

# BORN OF DEEP ROOTS

## *How the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Got Its Start*

Sherman L. Frost



Figure 2.1. The United States of America at the turn of the 19th Century. The Northwest Territory had been established from lands ceded to the federal government by Virginia, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. Ohio became a state in 1803 in accordance with provisions of the Northwest Ordinance of 1787. Adapted from *History of the United States* by D.L. Dumond, E.E. Dale, and E.B. Wesley, 1948, page 128. Used by permission of D.C. Heath and Company.

It was to be a long journey from 1787, the year of the Northwest Ordinance, to 1949, the year when Ohioans brought together their scattered concerns for conservation and gave them a home in a new agency called the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (see inside front cover).

In 1790, the Northwest Territory had just been carved out from some of the original colonies (Fig. 2.1). Ohio, as a state, did not yet exist. It was a vast wilderness of forests, rivers, lakes, almost untouched soils and minerals, and seemingly inexhaustible wildlife. The United States Congress had passed early laws suppressing the unlawful use of firearms, but this restriction did not apply to the shooting of game animals. Laws of the Northwest Territory prohibited burning down forests or trespassing for the purpose of cutting trees. Such acts could result in an \$8 fine for cutting certain named tree species and a \$3 fine for all other trees. Courts could sentence apprehended culprits to pay fines, serve prison terms, or withstand whippings "not to exceed 39 stripes." Collected fines were split between the landowner who was trespassed upon and the poor. Although primarily for the protection of private property rights, these statutes were also probably among the first conservation laws.<sup>1</sup>

From the time Ohio became a state in 1803 to 1949, more than 200 laws relating to conservation were enacted.

In many cases, local governments were left to enforce these regulations. As new conservation laws were passed, the young state government created new departments and new agencies to handle separate conservation responsibilities. There was no clear pattern to this growth which depended heavily on the people in power, the strongest interests, and the economic situation at the time.

Dr. Paul B. Sears, world-famous ecologist from Crawford County, in a treatise on conservation in Ohio in 1942, related the progress of legislation to three historical periods in the state.<sup>2</sup> The "pioneer agricultural phase" from 1790 to 1850 saw early laws on trees and wildlife. The "industrial transition phase" from 1850 to 1900 saw a great preponderance of wildlife and fish laws, with some forestry and drainage laws. The "neo-technical urban phase" from 1900 to 1940 saw not only continued preponderance of new laws for fish and game, but also the entry of new forest, weed, insect, flood, drainage, and water storage laws. This whole pattern of shift in conservation legislative enactments was motivated by great growth in population and changing needs of society. It was an effort, Dr. Sears said, to "produce a permanently balanced relation between a human group and its environment" by conservation of natural resources "to obtain the maximum good for the longest possible time." Other writings of Ohio's natural resources and conservation history are also recorded by E. L. Wickliff,<sup>3</sup> James W. Stuber,<sup>4</sup> and Merrill C. Gilfillan.<sup>5</sup> The proceedings and abstracts of the meetings of The Ohio Academy of Science in 1908<sup>6</sup> and 1988<sup>7</sup> are also valuable source references, as is the 1979 book, *Ohio's Natural Heritage*.<sup>8</sup>

Ohio's first natural resources agency per se was the Geological Survey created in 1837. A Canal Commission was already building the first lakes which eventually became State Parks—the first in 1894. A Department of Public Works came into being in 1822; a State Board of Agriculture in 1846 and a State Board of Health in 1886. These were later to become the administrative homes for several conservation agencies.

Scientists expressed the early concern about destruction of natural resources,<sup>9</sup> and they were soon joined by nonprofessionals. State and national societies and associa-

tions were formed to lend a louder voice. Some of these included the American Ornithological Union, American Fisheries Society, National Audubon Society, Boone and Crockett Club, Ecological Society of America, American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the American Forestry Association. The latter held a history-making American Forestry Congress at Cincinnati in 1882 to headline forest destruction.<sup>10</sup> Resulting from this meeting were the first teaching of forestry at The Ohio State University, an Ohio State Forestry Association, and creation of the Ohio State Forestry Bureau. This became the Department of Forestry at the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station at Wooster by act of the General Assembly in 1906, and was authorized to administer all matters concerning State forestry. President Theodore Roosevelt in 1908 called a White House conference of governors to give the early conservation movement even stronger state and national support.

