

HOUSE No. 1855

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, February 19, 1948.

The committee on Conservation, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 685) of the Massachusetts Farm Bureau for legislation to penalize negligence in the setting of fires, report the accompanying bill (House, No. 1855).

For the committee,

REP. JAMES HANNON.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-Eight.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING NEW PENALTIES FOR SETTING, INCREASING OR NEGLIGENTLY OR WILFULLY PERMITTING THE EXTENSION OF CERTAIN FIRES, AND FOR DROPPING, THROWING, DEPOSITING OR PLACING CERTAIN SUBSTANCES IN OR NEAR FOREST LANDS.

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. Chapter 266 of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by striking out section 8, as amended
3 by section 6 of chapter 192 of the acts of 1932, and
4 inserting in place thereof the following:—

5 *Section 8.* Whoever, not being a tenant thereof,
6 sets or increases a fire upon land of another whereby
7 the property of another is injured, or whoever negli-
8 gently or wilfully suffers any fire upon his own land
9 to extend beyond the limits thereof whereby the
10 woods or property of another are injured, shall be
11 punished by a fine of not more than two hundred and
12 fifty dollars or by imprisonment for not more than
13 ninety days, and, in addition, the town may assess
14 upon and recover from him the cost of fighting such fire.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter 148 of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by striking out section 54, as appear-

3 ing in the Tercentenary Edition, and inserting in
4 place thereof the following section: —

5 *Section 54.* Whoever drops or throws from any
6 vehicle while the same is upon a public or private
7 way running along or near forest land, or, except as
8 permitted by law, drops, throws, deposits or other-
9 wise places in or upon forest land, any lighted cigarette,
10 cigar, match, live ashes or other flaming or glowing
11 substance, or any substance or thing which in and
12 of itself is likely to cause a fire, shall be punished by
13 a fine of not more than one hundred dollars or by
14 imprisonment for not more than thirty days.

The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the progress of the various branches of industry and commerce. It is followed by a detailed account of the operations of the different departments of the public service, and a summary of the financial results of the year. The report concludes with a statement of the resources of the country and the prospects for the future.

The second part of the report contains a detailed account of the operations of the different departments of the public service. It is followed by a summary of the financial results of the year. The report concludes with a statement of the resources of the country and the prospects for the future.

The third part of the report contains a detailed account of the operations of the different departments of the public service. It is followed by a summary of the financial results of the year. The report concludes with a statement of the resources of the country and the prospects for the future.