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gage, loan, and investment companies, and similar institutions; to the fishing industry in cooperation with the Bureau of Fisheries; and every five years to collect statistics relating to street railways, electric light and power, telephone, and telegraph business. And the Director of the Census shall prepare schedules containing such interrogatories as shall in his judgment be best adapted to elicit the information required under the subjects, with such specifications, divisions, and particulars under each head as he shall deem necessary to that end; and all reports prepared under the provisions of this section shall be designated as 'Special Reports of the Census Office.' For the purpose of securing the statistics required by this section the Director of the Census may appoint special agents when necessary, and such special agents shall receive compensation as hereinafter provided. And the Director of the Census shall edit, index, and publish the Official Register of the United States, and the provisions of existing law imposing that duty upon the Department of the Interior are hereby repealed, and the data to be included in the Official Register, which is now required to be transmitted to the Secretary of the Interior, shall hereafter be transmitted to the Director of the Census."

Street railways; electric light, etc., statistics collected every five years.

Special agents.

Official Register to be edited, etc., by Director of the Census.

R. S. secs. 198, 508, 510, pp. 31, 84, amended.

Approved, June 7, 1906.

CHAP. 3054.—An Act Providing for compulsory education in the District of Columbia.

June 8, 1906.
[S. 1243.]

[Public, No. 203.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That every parent, guardian, or other person residing in the District of Columbia having charge and control of a child between the ages of eight and fourteen years shall cause such child to be regularly instructed in the elementary branches of knowledge, including reading, writing, English grammar, geography, and arithmetic, and pursuant to this end every such parent, guardian, or other person aforesaid shall cause any child under the charge and control of such person to attend some public, private, or parochial school during the period of each year the public schools in the District are in session, on the customary days and during the customary hours of the school term. No child shall be credited with attendance upon a private or parochial school unless the attendance officer hereinafter provided for receives a certificate of attendance signed by the person in charge of such school. A child between the ages aforesaid may be excused from school attendance or instruction upon presentation of satisfactory evidence to the superintendent of schools that such child is being or has been within said year instructed a like period of time in the branches taught in the public schools, or that such child has acquired these branches of learning, or that the physical or mental condition of such child is such as to render such attendance or instruction inexpedient or impracticable.

District of Columbia. Compulsory education of children between ages of eight and fourteen in.

Certificate of attendance required.

Conditions upon which school attendance may be excused.

SEC. 2. That if any person having under control a child, as described in section one, shall neglect for three day sessions or six half-day sessions, within any period of five months to cause such child to attend school, a written notice shall be sent to such person by an attendance officer, hereinafter provided for, informing him that the attendance of the child under the control of such person is required at school within a period of three days. If such child is not excused as provided for in section one, and is not in school within three days, prosecution shall be begun in the police court by an officer empowered under this Act against the parent or other person in control of the child, and upon conviction the parent or other person in control of the child shall be punished for each and every offense by a fine of not more than twenty dollars.

Written notice to parents, etc., in case of nonattendance.

Punishment for neglect to comply with notice.

Habitual truants.

SEC. 3. That any child between the ages of eight and fourteen who is an habitual truant, who is willfully and habitually absent from school, or who can not be controlled by the regular school discipline while in attendance upon school, shall be committed by the board of education to a special or ungraded school for instruction. The board of education may set apart school buildings or special rooms in a school building for the establishment of ungraded schools to provide, under a qualified teacher, for the instruction of habitual truants or for pupils who can not be controlled by the regular school discipline while in attendance upon school, and such children may be restricted to such schools for instruction until satisfactory evidence of improvement is furnished the board of education by the teacher in charge whereupon such child may be restored to a graded school in the district in which he resides.

Ungraded schools for instruction of.

Restoration to graded schools.

Appointment of truant officers, etc.

SEC. 4. The board of education of the District of Columbia is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to appoint two truant officers at a salary of six hundred dollars per annum each, who, together with the inspectors provided for in the bill to regulate the employment of child labor and the probation officers provided for in the bill establishing a juvenile court shall under the direction of the board of education carry out the provisions of this Act.

Ante, p. 73.

Punishment for abetting truancy.

SEC. 5. That any person who induces or attempts to induce any child to be absent unlawfully from school, or who knowingly employs or harbors while school is in session any child absent unlawfully from school, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and be punished by a fine of not more than twenty dollars.

Duties of truant officers.

SEC. 6. That the officers empowered under this Act shall visit any place or establishment where minor children are employed to ascertain whether the provisions of this law are duly complied with, and shall as often as twice a year demand from all employers of such children a list of children employed, with their names and ages.

Punishment for false statements of age, etc.

SEC. 7. That any parent or other person who makes a false statement concerning the age or school attendance of a child between the ages of eight and fourteen who is under his control, such false statement being made with intent to deceive under this Act, shall upon conviction thereof be punished by a fine not to exceed twenty dollars.

Effect.

SEC. 8. That this Act shall take effect on July first, nineteen hundred and six.

Repeal.

SEC. 9. That all Acts and parts of Acts in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved, June 8, 1906.

June 8, 1906.
[H. R. 14513.]
[Public, No. 204.]

CHAP. 3055.—An Act To prevent the giving of false alarms of fires in the District of Columbia.

District of Columbia.
Giving false alarm of fire a misdemeanor.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to willfully or knowingly give a false alarm of fire within the District of Columbia, and any person or persons violating the provisions of this Act shall, upon conviction, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and be punished by a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars or by imprisonment for not more than six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Penalty.

Prosecutions.

SEC. 2. That prosecutions for violation of the provisions of this Act shall be on information filed in the police court by the corporation counsel of the District of Columbia or by any of his assistants.

Effect.

SEC. 3. That this Act shall be in effect from and after its passage.

Approved, June 8, 1906.