

HOUSE No. 1690

Bill accompanying the petition of Henry G. Wells relative to the time at which gas and electric companies shall be required] to make returns. Municipal Lighting. May 4.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty.

AN ACT

Authorizing the Department of Public Utilities to fix the Date on which Gas and Electric Companies are required to make Returns.

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 seven hundred and forty-two of
2 the acts of nineteen hundred and fourteen is hereby
3 amended by striking out section one hundred and forty-
4 four and substituting the following:— *Section 144.* Gas
5 and electric companies shall keep their books and ac-
6 counts in a form to be prescribed by the department of
7 public utilities, and the accounts shall be closed annually,
8 so that a balance sheet can be taken therefrom. Manu-
9 facturing companies in which the manufacture of gas or
10 electricity is a minor portion of their business shall be
11 required to keep accounts of the expenses and income of
12 their gas or electric business only.

1 SECTION 2. Said chapter seven hundred and forty-two
2 is hereby further amended by striking out section one
3 hundred and forty-six and substituting the following:—
4 *Section 146.* Gas and electric companies and manufactur-
5 ing companies or persons engaged in the manufacture
6 and sale or distribution and sale of gas or electricity shall
7 annually, on or before such date as the department of
8 public utilities may determine, make to said department,
9 in a form prescribed by it, a return for the year ending
10 on such date as the department may from time to time
11 require, signed and sworn to by the president and
12 treasurer and a majority of the directors, of the amount
13 of their authorized capital, their indebtedness and finan-
14 cial condition on the said date, their income and expenses
15 during the preceding year, their dividends paid out and
16 declared, a list of the names of all their salaried officers
17 and the amount of the annual salary paid to each, and
18 the balance sheet of their accounts as of said date.
19 Such companies and persons shall at all times, upon
20 request, furnish any information required by the depart-
21 ment or by its duly authorized employees relative to
22 their condition, management and operation, and shall
23 comply with all lawful orders of the department; but
24 manufacturing companies in which the manufacture and
25 sale of gas and electricity is a minor portion of their
26 business shall be required to include in their annual
27 returns the income and expenses and other data relative
28 to their gas and electric business only.