New federal agencies became part of the kaleidoscope of the response to concerns about conservation. Among those that had early and lasting roles in Ohio were the United States Forest Service, the United States Geological Survey, and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.<sup>11</sup> The United States Fish Commission, created in 1871, became a stimulus along with the interest of the Shelby County Deer Hunters Association to the birth of Ohio's first Fish Commission in 1873. Many federal laws offered cooperation and funds to the states leading to the enactment of state enabling laws to help qualify for these "offerings." As a former Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture said, "it's the squeaky wheel that gets the grease."<sup>12</sup>

The effort was fragmented, such as it was, at the beginning of the 20th Century. However, this was to change, and again it was the scientists who early painted the bigger picture. Following the report of its committee on the conservation of the natural resources of Ohio in 1908, The Ohio Academy of Science adopted resolutions expressing strong concern for protection of the state's natural resources. These included recommendations for conservation of coal, formation of a State forestry commission or a State forest service, attention to waterways, scientific investigation of

the state's aquatic biological resources, and formation of a State conservation commission to consider such matters and report its findings to the government.<sup>13</sup> The League of Ohio Sportsmen came into being in 1908 and pushed strongly for more attention to fish and game. Although many conservation-related laws had already been enacted and several agencies created, conservation became a formal reality in 1912 when the people of Ohio amended the State constitution to include specific provisions so that laws could be passed to provide for the conservation of natural resources (Fig. 2.2).

In 1913, a Division of Fish and Game was created in the Ohio Department of Agriculture, with strong backing of

*Figure 2.2. The portion of the Constitution of the State of Ohio, as amended 3 September 1912, which provides directly for passage of laws concerning the conservation of natural resources.*

**CONSTITUTION OF  
THE STATE OF OHIO  
ARTICLE II: LEGISLATIVE**

**Section 36:  
Conservation of Natural  
Resources**

Laws may be passed to encourage forestry, and to that end areas devoted exclusively to forestry may be exempted, in whole or in part, from taxation. Laws may also be passed to provide for converting into forest reserves such lands or parts of lands as have been or may be forfeited to the state, and to authorize the acquiring of other lands for that purpose; also, to provide for the conservation of the natural resources of the state, including streams, lakes, submerged and swamp lands and the development and regulation of water power and the formation of drainage and conservation districts; and to provide for the regulation of methods of mining, weighing, measuring and marketing coal, oil, gas and other minerals.

the League of Ohio Sportsmen. The canal lake State Parks were transferred to it from the Department of Public Works—then back to Public Works in 1917 with a confusing dual administration. Public Works acquired another program with the water improvements act of 1919. The resource agency shuffling continued when the Geological Survey was transferred to become a division in the Department of Education in 1921. In 1916, the first State Forests were purchased by the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station. During the decade, The Ohio State University was legislated to conduct stream-flow gauging and make ground-water studies and topographic maps.

Two world wars, an economic depression, dust storms, droughts, and floods also had great impact on the course of national conservation legislation—continuation of a tradition of developing policy by reaction. From these times came such federal administrative units as the Civilian Conservation Corps, Public Works Administration, National Recovery Administration, Fish and Wildlife Service, Soil Conservation Service—all with major impacts on Ohio.

The move to give conservation a broader role in Ohio government again gained momentum in the 1920's. Congressman (and later Governor) Martin L. Davey of Kent was one of the early leaders in this movement with The Izaak Walton League of America (organized in 1922 including a chapter in Cincinnati) and the League of Ohio Sportsmen. An Ohio Conservation Council was formed of groups including the League of Ohio Sportsmen, The Izaak Walton League, Ohio Federation of Women's Clubs, Ohio Chamber of Commerce, Ohio Manufacturers Association, Ohio Archeological and Historical Society, Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Ohio State Grange, and the Ohio Farm Bureau. Mrs. George McDonald of Wyoming, Ohio, was named President. Later the group changed its name to the "Save Outdoor Ohio Council" with Mrs. Nora Halter of Fremont as President.<sup>14</sup>

The Ohio Conservation Council drafted a bill, which was introduced in 1929, to create a conservation department. The bill had a lot of support and also opposition. It was amended eight times. When finally enacted, it created a Division of Conservation in the Department of Agriculture, oriented to wildlife, but also including the canal lake State

Parks which were transferred from the Department of Public Works. This was much less than the original bill had proposed as the Council desired to cover the whole field of natural resources.<sup>15</sup>

Despite getting a conservation agency, supporters did not lose interest in the original objectives. With the leadership of The Izaak Walton League, the League of Ohio Sportsmen, and the Save Outdoor Ohio Council, a new bill was passed in 1939 which abolished the Division of Conservation and created a new Division of Conservation and Natural Resources in the Department of Agriculture. Although this agency was broader in concept than that created in the 1929 act, it still had not rounded up all the natural resources programs under one administrative roof. With most of the money coming from wildlife interests, fish and game were the programs which received the greatest emphasis. The agency had good administrators and advisors which gave the program much prestige.

