MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

HOUSE NO. 439

House of Representatives, March 22, 1923.

Reported by Mr. Curtis from Committee on State Lands and Forest Preservation and ordered printed under joint rules.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Granville of Parsonsfield.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Amend Sections Six, Nine, and Seventeen of Chapter Seventy-eight of the Public Laws of Nineteen Hundred and Twenty-one, Relating to Auxiliary State Forests.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Section I. Section six of chapter seventy-eight of the 2 public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one is hereby 3 amended by striking out the period in the seventh line of 4 said section and substituting in place thereof a semicolon 5 and the words 'provided that prior to April fifteenth of 6 each year, a return of all land cleared for agricultural pur-7 poses, for building, or for highways during the year end-8 ing April first shall be made to the state land agent, giving

9 the area and location of all land so cleared; and provided 10 further that all land so cleared shall thereupon automatically 11 cease to be a part of the auxiliary state forest and shall be 12 taxed in the same manner and at the same rate as other real 13 property,' so that said section as amended shall read as 14 follows:

'Sect. 6. No person desiring to clear land for agricul-2 tural purposes, for building, or for highways, or to cut trees 3 for use in building camps, dams, or the construction of 4 ways, or for use as fuel in the course of lumbering oper-5 ations, or from his own land for use upon his farm in the 6 ordinary course of good husbandry, shall, for the purposes 7 aforesaid, be required to comply with section five of this 8 act unless the wood so cut is to be sold for fuel or sold 9 or used for manufacture; provided that prior to April fif-10 teenth of each year, a return of all land cleared for agri-11 cultural purposes, for building, or for highways during the 12 year ending April first shall be made to the state land agent, 13 giving the area and location of all land so cleared; and 14 provided further that all land so cleared shall thereupon 15 automatically cease to be a part of the auxiliary state forest 16 and shall be taxed in the same manner and at the same rate 17 as other real property.'

Sect. 2. Section nine of chapter seventy-eight of the pub-2 lic laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one is hereby 3 amended by striking out all of said section and substituting 4 in place thereof the following: 'Sect. 9. State, town, and plantation assessors shall, for 2 the purpose of taxing auxiliary state forests, appraise only 3 the land, and pine trees more than sixteen inches in diameter 4 at four feet from the ground, hemlock, spruce, and cedar 5 trees more than twelve inches in diameter at four feet from 6 the ground, and trees of all other species irrespective of 7 size; provided, however, that the land shall be appraised 8 at a valuation not to exceed five dollars per acre independ-9 ent of any great pond therein.'

Sect. 3. Section seventeen of chapter seventy-eight of 2 the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one is here-3 by amended by striking out all of said section beginning 4 with the words "the payment" in the fifth line of said section and substituting in place thereof the words 'by pay-6 ing back taxes from the date of listing of the auxiliary 7 state forest on the full value of all timber standing thereon 8 at the time of withdrawal, together with all expenses of 9 administration incurred by the state land agent,' so that 10 said section as amended shall read as follows:

'Sect. 17. Provided that all or any part of any land in-2 cluded in the auxiliary state forest may be withdrawn when 3 for any reason it becomes more valuable for other purposes, 4 by filing with the forest commissioner description of such 5 land and by paying back taxes from the date of listing of 6 the auxiliary state forest on the full value of all timber 7 standing thereon at the time of withdrawal, together with 8 all expenses of administration incurred by the state land 9 agent.'