

with the elections in townships organized prior to the passage of this act.

APPROVED—The 20th day of April, A. D. 1921.

WM. C. SPROUL.

No. 107.

### AN ACT

To amend section one of an act, approved the third day of May, one thousand nine hundred and nine (Pamphlet Laws, four hundred and seventeen), entitled "An act for the safety of persons from fire or panic in certain buildings, not in cities of the first and second classes; by providing proper exits, fire-escapes, fire-extinguishers, and other preventives of fire; by vesting jurisdiction for the enforcement of this act in the Department of Factory Inspection; and by providing proper penalties for any violation of the same," as amended.

Department of  
Labor and Indus-  
try.

Public safety.

Protection against  
fire and panic in  
certain buildings.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That section one of an act, approved the third day of May, one thousand nine hundred and nine (Pamphlet Laws, four hundred and seventeen), entitled "An act for the safety of persons from fire or panic in certain buildings, not in cities of the first and second classes, by providing proper exits, fire-escapes, fire-extinguishers, and other preventives of fire; by vesting jurisdiction for the enforcement of this act in the Department of Factory Inspection; and by providing proper penalties for any violation of the same," which, as last amended by an act, approved the seventh day of June, one thousand nine hundred and nineteen (Pamphlet Laws, four hundred and six), entitled "An act to further amend sections one and two of an act, approved the third day of May, one thousand nine hundred and nine (Pamphlet Laws, four hundred and seventeen), entitled 'An act for the safety of persons from fire or panic in certain buildings, not in cities of the first and second classes, by providing proper exits, fire-escapes, fire-extinguishers, and other preventives of fire; by vesting jurisdiction for the enforcement of this act in the Department of Factory Inspection; and by providing proper penalties for any violation of the same,' as amended," reads as follows:—

Section 1, act of  
May 3, 1909 (P.  
L. 417), as  
amended by sec-  
tion 1, act of  
June 7, 1919 (P.  
L. 406), cited for  
amendment.

"Section 1. That every building in this Commonwealth, other than buildings situated in cities of the first and second classes, having more than two stories, and buildings having one or more galleries above the first or ground floor, now used or hereafter to be used, in whole or in part, as a public building, office building, public or private institution, sanatorium, surgical institute, asylum, hospital, schoolhouse, academy, dormitory, college, hotel, restaurant; and every building used or hereafter to be used, in whole or in part,

as a theatre, moving-picture theatre, public hall, lodge hall, or place of public resort; and every building in which persons are employed above the second story in a factory, workshop, or mercantile establishment; and every boarding-house or lodging-house, used exclusively for such purpose, in which persons reside or lodge above the second story; and every tenement-house, apartment-house or flat, occupied by two or more families above the first story, shall be equipped either with an automatic sprinkler system or with an automatic fire-alarm system *to be approved by the Commissioner of Labor and Industry*, and in all cases shall be provided with proper ways of egress or means of escape from fire, sufficient for the use of all persons accommodated, assembled, employed, lodged, or residing therein; and such ways of egress and means of escape shall be kept free from obstruction, in good repair, properly lighted, and ready for use, at all times; and all rooms above the second story in said buildings shall be provided with more than one way of egress or escape from fire, which shall be placed as near as practical at opposite ends or sides of the building, and leading to stairways on the inside, or, where not possible to provide such stairways, to stair-towers or fire-escapes on the outside of such buildings: Provided, That in all such buildings hereafter erected, such ways of egress or means of escape from fire shall be located within the walls of the building, and at least one of such ways of egress or means of escape from fire shall be an enclosed stair-tower of fire-resistive construction, except that properly constructed bridges between two separate buildings, or parts of buildings, separated by approved fire-walls, may be accepted in lieu of such inside stairway by the Commissioner of Labor and Industry: And provided further, That the Commissioner of Labor and Industry may order fire-walls to be built in buildings already erected or which may hereafter be erected, where in his judgment the erection of such fire-walls is necessary to the reasonable safe protection of the inmates. Such ways of egress or means of escape from fire, or fire-walls, shall be in accordance with standards drawn up by the Industrial Board of the Department of Labor and Industry. Where any of said buildings is designated for use or occupancy of fifty or more persons, the external doors of the same shall open outward, shall be kept unlocked and ready for instant use at all times, and be so constructed or arranged as to afford, when open, an unobstructed passageway of not less than five feet in the clear. Where such doors lead from stairways, there shall be landings inside the external doorways of dimensions not less than four feet between the external doors and the adjoining stairways; said landings to be

of a width not less than the stairway approaches thereto," is hereby amended to read as follows:—

Classes of buildings.

