

Seventy-first Legislature.

SENATE.

No. 233

STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND THREE.

AN ACT to amend chapter one hundred of the Public Laws of 1891, entitled "An Act to create a Forest Commission and for the protection of forests."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:

Section 1. Section one of chapter one hundred of the pub-2 laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-one is hereby amended 3 by striking out the word "two" in the fourth line of said sec-4 tion and inserting in place thereof the word 'four' so that 5 said section, as amended, shall read as follows:

'Sect. 1. The State land agent is hereby made forest com-7 missioner of the State of Maine, and in addition to the salary 8 now received by him as land agent, he shall receive as com-9 pensation for his services as forest commissioner four hun-

SENATE—No. 233.

10 dred dollars per annum, and his actual traveling expenses 11 incurred in the performance of his duties, an account of 12 which shall be audited by the governor and council.'

Sect. 2. Section four of said chapter is hereby amended so 2 that said section, as amended, shall read as follows:

'Sect. 4. It shall be the duty of the forest commissioner to 4 take measures for the prevention, control and extinguish-5 ment of forest fires in all plantations and unorganized town-6 ships, and, to this end, he shall appoint such number of forest 7 wardens to patrol the forests as may be necessary to carry 8 out the provisions of this act, assigning to each warden the 9 territory over and within which he shall have jurisdiction. 10 Fire wardens, so appointed, shall hold office during the 11 pleasure of said commissioner, be sworn to the faithful dis-12 charge of their duties by any officer authorized to administer 13 oaths, and a certificate thereof shall be returned to the office 14 of said commissioner. Said wardens shall perform such 15 duties, at such times, and under such rules and regulations, 16 as the commissioner may prescribe, and they shall receive as 17 compensation two dollars for each day of actual service. 18 Whenever a fire occurs on, or is likely to do damage to, forest 19 lands within the jurisdiction of any such fire warden he shall 20 take immediate action to control and extinguish the same, and 21 for this purpose forest fire wardens are hereby authorized to 22 summon to their assistance citizens of any county in which 23 said fire may be, and every person so summoned and assisting 24 shall be paid fifteen cents for each hour of service rendered 25 by him. Immediately after the extinguishment of a fire the 26 warden in charge shall make return, under oath, to the com27 missioner, of the expense thereof, including the names of the 28 persons so summoned and assisting, with their post office 29 addresses, and the hours of labor actually performed by each. 30 All expense incurred under the provisions of this section shall 31 be paid from the funds appropriated to and for the use of the 32 forest commission.'

.

Sect. 3. This act shall take effect when approved.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, March 18, 1903.

1

Reported by Mr. RANKIN from Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, and laid on table to be printed under joint rules. KENDALL M. DUNBAR, Secretary.