

voting place, together with the ballots to be used there, a sufficient number of cards of instruction and specimen ballots for use as required in section twenty-one of this act. They shall also provide for each election district at every election therein, two copies of the assessor's lists of voters, and shall deliver the same as such lists are now delivered, one copy to be called the 'ballot check list,' for the inspectors in charge of the ballots, and the other copy to be called the 'voting check list,' to be used in marking the name of those who have voted *and the number of their ballots as now required by law,*" is hereby amended to read as follows:—

Number of ballots to be furnished each district.

Cards of instruction.

Additional ballots.

Specimen ballots.

Registers of voters.

Ballot check list.

Section 16. The county commissioners of each county shall provide, for each election district in which an election is to be held, one set of such ballots of not less than *fifty* for every fifty and fraction of fifty voters therein, as contained upon the assessor's list. They shall also prepare full instructions for the guidance of voters as to obtaining ballots, as to the manner of marking them, and the method of gaining assistance, and as to obtaining new ballots in place of those accidentally spoiled; and they shall respectively cause the same, together with copies of sections thirty to thirty-five inclusive of this act, to be printed in large clear type on separate cards, to be called cards of instruction. They shall also, in addition to the number of *ballots* required to be printed for general distribution, have printed five hundred official and one hundred sample ballots for every five thousand voters within the county, which *ballots* shall be kept at the office of the commissioners for the use of any district or districts, the *ballots* for which may be lost or destroyed. They shall also cause to be printed, on tinted paper and without the fac-simile endorsements, copies of the form of the ballot provided for each voting place at each election therein, which shall be called specimen ballots, and at each election they shall furnish to each voting place, together with the ballots to be used there, a sufficient number of cards of instruction and specimen ballots for use as required in section twenty-one of this act. They shall *deliver to each election district in cities of the first, second, and third classes, where personal registration is required, at every election therein, the registers of voters, known as the voting check list and ballot check list. In all election districts, other than in cities of the first, second, and third classes, they shall provide for each election district, at every election therein, two copies of assessor's lists of voters, and shall deliver the same as such lists are now delivered, one copy, to be called the "ballot check list," for the inspector in charge of the ballots,*

and the other copy, to be called the "voting check list," to be used in marking the names of those who have voted.

Voting check list.

APPROVED—The 24th day of May, A. D. 1921.

WM. C. SPROUL.

No. 401.

AN ACT

Providing for county poor districts in counties of the seventh class; providing for their management, direction, and control by the county commissioners; defining their powers and duties; imposing certain duties upon the county treasurer and county controller or county auditors; abolishing the present poor districts, and transferring their property.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That, for the purpose of furnishing relief to the poor, destitute, and paupers, giving them employment, and carrying out the provisions of this act, each county of the seventh class is hereby created a poor district, to be known as ".....County Poor District."

Counties, of the seventh class.

County poor districts.

Section 2. The county commissioners shall, upon the petition of at least one thousand electors of such county requesting the establishment of a county poor district, submit the question of the establishment of such district to the electors of the county at the next municipal or general election. If a majority of the persons voting at such election are in favor of the establishment of a county poor district, the result of such election shall be certified by the returning board to the county commissioners, and shall by them be entered upon their minutes, and thereupon it shall become the duty of the county commissioners to establish such district as is in this act provided.

Establishment. Petition of voters.

Election.

Section 3. Upon the acceptance of this act, the title to all real and personal property, equipment, and supplies, now owned by the various township, borough, city, county, or other poor districts within any such county, is disposed of as follows, to wit:

Disposition of property of existing districts.

That of each township poor district is hereby transferred to and vested in the township in which located. The township commissioners in first class townships and the supervisors in second class townships are hereby given the power and authority to sell the same and transfer the title thereto; and the proceeds thereof, together with all other moneys of such districts, shall be used for general township purposes.

Township poor districts.

That of each borough poor district is hereby transferred to and vested in the borough in which located. The council and burgess of such borough are hereby given the power and authority to sell the same and

Borough poor districts.

transfer the title thereto. The proceeds thereof, together with all other moneys of such district, shall be used for general borough purposes.

City poor districts.

