

“mature stands which cover the larger portion of the national forests are in many cases not even holding their own, but are actually going backward”; and

WHEREAS, In the case of *State ex rel. Owen vs. Donald* (160 Wis. 21) the Supreme court said (with reference to the normal school lands): “The primary purpose should, and fundamentally must be, to produce money for the school fund”; and

WHEREAS, The forestry board of 1912 and 1913 represented to the secretary of the interior that thousands of acres of the grant of 1906, were (in the language of the grant) “by reason of their isolation not available for forest reserve purposes” and received permission to sell them and use the returns as provided in the grant; and

WHEREAS, The timber on both classes of lands is rapidly disappearing through fire, winds and trespass with great loss to the state and the school fund; therefore be it

*Resolved by the Assembly, the Senate concurring,* That the conservation commission and the commissioners of public lands be advised that it is the opinion of both houses of the legislature that the scattered lands or timber or both, be converted into cash and covered into the appropriate funds. Be it further

*Resolved,* That properly attested copies of this resolution be transmitted to the conservation commission and the commissioners of public lands.

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[Jt. Res. No. 59, A.]

[Deposited Apr. 10, 1931.]

No. 61, 1931.

### JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to a special committee on the manufacture of farm machinery in the state prison.

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WHEREAS, It is common knowledge that the manufacture of many lines of farm machinery is controlled by a trust which has artificially kept up the prices of this machinery and during the

present period of agricultural depression has even raised prices on parts and extras; and

WHEREAS, The fact that the price of farm machinery is excessive is clearly established by the extraordinarily large profits which all companies controlled by the farm machinery trust have realized, an illustration of which is the last report of Deere & Company, which shows that in the last fiscal year the net income of this company was \$8,119,112, equal after preferred dividends to \$7.60 a share on the no-par common stock, and leaving a surplus after all dividend payments of \$3,970,111; and

WHEREAS, The state of Minnesota has for a considerable number of years successfully employed a large number of the prisoners in its state's prison in the manufacture of farm machinery and has sold the machinery so manufactured at a considerably lower price to the farmers of that state than the trust prices; and

WHEREAS, Hundreds of prisoners in our state prison are at present unemployed and there is great need for the establishment of new industries in the prison. Therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Assembly, the Senate concurring,* That a special committee is hereby constituted to investigate the feasibility of manufacturing farm machinery in the state prison and to make a report thereon to this legislature. Said committee shall consist of three assemblymen and two senators who shall be appointed as are standing committees in the respective houses. The members of the said committee shall receive no compensation but shall be reimbursed their actual expenses from the contingent funds of the respective houses.

The said committee shall make an investigation to determine whether it is feasible to employ prisoners in the manufacture of farm machinery and in connection therewith shall investigate the cost of establishing an industry of this kind at the state prison and the savings which might be effected to the farmers of this state through such a prison industry. In connection with this investigation the committee is authorized to visit both the state prison of this state and that of Minnesota. It shall have the power to conduct such hearings as it may deem advisable and any member of said committee shall have authority to administer oaths to any witness.

The said committee shall complete its investigation as soon as possible and shall make a complete report to this legislature giving its findings and recommendations. Such report shall include estimates as to the amount of any appropriations which may be required for the establishment of a farm machinery industry at the state prison and shall be accompanied by drafts of bills to carry out any recommendations that the committee may make.

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[Jt. Res. No. 69, ▲.]

[Deposited Apr. 10, 1931.]

No. 62, 1931.

### JOINT RESOLUTION

Memorializing Congress to remit interest charges on soldier's bonus.

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WHEREAS, The United States government pursuant to act of Congress is loaning to veterans of the World War fifty per cent of their bonus certificates and is charging four and one-half per cent interest on said loans; and

WHEREAS, These young men risked their lives in the service of their country and gave up their opportunities to earn a living and many of them are in extremely needy circumstances; and

WHEREAS, The government has reduced the debts of foreign nations; and

WHEREAS, The government pays no interest on such bonus certificates in cases where the veterans do not make loans upon them. Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Assembly, the Senate concurring,* That this legislature respectfully memorializes the Congress of the United States to enact a law remitting the interest on such bonus loans. Be it further

*Resolved,* That properly attested copies of this resolution be transmitted to both houses of the Congress of the United States and to each Wisconsin member thereof.