

HOUSE . . . . No. 2130

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.**

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 13, 1913.

The committee on Mercantile Affairs, to whom was recommit-  
ted the Bill relative to the licensing of operators of mov-  
ing picture machines (House, No. 1897), report that the  
same ought to pass, in a new draft, herewith submitted.

For the committee,

JOHN H. STONE.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirteen.

### AN ACT

Relative to the Operation of the Cinematograph and Similar Apparatus.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section four of chapter five hundred and  
 2 sixty-six of the acts of the year nineteen hundred and eight  
 3 is hereby amended by striking out the same and inserting  
 4 in place thereof the following new section:— *Section 4.*  
 5 No person shall exhibit or operate any cinematograph or  
 6 similar apparatus involving the use of a combustible film  
 7 more than ten inches in length, except as hereinafter pro-  
 8 vided, until he has received a first-class license so to do from  
 9 an inspector of the district police. The first-class license  
 10 shall be for the term of one year from the date thereof, but  
 11 may be renewed yearly without examination, upon the pay-  
 12 ment of a fee of one dollar. The first class license may be  
 13 revoked at any time by any member of the district police,  
 14 but the person whose license is so revoked may appeal to  
 15 the chief of the district police, whose decision in the matter  
 16 shall be final. No first class license shall be granted to a  
 17 person under twenty-one years of age nor until the applicant

18 has passed a practical examination, proving him to be  
19 thoroughly skilled in the working of the mechanical and  
20 electrical apparatus or devices used in the operation of a  
21 cinematograph or similar apparatus, as hereinbefore defined.  
22 A fee of three dollars shall accompany the application for  
23 examination for a first class license. No cinematograph or  
24 similar apparatus as aforesaid shall be operated by oxyhydro-  
25 gen gas, so-called, or by lime light.

1 SECTION 2. Section five of the said chapter five hundred  
2 and sixty-six is hereby amended by inserting after the word  
3 "licensee", in line one, the words: — of the first class, — so  
4 as to read as follows: — *Section 5.* When a licensee of the  
5 first class under this act desires to have an assistant, he  
6 shall register the name, age, address and personal description  
7 of such assistant, on a form prepared for the purpose by  
8 the chief of the district police, and thereupon the said chief  
9 may issue a permit allowing such person to be employed as  
10 an assistant to rewind or repair moving picture films or  
11 apparatus, and to assist the licensee in the booth or other  
12 place where the moving picture is operated, but such person  
13 shall not himself operate or handle any moving picture  
14 machine. No person under the age of eighteen years shall  
15 act as such assistant.

1 SECTION 3. A second class license giving the right to  
2 operate a cinematograph or similar apparatus only in the  
3 presence of a licensee of the first class may be granted to  
4 any person who is not less than twenty years of age and  
5 who has been employed for six months as an assistant under  
6 the supervision of a licensee or licensees of the first class  
7 in a booth or other like place in a theatre or hall devoted  
8 to public exhibitions of moving pictures. The applicant  
9 as a condition of receiving the said second class license shall

10 pass an examination satisfactory to the district police and  
11 shall present to the chief of the district police an affidavit  
12 signed and sworn to by him, stating that he has so worked  
13 for said period; such affidavit shall be vouched for by the  
14 licensee or licensees under whom he has worked. A fee of  
15 two dollars shall accompany the application for examination  
16 for a second class license and said license may be revoked  
17 at any time by any member of the district police but the  
18 person whose license is so revoked may appeal to the chief  
19 of the district police whose decision in the matter shall  
20 be final. Such license shall expire one year after the date of  
21 its issue but may be renewed in the discretion of the district  
22 police upon the payment of fifty cents.

1 SECTION 4. The holder of a second class license, as above  
2 provided, who is not less than twenty-one years of age, and  
3 who has worked with a second class license for six months  
4 or more in a booth as aforesaid may receive a license of the  
5 first class upon payment of the fee therefor, and upon pre-  
6 senting to the district police an affidavit signed and sworn  
7 to by him, stating that he has so worked for the said period,  
8 and upon passing the examination provided for in section  
9 one of this act.

1 SECTION 5. Any person over twenty-one years of age  
2 who presents to the chief of the district police an affidavit  
3 signed and sworn to by him stating that he has operated a  
4 cinematograph or similar apparatus in a booth or other like  
5 place in a theatre or hall devoted to public exhibitions of  
6 moving pictures for a period of six months or more shall be  
7 eligible for the examination for a first class license as pro-  
8 vided in section one.

1 SECTION 6. A first class license shall mean a license

2 which permits the holder thereof to operate any hand-  
3 driven cinematograph or similar apparatus.

1 SECTION 7. The provisions of chapter five hundred and  
2 sixty-six of the acts of the year nineteen hundred and eight,  
3 and acts in amendment thereto, shall not apply to motion  
4 picture machines, using only cellulose acetate films not more  
5 than one hundred feet in length nor more than one inch in  
6 width, and not requiring more than five hundred watts of  
7 electric current to operate the arc, except when such ma-  
8 chines so operated are used or exhibited in theatres or  
9 public places of entertainment regularly used as such, to  
10 which admission fees are charged.

1 SECTION 8. This act shall not apply to licenses granted  
2 prior to the passage hereof.

1 SECTION 9. Any person, firm, corporation or association  
2 violating any provisions of this act shall be subject to a fine  
3 of not less than fifty dollars or to imprisonment for not less  
4 than six months, or to both such fine and imprisonment.

1 SECTION 10. Chapter one hundred and eighty-two of the  
2 acts of the year nineteen hundred and twelve and so much  
3 of any other act as is inconsistent herewith is hereby re-  
4 pealed.