That of each city poor district is hereby transferred to and vested in the city in which located. The council and mayor of such city are hereby given the power and authority to sell the same and transfer the title thereto. The proceeds thereof, together with all other moneys of such district, shall be used for general city purposes.

Other poor districts.

That of each county poor district, and of any other poor districts located in such county, other than those named above, is hereby transferred to and vested in the county in which located. The county commissioners of such county are hereby given the power and authority to use the same, if adaptable to the purposes, for the care of the poor as herein provided. All moneys in the treasury of such county or other poor district shall be forthwith paid to the county treasurer. If any of such property is not adaptable to the needs of the county poor district, the same shall be sold, and the proceeds of the sale be paid into the county treasury.

Sales of property of existing districts.

Advertising.

The sales above authorized shall be by public outcry or vendue and only after due public notice published, once a week for four weeks, in two daily or weekly newspapers published in such county, and by not less than ten handbills posted on the property, where real estate, and at other conspicuous places in the poor district, in which a description of the property and the time and place of sale shall be given.

Officers and employes.

Section 4. The county commissioners shall elect, on the first Monday of January in each year, the following officers to serve for one year, and fix their compensation, that is: A superintendent, a matron or matrons, a physician, and all other necessary employes and assistants; all of whom shall be subject to removal by the county commissioners at any time. They shall require bond with security, in such amount as they deem proper, from the superintendent.

Treasurer.

Section 5. The treasurer of such county shall be treasurer of said poor district. He shall receive all moneys belonging to the district, and pay out the same on warrants drawn by the county commissioners. The accounts of the treasurer with the said district shall be audited by the county controller or county auditors of said county, in accordance with the laws relating to accounts of county treasurers.

Treasurer's bond.

The county commissioners shall require the county treasurer to give bond, with sufficient surety, in such amount as they shall determine requisite, for the safe-keeping and proper payment of all moneys that come into his hands on account of said district.

Section 6. As soon as the county commissioners are prepared to accommodate the poor of said county poor district, they shall give notice of the same by personal notice upon each of the directors or overseers of the poor of each township, borough, city, county, or other poor district within said county, and also by publication, once a week for three weeks, in two newspapers in said county.

Notice to directors and overseers of existing districts.

Section 7. Immediately after notice that the county commissioners are prepared to accommodate the poor of said district, it shall be the duty of the directors or overseers of the poor of each township, borough, city, county, or other poor district within said county, to remove all poor persons entitled to relief to the poorhouse as designated by the county commissioners, and deliver them to the custody of the superintendent; and, from and after such time, no expense for help, assistance, and maintenance of poor and destitute persons shall be incurred by such directors or overseers. When, by sickness or other sufficient cause, any poor person cannot be removed to said poorhouse, the overseers or directors shall represent the case to the nearest justice of the peace or alderman, who, being satisfied that said person cannot be removed, shall certify the same to the county commissioners, with an order directing the county commissioners to maintain such poor person until he or she can be removed, and the charge and extra expense of such maintenance shall be paid by said county commissioners from the funds of the county poor district.

Removal of poor to poorhouses of county districts.

Removal prevented by sickness or other causes.

Section 8. After delivery of the poor and destitute to the county commissioners as before provided, the various township, borough, city, county, or other poor districts within any such county are hereby abolished, and the directors or overseers of the poor of such poor district shall cease to act in such capacity, and said offices are hereby abolished, except so far as may be necessary to collect outstanding taxes, settle the accounts, pay the debts incurred, and wind up the unfinished business transactions of such district.

Abolishment of existing districts.

Section 9. Whenever any county poor district shall come within the provisions of this act, and no adequate site or suitable buildings are available for the care of the poor, or whenever the lands, buildings, furnishings, and equipment for maintaining the poor in such county poor districts are inadequate, unsuitable, and unsafe for the proper maintaining of the poor within such county, the county commissioners are authorized to purchase or acquire by right of eminent domain, and take title in the name of the district, such lands as to them may appear most eligible and suitable for the purpose of the erection thereon of proper, adequate, and suitable buildings for the employment and support of

Acquisition of land by county districts.

buildings.

the poor in such county. Any such purchase or acquisition shall be only with the approval of the court of quarter sessions.

After the purchase or acquisition of such lands, the said county commissioners, or a majority of them, are authorized to have prepared plans and specifications in accordance with existing law, and to cause the necessary buildings to be erected upon the lands according to said plans and specifications.