Another ten years were to pass, intervened by World War II, before a comprehensive natural resources department was to become a reality. In the meantime, conservation legislation and administration had mushroomed and detoured. State Forest-Parks and nurseries had been acquired. A Division of Beach Erosion had been created in the Department of Public Works; and an Ohio Soil Conservation Committee and an Ohio Water Supply Board were being established in 1941. In 1945, the Geological Survey and a Water Resources Board came to the Department of Public Works.

An Ohio Post-War Program Commission was created 29 June 1943 by act of the General Assembly to examine post-war problems and make recommendations, including the establishment of additional State Parks. The first Commission, under Governor John W. Bricker, included 21 members from the legislature and State agencies and three appointed by the Governor. The General Assembly in 1947 extended its life to the end of 1948 under Governor Thomas J. Herbert. Through the period of its existence, the Commission gave much attention to the natural resources of Ohio. The Commission received an appropriation of \$400,000 to purchase lands for parks, but this action was declared

unconstitutional by the Ohio Supreme Court. In the meantime, however, a lake-building program was undertaken, which by 1949 the Division of Conservation and Natural Resources in the Department of Agriculture indicated was one of the greatest lake-building programs ever attempted by any state in the nation.

The Post-War Program Commission appointed several advisory committees to make recommendations on natural resources. As early as 1945, the conservation and natural resources committee of 20 members headed by Murray Lincoln, Secretary of the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, proposed a department of conservation with six major divisions. The proposal recommended moving existing agencies into a central organization, excepting the Ohio Soil Conservation Committee and the forestry research phase of the forestry program at the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station. A special subcommittee recommended that a substantial program concerning beach erosion along Lake Erie be developed within the Department of Public Works, which had been given this authority in 1935 by the General Assembly. This was expanded upon in the Commission's 1947 report.<sup>16</sup> One of its recommendations was acted on by the 97th General Assembly when the Conservancy District Act was amended in September 1947 to give conservancy districts the power to arrest shore erosion.

In 1947, the Ohio Post-War Program Commission reported that during the preceding biennium it had spent a great deal of time on the question of a unified department of conservation. The General Assembly, however, did not approve the measure submitted. Dr. Arthur Morgan of Yellow Springs was then named to chair a new conservation committee of 26 members. This committee submitted a revised version recommending a department of natural resources that in general had the approval of many people, including newspapers such as the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, *Youngstown Vindicator*, *Columbus Citizen*, *Columbus Dispatch*, and *Akron Beacon Journal*. This recommendation still was not to be accepted.

In 1948, another broadly representative<sup>17</sup> Conservation Committee was created, this one with 32 members and chaired by Senator C. Stanley Mechem of Nelsonville (Fig.

1949-1989

2.3). It met with many agencies, conservation organizations, and individuals to get viewpoints and recommendations. It then proposed an amended bill. Also in 1948, a separate beach erosion committee reaffirmed and strengthened earlier recommendations for a shore protection program in the Department of Public Works.

The final work of the Conservation Committee in 1948 involved much action to refine a final bill for a department of natural resources, but viewpoints differed (Fig. 2.4). J. Frank Atwood of Columbus proposed one bill for a division

of parks and a conservation coordinating board. A subcommittee drafted Mr. Atwood's proposal into what was called the "Howard Bill" (Ray B. Howard, publisher, London, Ohio). Representative Richard H. Woods of Cleveland proposed an amended bill similar to the Howard Bill. After much discussion, the Conservation Committee as a whole decided to go back and redraft an old Senate Bill 24 which had been introduced in the 97th General Assembly. Chair Mechem appointed a special subcommittee of ten (Fig. 2.3) headed by Dr. Morgan to study and revise Senate Bill 24.

