No. 434

AN ACT

Amending the act of April 14, 1903 (P. L. 180), entitled "An act to establish a Department of Mines in Pennsylvania; defining its purposes and authority; providing for the appointment of a Chief of said Department, and assistants, and fixing their salaries and expenses," providing for reproduction of reports.

Department of Mines.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 5, act of April 14, 1903, P. L. 180, amended.

Section 1. Section 5, act of April 14, 1903 (P. L. 180), entitled "An act to establish a Department of Mines in Pennsylvania; defining its purposes and authority; providing for the appointment of a Chief of said Department, and assistants, and fixing their salaries and expenses," is amended to read:

Annual reports.

Synopsis of, to be sent to General Assembly.

Publication of reports.

Reports to be delivered to Chief on or before February 20th, annually.

Monthly reports and special information.

Blanks.

Form and subject matter of reports.

Section 5. It shall be the duty of the Chief of the Department of Mines to take charge of, and preserve in his office, the annual reports of the mine inspectors, and transmit a synopsis of them, together with such other statistical data compiled therefrom, and other work of the Department as may be of public interest, properly addressed, to the Governor, to be transmitted to the General Assembly of this Commonwealth, on or before the fifteenth day of March in each year. It shall also be the duty of the Chief of Department of Mines to see that said reports are placed in the hands of the public printer or others equipped to reproduce same, for publication, on or before the first day of April in each year; the same to be published under the direction of the Chief of the Department of Mines. In order that the Chief of the said Department may be able to prepare, compile and transmit a synopsis of his annual report to the Governor within the time herein specified, the mine inspectors are hereby required to deliver their annual reports to the Chief of said Department on or before the twentieth day of February, in each year. In addition to the annual reports herein required of the mine inspectors, they shall furnish the Chief of the Department of Mines monthly reports, and also such special information on any subject regarding mine accidents, or other matters pertaining to mining interests, or the safety of persons employed in and about the mines, as he at any time may require or may deem necessary, in the proper and lawful discharge of his official duties. The Chief of the Department of Mines shall also establish, as far as may be practicable, a uniform style and size of blanks for the annual, monthly and special reports of the mine inspectors, and prescribe the form and subject matter to be embraced in the text and the tabulated statements of their reports.

The Chief of the Department of Mines is hereby authorized to make such examinations and investigations as may enable him to report on the various systems of coal mining and all other mining practiced in the State, method of mining ventilation and machinery employed, the circumstances and responsibilities of mine accidents; and such other matters as may pertain to the general welfare of coal miners and others connected with mining, and the interests of mine owners and operators in the Commonwealth.

Examinations and investigations by the Chief.

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately. Act effective immediately.

APPROVED—The 18th day of July, A. D. 1957.

GEORGE M. LEADER

No. 435

AN ACT

Amending the act of May 17, 1929 (P. L. 1798), entitled "An act providing a fixed charge, payable by the Commonwealth, on lands acquired by the State and the Federal Government for forest reserves, or for the purpose of preserving and per-petuating a portion of the original forests of Pennsylvania, and preserving and maintaining the same as public places and parks; and the distribution of the same for county, school, township, and road purposes in the counties, school districts, and townships where such forests are located; and making an appropriation," changing limitations on the responsibility of the Commonwealth to pay charges to counties on certain Federal forest reserves, and making an appropriation.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Forest Reserves.

Section 1. Section 1, act of May 17, 1929 (P. L. 1798), entitled "An act providing a fixed charge, payable by the Commonwealth, on lands acquired by the State and the Federal Government for forest reserves, or for the purpose of preserving and perpetuating a portion of the original forests of Pennsylvania, and preserving and maintaining the same as public places and parks; and the distribution of the same for county. school, township, and road purposes in the counties, school districts, and townships where such forests are located; and making an appropriation," amended May 28, 1956 (P. L. 1759), is amended to read:

Section 1, act of May 17, 1929, P. L. 1798, amended May 28, 1956, P. L. 1759, further amended.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That (a) from and Charge on lands after the passage of this act, all lands heretofore or and Federal hereafter acquired by the Commonwealth, or by the Governments as Government of the United States, for forest reserves or for the purpose of preserving and perpetuating any portion of the original forests of Pennsylvania and pre-