**Section 1.** That every building in this Commonwealth, other than buildings situated in cities of the first and second classes, having more than two stories, and buildings having one or more galleries above the first or ground floor, now used or hereafter to be used, in whole or in part, as a public building, office building, public or private institution, sanatorium, surgical institute, asylum, hospital, schoolhouse, academy, dormitory, college, hotel, restaurant; and every building used or hereafter to be used, in whole or in part, as a theatre, moving-picture theatre, public hall, lodge hall, or place of public resort; and every building in which persons are employed above the second story in a factory, workshop, or mercantile establishment; and every boarding-house or lodging-house, used exclusively for such purpose, in which persons reside or lodge above the second story; and every tenement-house, apartment-house or flat, occupied by two or more families above

Automatic sprinkler or fire-alarm system.

the first story, shall be equipped either with an automatic sprinkler system or with an automatic fire-alarm system, *in all cases required by the Commissioner of Labor and Industry and to be approved by him*, and in all cases shall be provided with proper ways of egress or means of escape from fire, sufficient for the use of all persons accommodated, assembled, employed, lodged, or residing therein; and such ways of egress and means of escape shall be kept free from obstruction, in good repair, properly lighted, and ready for use, at all times; and all rooms above the second story in said buildings shall be provided with more than one way of egress or escape from fire, which shall be placed as near as practical at opposite ends or sides of the buildings, and leading to stairways on the inside, or, where not possible to provide such stairways, to stair-towers or fire-escapes on the outside of such buildings:

Ways of egress.

Proviso.

Provided, That in all such buildings hereafter erected, such ways of egress or means of escape from fire shall be located within the walls of the building, and at least one of such ways of egress or means of escape from fire shall be an enclosed stair-tower of fire-resistive construction, except that properly constructed bridges between two separate buildings, or parts of buildings, separated by approved fire-walls, may be accepted in lieu of such inside stair-way by the Commissioner of Labor and Industry: And provided further, That the Commissioner of Labor and Industry may order fire-walls to be built in buildings already erected or which may hereafter be erected, where in his judgment the erection of such fire-walls is necessary to the reasonable safe protection of the inmates. Such ways of egress or means of escape from fire, or fire-walls, shall be in

Proviso.

Fire-walls

accordance with standards drawn up by the Industrial Board of the Department of Labor and Industry. Where any of said buildings is designated for use or occupancy of fifty or more persons, the external doors of the same shall open outward, shall be kept unlocked and ready for instant use at all times, and be so constructed or arranged as to afford, when open, an unobstructed passageway of not less than five feet in the clear. Where such doors lead from stairways, there shall be landings inside the external doorways of dimensions not less than four feet between the external doors and the adjoining stairways; said landings to be of a width not less than the stairway approaches thereto.

Doors.

Landings.

APPROVED—The 20th day of April, A. D. 1921.

WM. C. SPROUL.

No. 108.

AN ACT

Establishing a Bureau of Statistics and Information in the Department of Internal Affairs; providing for the appointment of officers and employes, and providing for the fixing of their duties, powers, and compensation; making it the duty of the Secretary of Internal Affairs to furnish statistical data provided for in this act to the heads of the State Government for the use of their departments, upon requisition; making it the duty of persons, associations, copartnerships, corporations, and municipal and other public officers to furnish information required; prescribing penalties for violation of such duty; and repealing certain acts.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That, pursuant to the requirements of the Constitution, there is hereby established, within the Department of Internal Affairs of the Commonwealth, a Bureau of Statistics and Information.

Department of Internal Affairs.

Bureau of Statistics and Information.

Section 2. The Secretary of Internal Affairs is authorized to appoint a chief of said bureau and such other officers and employes as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this act, to prescribe their duties, and fix their compensation. He may also use temporarily any clerks or employes of the Department of Internal Affairs in the bureau as occasion may require.

Employes.

Duties.

Compensation.

Section 3. The bureau shall collect, compile, and publish all statistics and useful data and information relating to labor, coal mining, oil and gas production, manufacturing industries, commercial operations, public service companies, municipalities, maritime interests, and other business of the State; and, in order to facilitate the duties herein imposed, all persons, associations, copartnerships, and corporations, engaged as herein described, within this Commonwealth,

Compilation of statistics.

Duty to furnish information to bureau.