

Provided, however, that in existing counties having an area of more than thirty-five hundred (3,500) and less than six thousand (6,000) square miles, boundaries may be changed and new counties established having an assessed valuation of not less than three million dollars (\$3,000,000.00).

Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved April 20, 1917.

#### CHAPTER 360—S. F. No. 493.

*An act to establish state forests composed of trees suitable for use in paper making, and for the reservation of water powers, lands liable to be over-flowed by the improvement of such powers and other lands suitable for producing woods used in manufacturing paper, and the leasing of such powers.*

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Sec. 1. **Water powers owned or controlled by state withdrawn from sale.**—All water powers having a possible average development of one hundred horse power or more, owned by or subject to the control of the state of Minnesota, and all lands so owned, controlled or held in trust by the state of Minnesota lying within one mile of such water powers are hereby withdrawn from sale and held for the purpose of the improvement and utilization of the same for the purpose of having paper manufactured by plants built at and using the power of such water powers.

Sec. 2. **Lands overflowed and unfit for agricultural purposes, but suitable for re-forestration withdrawn from sale.**—All the lands owned, controlled or held in trust by the state of Minnesota, which lands would be over-flowed by the complete and full development of the water powers hereinbefore referred to are hereby reserved and withdrawn from sale in order that they may be overflowed by the improvement of the water powers within whose basin of overflow they lie. All lands unfit for agricultural and suitable for reforestration purposes are hereby withdrawn from sale. The state auditor is hereby requested and directed to ascertain all the water powers and lands hereinbefore referred to, with all due speed and to withdraw from sales all such lands and to report such withdrawals, including in such report the description of the land, the present character and the growth thereon and the estimated value of the land and also of the timber, if any, now growing thereon. Also the quantity and character of the timber suitable for use in the manufacture of paper, growing on said land and the most accessible method of transportation of said timber, of use in the manufac-

ture of paper, to the nearest reserved water power, or any water power which in the opinion of the state auditor can advantageously be procured by the state, by condemnation or purchased for the purposes provided in this act.

**Sec. 3. Investigation ordered of pulp wood or growing same.**—The state auditor shall make an investigation of the possibility of the state securing by purchase or condemnation water powers in the vicinity of state lands, wherein pulpwood is now growing or upon which it may be profitably grown in the future. For such purpose it shall be proper for him to call upon the state drainage engineer for assistance.

**Sec. 4. State board of control to investigate feasibility of manufacturing pulp in plant at state reformatory—state forester to give estimates.**—The state board of control is hereby directed to investigate the advisability and feasibility of having the inmates of the state reformatory engaged in the manufacture of pulpwood in a pulp mill to be operated by the state. The state auditor shall make a full and complete report to the next session of the legislature of all suitable water powers that may be utilized in the operation of a state owned pulp and paper mill.

The state forester shall make an estimate of how many cords of pulpwood per year can be grown upon state owned lands, unfit for agricultural purposes, and which in his opinion can wisely be utilized in the product of pulpwood and he shall make report thereof to the next legislature.

**Sec. 5.** This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved April 20, 1917.

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#### CHAPTER 361—S. F. No. 315.

*An act to amend Chapter 206, Laws 1913, providing for more effective inspection of nurseries and other premises and imported nursery stock to comply with the requirements of United States quarantine laws; requiring certificates for shipments within state, modifying inspector's fees, and providing additional funds for carrying out the provisions of this act by adding thereto a new section thereto which new section provides for and authorizes the destruction of trees, plants or shrubs so situate that they may spread certain plant disease or destructive insects and prescribing the manner in which such power shall be exercised, also prohibiting the importation of plants, trees and shrubs into this state under specified circumstances and prescribing a penalty for the violation of such prohibition.*

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota: