

# ASSESSORS.

## CHAPTER 15.

### DUTIES AS COMPILERS OF STATISTICS.

AN ACT, Providing for the Collection and Compilation of the Statistics of the Territory of Dakota.

*Be it Enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Dakota:*

§ 1. STATEMENT REQUIRED—RETURN.] That it shall be the duty of the several county, township, town and city Assessors of the Territory of Dakota, at the time of taking lists of property for taxation in each year; to require each person, company and corporation in his county, town, city or ward, to make a statistical statement of facts relating to agriculture, horticulture, manufactures, mining, etc., in the manner provided for in this act and specified in the instructions which shall be given by the Territorial Statistician, and the said Assessor shall make such other statistical returns, not herein mentioned as may be required by the Territorial Statistician, of and through the County Clerks or Auditors; and each Assessor shall make a return of such statements in tabulated form to the County Clerk or Auditor of his county at the time of returning the list of property for taxation.

§ 2. CONTENTS.] The statistical statement mentioned in the foregoing section shall contain, among other things answers properly classified, to the following questions:

AGRICULTURE.] The number of farms, the number of acres under fence; the number of acres cultivated (or to be cultivated) in each crop for the current year, together with the acreage and product for the year immediately preceding of wheat, corn, oats, rye, buckwheat, barley, flax, potatoes, beans, peas, sorghum, cultivated and wild hay, hops and other farm produce.

STOCK.] The number of mules, horses, milch cows and other cattle, sheep and hogs subdivided into the breeds or classes to which they respectively belong; the number of pounds of wool clipped, and the dairy products for the current year.

ARBORCULTURE.] The number and kind of trees growing in cultivated or planted forests; the number of nurseries and the acreage of each; number and kind of fruit trees, berries, vines, etc., and the orchard products for the preceding year.

MANUFACTORIES.] The number and kind of manufactories and the amount of capital invested; the number of hands employed; the wages paid to employes; the amount of raw material used and the total product and its value for the preceding year.

MINING.] The number and kind of mines operated; the amount of capital invested; the number of hands employed; and the wages paid to employes; the total amount of material mined, and its value for the preceding year.

POPULATION.] The male and female population of each county, township, town and city and the number of blind, deaf and dumb, insane, and idiotic in each assessing district.

§ 3. PERSONAL VISIT REQUIRED.] Each Assessor shall perform the service required of him by a personal visit to each dwelling house and to each family in his township or city, and shall ascertain by enquiries made of some member of each family, if anyone can be found capable of giving the information, but if not, then to the agents of such family, and if the agents cannot be found, then he shall obtain the information specified in this act from the most reliable source; and he shall also visit, personally, the farms, mills, shops, mines, and other places in his district respecting which information is required, as specified on the blanks furnished by the Territorial Statistician, and shall obtain all such information from the best and most reliable sources.

§ 4. BLANKS FURNISHED BY TERRITORY—RETURN TO TERRITORIAL STATISTICIAN.] The County Clerk or Auditor of each county shall furnish the county, township, town and city Assessors of his county such blanks as may be necessary for taking the aforesaid statements, which said blanks shall be furnished by the Territorial Statistician to the County Clerks or Auditors, together with printed instructions defining and explaining the duties of the Assessor in collecting the statistics required by this act, and the County Clerks or Auditors shall, within thirty days after the aforesaid statements are returned to them by the Assessors, make out and forward a tabular statement thereof, by assessing districts, properly verified, to the Territorial Statistician.

§ 5. TAXES AND COMPENSATION.] The services herein required of the several assessors of the Territory shall be performed at the same time that they perform their services under the general assessment laws and in connection therewith. They shall not be allowed for such services separately, but for the time employed in collecting the statistical information herein provided for, and the taking of the general assessment they shall be allowed and paid as for one and the same service, and the county, township, town and city Assessors shall be paid in the same manner and shall receive the same pro rata per

diem for the discharge of the services required by this act as is now paid to them for taking a list of property for assessment purposes. Provided, that an Assessor shall receive no part of any pay for his services as Assessor, except on the certificate of the County Clerk or Auditor that he has fully complied with the requirements of this act.

§ 6. MISDEMEANOR—PENALTY.] Any county, township, town, or city Assessor, or County Clerk or Auditor, who shall willfully neglect or refuse, in whole or in part, to perform the duties required in this act, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined in a sum not less than twenty dollars nor more than one hundred dollars.

§ 7. TERRITORIAL STATISTICIAN DUTIES.] The Territorial Statistician is hereby required to carry into effect the provisions of this act relating to the collection and compilation annually, of the statistical data herein described and he shall cause the returns, when received, to be arranged, classified and published in the best and most convenient manner in order to display the annual growth and development of each county and of the Territory.

§ 8. EXPENSES PAID BY TERRITORY.] The expense incurred in procuring and furnishing the necessary blanks, stationery and postage in compiling and publishing this statistical information as required by Section seven (7), of this act, shall be paid by the Territorial Treasurer on the warrant of the Territorial Auditor, which shall be issued on presentation of the sworn expense account of the Territorial Statistician when approved by the Governor.

§ 9. REPEAL.] Chapter one hundred and thirty-seven (137), laws of eighteen hundred and eighty-five (1885), the same being an act providing for the collection of statistics, shall be and is hereby repealed.

§ 10. EFFECT WHEN.] This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and approval.

Approved, March 7, 1889.