

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT

EIGHTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

House Document

No. 754

H. P. 1694 House of Representatives, March 27, 1929.

Reported by Mr. Hammond from Committee on State Lands and Forest Preservation and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Hammond of Van Buren.

STATE OF MAINE

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

RESOLVE, to Modify the Conditions of the Gift from B. C. Jordan to the State for the Purpose of Encouraging Cultivation of Forests.

Whereas, it has been found that the conditions of the gift from Benjamin C. Jordan of Alfred, Maine, to the state of Maine for the purpose of encouraging cultivation of forest trees which were accepted by chapter sixty-seven of the resolves of the seventy-fourth legislature, and approved February twenty-four, nineteen hundred and nine, are impracticable of operation and have failed to effect the intended purpose,

Resolved: That the conditions of said gift which were
annexed thereto, be modified in accordance with the an-
nexed recommendation which has been approved by all the
heirs of the said donor.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE

January 1, 1929.

To Neil L. Violette, Forest Commissioner, Augusta, Maine:

BENJAMIN C. JORDAN FUND

At the session of the legislature of 1909, Benjamin C. Jordan, of Alfred, who for many years had been interested in conserving the timberlands of Maine, presented to the members the unique proposition of giving to the state the sum of \$1000. The conditions of said gift are set forth, signed by Mr. Jordan, in the following proposition: "I would like to give to the state of Maine, to be its property forever, one thousand dollars, on condition that in consideration of said gift, the state shall, once in eighteen years, offer five prizes to be called the Jordan Forestry Prizes, as follows: \$500, 1st prize; \$250, 2nd prize; \$125, 3rd prize; \$100, 4th prize; \$25, 5th prize. Said prizes to be offered now by the state and awarded by the state forest commissioner for the five best lots of young forest growth in the state, subject to the approval of the governor, January 1, 1927, and once in eighteen years afterward forever, . . ."

During the first period, which ended on the first of January, 1927, there were only three contestants to receive the five prizes and also since Jan. 1, 1927 up to the present time, there have

been no lands listed. At the suggestion of foresters and others interested in forestry, the state forest commissioner appointed the following committee to investigate and recommend what changes could be made, in order to create a greater interest in the purposes of this fund.

John M. Briscoe, Professor of Forestry, University of Maine, Orono.

Henry B. Peirson, Forest Entomologist, State House, Augusta.

Raymond E. Rendall, Manager, Bates Forest, Alfred.

Because of \$125 unexpended prize money, the principal is now \$1125. The time of the contest should be made to read, once in five years and the prizes should be \$125, 1st prize; \$75, 2nd prize; \$50, 3rd prize. Three prizes of these amounts would be more effective than five prizes of smaller amounts.

Rule 1. Each lot shall consist of one parcel of not less than ten acres in somewhat regular shape and shall be accurately surveyed and plotted.

Rule 2. The majority of said trees shall not be less than five feet nor more than thirty feet high and not less than five nor more than thirty years old when the prize is awarded.

Rule 3. Said forest may consist of any of the following kinds of trees, but other circumstances and conditions being equal, preference shall be given in the following order: White pine, white oak, hickory, chestnut, hachmatack, white ash, yellow oak, red oak, bass, hemlock, spruce, Norway pine, pitch pine, cedar, fir, popular, birch, maple, beech and elm.

Rule 4. All competitors for the prizes shall file in the office of the state forest commissioner, their intention to compete, together with a correct and definite survey and plan of the lot and when such notice has been filed, said lot shall be eligible although the ownership may have changed. During the period from January 1, 1927 to December 31, 1931 all entries shall be made on or before June 30, 1929. Entries in contest periods on and after January 1, 1932 shall be made during the first year of the period.

Rule 5. Myself and heirs shall have the same right as others to compete for the prizes. The same lot cannot be entered in more than one contest.

Rule 6. In awarding prizes, other circumstances being equal, the following conditions shall be considered in the order named:

- (a) Right number of trees per acre. (b) Even distribution over whole lot. (c) Health and thriftiness of trees. (d) Adaptation of the varieties of trees to the soil in which they stand. (e) Uniformity of size of trees. (f) Size of trees. (g) Size of lot.