

mines, saw-mills and engines must be cleared up, brush and débris resulting from clearing all rights of way must be burned and any accumulation of inflammable débris within 300 feet of the centre of a railway must be burned; if this is not done the forest officers are given authority to destroy it at the expense of the person interested. Watchmen are required during the close season for stationary or portable engines in a forest. Every adult is required to report fires, when known. During the close season all steam engines (locomotive or stationary) operating inside of, or up to a quarter of a mile from timber or slashland must have spark arresters and devices for preventing the escaping of fire or live coals from ash pans or fireboxes; burners, chimneys and smoke-stacks must have spark arresters, and open waste burners must be properly safeguarded. During the close season fire-fighting tools must be kept ready for use, and no locomotive or engine may deposit fire or live coals unless these are immediately extinguished. Railways under provincial jurisdiction passing through forested land are specially provided for, and no existing statute regulating them is repealed or at all interfered with. Locomotive engines must have the most approved fire-protective apparatus, and every engineer must see that these appliances are properly used and applied. The right of way must be patrolled at least once a day and must be kept free from dead or dry grass or weeds and other combustible matter. Extra patrol may be ordered by the Minister when deemed necessary, and if these instructions are not carried out the patrol may be established at the expense of the company. Railway companies are made responsible for all fires within three hundred feet of their right of way, unless they can prove that the fire was not caused by the company or its employees. No railway company completing the construction of a line after the passage of the Act may operate locomotives on the line until the Minister has certified that the right of way has been cleared of inflammable material. The Minister may appoint fire rangers under a chief ranger to patrol railways under construction. Railway companies must put their employees at the disposal of the Chief Ranger to assist in extinguishing fire. Nothing in the Act is to be held to limit the right of any person to bring civil suit for damages caused by fire. An Act respecting the Taxation of Wild Lands (chapter XV) provides for a tax on all wild lands exceeding 500 acres of one cent per acre when held by residents of the province and two cents per acre when held by non-residents. Part of the funds realized are to be paid over to the Protection Fund created by the Forest Act as above noted. The Act prohibiting the export of pulpwood from Crown lands was amended (chapter XX) by adding to the "Manufacturing Clause" a statement to the effect that cutting such wood into cordwood or other lengths and "rossing" or peeling the bark were not "manufacturing" within the meaning of the Act. Poplar wood is also restricted from being exported. Unmanufactured pulpwood grown on ungranted Crown lands may be exported to the United Kingdom until two months after the declaration of peace.

In Quebec, an Order in Council of June 12, 1918, makes a number of increases in dues and rents to be paid by licensees in the province,