

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 343

House of Representatives, Feb. 24, 1915.

*Reported by Mr. Washburn from Committee on Agriculture
and ordered printed under joint rules.*

C. C. HARVEY, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

RESOLVE, for further improvement in the methods of market-
ing the Farm Products and purchasing supplies for the Farm.

*Resolved, That four thousand dollars be appropriated for
2 nineteen hundred fifteen and five thousand dollars for nine-
3 teen hundred sixteen, to be expended under the direction of
4 the commissioner of agriculture to study the methods and
5 cost of marketing farm products and purchasing farm sup-
6 plies, who shall work in conjunction with the Farmers' Union
7 of Maine, the Fruit Growers' Associations and other farm
8 organizations and who shall have authority to employ agents
9 and experts.*

STATEMENT OF FACTS FOR NEW DRAFT.

The methods of marketing farm products and purchasing farm supplies have always been unsatisfactory to the farmer. His constant complaint attracted the attention of the experts in the conduct of farmers' associations, colleges, state agricultural departments, and finally the national department.

Various marketing associations have been organized in many sections of the country, each acting as a separate unit, and while they applied the principles of co-operation at the base of supply, in the markets competition became so sharp that their relations finally became antagonistic and therefor the benefit that they had hoped to derive from the get-together movement was reduced to the minimum.

The Bureau of Marketing and Supplies has attracted wide attention not only in Maine but all over the country, and it has become one of the leading bureaus of the state. The business has outgrown the capacity of one man and an increased appropriation is asked for so that a closer supervision over the unions can be brought about and a way found to secure a wider distribution of the product. Other states are adopting our methods and we must keep on perfecting the many details if Maine is to be kept in the lead.