The special subcommittee met a full day to make its suggested changes. Then the new version was reviewed by the full Conservation Committee, further changes were made, and finally on 30 September 1948 the Conservation Committee by a vote of 13 to 3 approved a revised bill to create a Department of Natural Resources. This final version was studied further by a committee of Lieutenant Governor Paul M. Herbert, Victor Jacobs of Dayton, and J. Frank Atwood to clarify and perfect it in mechanical ways, and they found that the original Senate Bill 24 had proposed repealing the Ohio Soil Conservation Committee. Because the full Conservation Committee did not desire this action, the section that would have repealed the Ohio Soil Conservation Committee was removed on 11 October 1948. The final report of the Ohio Post-War Program Commission noted: "Ohio legislation dealing with natural resources has already reached comprehensive bulk. It has however shown two serious weaknesses to date. It has attempted to deal with the various resources piecemeal; and it has waited for trouble to develop, rather than attempting to foresee and prevent trouble...Ohio has had in its service for years outstanding specialists in the various fields of conservation."<sup>18</sup>

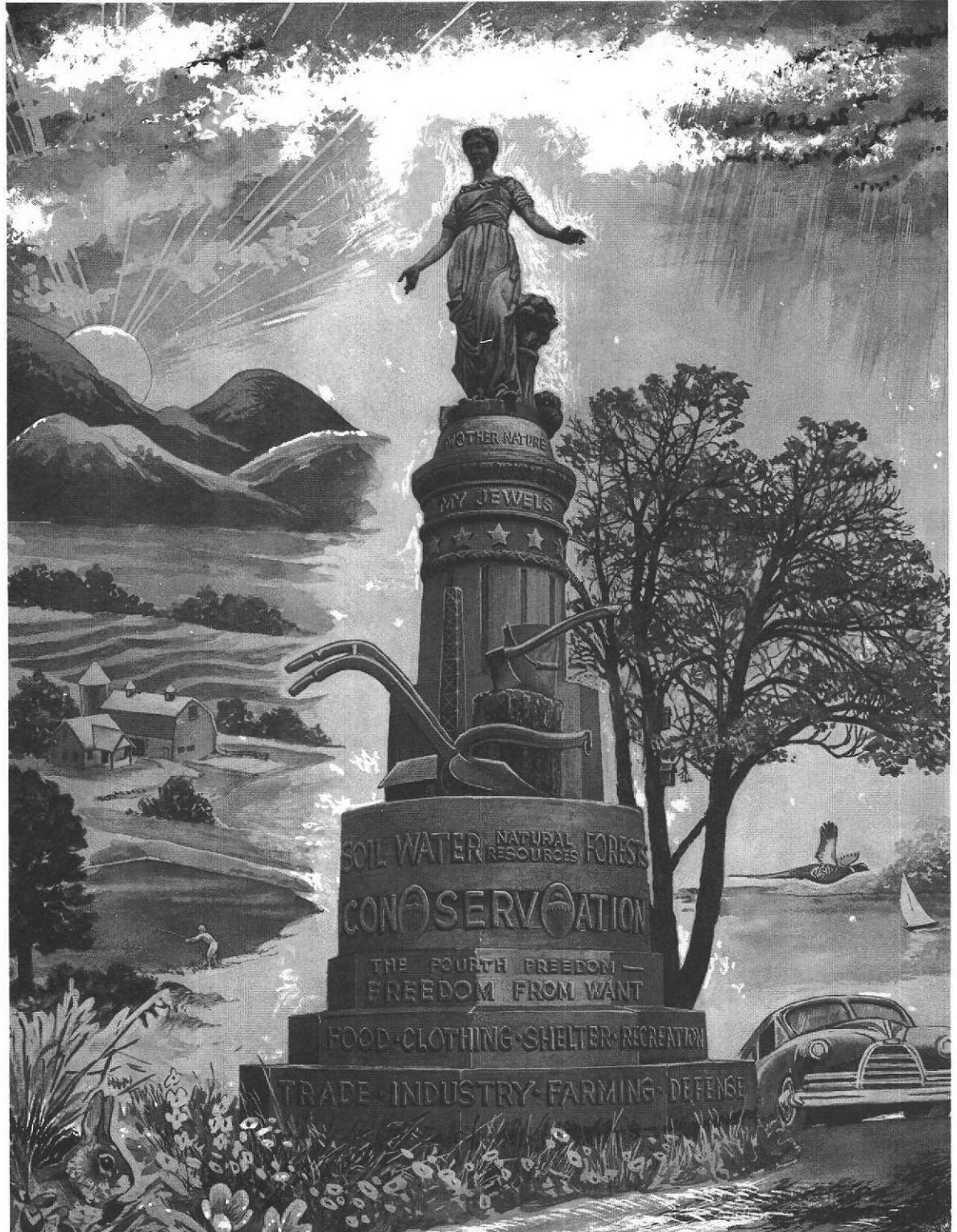
On the eve of final consolidation, Ohio had Water, Beach Erosion, and Geological

