

said property, the same to be applicable to said purchase under the direction of the Department of Forests and Waters.

Section 3. After the said property shall have passed into the possession of the Commonwealth, the Department of Forests and Waters shall have full control and supervision thereof, with power to adopt and carry into effect plans for the improvement, preservation and use thereof. The department may enforce such rules and regulations, not inconsistent with the laws of this Commonwealth, as it may make for the protection of life and property, the maintenance of good order, and the carrying into effect the full and proper use of said property as a State park. The department shall also have power, with the approval of the Governor, to make and carry out such plans for the profitable utilization of the dead and down timber, and such other operations for the profitable employment of said lands, as may not be inconsistent with their full use as a State park, and as to the said department seems to be to the best interests of the Commonwealth. Any moneys derived therefrom shall be paid into the Treasury of the Commonwealth.

Control and supervision.

Section 4. The lands so vested in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania under the provisions of this act, shall be exempt from taxation, except that said lands shall be subject to an annual charge for schools and roads in the township where said lands are located as may be provided by law for State forest lands.

Lands exempt from tax.

Section 5. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

Repeal.

APPROVED—The 14th day of April, A. D. 1927.

JOHN S. FISHER

No. 169

AN ACT

Authorizing any natural gas company, or any manufactured gas company, incorporated under the laws of this Commonwealth, to sell, assign, dispose of, convey, or lease to any natural gas company, or to any manufactured gas company, incorporated under the laws of this Commonwealth, its franchises and property or any part thereof; providing the manner in which such sales, conveyances, or leases, shall be consummated; and requiring the payment of all taxes due the Commonwealth before the returns authorizing such sales, conveyances, and leases shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That any corporation heretofore or hereafter organized under the laws of this Commonwealth for the purpose of the manufacture and supply of gas, or the supply of light or heat to the public by any other means, or for the manufacture and

Natural and manufactured gas companies.

Power to sell or  
lease franchises  
to another gas  
company.

Proviso.

Certificate from  
Auditor General.

Meeting of  
stockholders.

Election of  
stockholders.

Judges.

Oath of judges.

Powers of judges.

supply of light, heat, and fuel, or any of them, by any process of manufacture, or for the purpose of producing, dealing in, transporting, storing, and supplying natural gas, may, in addition to the powers heretofore conferred, sell, assign, dispose of, convey, or lease, to any company, incorporated under the laws of this Commonwealth for any of the purposes hereinbefore mentioned, any or all of its franchises or consents, or all or a major part of its property, real, personal, or mixed; and the said property and franchises so sold, assigned, disposed of, conveyed, or leased, shall thereafter be vested in the purchasing or leasing company in accordance with the conditions of said sale or lease: Provided, That the returns hereinafter required to be filed in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall not be filed until each and every company so selling, assigning, disposing of, conveying, or leasing shall have filed with the Secretary of the Commonwealth a certificate from the Auditor General, setting forth that all reports required by the Auditor General have been duly filed to the date of the proposed sale, assignment, disposition, conveyance or lease, and that all taxes due the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have been paid up to and including such date.

Section 2. That any such corporation, desirous of selling, assigning, disposing of, conveying or leasing any or all of its franchises or consents, or all or a major part of its property, real, personal, or mixed, shall, by resolution of its board of directors, call a meeting of its stockholders, which meeting shall be held at its chief office in this Commonwealth, and notice of the time, place and object of said meeting shall be published, once a week for sixty days prior to such meeting in at least one newspaper published in the county wherein such office is situate, but such notice may be waived by the unanimous consent in writing of the stockholders, provided such waiver is filed in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Section 3. At the meeting called in pursuance to the second section of this act, an election of the stockholders shall be taken for or against such proposed sale, assignment, disposal, conveyance, or lease, which shall be conducted by three judges, at least one of whom shall be a stockholder of said corporation, appointed by the board of directors to hold such election, and, if one or more of said judges be absent, the judge or judges present shall appoint a judge or judges to act in the place of such absentee or absentees, and who shall respectively take and subscribe an oath or affirmation, before an officer authorized by law to administer the same, well and truly and according to law to conduct such election to the best of their ability; and the said judges shall decide upon the qualification of

the voters and, when the election is closed, count the number of shares voted for or against such sale, conveyance, or lease and declare whether the persons or bodies corporate holding the larger amount of stock of such corporation have consented to such sale, conveyance, or lease, or refused to consent thereto; and shall make out duplicate returns of said election, stating the number of shares of stock that voted for such sale, conveyance, or lease, and the number that voted against the same, and subscribe and deliver the same to one of the chief officers of said company.

