

No. 18, S.]

[Published April 26, 1895.

## CHAPTER 253.

AN ACT to revise the school code of the state of Wisconsin, with accompanying report.

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

J. Q. Emery appointed commissioner to investigate township system of school government and may report by bill.

SECTION 1. J. Q. Emery is hereby appointed a commissioner to thoroughly investigate the workings of the township system of school government in such states as may have adopted that system, inquire particularly into the methods of administration, the advantages and disadvantages of its practical operation, as compared with the district system, and to report upon the expediency or inexpediency of inaugurating the township system in this state, and if deemed expedient, to recommend by bill to be submitted to the legislature to convene in January, 1897, within fifteen days after the opening of such legislature, provisions for inaugurating the township system in this state, so adjusted in its details that no injury to the present system of high and graded schools shall result, and a higher efficiency of the ungraded schools, if possible, shall be promoted. Such bill shall include a complete revision of the existing school laws of this state, with such changes as the commissioner may deem wise and necessary, bringing all laws upon school matters together, in their proper relations and connections, in one code.

Authorized to visit other states and personally inspect their systems.

SECTION 2. The said commissioner is authorized in pursuing the investigation and preparing the report herein required, to visit other states, to consult prominent educators and to personally inspect in detail the workings of the township system where such system is in use. He shall, if deemed advisable by him to prepare a bill for the township system in this state, complete the same on or before the first day of

March, 1896, and cause the same to be printed by the state printer, as other state printing is done. When so completed and printed, the said commissioner shall invite the president of the university of Wisconsin, the senior president in service of the state normal schools, two county superintendents of schools of long experience, the state supervisor of high schools, and such others prominent as teachers, superintendents, or especially interested in public education as he may deem expedient or advisable, to consider with himself the details of the bill so prepared, and to suggest such changes as they may agree upon as necessary and expedient. A sufficient number of copies of the bill shall be printed, that a copy may be forwarded to the leading teachers, and school superintendents and officers of the state, and officers of the several educational associations of the state, with a request that the same may be carefully examined, and made the subject of consideration in public meetings and conventions of educational associations held after the receipt of the same, and for suggestions relating thereto. When the suggestions and recommendations have been received and carefully considered, the said commissioner shall make a final revision of the bill, embodying the suggestions that shall be agreed upon by the consulting and advisory committee convened by the commissioner under the provision of this section, in form for presentation to the legislature, at the time hereinbefore mentioned.

May prepare a bill and invite counsel of educators to suggest changes.

Final revision<sup>1</sup> of bill to be made.

SECTION 3. If the commissioner and the consulting and advisory committee herein authorized shall determine that it is inexpedient to establish the township system of school government in this state, the commissioner shall then prepare a complete revision of the existing school laws of this state, with such changes as he may deem wise and necessary, bringing all laws upon school matters together, in their proper relations and connections in one code, and after the same shall have been considered and approved by the consulting and advisory

May prepare complete revision of the existing school laws of the state—when. Report to the legislature of 1897.

committee herein authorized, shall submit the same to the legislature within fifteen days after it shall assemble in January, 1897, and in either case shall accompany the bill he may present with a full report of his action and recommendations under the provisions of this chapter.

\$3,750 appropriated as expenses and compensation. When to be paid.

SECTION 4. For the purpose of compensating such commissioner, defraying expenses incurred in travel, consultation and all other expenses authorized by this chapter, there is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund not otherwise appropriated, the sum of thirty-seven hundred and fifty dollars, one-half of which shall be paid to the said J. Q. Emery on the first day of May, 1895, and the other one-half on the first day of May, 1896. After making his report as herein provided and required he shall make out and file with the secretary of state a written statement of the amount from time to time applied as compensation, and the amount expended in the manner herein otherwise authorized.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved April 17, 1895.

---

No. 241, A.]

[Published April 26, 1895.

## CHAPTER 254.

**AN ACT** to remove and prevent obstructions across the Yahara or Catfish river and lakes Monona and Waubesa, in Dane county, Wisconsin, in the town of Blooming Grove.

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. No bridge or other construction shall be built across the Yahara, commonly