Figure 2.3. Members of the 1948 Conservation Committee of the Ohio Post-War Program Commission which drafted legislation that led to the establishment of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources in 1949. Members indicated by an asterisk (\*) served on a special subcommittee which prepared an early draft of the legislation.

1948 CONSERVATION COMMITTEE	
Sen. C. Stanley Mechem, Chair	Nelsonville
Perry L. Green, Vice Chair	Columbus
J. Frank Atwood	Columbus
Emery R. Beetham	Cleveland
Jackson E. Betts	Findlay
* Bryce C. Browning	Dover
Al Clark	Dayton
* Mrs. Ray W. Davis	Circleville
* Dr. C. L. Dow	Athens
Phillip N. Faine	Newark
Frank Farnsworth	Columbus
* Rep. Elizabeth F. Gorman	Cleveland Heights
* Lt. Gov. Paul M. Herbert	Columbus
Ray B. Howard	London
R. L. Ireland	Cleveland
Sen. Clingan Jackson	Youngstown
Victor Jacobs	Dayton
Irwin M. Krohn	Cincinnati
Clarence M. Kruegar	Berlin Heights
* Frank C. Manak	Cleveland
* Dr. Arthur E. Morgan	Yellow Springs
Rep. Sam B. Nicely	Blanchester
Sen. Joseph R. Nutt, Jr.	Cleveland
Dr. Paul B. Sears	Oberlin
Frank Spencer	Newark
* Clay H. Stackhouse	Wakeman
William A. Stinchcomb	Cleveland
Joseph K. Vodrey	Canton
* Harold S. Wagner	Akron
Rep. Ray M. White	Millersburg
Sen. Frank E. Whittemore	Akron
* Rep. Richard H. Woods	Cleveland

Figure 2.4. The cover of the June 1948 issue of The Ohio Conservation Bulletin featured an artistic rendition of a prominent statue on the State House lawn. The importance of conservation of natural resources was highlighted by the combined photography of Walter Lauffer and the artistry of Bob Hines, both of the Division of Conservation and Natural Resources, Ohio Department of Agriculture.

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Survey in the Department of Public Works; Forestry at the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station; and Conservation and Natural Resources (essentially Wildlife) in the Department of Agriculture.<sup>19</sup> It also had numerous State Parks, State Forests, and other State conservation areas administered by different agencies.

Senate Bill 13 was introduced by Senators Clingan Jackson (Democrat) of Youngstown and C. Stanley Mechem (Republican) on 12 January 1949 in the 98th General Assembly, Regular Session. The bill was heard by the Senate Conservation Committee. Senator Howard M. Metzbaum of Cleveland sought an amendment to require that the Chief of the Division of Wildlife be appointed by the new Director rather than by a wildlife board.<sup>20</sup> A compromise was developed which provided that the board, or Wildlife Council as it was renamed, would recommend the name of the Chief and the Director would make the appointment. The original bill did not include the Water Resources Board and Advisory Committee as part of the new Division of Water. These entities were added in the Amended Bill and were designated to serve primarily in an advisory capacity.

Even with all the amendments and hearings, Amended Senate Bill 13 was still not home free. The Ohio Conservation Congress had been organized in 1947 and claimed to be an affiliation of over 50 sportsmen's clubs whose membership totaled over 60,000 fishermen and hunters. Although originally critical of Senate Bill 13, after the organization's first statewide meeting, the Ohio Conservation Congress decided to support it.<sup>21</sup>

