

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

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# SEVENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

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SENATE.

No. 312

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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

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AN ACT to amend section one and section three of chapter  
sixty of the Revised Statutes, relating to the duties of the  
Commissioner of Agriculture.

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*Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:*

Section 1. Section one of chapter sixty of the Revised  
2 Statutes is hereby amended by adding to said section the  
3 following: "The Commissioner of Agriculture shall gather  
4 statistics of information concerning agriculture and publish  
5 the same annually; he shall assist the farmers of the State,  
6 in so far as is practical, to secure farm help, and to promote  
7 increased production of farm crops through the selection,  
8 the growing and the dissemination of superior strains of  
9 seeds. An appropriation of three thousand dollars **annually**

10 shall be made, to be expended by the Commissioner of Agri-  
11 culture for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of  
12 this section and section five of chapter sixty of the Revised  
13 Statutes, and for such other purposes and in such manner  
14 as in his judgment will best promote the interests of agri-  
15 culture in this State;’ so that said section as amended shall  
16 read as follows:

‘Section 1. A State department of agriculture shall be  
18 maintained for the improvement of agriculture and the ad-  
19 vancement of the interests of husbandry. A commissioner  
20 of agriculture shall be elected biennially by the legislature  
21 by joint ballot of the senators and representatives in con-  
22 vention and shall hold his office for the term of two years  
23 and until his successor is elected and qualified. He shall  
24 give bond in the sum of ten thousand dollars to the State,  
25 with sufficient sureties, to be approved by the treasurer of  
26 state, conditioned to faithfully account for all moneys re-  
27 ceived and disbursed by him as said commissioner. He shall  
28 by personal observation, investigation and correspondence,  
29 acquaint himself with the methods and wants of practical  
30 husbandry, the means of fertilization, and the adaptation  
31 of various products to the soils and climate of Maine; also  
32 with the progress of scientific and practical agriculture else-  
33 where, with a view to the more complete development of  
34 the natural resources of the State. The Commissioner of  
35 Agriculture shall gather statistics of information concern-  
36 ing agriculture and publish the same annually; he shall

37 assist the farmers of the State, in so far as is practical, to  
38 secure farm help, and to promote increased production of  
39 farm crops through the selection, the growing and the dis-  
40 semination of superior strains of seeds. An appropriation  
41 of three thousand dollars annually shall be made, to be  
42 expended by the Commissioner of Agriculture for the pur-  
43 pose of carrying out the provisions of this section and sec-  
44 tion five of chapter sixty of the Revised Statutes, and for  
45 such other purposes and in such manner as in his judgment  
46 will best promote the interests of agriculture in this State.'

Sect. 2. Section three of chapter sixty of the Revised  
2 Statutes is hereby amended by striking out the word "five"  
3 in the last line of said section and inserting in place thereof  
4 the word 'seven,' so that the section as amended shall read  
5 as follows:

'Sect. 3. He shall, in connection with, and with the aid  
7 of the State Dairymen's Association, annually hold a State  
8 dairymen's conference for the exhibit of dairy products  
9 and appliances, wherein prizes for high merit and quality  
10 in butter and cheese may be offered, and may employ ex-  
11 perts and lecturers to enhance dairy interests, but the ex-  
12 penses of the same shall not exceed the sum of seven hun-  
13 dred dollars annually.'

STATE OF MAINE.

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IN SENATE,

March 2, 1909.

Reported by Mr. HOWES from Committee on Agriculture  
and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

F. G. FARRINGTON, *Secretary*.