

EIGHTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

House Document

No. 160

H. P. 578 House of Representatives, Jan. 31, 1929.

Referred to Committee on Agriculture and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Kitchen of Presque Isle.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINE

AN ACT Relating to the Apportionment of State Aid to Agricultural Societies.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows: Section eighteen of chapter thirty-four of the revised 2 statutes as amended by chapter one hundred twenty-six of 3 the public laws of nineteen hundred twenty-seven is hereby 4 further amended by striking out in the third line thereof 5 the words "three and one-half" and inserting in place there-6 of the word 'four'; and by striking out in the forty-second 7 line thereof the words "twenty-five hundred" and inserting 8 in place thereof the words 'three thousand,' and also by 9 striking out in the fifty-sixth line thereof the words "one

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IO year" and inserting in place thereof the words 'three years'; II so that said section eighteen as amended shall read:

'Sect. 18. Per capita apportionment increased; special 2 provision for Maine Pomological Society; procedure for 3 apportioning stipend. There shall be appropriated annually 4 from the state treasury a sum of money not to exceed four 5 cents per inhabitant of the state, which shall be known as 6 the state stipend for aid and encouragement to agricultural 7 societies and hereafter in this act designated as the stipend. 8 This stipend shall be divided among the legally incorporated 9 agricultural clubs, societies and fair associations of the 10 state, hereafter in this act designated as societies, according 11 to the following schedule and method. Two thousand dol-12 lars shall be paid annually to the Maine Pomological Society 13 and the balance of said stipend shall be divided pro rata 14 among the legally incorporated societies, not heretofore pro-15 vided for according to the amount of premiums and gratui-16 ties actually paid in full and in cash or valuable equivalent 17 by said societies upon livestock and agricultural and do-18 mestic products, but no such society whether specifically 19 mentioned in this act or otherwise shall be entitled to any 20 share of the stipend unless it shall have complied with the 21 following requirements, which shall be considered by the 22 commissioner of agriculture hereinafter known as the com-23 missioner, as a basis upon which his apportionment of the 24 stipend shall be made as provided in section seven of this 25 chapter. Each society claiming a share of the state stipend

26 under this act shall file with the commissioner not later 27 than December thirty-first of the year for which said stipend 28 is requested, a statement made under oath, by its treasurer 29 setting forth the financial condition and transactions of the 30 society, the amounts paid in premiums in the several classes 31 or displays herein provided for, and such additional infor-32 mation relative to the character of displays, and the conduct 33 of exhibitions as the commissioner may request, and upon 34 blanks to be furnished by him. No premiums or gratuities 35 shall be considered by the said commissioner in apportion-36 ing the amount of stipend to which any society is entitled 37 except those offered and paid upon livestock, poultry, vege-38 tables, grain, fruit, flowers, livestock products, home canned 39 foods, grange exhibits, farm exhibits, boys' and girls' club 40 exhibits, domestic and fancy articles produced in the farm 41 home, and pulling contests by horses and oxen, and in no 42 case shall the amount allowed on account of premiums paid 43 in said class of domestic and fancy articles exceed the total 44 amount allowed as premiums upon vegetables, grain, fruits 45 and flowers. No society, the Maine Pomological Society 46 excepted, shall receive from the state a sum greater than 47 that actually raised and paid by the society as premiums 48 and gratuities in the classes herein provided, and in no 49 case shall any society be entitled to any share of the stipend 50 unless it shall have raised and paid in premiums in the 51 classes heretofore set forth at least four hundred dollars. 52 No society shall receive any portion of the stipend in ex-

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53 cess of three thousand dollars. No society shall receive any 54 portion of such stipend unless it shall have regularly entered 55 and displayed in an attractive manner upon its exhibition 56 grounds not less than one hundred separate and distinct 57 exhibits or entries of vegetables, fruits or dairy products of 58 a quality acceptable to the commissioner or his regularly 59 authorized agent and of varieties known to be common or 60 standard to the county in which such exhibition is held. The 61 stipend may, however, be paid to such agricultural society 62 or societies as may display a lesser number of exhibits of 63 vegetables, fruits or dairy products, than as hereinbefore 64 required, provided the commissioner shall certify that in 65 his opinion such society or societies have been unable for 66 good and sufficient reasons to secure such required number 67 of exhibits. No society shall be entitled to any share of the 68 stipend unless it shall require all cattle exhibited or allowed 69 upon its grounds at exhibition time, to be tuberculin tested 70 within three years previous to the date of its exhibition 71 and declared free from tuberculosis by a veterinarian ap-72 proved by the commissioner. Each and all societies receiv-73 ing aid from the state under this act shall cause the pro-74 hibitory liquor law to be enforced on all grounds over which 75 they have control and not allow immoral shows, gambling 76 in any form or games of chance on said grounds. Neglect 77 or failure on the part of any society to observe any of the 78 foregoing requirements shall be deemed sufficient cause for 79 withholding such society's share of the stipend and the com80 missioner is required and directed to authorize payment of 81 stipend only to such societies as have observed all of the 82 said requirements.'