Advertising for bids.

Before the said county commissioners shall let any contract for the erection of said buildings according to plans and specifications adopted, they shall advertise, in two or more newspapers of general circulation in such county, for bids for the erection of buildings on said lands according to said plans and specifications. The letting of the contract or contracts for the erection of said buildings shall first be approved by the court of quarter sessions of such county.

Approval of contracts by court.

Eminent domain procedure.

All proceedings for the assessment of damages for property taken, injured, or destroyed, under the exercise of the right of eminent domain in this section conferred, shall be in accordance with proceedings provided for by existing laws for the acquisition of property for county purposes.

Sale of old buildings.

Section 10. After the construction, equipment and furnishing of new buildings, the county commissioners, with the respective approval of the court of quarter sessions of the respective county, are authorized to sell the site and buildings of any county poorhouse, and apply the proceeds of such sale, together with any sum or sums of money belonging to such poor district, by whomsoever the same may be held or deposited, toward the payment of such new lands, buildings, equipment, and furnishings.

Examination of new buildings by viewers.

Section 11. Whenever new buildings shall be finished and completed, the said county commissioners shall certify their proceedings to the clerk of the court of quarter sessions of said county, whereupon the said court shall appoint three competent and disinterested persons as viewers to view and thoroughly examine said buildings and report to the court whether the said contract or contracts have been faithfully and fully performed and completed; and, until such report be so made, final payment on said contract or contracts shall not be made. The said viewers shall be entitled to a sum not in excess of ten dollars per day for each day necessarily engaged in the performance of their duties, as the court shall determine, to be paid from the funds of the poor district.

Report of viewers.

Final payment for buildings.

Compensation of viewers.

County commissioners may borrow money and issue bonds.

Section 12. For the purpose of purchasing any lands or buildings, or erecting, constructing, repairing, improving, furnishing, and equipping any county poor-

house or buildings, the county commissioners are authorized to borrow money and issue bonds therefor and negotiate the same for the purpose of raising the necessary money. Such bonds shall not be of a denomination less than one hundred dollars, nor bear interest of a higher rate than six per centum. They shall be payable by the said poor district, and shall not be sold below par, and shall not be subject to taxation, except for State purposes.

Character  
of bonds.

Section 13. A majority of the county commissioners shall be a quorum for the transaction of business. They shall have full power to make all such rules and regulations as they shall think proper, convenient, and necessary for the direction, government, and support of the poor, the poorhouse and grounds and poor farm, and of the revenues thereunto belonging, and of all such persons and things as shall come under their care or cognizance, but such rules and regulations shall not be repugnant to the Constitution or laws of this State or of the United States.

Quorum of  
commissioners.

Regulations.

Section 14. The county commissioners shall make all necessary repairs and improvements of buildings and grounds, provide for the cultivation of the real estate and all things necessary for the maintenance and employment of the poor of such district, and use the proceeds of labor of the poor under their charge in their support and maintenance. They shall, from time to time, receive, maintain, provide for, and employ all paupers, poor, and destitute persons within their district entitled to relief and having a settlement therein. Any such pauper, poor, or destitute person shall be admitted into the poorhouse on an order for that purpose granted by any two of the county commissioners or by any justice of the peace or alderman of the respective county, or upon a legal order of removal from any other county within this Commonwealth, or in such other manner as may be provided by existing law. Said county commissioners may grant such other relief as they may judge right, and, in exceptional and special cases, may grant outdoor relief to poor persons, if they deem it best, but no person shall be entitled to claim relief who refuses to go to said poorhouse.

Repairs and  
improvements.

Cultivation of  
real estate.

Receipt and  
maintenance of  
paupers.

Admission  
of paupers.

Outdoor  
relief.

Said county commissioners may discharge from the said poorhouse any inmate whom they shall deem to possess sufficient mental and physical ability to take care of him or herself and provide for his or her maintenance and support, but such pauper, poor, or destitute person, so discharged, may, at any time thereafter, be readmitted in the manner aforesaid. Any pauper, poor, or destitute person whose legal settlement is not in the county may be admitted into the poorhouse by the county commissioners, whenever they shall

Discharge from  
poorhouse.

