

SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 697

House of Representatives, March 27, 1917.

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W. R. ROIX, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Bowman of Detroit.

STATE OF MAINE

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

RESOLVE, Making appropriation for the support of the Bureau of Inspection for 1917 and 1918.

Resolved. That there be and hereby is appropriated the sum 2 of one thousand dollars for the year 1917 and the sum of 3 one thousand dollars for the year 1918, to be expended by 4 the Commissioner of Agriculture in executing the laws relat-5 ing to the collection, examination, inspection and analysis of 6 agricultural seeds, concentrated commercial feeding stuffs, 7 commercial fertilizer, foods and drugs.

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STATEMENT OF FACTS.

One of the sources of income by which in part the Bureau of Inspection is maintained is from the registration fees for fertillizers, feeding stuffs, fungicides and insecticides. The receipts in the last two years—especially from registration fees for fertilizer certificates—have been considerably less than formerly. The reason attributed for the difference in these receipts is that, as a result of the European war, a scarcity of potash exists, forcing the fertilizer manufacturers to leave potash from their formulas, resulting in a lower figure from fertilizer registrations. The inceased call for munitions and for chemicals of all kinds has increased the cost of insecticides used for spraying materials, and thus brought about smaller sales of these products and necessarily fewer brands have been offered for registration and the registration fees are, therefore, less than formerly.

Because of this difference in the revenue from registrations, as explained, the appropriation for carrying out the provisions of the statute without hampering the Department has been asked for.