

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 256

House of Representatives, Feb. 13, 1917.

Referred to Committee on Agriculture and one thousand copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

W. R. ROIX, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Tate of Topsham.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to provide State Farms on which Prospective Professors of Agriculture for the University of Maine and County Farm Demonstrators shall prove their capability in fundamental agriculture.

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

Section 1. That twenty-five thousand dollars be and here-
2 by is appropriated, to be expended by a commission of five
3 to purchase and equip five farms, located in different sec-
4 tions of the State of Maine, for the purpose of determining
5 the capability in fundamental agriculture of prospective

6 professors of agriculture at the University of Maine and
7 of county farm demonstrators working under the Smith-
8 Lever appropriation.

Sect. 2. The Commissioner of Agriculture shall have the
2 general management and the oversight of these state farms.

Sect. 3. The receipts and expenditures connected with
2 these farms shall pass through the hands of the State
3 Auditor. When the State Auditor certifies that the occu-
4 pant of any particular farm has paid the running expenses
5 for three successive years, besides satisfying the Commis-
6 sioner of Agriculture that the farm has not depreciated in
7 fertility, in tools and equipment, or in stock, this said oc-
8 cupant shall be entitled to fill the first vacancy occurring
9 in the faculty of the College of Agriculture of the Univer-
10 sity of Maine.

Sect. 4. No professor of Agriculture in the University
2 of Maine, nor any farm demonstrator not then employed,
3 shall be employed to teach any subject pertaining to agri-
4 culture after July 1, 1921, until he shall have successfully
5 passed this three years probationary period on one of the
6 aforesaid state farms, and have received a certificate from
7 the State Auditor, countersigned by the Commissioner of
8 Agriculture, attesting to his capability as an agriculturist,
9 as set forth in Section three of this act.

Sect. 5. The commission for the purchase of these dif-
2 ferent state farms shall be composed of five men, appointed
3 by the Governor with the approval of the Council. They

4 shall be allied with and derive their living from a farm
5 at the time of their appointment to the commission. They
6 shall have their actual traveling expenses paid and five dol-
7 lars per diem while in the actual performance of their
8 duties.

Sect. 6. The Commissioner of Agriculture shall receive
2 annually, on January first, a list of prospective candidates
3 for the occupancy of the farms that are to become vacant
4 during the following year. Preference shall be given to
5 graduates of agricultural colleges for these positions, Pro-
6 vided, however, that should no graduates of agricultural
7 colleges present themselves as candidates for the occupancy
8 of these farms, the Commissioner of Agriculture shall ex-
9 ercise his good judgment in making the selection.

Sect. 7. In the requirements for a certificate from the
2 State Auditor, shall be reckoned charges for insurance,
3 taxes, and support of a family of two adults and four
4 children, who shall be fed, clothed, schooled and furnished
5 with a reasonable amount of recreation and amusement, re-
6 pairs upon buildings and farm machinery and fences. No
7 credit shall be given for the growth of wood or timber, and
8 no salary shall be paid other than the profit from the farm,
9 all of which shall belong to the operator.