

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 324

House of Representatives, March 4, 1919.

Reported by Mr. Varney from Committee on Education and ordered printed under joint rules.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Pattee of Harmony.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND
NINE HUNDRED AND NINETEEN.

RESOLVE, in Favor of the Trustees of Hartland Academy for State Aid for Agricultural Instruction for the Year 1917-18.

Resolved: That there be and hereby is appropriated the
2 sum of five hundred dollars for the year nineteen hundred
3 nineteen to be paid to the trustees of Hartland Academy
4 to reimburse them for state aid denied them for agricul-
5 tural instruction for the year nineteen hundred seventeen
6 and nineteen hundred eighteen.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Hartland Academy has been denied the state aid of \$500 for agricultural instruction for the year 1917-18, the aid being withdrawn on the grounds that the average attendance in the agricultural course fell below the 12 required by law.

Until last year the annual appropriation ran somewhat over \$200. Last year application was made for \$350 and by showing that the agricultural department was supporting courses allied to agriculture, that is biology and book-keeping, the sum was voluntarily increased to \$500. This amount was based on instruction given 13 students in year 1916-17.

In the year 1917-18 the average attendance fell to 8.3, the low attendance being due to the absence of the boys in the fall term, these boys having enlisted in the boys' working reserve, also absence of boys in fall and spring terms to supply labor on their home farms during those periods of labor scarcity and high costs.

That interest in the course has not declined is evidenced by the enrollment this year of 17 students.

Instruction in biology and book-keeping courses maintained by the agricultural department was given during the year to 18 students exclusive of those enrolled in the agricultural course.

The high cost of equipment and a 38% raise in salaries make the state aid a necessity or the work must suffer retrenchment and a consequent penalty upon the students of the community who wish to take this course.