

**STATE OF MICHIGAN.
REPORT OF THE MICHIGAN-
FORESTRY COMMISSION
FOR THE YEARS 1907-1908**

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State of Michigan. Report of the Michigan-Forestry Commission for the Years 1907-1908 by
Various

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REPORT OF THE

MICHIGAN - FORESTRY COMMISSION

FOR THE YEARS 1907-1908.

UNDER THE ACT OF THE LEGISLATURE, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO PROVIDE A PER-
MANENT FORESTRY COMMISSION FOR THE STATE OF MICHIGAN, TO
DEFINE ITS POWERS AND DUTIES, AND PROVIDE FOR EX-
PENSES." APPROVED JUNE 7, 1899.



BY AUTHORITY.

LANSING, MICHIGAN
WYNKOOP HALLENBECK CRAWFORD CO., STATE PRINTERS
1908

MICHIGAN FORESTRY COMMISSION.

Chas. W. Garfield.....Grand Rapids.
Wm. H. Rose.....Lansing.
Wm. B. Mershon.....Saginaw.
State Forest Warden.....Filibert Roth, Ann Arbor.
Forester.....(Position vacant.)
Ranger, District No. 1.....William Marsh, Roscommon.
Ranger, District No. 2.....Arthur Wykoff, Houghton Lake.
Assistant Ranger, District No. 2.....Elmer VanSickle, Houghton Lake.

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

Lansing, Mich., June 30, 1908.

Hon. Fred M. Warner, Governor of Michigan:

Sir—In accordance with legal requisition, I submit herewith the report of the Michigan Forestry Commission for the years 1907 and 1908, with accompanying papers.

Yours respectfully,

CHAS. W. GARFIELD,

President of the Michigan Forestry Commission.



A typical hardwood forest with elements for continuance under proper lumbering methods.

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OUR GREATEST PROBLEM.

BY E. W. BARBER.

The people of the United States—of the cities and villages as well as of the farms—are today facing a serious problem, on the right solution of which depends their future welfare—the problem of reforestation, the replanting of trees where the great and protecting forests have been cut away.

The demand for timber of all kinds is increasing, while the supply is gradually but surely decreasing. This deficiency must be made good or the nation in time will face a famine of wood.

It is not merely the stripping of the land of its timber growth that makes the situation so serious, but the climatic changes that follow greatly affect the communities where such forest denudation occurs. Floods and great droughts follow in the wake of forest cutting.

Forest reservations often conflict with individual cupidity; nevertheless they are of great public utility. The greed of men should not be permitted to make unproductive and desolate large or small areas of the country. There are millions of acres of land in Michigan that have been forfeited to the people for the non-payment of taxes. These lands have been stripped of their valuable timber and abandoned. Most of them should be made forest reservations.

The forest problem has been worked out very successfully in Germany. While it has not come to such a vital point in this country, it is well to consider the systems of management used to keep the great black forest of Germany in a perpetual producing condition.

The growing of forests can only be counted by lifetimes. And just here is where the difficulty comes in getting the people of the country to take hold of it. Every one likes to do the things which he himself can see the benefit from, so when it comes to planting trees which will not be ready to cut until years after he has passed it does not look like a paying proposition. This is the nation's problem: How can the timber supply be maintained equal to the demand?

Furthermore, if one-third of the land in Michigan, judiciously selected, was devoted to forests, the remaining two-thirds would be worth double what it now is for agricultural purposes. With its hills and valleys, its lakes and rivers, there is no region that can be made more attractive and valuable than Michigan.



THE SHAME OF MICHIGAN.

Typical old "Pine Stub."