

File No. 5390 Continued.

OPINION.

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a few exceptions, should be subject to taxation. But notwithstanding the real intention of the Legislature was known to all, this court held, that the language must be taken in its plain and unambiguous meaning."

Compare State vs. Hyman, 98 Md., 596.

Applying these principles to the present situation, it follows that the Act of 1906, being, in my opinion, clear and unambiguous and plainly prohibiting all persons, except in certain specified cases, from engaging in the kind of work mentioned in the Act, unless licensed and bonded, must be applied according to its plain terms, and must, therefore, prohibit all persons from doing the work in question unless they fall within one of the said exceptions.

It remains then to consider whether the kind of work which Prof. Hall does falls within the work mentioned in Section 5. If it does, then, in my opinion, Prof. Hall must be licensed, unless his case is covered by one of the specified exceptions.

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It seems that the electric plant at the Polytechnic Institute is maintained there solely for the use of its students in electricity. By means of this plant, the students are given the benefit of practical electrical work; are taught how to light buildings; how to string wires; install lamps, motors and other apparatus, and how to do all other electrical matters of a practical nature. This plant is used solely for educational purposes, and, were it not for the class in electricity, it would not be maintained at all. At the same time, it is a large and well-equipped plant, comparing most favorably, I understand, with the one at the Johns Hopkins University, and wires and conductors for the transmission of electricity are constantly being installed and repaired, and electrical machinery, apparatus, devices and fixtures are constantly being put in or repaired. Just at the present time it is desired, for example, to install a new dynamo.

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It seems to me quite clear that this is the kind of work contemplated by Section 5 of the Act, and which work, in my opinion, Sections 12 and 13 provide, must be done by a licensed and bonded electrician. It, therefore, seems to me that Prof. Hall must take out a license and give bond in order to do this work, unless he comes within one of the specified exceptions. He is clearly not within the exceptions named in Section 17. The only other exceptions are provided for in Sections 12 and 13, and relate to work (1) done under the direction and supervision of a licensed master electrician, and (2) to minor electric repairs.