

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Acts and Resolves

As Passed by the

Seventy-Ninth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1919

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PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Seventy-Ninth Legislature

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contracted or received in said service, and who is unable from his own resources and the United States pension to obtain a livelihood for himself and those dependent upon him, shall be entitled to a pension from the state, not exceeding twelve dollars a month, provided, he has been honorably discharged from said service. No such pension shall be paid by this state to persons residing in other states.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 148, § 2; relating to state pensions for widows or dependents of deceased soldiers or sailors, amended. Section two of chapter one hundred and forty-eight of the revised statutes is hereby amended by striking out in the sixth line thereof the word "eight" and substituting in place thereof the word 'twelve', so that said section, as amended, shall read as follows:

'**Sec. 2. Maximum amount increased from \$8 to \$12 per month.** The widow during her widowhood, orphan children under twelve years of age, orphan minor children over twelve years of age who are partially or totally disabled by accident or chronic sickness or the dependent child, parent or sister of any soldier or seaman deceased, are entitled to the same pension as is provided in the preceding section and under similar conditions; provided, that not more than twelve dollars a month shall be paid one family.'

Approved March 27, 1919.

Chapter 111.

An Act to Amend Sections Fifty-three, Fifty-four and Fifty-five of Chapter Eight of the Revised Statutes, Requiring a Permit for the Burning of Brush or Slash Near Woodlands and Providing for the Better Enforcement of the "Slash Law."

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 8, § 53, relating to removal of inflammable material along railroads and ways, amended. Section fifty-three of chapter eight of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding to said section, the following provision: 'Provided, however, that consent and direction in writing from the forestry department shall be required for the burning of such brush or slash except when the ground is covered with snow. The forest commissioner shall cause to be furnished to all the chief forest fire wardens and to the municipal officers of all towns and organized plantations of the state, blank permits, signed by him, for the burning of brush or slash. Any chief forest fire warden or the municipal officers of the town, in the county where the land is located, shall have full authority to countersign and grant such permits signed by the forest commissioner. The forest commissioner may, however, in any particular case called to his attention, overrule the decision of the chief forest fire warden or the municipal officers, and himself grant the permit asked for or forbid the grant-

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ing of the same. Whoever violates any of the provisions of this section shall on conviction thereof be punished by a fine of fifty dollars,' so that said section, as amended, shall read as follows:

'Sec. 53. Permit to be obtained from forestry department except when ground covered with snow; penalty for violation. Any person, firm, corporation or agent, cutting any forest growth on property adjacent to the right of way of any railroad or highway within the state, shall leave the growth uncut on the land within fifty feet of the limit of the right of way of a railroad or center of the wrought portion of any plantation, town, city, county or state road; or shall dispose of slash and debris caused by cutting in such a manner that inflammable material shall not remain on the ground within fifty feet of the limit of the right of way of a railroad or center of the wrought portion of any plantation, town, city, county or state road. Provided, however, that consent and direction in writing from the forestry department shall be required for the burning of such brush or slash except when the ground is covered with snow. The forest commissioner shall cause to be furnished to all the chief forest fire wardens and to the municipal officers of all towns and organized plantations of the state, blank permits, signed by him, for the burning of brush or slash. Any chief forest fire warden or the municipal officers of the town, in the county where the land is located, shall have full authority to countersign and grant such permits signed by the forest commissioner. The forest commissioner may, however, in any particular case called to his attention, overrule the decision of the chief forest fire warden or the municipal officers, and himself grant the permit asked for or forbid the granting of the same. Whoever violates any of the provisions of this section shall on conviction thereof be punished by a fine of fifty dollars.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 8, § 54; relating to disposal of slash and debris, amended. Section fifty-four of chapter eight of the revised statutes is hereby amended by striking out the whole of said section and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Sec. 54. Penalty for violation. Slash and debris accumulating by the construction and maintenance of railroads, highways, power company, telegraph or telephone lines, shall be disposed of in such a manner that inflammable material shall not be left on the ground. Whenever slash and debris or inflammable material are found on the ground having accumulated as the result of the construction and maintenance of railroads, highways, power company, telegraph or telephone lines, contrary to the terms of this section the person responsible therefor, or his employer, whether individual, firm, or corporation, shall be punished by a fine of fifty dollars.'

Sec. 3. R. S., c. 8, § 55; relating to disposal of slash and debris by forest commissioner on failure of operator, amended. Section fifty-five of chapter eight of the revised statutes is hereby amended by striking out the whole of that section and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Sec. 55. Forest commissioner to notify owner before proceeding; cost of disposal to be in addition to penalty for violation; action to be brought in county where land is situated. Commissioner not restricted as to time of action. When any person, firm or corporation, or agent, shall have failed to dispose of slash and debris as provided by the two preceding sections, the forest commissioner shall notify the owner of the land of the requirement of this statute, and if such owner, within a reasonable time, shall fail to destroy or remove such slash or debris, such commissioner shall cause such slash and debris to be so disposed of. He shall pay the expense of so disposing of such slash and debris from any funds at his disposal, legally applicable to such purpose; and he or his successor in office shall be entitled to recover the amount of such expenditures in an action of debt, to be prosecuted by the attorney general in the supreme judicial court in the county where the land lies, against the person, firm, corporation, or agent, whose duty it was to dispose of such slash or debris; and there shall be a lien on the land on which the cutting of forest growth took place, to secure any judgment recovered in such action, to be enforced by attachment in said action, made within six months after such expenditures were made. The sum recovered and collected in such action shall be returned to and become a part of the fund from which the expenditures were made. This remedy shall be additional to the penalty provided in said sections.'

Approved March 27, 1919.

Chapter 112.

An Act Defining Prostitution, Lewdness and Assignment and Providing Punishments Therefor.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, owing to the necessity of preserving the public health in general, the enactment of more stringent laws prohibiting prostitution, lewdness and assignation, and providing punishments therefor is an emergency measure, immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health or safety, now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. Specific prohibitions against prostitution, lewdness and assignation. That from and after the passage of this act it shall be unlawful:

(a) **Not to occupy buildings or conveyances or permit same to be occupied.** To occupy any place, structure, building or conveyance for the purpose of prostitution, lewdness or assignation or for any person to