SENATE . . . . No. 379

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Senate, April 3, 1930.

The committee on Public Safety, to whom was referred so much of the Report of the special commission (Commissioner of Public Safety and others) established (under Chapter 14 of the Resolves of 1929) to study the laws relative to fire prevention and the rules and regulations of the Department of Public Safety pertaining thereto (House, No. 1060), as relates to inspectors of wires in towns report the accompanying Bill (Senate, No. 379).

For the committee,

DONALD W. NICHOLSON.
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty.

An Act relative to Inspectors of Wires in Towns.

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 one hundred and sixty-six of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section thirty-two and inserting in place thereof the following: —

Section 32. A city shall, by ordinance, designate or provide for the appointment of an inspector of wires, who shall be a licensed electrician, and, except as provided in section thirty-two A, every town shall provide by vote or by by-law for the appointment by its selectmen of such an inspector. Such inspector shall supervise every wire over or under streets or buildings in such city or town and every wire within a building designed to carry an electric light, heat or power current, except that a city or town may exempt its police and fire alarm systems; shall notify the person owning or operating any such wire whenever its attachments, insulation, supports or appliances are improper or unsafe, or whenever the tags or marks thereof are insufficient
or illegible; shall, at the expense of the city or town, remove every wire the use of which has been abandoned, and every wire not tagged or marked as hereinbefore required, and shall see that all laws and regulations relative to wires are strictly enforced. He shall require installa-
tions or replacements made under his supervision to conform to the National Electrical Code then in force, or its equivalent. A city or town may recover in contract of the owner of any such wire so removed the expense which it has incurred for the removal thereof.

1 Section 2. Said chapter one hundred and sixty-six is hereby further amended by inserting after section thirty-two the following new section:

5 Section 32A. The selectmen of two or more towns having, in the aggregate, a population not exceeding fifteen thousand may form a district for the purpose of appointing one or more inspectors of wires, such appointment to be made by a joint board consisting of three selectmen from each of said towns. Said board shall determine the relative amount of service to be rendered by such inspectors in each such town; shall fix the compensation of each such inspector; and shall apportion the payment thereof, together with their expenses, among the said towns and certify the respective shares thereof to the several town treasurers. Such inspectors shall have through-
out their district all the powers and duties of
20 inspectors appointed under section thirty-two and
21 may be removed by a two thirds vote of the board
22 appointing them.

1 Section 3. Section thirty-three of said chapter one hundred and sixty-six is hereby amended
2 by striking out, in the third line, the words “the
3 three preceding sections” and inserting in place
4 thereof the words: — sections thirty to thirty-
5 two, inclusive, — so as to read as follows: —
7 Section 33. The supreme judicial or superior
8 court shall have jurisdiction in equity upon pe-
9 tition of the inspector designated or appointed as
10 aforesaid, to enforce sections thirty to thirty-two,
11 inclusive, and to restrain the use or maintenance,
12 or to cause the removal, of any wire, pole or other
13 support erected, maintained or used in violation of
14 said sections.