

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

Approved April 22, 1897.

No. 378, A.]

[Published April 24, 1897.

CHAPTER 301.

AN ACT to organize the Wisconsin state board of agriculture.

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

SECTION 1. The department of agriculture for the promotion of agriculture, dairying, horticulture, manufactures, and the domestic arts, is hereby created, and shall be managed by a board to be styled, the Wisconsin state board of agriculture, to consist of twelve members, to be appointed by the governor of this state, one from each congressional district of the state, and two at large, and at least one-third of said board shall be appointed from a different political party than the remainder of said board. The members of said board shall hold office for a term of three years, except that four of the members first appointed shall hold office for one year, four for two years, and four for three years, from the first day of January, A. D. 1898, the governor at the time of appointment to designate the term for which each member is to serve. The members of the Wisconsin state board of agriculture shall enter upon the duties of their office on the first day of January

Department of agriculture created; to be governed by a board of 12 members.

Terms of office.

in each year, and shall hold office as hereinbefore provided, and the governor shall fill any vacancy for the remainder of such unexpired term. Members of the state board shall serve without salary, but shall receive payment of actual traveling expenses incurred while in the performance of their duties.

First annual meeting, when to be held.

SECTION 2. The state board shall hold its first annual meeting on the first day of June, 1897, and thereafter such annual meetings shall be held on the first Tuesday of March of each year. At each such annual meeting, the state board shall elect one of its number as president, and one as vice-president of said board, who shall perform such duties as usually pertain to such offices.

Secretary of board not to be a member.

SECTION 3. The state board shall annually elect some person, not a member of said board, as secretary thereof, who shall hold his office for a period of one year, unless he shall be sooner removed by the said board.

State treasurer to be treasurer.

SECTION 4. The treasurer of the state of Wisconsin shall be treasurer ex-officio of said state board.

Office to be in capitol.

SECTION 5. The state board shall keep an office for the transaction of business in such rooms at the capitol in Madison as may be assigned by the governor.

Powers of the board.

SECTION 6. The state board of agriculture shall have the sole control of the affairs of the department of agriculture and of all state fairs, and may make such by-laws, rules and regulations in relation to the department of agriculture, and the management of the business of such department in said fairs, and the offering of the premiums, as a majority of said state board shall, from time to time, determine, not inconsistent with the constitution or law of this state, or of the United States.

Money appropriated to go to state treasurer.

SECTION 7. Whatever money shall be appropriated to the department of agriculture, or come to it from any other source, shall be paid to the state treasurer, and paid out on the or-

der of the state board of agriculture, and may be expended by it as in the opinion of said board will best advance the interest of agriculture, dairying, horticulture, manufactures and the domestic arts in this state; provided, however, that no officer, clerk or employe of the said state board of agriculture, shall have any claim upon the state of Wisconsin for any salary or expenses, except such as may be allowed by said board and paid from any appropriation or funds under its control; provided, further, the state of Wisconsin shall not in any manner whatever be liable for any debt, contract or obligation incurred by said board.

SECTION 8. The state board of agriculture shall make and deliver to the governor of the state, a report of its actions and doings once in two years, on or before the first day of December, next preceding the regular session of the legislature, and the secretary of state shall forthwith print five thousand copies of said report.

Report to be made once in two years.

SECTION 9. All annual appropriations heretofore made to the Wisconsin state agricultural society shall, from and after the passage of this act, be paid to the state board of agriculture, and the said state board of agriculture shall be furnished with stationery, etc., the same as is now furnished to the Wisconsin state agricultural society.

Hereafter all appropriations to the state agricultural society to go to said board.

SECTION 10. All acts or parts of acts, contravening the provisions of this act, are hereby repealed.

Repealing section.

SECTION 11. This act shall take effect and be in force, on and after January 1, 1898.

Approved April 22, 1897.