There were still those who were not convinced that creation of a consolidated department was the right way to go. Opponents labeled it a "ripper bill" which would

eliminate many jobs of resource professionals, and they threatened a referendum fight.<sup>22</sup> However, Lieutenant Governor Paul M. Herbert, who supported the bill, said it gave civil service protection to all employees, even some that did not have it previously, and that the bill assured that no jobs would be lost by anybody coming into the new agency. He said, "Ohio must make a start somewhere on doing the right kind of job in conserving our natural resources and this bill will get us started."<sup>23</sup> Amended Senate Bill 13 was passed unanimously in the Senate on 20 April 1949. By a vote of 89 to 35, and not along party lines,<sup>24</sup> it had been approved by the House of Representatives on 13 March 1949. Amended Senate Bill 13 was signed into law by Governor Frank J. Lausche (Fig. 2.5) on 9 May 1949 to take effect in 90 days. Finally, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources became a reality on 11 August 1949.<sup>25,26</sup>

This new Department consisted of seven Divisions—six from previously existing units, namely, Geological Survey, Wildlife, Forestry, Parks, Water, and Beach Erosion, and one



Figure 2.5. Governor Frank J. Lausche in 1949 strongly supported legislation to create the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Photo by courtesy of The Columbus Dispatch.

Figure 2.6. Cartoon by Bob Hines announcing the formation of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources as published in the October 1949 issue of The Ohio Conservation Bulletin.

brand new unit, Lands and Soil (Fig. 2.6). The central office was established in the Ohio Departments Building, 65 South Front Street, in downtown Columbus, while most of the other offices were housed in the Division of Wildlife's facility, the Hangar Building, 1500 Dublin Road (see Figure 6.22 on page 68). The founding legislation also transferred substantial holdings of lands and lakes to the Department from other State agencies. Also established was a nine-member advisory board, the Natural Resources Commission. As indicated previously, other advisory groups, the Ohio Water Resources Board and Advisory Committee and the Wildlife Council were established.

Some natural resources were still left outside the consolidated agency, and substantial changes and additions to the founding statute have been made in virtually every session of the General Assembly since 1949. The hopes and aspirations of the proponents for the new Department,

however, were considerable immediately from its creation. As expressed in the preamble to Amended Senate Bill 13 (Fig. 2.7), Department goals were based on high ideals. The bill was over 80 pages long, but as cosponsor C. Stanley Mechem had noted earlier, it was mostly a reprint of existing law as the bill contained relatively little new material.<sup>27</sup> It did, however, amend 135 sections of the General Code, enact eleven supplemental sections, and repealed 26 sections.

The Director is the chief executive officer of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. During the drafting of Amended Senate Bill 13, considerable discussion was given to the basic characteristics of this vital position. Consensus concluded that the Director should be primarily a policy-maker and member of the Governor's Cabinet with technically trained Division Chiefs serving under the Director. Dr. Paul B. Sears observed, "This recognition of the function and

## AMENDED SENATE BILL NO. 13 (1949) AN ACT

To create a department of natural resources and to bring into that department, as divisions thereof, the various state agencies engaged in conservation of natural resources and to provide for the correlation of the work and activities of all divisions within the department so as to avoid and eliminate unnecessary duplications of effort and overlapping functions; to create a natural resources commission.

### **Purpose of department of natural resources.**

It is the intent of the General Assembly that the department of natural resources created by this act shall formulate and put into execution a long term comprehensive plan and program for the development and wise use of the natural

resources of the state, to the end that the health, happiness and wholesome enjoyment of life of the people of Ohio may be further encouraged; that increased recreational opportunities and advantages be made available to the people of Ohio and her visitors; that industry, agriculture, employment, investment, and other economic interests may be assisted and encouraged.

It is essential to the successful execution of such a plan and program that all faithful and capable employees of the department be assured of permanency in their employment. Hence political partisanship shall be strictly prohibited in the selection and supervision of the employees of the department.

Education of the people, particularly of the youth of

Ohio, in the proper appreciation and use of our natural resources is of the highest importance, and shall be encouraged by the department.

Development of new uses of minerals and combinations of minerals, forest products, and other natural resources is of vital importance to Ohio agriculture and industry. To this end, the state-supported institutions of learning, their laboratories and other facilities of research shall be available for the use of the department upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed to between such institutions and the department of natural resources.

Discoveries of new processes and uses of natural resources by the department shall be made available to private industry upon a basis, fair and equitable, as may be determined by the natural resources commission.

*Figure 2.7. The preamble to Amended Senate Bill 13, the legislation which created the Ohio Department of Natural Resources on 11 August 1949.*

dignity of the professional politician, as well as the non-political character of technical work was a great step forward."<sup>28</sup> As provided in the original legislation, the Director was to be appointed by the Governor with the approval of the Natural Resources Commission and with the advice and consent of the Ohio Senate. Currently, only approval of the appointment by the Ohio Senate is required.