Paupers having  
settlement in  
another county.

deem it expedient, upon such terms, and be discharged therefrom in such manner, as shall be provided by their rules and regulations.

Meetings of commissioners.

Section 15. Such county commissioners shall meet at least once a month at the poorhouse, visit the apartments, inspect the management of the work upon and about the real estate, see that the poor are properly treated, hear all complaints, and cause all grievances that may happen by neglect to be redressed. They shall keep a record of their proceedings, which shall be evidence of their action in any subsequent judicial proceedings.

Gifts, etc., to district.

Section 16. All fines, forfeitures, bequests, gifts, and devises for the use of the poor of said district shall go to, and be received by, said county commissioners, who shall demand and receive the same, and use, invest, or expend the same, as they in their judgment deem best, for the purpose of providing support and employment for the poor and in paying the debts of said district.

Taxation. Basis.

Section 17. The basis of taxation for poor purposes shall be the last preceding assessment for county rates and levies.

Rate.

The county commissioners shall have authority to levy and collect a tax, not exceeding in one year ten mills on the dollar of the assessed valuation, for the purpose of supporting the poor, paying officials and employes, and the current expenses of managing the buildings and the poor farm. The taxes shall be levied at the same time, and collected in the same manner, as other county taxes.

Levy.

Special tax.

For the purpose of paying any debt incurred in the purchase of real estate and the erection of buildings, and to redeem bonds authorized by this act, and also for the purpose of making permanent improvements on real estate, the commissioners may levy a special tax, which shall be payable at the same time, and collected in the same manner, as the tax for current expenses.

Accounts.

Such special tax shall in no year exceed in amount one-half of the amount levied for current expenses.

Section 18. The county commissioners shall keep accurate accounts of all moneys received by them in any way for the purposes of this act, as well as all paid out, including such reasonable expenses as they may incur in carrying out their duties. All accounts under this act shall be audited by the county controller or county auditors, as the case may be.

Reports of commissioners to court.

Section 19. The county commissioners shall report to the court of quarter sessions, at its first term each year, a list of the number, ages, and sex of the persons maintained and employed in the poorhouse, a summary of the amount received and expended in their support, the balance of money on hand, and also an account

of all sales or purchases of real estate, furnishings, or equipment, all donations, devises, and bequests that shall have been made by or to them, and of the improvement or additions to buildings or equipment.

Section 20. The poorhouse buildings and grounds shall, at all times, be open to inspection by the State Board of Public Charities and its agents, by visitation committees appointed or constituted by existing law, and by visitors appointed by the court of quarter sessions; and said court is hereby given authority to appoint such visitors as it shall deem proper from time to time, and the county commissioners shall, at all times when required, submit to the inspection and free examination of such visitors all their books, accounts, and records.

Inspection of  
grounds and  
buildings.

Section 21. All acts or parts of acts, general, special, or local, supplied by or inconsistent with the provisions of this act, be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Repeal.

APPROVED—The 24th day of May, A. D. 1921.

WM. C. SPROUL.

No. 402.

AN ACT

To amend section one thousand four hundred and thirty-six of an act, approved the eighteenth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and eleven (Pamphlet Laws, three hundred and nine), entitled "An act to establish a public school system in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, together with the provisions by which it shall be administered, and prescribing penalties for the violation thereof; providing revenue to establish and maintain the same, and the method of collecting such revenue; and repealing all laws, general, special, or local, or any parts thereof, that are or may be inconsistent therewith," as amended.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That section one thousand four hundred and thirty-six of an act, approved the eighteenth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and eleven (Pamphlet Laws, three hundred and nine), entitled "An act to establish a public school system in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, together with the provisions by which it shall be administered, and prescribing penalties for the violation thereof; providing revenue to establish and maintain the same, and the method of collecting such revenue; and repealing all laws, general, special, or local, or any parts thereof, that are or may be inconsistent therewith," which, as amended by an act, approved the seventeenth day of July, one thousand nine hundred and nineteen (Pamphlet Laws, one thousand and twenty-five), entitled "An act to amend section one thousand four hundred and thirty-six of an act, approved the eighteenth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and eleven (Pamphlet Laws, three hundred and nine), entitled 'An act

Public school  
system.

Attendance  
officers.