

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved April 14, 1897.

No. 338, A.]

[Published April 16, 1897.

## CHAPTER 229.

AN ACT to provide for a commission to draw up a plan to protect and utilize the forest resources of the state of Wisconsin.

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

Governor to  
appoint a  
forestry com-  
mission.

Their duties.

SECTION 1. The governor is hereby authorized to appoint a commission, consisting of three members, who shall devise and draw up a plan for the organization of a forestry department, which shall have the management of such state lands as may be suitable for timber culture and forestry. The said commissioners shall embody in their plan provisions for the classification of the lands now owned by the state, and the reservation to the state of all lands which are better fitted for the growing of timber than for agricultural purposes; the purchase of similar lands which may have been abandoned by their owners, or may have been struck off to counties for unpaid taxes; the management of the forests existing on such lands according to the principles of scientific forestry; the replanting of forests on such lands, as far as they have been denuded of their timber, and such other provisions as may be deemed advisable. They shall aim at devising the best means by which

the forest resources of the state can be utilized for the people and preserved for future generations without retarding the development of the agricultural, manufacturing and mining industries; shall have regard to the influence which the maintaining of forests has upon the climate and water supply of the state, and shall draw up a plan by which the forestry department may be from the first self-supporting and in time become a source of revenue to the state. The report of said commissioners shall be submitted to the legislature of the state at its next regular session, within the first ten days after the beginning thereof, in the form of a bill or bills.

To submit a report.

SECTION 2. Said bill or bills may be accompanied by a report explaining the provisions of such bill or bills, and giving the reasons for any of the provisions contained therein. The said bill or bills, together with such report, shall be printed by the state printer at the expense of the state in not more than five hundred copies, and shall be distributed to such persons as the governor may direct.

What said report shall contain.

SECTION 3. The said commissioners shall receive no compensation for their services, but shall be entitled to their actual and necessary expenses, including clerk hire, which expenses and clerk hire shall not, in the aggregate, exceed two hundred and fifty dollars, to be paid by the state treasurer upon warrants drawn by the secretary of state, upon verified statements made by the chairman of such commission. The superintendent of public property shall furnish such commission with the suitable and necessary stationery for the performance of such work.

Necessary expenses and clerk hire.

Stationery to be furnished.

SECTION 4. There is hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury, not otherwise appropriated, a sufficient sum to carry out the provisions of this bill.

Appropriation.

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

Approved April 14, 1897.