At the time of passage of Amended Senate Bill 13, the Governor's term of office was two years. To vouchsafe reasonable, long-term planning and to prevent interruption of such by changes in governorship, the law mandated that the term of office of the Director be six years. Two Directors—Marion and Eagon—served under the six-year provision. The law was changed in 1963 making the Director's term concurrent with the Governor's term which had been changed from two to four years in 1958.

The primary duties and authorities of the Director as provided by Amended Senate Bill 13 are listed in Figure 2.8. Don Strouse of the *Columbus Citizen* writing on 17 April 1949 observed that the Director must be above suspicion and beyond reproach, not a partisan politician, but concerned about conservation and have administrative abilities and a compelling interest in the public welfare.<sup>29</sup> On 11 August

1949, Governor Frank J. Lausche named A. W. Marion, former Director of the Department of Agriculture, as the first Director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

Director Marion was well acquainted with conservation—indeed, the former Division of Conservation and Natural Resources was a part of his former agency. He strode into his new position with definite viewpoints of the job ahead and his role in it:<sup>30</sup>

It will be seen from the foregoing that there is quite an elaborate legal framework now established for the new Department of Natural Resources. Yet, I believe that all of us who try to think the matter through, must recognize that while this legal framework may be both necessary and desirable, it is no guarantee in itself for the success of the new unified department. Rather, we must view it as a means toward an end, and not as the end objective in itself.

We must be broad enough, and honest enough, to recognize that it is going to take wise council, constructive long-range planning, competent sincere personnel, and a substantial amount of money, to do the things which we all know should be accomplished here in our own State...

...Yet, I believe that whether it happened to be Senate Bill 13, passed last year, or some other bill, passed within the next decade or so, we would ultimately have come to a similar effort to unify our thinking and action; for the present and future welfare of our citizens depends upon the conservation and wise use of our basic resources. Through the findings of science, we

## THE DIRECTOR OF THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES:

1. shall formulate, determine, and institute all the policies and programs of the Department.
2. shall approve any contracts or agreements involving any of the Divisions.
3. shall correlate and coordinate the work and activities of the Divisions to avoid and eliminate unnecessary duplications of effort and overlapping functions.
4. may create advisory boards to any of the Divisions.
5. is authorized to accept and expend gifts, devises, and bequests of money, lands, and other properties on behalf of the Department or any of the Divisions.
6. shall have power to publish and sell or otherwise distribute data, reports, and information.
7. with the approval of the Governor, shall be empowered to appropriate, or lease, private property for public uses and purposes in accordance with sections of the General Code relevant to such proceedings.
8. shall have the right and authority to enter into cooperative or contractual arrangements with the United States government, or any of its agencies or departments, or with any other person or body politic for the accomplishment of any of the purposes of this act.
9. shall cooperate with all local and state agencies, departments, divisions, boards, and commissions, and may by mutual agreement use the facilities and staffs of state-supported educational institutions in order to promote the conservation and development of the natural resources of the state.

Figure 2.8. Primary duties and authorities of the Director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources as provided by the founding statute, Amended Senate Bill 13, 11 August 1949.

have come to the realization that we cannot hope to save one of our renewable resources without saving them all. Neither can we destroy any one resource without doing damage and injury to another equally important resource. Science has led the way in pointing out the affinity of soil, water and plants, upon which life itself depends.

In the last half century, we have gone far in development of the industrial and technical phases of our national economy. We have streamlined and integrated business and industry to secure greater efficiency in production, and better distribution of goods. It is inevitable that, sooner or later, we would come to the same philosophy in the management of our basic natural resources.

I believe, too, that this attempt to unify and integrate our efforts in the field of resource conservation represents another mile post along the road of our mental and spiritual progress. A hundred years ago in this country of ours, we abolished the institution of human slavery; 50 years ago, we began to pass social legislation for the protection of our less fortunate ele-

ments of population. Perhaps, this current rising interest in the welfare of our basic resources is evidence that we may be widening our spiritual horizons sufficiently to recognize that mankind does not own the earth, but that each generation, is destined to serve as a trustee of these basic resources, for generations yet to come.

Thus was born the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. The deep roots date to the origins of the state itself with many people contributing to the Department's eventual formation. The journey ahead for Director Marion and the six Directors who have followed him has been momentous and challenging—but that's the rest of this story!

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