highest grade or grades in the school who shall have immediate supervision of all the grades; the word "assistant" is hereby interpreted as meaning each and every teacher in a state graded school other than the principal.

Condition of buildings and grounds. 4. The school house or school houses, the outhouses and the grounds, the furniture and equipment, shall be maintained in good condition and kept free from any unsanitary feature.

Equipment required. 5. Sufficient equipment, including globes, maps, blackboards, library, and other essentials for the proper work of the school shall be provided by the school district.

Application for aid; must be inspected. 6. When the school board of any school district desires to secure state aid for its graded schools, said school board shall make written application for the same to the state superintendent. No graded school shall be entitled to be placed upon the list of state graded schools and to receive special state aid until said school shall have been duly inspected by the state superintendent, or some member of his staff, and found to be fully complying with all the conditions of this act.

Application before September 1. 7. In order that any graded school may receive special state aid as herein provided, appli-

ation shall be made to the state superintendent by the school board before the first day of September preceding the school year for which said special state aid is requested.

Amount of aid for two classes of graded schools; apportionment.

SECTION 10. Any school district which shall have maintained a graded school of the first class in accordance with the provisions of this act shall be entitled to receive from the general fund of the state, annually the sum of three hundred dollars. Any school district which shall have maintained a graded school of the second class in accordance with the provisions of this act shall be entitled to receive from the general fund of the state, annually, the sum of one hundred dollars. To obtain such state aid the school board shall, on or before the first day of August of each year, succeeding the school year in which application is made, report to the state superintendent, under their oaths, that such state graded school has complied with all the provisions of this act. Thereupon, the said state superintendent, shall fix the amount to be paid such district, and certify the same to the secretary of state; the secretary of state shall then draw his warrants upon the state treasurer for the several claims of the school districts. "The secretary of state shall annually include and apportion in the state tax such sum as shall have been certified by the state superintendent under the provisions of this act." Upon receipt of the annual state taxes said state treasurer shall pay to the school district treasurers, the several amounts called for by such warrants. The state superintendent is hereby empowered to refuse state aid to any school district which in his judgment has failed to comply with the provisions of this act. The whole amount annually paid under the provisions of this act shall not exceed sixty thousand dollars, and if more be demanded by the state graded schools, it shall be paid proportionally. Any unexpended balance shall revert to the general fund.

Inspectors. SECTION 11. The state superintendent is hereby authorized to appoint two persons of suitable qualifications to assist him in inspecting and supervising the state graded and free high schools, and to aid him in giving information and needed assistance to localities in organizing such schools. Such persons shall be known as state school inspectors, and shall each receive an annual salary of sixteen hundred dollars, and reimbursement for all actual and necessary traveling expenses incurred, when duly certified to by the state superintendent; said salary and expenses to be paid monthly from the general fund, and to be deducted from the annual appro-

priation provided for in this act, before the apportionment is made to the state graded schools. Said state school inspectors, when not engaged in the specific duties enumerated herein, may be assigned for such other duties as the state superintendent may determine and designate.

Course of study; reports. SECTION 12. The state superintendent shall prepare a course of study suitable to be pursued in graded schools, publish the same, and furnish to school boards upon application. This course of study shall be followed by all state graded schools, as one condition of securing special state aid. Said state superintendent shall furnish suitable blanks for annual and special reports for all such state graded schools, which reports shall call for such information as he may deem necessary. The refusal or neglect of the school board or any of its officers to file these reports with the state superintendent when called for, shall be deemed sufficient ground for refusing special state aid, as provided for in this act.

Number limited; incorporated cities excluded. SECTION 13. No more than one such graded school in any village, or school district or sub-district shall receive state aid as herein provided, nor shall any graded school in any incorporated city participate in said state aid.

Appropriation. SECTION 14. There is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund of the state not otherwise appropriated, a sufficient sum of money to meet the provisions of this act.

SECTION 15. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved May 15, 1901.