

HOUSE . . . No. 1028

Bill accompanying the petition of The Dorchester Board of Trade that the price and quality of gas furnished in the city of Boston be better regulated. Public Lighting. January 17.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighteen.

AN ACT

To regulate the Price of Gas in the City of Boston, and to Provide for a better and more definite Formular, Guaranteeing a better Grade and Illuminating Quality.

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. It shall be unlawful for the price of gas
2 to be increased in the city of Boston, until and after
3 the gas and electric light commission shall have held a
4 public hearing upon the petition duly filed by the gas
5 company asking for such increase, and until and after
6 the said commission shall have fully investigated the cost
7 of gas as a product or as a by-product and shall have,
8 after such investigation issued by order or otherwise its
9 approval.

1 SECTION 2. The said commission may after an in-
2 dependant investigation relative to the cost of gas as a

3 product or as a by-product issue by its order or other-
4 wise, a price at which gas shall be sold to the consumer
5 in the city of Boston, less than the present price of eighty
6 cents per thousand feet.

1 SECTION 3. The said commission shall establish and
2 promulgate a fixed standard of quality for gas sold in
3 the city of Boston which shall be such as to guarantee a
4 safe and good and sufficient illumination and light with-
5 out the use of extra or additional patented or peculiar
6 fixtures, burners, mantels or other appliances or devices
7 except, however, if the company shall with the consent
8 of the said commission sell a quality of gas not in com-
9 pliance with the aforesaid required standard, then the
10 company shall furnish free of cost to its customers and
11 the consumers, such fixtures, burners, mantels or other
12 appliances or devices as are necessary to produce such
13 sufficient illumination and light.

1 SECTION 4. The directors of the gas company shall
2 be liable for a fine of not less than five hundred dollars
3 or to imprisonment for not less than two months, if the
4 company of which they are directors, shall be found to
5 have failed to comply with the provisions of this act, or
6 to have violated the orders of the said gas and electric
7 light commission on the matters herein regulated.