

any town for any one year for all town purposes, exclusive of school taxes and liabilities heretofore lawfully incurred, shall not exceed in the whole, one per centum of the total assessed valuation of such town for the preceding year, as equalized by the town board of equalization, unless a larger sum is needed for the building or repairing of highways or bridges, in which case the electors may vote and the proper authorities may levy, not to exceed one-fourth of one per centum in addition to the aforesaid one per centum; provided, further, that not exceeding two per centum additional may be levied for school purposes when under the township system of school government. *Provided, that in a town having income taxes in its treasury the same may be expended for town and school purposes, regardless of the foregoing limitation.*

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage and publication.

Approved May 17, 1917.

No. 340. S.]

[Published May 22, 1917.

CHAPTER 235

AN ACT to create section 1417m of the statutes, relating to social diseases.

The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. There is added to the statutes a new section to read: Section 1417m. 1. Any person afflicted with gonorrhoea or syphilis in its infective or communicable stage is hereby declared to be a menace to the public health. Any physician licensed to practice medicine in this state who is called upon to attend or treat any person infected with gonorrhoea or syphilis in its communicable state, shall report to the state board of health in writing, at such time and in such manner as the state board of health may direct, the age and sex of such person and the name of the disease with which such person is afflicted. Such report shall be made on blanks furnished by the said board.

2. Every physician treating venereally-infected individuals shall fully inform such persons of the danger of transmitting the disease to others and he shall advise against marriage while the person has such disease in a communicable form.

3. Whenever any person afflicted with gonorrhoea or syphilis ceases taking treatment before he or she has reached the stage of the disease where it is no longer communicable or whenever any individual has been informed by a licensed physician that such individual is afflicted with gonorrhoea or syphilis in the

communicable stages and the person so afflicted refuses to take treatment, the physician shall forthwith notify the state board of health giving the age, sex and conjugal condition of the person afflicted and the nature of the disease. The state board of health shall, without delay, take such steps as shall be necessary to have said person committed to a county or state institution for treatment until such individual has reached the stage of the disease where it is no longer communicable and the person so committed shall not be released from treatment until this stage of the disease is reached unless other provisions satisfactory to the state board of health are made for suitable treatment.

4. Each county shall make such provisions as may be required by the state board of health to furnish the necessary care and treatment to all indigent individuals residing in the county who are afflicted with gonorrhoea or syphilis, or to any such person who may be committed to any county institution for failure to comply with this law, until such afflicted persons have passed the infectious or communicable stage of the disease.

5. The state board of health shall prepare for free distribution upon request among the citizens of the state, printed information and instructions concerning the dangers from venereal diseases, their prevention and the necessity for treatment.

6. The state laboratory of hygiene located at Madison, and all branch and cooperative laboratories located in any part of the state shall make microscopical examinations for the diagnosis of gonorrhoea for any licensed physician in the state, without charge. The psychiatric institute at Mendota shall make the necessary examinations of blood or secretions for the diagnosis of syphilis, for any licensed physician in the state, without charge.

7. Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this section shall upon conviction be punished by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than three months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage and publication.

Approved May 17, 1917.