Section 4. Each ballot shall have endorsed thereon the number of shares thereby represented, and be signed by the holder thereof, or by the person holding a proxy therefor; but no share or shares transferred within sixty days shall entitle the holder or holders thereof to vote at such election or meeting; nor shall any proxy be received or entitle the holder to vote unless the same shall bear date and have been executed within three months next preceding such election or meeting; and it shall be the duty of such corporation to furnish the judges at said meeting with a statement of the amount of its capital stock, with the names of persons or bodies corporate holding the same, and number of shares by each respectively held, which statement shall be signed by one of the chief officers of such corporation, with an affidavit thereto annexed that the same is true and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Section 5. That it shall be the duty of such corporation, if consent is given to such sale, conveyance, or lease, to file in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, within thirty days after such election or meeting, one of the copies of the return of such election provided for by the third section of this act, with a copy of the resolution and notice or an original of the waiver of notice calling the same thereto annexed; and upon the consummation of said sale, conveyance, or lease, made pursuant thereto, it shall be the duty of the president or treasurer of such corporation, within thirty days thereafter, to make a return to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, under oath, of the actual sale, conveyance, or lease; and, in case of neglect or omission so to do, the corporation shall be subject to a penalty of five thousand dollars, which penalty shall be collected on an account settled by the Auditor General and State Treasurer, as accounts for taxes due the Commonwealth are settled and collected; and the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall cause said returns to be recorded in a book to be kept for that purpose and furnish a certified copy of the same to the Auditor General; and the corporation shall have the right to recover the same from the officer neglecting or omitting to file the returns as aforesaid.

Return of election.

Ballot.

Transferred shares.

Date of proxy.

Statement to be furnished to judges.

Copy of return to be filed in office of Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Penalty for failure to file return.

Returns to be recorded.

Recovery from negligent officer.

Justification of certain sales heretofore made.

Section 6. Any sale, assignment, disposition, conveyance or lease of its franchises or property, or any part thereof, by or to any corporation organized for any of the purposes mentioned in section one of this act, heretofore made in substantial compliance with the provisions of sections two, three, four, and five hereof, is hereby ratified, confirmed, and approved, and the franchises and property so purported to have been sold, assigned, disposed of, conveyed, or leased, shall vest in the purchaser or lessee thereof as fully as if the proceedings had been taken under the provisions of this act.

Approval by Public Service Commission.

Section 7. No sale, assignment, disposal, conveyance, or lease, made under the provisions of this act, shall be valid and effective, unless and until the same shall have been approved by the Public Service Commission of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania evidenced by its certificate of public convenience.

APPROVED—The 14th day of April, A. D. 1927.

JOHN S. FISHER

No. 170

AN ACT

To amend section four of the act, approved the thirteenth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-five (Pamphlet Laws, six hundred and forty-four), entitled "An act relating to and regulating the solicitation of moneys and property for charitable, religious, benevolent, humane, and patriotic purposes"; prohibiting the registrations, and providing for the revocation of registrations, of individuals, corporations, copartnerships, and associations paying solicitors excessive commissions; rendering solicitation without registration unlawful; and providing penalties therefor.

Department of Welfare.

Section 4, act of May 13, 1925 (P. L. 644), amended.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That section four of the act, approved the thirteenth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-five (Pamphlet Laws, six hundred and forty-four), entitled "An act relating to and regulating the solicitation of moneys and property for charitable, religious, benevolent, humane, and patriotic purposes," is hereby amended to read as follows:

Department may issue certificate for solicitation of funds.

Section 4. If the Department of Welfare deems the corporation, copartnership, association, or individual filing such statement a proper one and not inimical to the public welfare or safety and its appeal or proposed appeals to be for truly charitable, benevolent, or patriotic purposes, or for the purpose of ministering to the material or spiritual needs of human beings in the United States or elsewhere, or of relieving suffering of animals, or of inculcating patriotism, it shall issue to such corporation, copartner-