

tion, to prisoners sentenced by the superior court to jails or houses of correction for any term and to all other prisoners sentenced to jails or houses of correction for one year or more, or for a total aggregate of sentences of twelve months or more, by the parole board; to all other prisoners in a jail or house of correction in any county other than Suffolk, by the county commissioners; to all other prisoners in the jail or house of correction in Suffolk county, by the penal institutions commissioner. All permits shall be issued by the board or officer granting them.

Approved May 13, 1970.

Chap. 299. AN ACT RELATIVE TO RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PAROLE OF CERTAIN PRISONERS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Chapter 127 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 141, as most recently amended by section 7 of chapter 765 of the acts of 1960, and inserting in place thereof the following section:—

Section 141. A probation officer may, with the consent of the county commissioners or, in Suffolk county, of the penal institutions commissioner of Boston, investigate the case of any person, except a prisoner within the jurisdiction of the parole board as defined in section one hundred and twenty-eight, imprisoned in a jail or house of correction upon a sentence of not more than six months, or upon a longer sentence of which not more than six months, or of which not more than one half thereof, whichever such period shall be the longer, shall remain unexpired, or for failure to pay a fine, for the purpose of ascertaining the probability of his reformation if released from imprisonment. If after such an investigation he recommends the release of the prisoner, and the court which imposed the sentence certifies a concurrence in such recommendation, the county commissioners or the penal institutions commissioner may, if they consider it expedient, release him on parole, upon such terms and conditions as they may prescribe, and may require a bond for their fulfillment. The surety upon any such bond may at any time take and surrender his principal, and the county commissioners or the penal institutions commissioner may at any time order any prisoner released by them to return to the prison to which he was originally sentenced. This section shall not apply to persons held upon sentences of the courts of the United States.

Approved May 13, 1970.

Chap. 300. AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE MASSACHUSETTS UNIVERSALIST FUND TO MERGE WITH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Massachusetts Universalist Fund, a corporation established by chapter two hundred and three of the acts of nineteen hundred and fifty, is hereby authorized to merge with Unitarian Universalist Association, a corporation established by virtue of chapter one hundred and forty-eight of the acts of nineteen hundred

and sixty and by virtue of chapter eight hundred and twenty-seven of the acts of nineteen hundred and sixty of the State of New York.

SECTION 2. Upon the completion of the merger authorized as aforesaid, Massachusetts Universalist Fund shall no longer continue as a separate corporation and Unitarian Universalist Association under its existing corporate powers may carry on the activities heretofore carried on by said Massachusetts Universalist Fund as part of the activities of said Unitarian Universalist Association.

SECTION 3. Upon such merger becoming effective, all property of Massachusetts Universalist Fund, including all bequests, devises, gifts and transfers of any kind heretofore and hereafter made for its benefits, shall be transferred to and vest in Unitarian Universalist Association without further act or deed, and said association shall have the same powers, rights and privileges with respect to the property of Massachusetts Universalist Fund and with respect to such bequests, devises, gifts and transfers as would have been possessed by Unitarian Universalist Association had such bequests, devises, gifts and transfers been made directly to it for its purposes, so far as these powers, rights and privileges can be constitutionally conferred by the general court and without prejudice to any court proceedings, and otherwise shall have, with respect to such property, bequests, devises, gifts and transfers, the same powers, rights and privileges as would have been possessed by Massachusetts Universalist Fund had such merger not been effected.

SECTION 4. Unitarian Universalist Association shall be deemed to have assumed and shall be liable for all the liabilities and obligations of Massachusetts Universalist Fund.

SECTION 5. The merger shall not be completed:—(a) unless at a meeting called for the purpose Massachusetts Universalist Fund shall, by a majority vote of its members present and voting, have accepted this act; and (b) unless after acceptance as aforesaid by Massachusetts Universalist Fund, the board of trustees of Unitarian Universalist Association, which board has been duly authorized by its members to accept acts of this kind, shall, at a regular or special meeting, also by a majority vote of said trustees present and voting, have accepted this act.

SECTION 6. The merger shall be complete and effective upon the filing with the secretary of the commonwealth of certificates signed by the secretary, or some other officer thereunto duly authorized, of Massachusetts Universalist Fund and by the recording secretary, or some other officer thereunto duly authorized, of Unitarian Universalist Association, each of whom shall make affidavit setting forth detailed compliance with the provisions of section five. Said certificates shall be filed not later than ninety days after the meeting of said trustees at which this act is accepted by them.

SECTION 7. Any question arising as to the powers, rights, privileges and responsibilities of Unitarian Universalist Association with respect to the property of Massachusetts Universalist Fund, including all bequests, devises, gifts and transfers of any kind heretofore and hereafter made to, and for the benefit of Massachusetts Universalist Fund, and also any other questions arising as to the legal effect of this act on any of the provisions thereof may, notwithstanding any general

or specific law to the contrary, be initially and finally determined by any court of competent jurisdiction upon the application of any person interested or of the attorney general.

Approved May 13, 1970.

Chap. 301. AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE TRUSTEES OF ADMIRAL SIR ISAAC COFFIN'S LANCASTERIAN SCHOOL.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 1 of chapter 1 of the acts of 1827, as amended by section 1 of chapter 165 of the acts of 1903, is hereby further amended by inserting after the word "school", in line 15, the words:—; and to advance, promote, aid, give or furnish directly or indirectly education of any kind deemed desirable by the trustees, for any or all seasons of the year, including any or all educational courses prescribed or recognized by the board of higher education of the commonwealth, adult education courses, university extension courses or any other full-time or part-time, regular or special courses of education at university, high school, grammar school, primary or preprimary school levels; and to maintain, furnish, lease or rent with or without charge its buildings for such purposes, for or to any educational institutions or programs or courses deemed worthy by the trustees; and to maintain, furnish, lease or rent with or without charge its buildings for educationally historic purposes or as educationally historic sites; .

SECTION 2. Section 2 of said chapter 1, as most recently amended by chapter 223 of the acts of 1962, is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 10, the word "twenty-five" and inserting in place thereof the word:—seventy-five.

SECTION 3. Section 5 of said chapter 1 is hereby amended by striking out, in line 2, the word "nine" and inserting in place thereof the word:—fifteen.

Approved May 13, 1970.

Chap. 302. AN ACT INCREASING THE MAXIMUM LOAN LIMIT ON PERSONAL LOANS IN CO-OPERATIVE BANKS AND EXTENDING THE TIME WITHIN WHICH SUCH LOANS SHALL BE PAID.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. The second sentence of subsection 8 of section 26 of chapter 170 of the General Laws, as appearing in chapter 279 of the acts of 1963, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 3, the word "thirty-six" and inserting in place thereof the word:—forty-two,—so as to read as follows:—Such loan shall be payable and shall be paid in instalments at intervals of not exceeding one month and all within a period of not exceeding forty-two months from the date of the note.

SECTION 2. The fourth sentence of said subsection 8 of said section 26 of said chapter 170, as most recently amended by chapter 236 of the acts of 1968, is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 2, the word "thirty-five" and inserting in place thereof the word:—forty-five,—so as to read as follows:—The total obligation of any one person to