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June 1, 1945

To S. F.Dorrance, Livestock Specialist Subject: Wild Dogs

I received your memo of June 1st relating to our conversation concerning the wild dog situation . . . and the killing of sheep and lambs in the past. I have read the letters attached thereto from . . . sheep raisers who are anxious to have the State protect them, in raising sheep, from these wild dogs, which have been a nuisance in the past. During our convexation this afternoon, you asked my opinion as to whether or not the Department of Agriculture has authority to expend money from its appropriation to promote sheep raising in Maine, to eliminate the menace of these wild dogs, which are now killing the farmers' sheep and lambs, so that it is probable that they will go out of the sheep raising business, if something is not done to relieve them of this great loss and inconvenience which has been caused in the past. .

It is my opinion that the department would be justified in expending funds from its appropriation for the purpose of promoting raising sheep in Maine, to protect sheep from wild dogs. . . in the locality where wild dogs have been killing sheep and lambs.

> Ralph W. Farris Attorney General

RWF:c