

various lumber associations to frame or suggest suitable forestry laws, also assisted in the work, J. H. Foster of the forestry bureau aiding very materially. Governor Sanders scrutinized the proposed bills very carefully and gave valuable assistance in framing them, so we were not engaged in any fake legislation or experimental law making, but were prepared, after years of careful study and the assistance of practical lumbermen, to act intelligently. Act No. 261 of 1910 provided for a department of forestry, with the register of the land office as ex-officio forester, and one deputy forester who shall be a person practically and theoretically educated in silviculture who shall be appointed by the governor on recommendation of the conservation commission for a period of one year at a time. The forester is paid \$500 and has an expense fund of \$300 for traveling and incidental expenses. The deputy forester will receive a salary of \$1,800 per annum and under the supervision of the forester shall have an allowance not exceeding \$600 per year for office and traveling expenses, which shall be paid from the conservation fund as established by the law of the state. It is the duty of the state forester, under the general supervision of the conservation commission to have direction of all forest interest and all matters pertaining to forestry within the jurisdiction of the state, take such action as is necessary to prevent and extinguish forest fires and enforce all laws pertaining to forest woodlands, and prosecute for any violation of such laws. It shall be his duty to co-operate with private timber owners in laying plans for the protection, management and replacement of forests and in aiding them to form protective associations. He shall prepare an annual report of the progress and conditions of the state work in forestry to the conservation commission and therein recommend plans for improving the state system of forest protection, management and replacement. He shall also cause the license tax to be collected according to law from any person or persons engaged in timber business, who are subject to such a license tax. Section 4 of the act provides for the acceptance of gifts of land to be held, protected and administered by the conservation commission as state forests and to be used to demonstrate their practical utility for reforestation and as breeding places for game. In no case shall such gifts exceed ten per cent of the area of any parish wherein they are situated. When any donation exceeding 600 acres is made the name of the donor or any name he may suggest shall be given such donation as designation of such reserve. Section five provides penalties for setting fire to woods, ranging from \$10 to \$1,000, and by imprisonment from ten days to five years, or both fine and imprisonment.

Section seven prescribes the duty of railroads operating through forest lands.

Section eight provides that costs of putting out fires may be assessed as penalty.

Section eleven gives consent to the United States to acquire by gift or purchase not to exceed 100,000 acres for establishment of a national forest reserve.

Section twelve provides that all moneys received as penalties, minus cost of prosecution, shall be paid into the state treasury and placed to the credit of the conservation fund.

Section thirteen designates how assessment on denuded lands can be reduced by contract for forestry work.

Section fifteen gives the conservation commission the right to purchase lands in the name of the state, that is suitable for forest culture and reserves at a price not to exceed \$1 per acre.

Section sixteen provided for the study of forestry in schools and the celebration of Arbor day.

Act. No. 172 of 1910 amends and re-enacts Act. No. 144 of 1908, entitled "An act to establish a commission for the conservation of natural resources," which is composed of eight members, three of whom shall be ex-officio, the superintendent of experimental stations of Louisiana, the state forester and chief engineer of the state board of engineers; the other five to be appointed by the governor who shall designate from among them a chairman and secretary. The secretary is the only salaried officer, receiving \$900 per year.

This commission has charge of the conservation work of the state, and exercises supervision of the departments of minerals and forestry and such other departments dealing with the natural resources as may hereafter be created. Upon emergency this commission has authority to expend moneys from the conservation fund upon approval of the governor and attorney general to promote, protect and conserve the natural resources of the state.

Act. No. 196 provides for the creation of a conservation fund by levying, collecting an enforcing payment of an annual license tax upon all persons, associations of persons, or business firms and corporations pursuing the business of severing timber and minerals from the soil. (See act). It has been estimated that from \$50,000 to \$75,000 will be collected annually from this tax, the greater portion of which will be expended for the care and protection of forests.

Act No. 254 creates a department of mining and minerals, and among many things enumerated, provides that the deputy supervisor of minerals shall inspect all mining operations carried on in the state, and shall have power to prohibit such operations as are unsafe or wasteful of natural resources. A fine of \$1,000, or six months imprisonment, or both may be imposed upon any one violating these provisions.

I have dwelt briefly on the laws recently enacted by the legislature that you may know that the state wishes to co-operate with you in the conservation of forests and other natural resources and has imposed no harsh conditions upon any class of manu-