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SECR. 7. All persons engaged in hunting game on any of the wood lands within any town or unincorporated place in this state, shall use non-combustible wads in the loading of firearms used by them.

SECR. 8. It shall be the duty of municipal officers in towns, and county commissioners, the latter with respect to unorganized places, to proceed immediately to a strict inquiry into the cause and origin of fires within wood lands; and in all cases where such fires are found to have originated from the unlawful act of any person, to cause the offender to be prosecuted without delay.

SECR. 9. The selectmen of towns in which a forest fire of more than one acre in extent has occurred, and the county commissioners where a forest fire of more than two acres has occurred in any of the unincorporated places in any county, within a year, shall report to the forest commissioner the extent of area burned over, to the best of their information, together with the probable amount of property destroyed, specify the value of timber as near as may be, and amount of cord wood, logs, bark or other forest product, fencing, bridges and buildings that have been burned. They shall also report the cause of these fires if they can be ascertained, and the measures employed and found most effective in checking their progress. Blanks for the reports required in this act shall be furnished by said forest commissioner at the expense of the state.

SECR. 10. Every railroad company whose road passes through waste or forest lands, shall during each year cut and burn off or remove from its right of way all grass, brush or other inflammable material, but under proper care and at times when fires are not liable to spread beyond control.

SECT. 11. All locomotives which shall be run through forest lands, shall be provided with approved and efficient arrangements for preventing the escape of fire and sparks.

SECT. 12. No railroad company shall permit its employes to deposit fire, live coals or ashes, upon their track in the immediate vicinity of wood lands or land liable to be overrun by fires, and where engineers, conductors or train men discover that fences along the right of way or wood lands adjacent to the railroads, are burning or in danger from fire, it shall be their duty to report the same at their next stopping place which shall be a telegraph station.

SECT. 13. For all damages caused to forest growth by any person employed in the construction of any railroad hereafter to be built in this state the company owning such road shall be primarily liable to the person or persons so damaged. During the construction of such roads through wood land, there shall be kept posted in conspicuous places on each line of the road ways at distances of two hundred feet, abstracts of the laws relating to forest fires. Any person employed in the construction of such railroads, who shall set or cause to be set any fire along the line of said roads, shall, before leaving the same, totally extinguish said fires, and upon failure to do so, such person shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not exceeding five hundred dollars or by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding sixty days, or by both such fine and imprisonment. It shall be the duty of all persons having charge of men in the construction of such railroads, to see that the provisions of this section are carefully complied with, and any negligence or want of ordinary care on their part in relation to the same shall constitute a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, they shall be liable to the penalties imposed by this section.

SECT. 14. Any railroad company violating the requirements of this act, shall be liable to a fine of one hundred dollars for each offense.

SECT. 15. The forest commissioner shall take such measures as the state superintendent of common schools and the president of the state college of agriculture and the mechanic arts may approve, for awakening an interest in behalf of forestry in the public schools, academies and colleges of the state, and of imparting some degree of elementary instruction upon this subject therein.

SECT. 16. The forest commissioner shall prepare tracts or circulars of information, giving plain and concise advice for the care of wood lands and for the preservation of forest growth. These publications shall be furnished to any citizen of the state upon application.

SECT. 17. It shall be the duty of the forest commissioner to cause, at the expense of the state, copies of this chapter and all other laws of the state relating to forest fires to be printed and freely distributed to the selectmen of all the towns of the state, whose duty it shall be to post them up in school houses, saw mills, logging camps and other places, and similar copies shall be furnished to owners of forest lands, who may apply or them, to be posted up at the expense of such owners. Any person viciously or wantonly tearing down, destroying or defacing any such notices, shall on conviction therefor, be punished by a fine of five dollars.

SECT. 18. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act, are hereby repealed, but none of the penalties proposed by this act shall be considered as substitutes for or as repealing the provisions of existing laws, making persons guilty of acts of trespass or liable for civil damages to persons injured by such acts.

[Approved March 25.]