

known to be competent and skilled in the inspection of buildings and their contents, and of such other help as may be necessary. Reports are required to be made to the fire marshal by all chiefs of fire departments of each and every fire, and where there is no established fire department the report is to be made by the mayor of incorporated cities and towns, and by township clerks outside of incorporated cities and towns. An appropriation of \$12,500 a year is provided for defraying the expenses of the office.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

President—W. B. CHAPMAN, Correctionville.
Vice-President—G. H. VAN HOUTEN, Lenox.
Secretary—WESLEY GREENE, Des Moines.
Treasurer—FRANK O. HARRINGTON, Williamsburg.
Librarian—WESLEY GREENE, Des Moines.

DIRECTORS.

First District—W. P. Williams, Danville.
Second District—W. T. Richey, Albia.
Third District—F. P. Spencer, Randolph.
Fourth District—Abraham B. Dennis, Cedar Rapids.
Fifth District—Millard Harrington, Williamsburg.
Sixth District—Charles O. Garrett, Des Moines.
Seventh District—W. P. Dawson, Aurelia.
Eighth District—Charles H. True, Edgewood.
Ninth District—William C. Haviland, Fort Dodge.
Tenth District—P. F. Kinne, Storm Lake.
Eleventh District—Charles F. Gardner, Osage.
Twelfth District—Eugene Secor, Forest City.

The directors for the odd-numbered districts are elected in the even-numbered years, and those for the even-numbered districts in the odd-numbered years.

Any resident of the state is eligible to membership in the society. The secretary will on application furnish information relating to membership.

The annual meeting begins on Tuesday before the second Wednesday in December of each year.

The society publishes an annual report full of valuable and interesting papers.

The object of this society is the promotion and encouragement of horticulture and arboriculture in the state by the collection and dissemination of practical information regarding the cultivation of such fruits, flowers and trees as are best adapted to the soil and climate of the state. The rooms of the society are kept open at all times for the reception of visitors. All communications on horticultural topics will be promptly answered by the secretary.

STATE FORESTRY COMMISSIONER.

WESLEY GREENE, of Scott county, secretary of the state horticultural society is ex-officio state forestry commissioner. His address is Des Moines, Iowa. He serves as commissioner without compensation. The law authorizes him to appoint deputies to serve without salary for each county or group of counties, who shall assist him in the performance of his duties, and also make report to him annually of forestry matters for the use of the horticultural society.

The object of the law is to encourage the planting of forest and fruit trees in the state. The act provides that any person owning land in the state may plant or select a tract of land not less than two acres in area for a forest reservation, provided there shall not be less than two hundred forest trees growing on each acre and that cattle, horses, mules, sheep, goats and hogs are not permitted on said reservation.